



OYEZ!

February 2016

News from your Town Council

voluntary bodies, or charitable bodies represented locally.' Any organisation wishing to use the Community Stall should apply to the Town Clerk (*contact details overleaf*).

Axbridge Town Trust

100 Club

The latest winning numbers are:

1st winning number = 70

2nd winning number = 48

3rd winning number = 95

Five year business plan

The Town Trust has identified priority improvements to the Town Hall for 2016, subject to funding, which include:

- Revamp & improve lighting in the Town Hall
- Soundproofing in the Hall

Use of The Square

The Town Trust is formalising the use of the Square. Licenses will be issued to the Lamb, Oakhouse, Almshouse, and Market and to any event that uses the Square, showing what area they are allowed to use, what restrictions are in place, and that any event/business must have the relevant insurance cover in place. This will bring clarity when/if problems arise, such as the encroachment onto the cross-Square walk way. Anyone renting the Square will be required to have a license for its use from the Town Trust.

Stage: A new, portable stage is now available for use in the Town Hall. It is easily erected, and can be placed anywhere in the Hall.

Sports & Social Club

The community event which had been proposed for the May Bank Holiday weekend is to be postponed until next year to enable celebrations to take place for the Queen's Birthday, but difficulties were being encountered in organising this event given other events in the town.

Play Area stile

The gate at the lower end of the play area has been taken out of use for safety reasons, but it is planned to replace it with a stile so that the area can be accessed from that side.

Dog fouling

An improvement in the problem of dog fouling was noted in council, and it was felt that publicity of the problem was being effective. The dog warden has visited Axbridge and Back Lane has been cleared of mess. One ongoing problem was noted, which is that some dog owners are picking up, but then dumping the bag by the roadside - owners have a responsibility to dispose of dog mess properly.

Evening closure of the A38

Turnpike Road, the section of the A38 between Cross and Lower Weare will be closed for one evening on the 4th March to enable road repairs in the vicinity of the River Yeo Bridge. A diversion will be signposted via Wells, Glastonbury, Street, Dunball and Highbridge, but local knowledge will suggest a more convenient alternative!

Defibrillator training

Axbridge Pharmacy is organising another training session in the use of the defibrillator which is on the shopfront in Meadow Street. The date is not yet available, though likely to be in May or June. If you are interested in attending a training session leave your name and contact details at the Pharmacy, or by e-mail to axbridge.pharmacy@aah-n3.co.uk and you will be contacted when the date is known.

First Responder

Michael Dearden, who has been Axbridge's Community First Responder for the last 8 years, is moving away, and there will be a vacancy for a replacement. Community First Responders are volunteers who support their local community by attending emergency calls ahead of an ambulance. To find out more about the role go to <http://tinyurl.com/jg2uwc6>

Adult social care drop-in

There will be a Drop In session about Adult Social Care at Axbridge Surgery at 10.00 am to 1.00 pm on Tuesday 29th March for anyone wanting advice about staying independent, caring for someone, or volunteering. If you are interested just drop-in.

Museum volunteers needed

King Johns Hunting Lodge needs new custodians, can you help? Once a week or once a month, weekdays or weekends from 1pm till 4pm. The chance to meet people from around the world! If you would like to volunteer please contact Robin on 01934 732 874

Use of community stall

Council has altered the definition of organisations which may use the Community Stall at the Farmers' Market. It now reads 'Organisations should be local

Town Maintenance Contractor

The Town Maintenance Contractor worked 4½ hours in January, mainly tidying up and litter picking on The Furlong and in the Car Parks.

Council noted the dirty condition of the 'Axbridge' signs at either end of the by-pass and the lorry sign at the Cheddar end, and will ask the contractor to clean them.

Allotments

The council is to review the tenancy agreement for allotments, and is contacting existing tenants to notify this. The review will include a small increase in rent, and, for new tenants, a deposit on taking up a tenancy which will be returnable on termination of the tenancy if the plot is left in satisfactory condition.

Nominations for new Mayor & Deputy

At the February Council meeting Councillor Ian Laken was nominated as Mayor of Axbridge for the year 2016-17, and Councillor Pauline Ham was nominated as his deputy.

Annual Assembly

The town's annual assembly will be held on Monday 14th March at 8.00pm in the Town Hall. This is an open meeting for all residents of Axbridge.

County Council matters

County councillor Mrs. Hill sent a report updating the town council on county matters including:

The Somerset County Plan: details of this can be found at <http://somersetcountyplan.org.uk/>

Heart of the South-west devolution proposal: Somerset and Devon together with other councils in the area are co-operating in a bid to government to get devolved powers over transport, health and job creation - details of this can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/zq869uk>

Other items -

Some other matters mentioned, noted or discussed at council in February included . . .

- police crime statistics
- appointment of internal auditor
- monthly financial report
- public convenience refurbishment
- car park hedge trimming
- street light at 47 West St
- 'No access to reservoir' & 'No Through Road' signs on Moorland St.
- Pot holes in Bailiffs Close and Orchard Road/Penn Way
- LED street lighting project now complete
- Emergency Plan review
- Risk assessment & management document

Residents are invited to attend Town Council meetings to raise issues or just to listen. Matters may be brought to the Council's attention via the Town Clerk.

Meetings are held in the Town Hall on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7.30 pm.

The March meeting will be on Monday 21st March

The agenda is displayed in advance outside the Town Hall and on the website

The Town Clerk, Vicky Brice, can be contacted by phone or e-mail:

07884 264033 vicky.brice@axbridge-tc.gov.uk

or by post to PO Box 1184, Axbridge, BS26 2WJ

The Town Council's website is at: www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk

If you would like to respond to anything published in Oyez! you can do this by letter or e-mail to the Town Clerk or by going to the Council website and clicking on the 'Contact us' button in the left-hand menu