



OYEZ!

July 2016

News from your Town Council

Honorary Freeman

Councils can confer the title of Honorary Freeman on persons of distinction who, in its opinion, have rendered eminent services to the council's area.

The Town Council has voted unanimously to award this title to Mr James A Lukins in recognition of his very many years of outstanding service to the Axbridge Community, which has included time as a Town Councillor and Mayor, member and chairman of the Town Trust, work on the Drainage Board, Parochial Charities and watering the plants in The Square.

It is planned to present the award at the Civic Service to be held next February.

Cross Lane speed limit

The planned speed limit for Cross Lane has now been implemented. The speed limit of 40 mph applies from the slip road junctions with the by-pass to the A38 at Cross and includes the slip roads, Townsend and Cross Lane.

The Fun Day

The Fun Day was held on Saturday 9th July 2016 and was an enjoyable community event. The Committee thanked those assisting with the clearing up afterwards. The Mayor thanked the Sports & Social Committee for all of their hard work in organising the day.

Consideration is being given to holding an Axbridge Day every June with a similar format to this year's Queen's Birthday celebrations.

The Furlong play area

- Work has started on replacing the Aerial Runway.
- Problems with the new stile on the south side of the play area have now been rectified and it is now fully useable.

Lay-by & viewpoint

It had been noted that some branches needed to be cut back by the lay-by picnic bench - this work has now been carried out

It was noted that the view from the viewpoint in the lay-by was now completely obscured by overgrown

vegetation. Somerset County Council's spending restrictions had meant that clearance of this could not be undertaken during the last financial year. Options would be explored to restore the viewpoint.

Advertising council vacancies

In response to a question, members noted that vacancies for Town Council members are advertised on the notice board, website and in Oyez, once the process with Sedgemoor District Council to declare the vacancy and provide an opportunity for an election have been completed.

PCC panel

Would you like to get involved in volunteering with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and helping make policing as open and transparent as possible?

Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner Sue Mountstevens is looking to appointment new members to her Independent Residents' Panel.

To apply or find out more information visit the the PCC website:

www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Take-Part/Vacancies.aspx

or contact Kate Watson on 01275 816825

Closing date for applications is September 30, 2016

SunSmart

Somerset County Council is asking people to keep an eye out for vulnerable friends and neighbours in periods of very hot weather, and themselves to bear in mind advice for being sun safe:

- Try to keep out of the sun between 11 am and 3pm
- Wear UV sunglasses, preferably wraparound, to reduce UV exposure to the eyes, walk in the shade, apply sunscreen of at least SPF15 with UVA protection, wear a hat and a light scarf. Wear light, loose fitting cotton clothes, this should minimize the risk of sunburn.
- Drink lots of cool drinks and when travelling ensure you take water with you.
- Look out for others especially vulnerable groups such as older people, young children and babies and those with serious illnesses.
- Never leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle, especially older people, infants young children or animals.

Parking problems

There is a telephone number available for reporting parking problems directly to Somerset CC. The number is 0333 999 8889 - option 4

Sedgemoor local plan consultation

For the last four years Somerset County Council has been running an engagement initiative called *Listening, Learning, Changing* (LLC), seeking the public's views about the Council's priorities, challenges and opportunities, and other key issues.

They are visiting 11 towns across the county this summer. Though they cannot visit all our communities, people can give their views online by completing a survey that mirrors the one available at the events. For more information, or to complete a survey go to:

www.somerset.gov.uk/listening

Celebrate England

The Big Lottery Fund has launched a new grants programme called Celebrate.

With £3.8 million available across England they are calling on local groups and organisations to apply for funding to hold events or activities that will bring people together and celebrate what makes their local community special.

Any local group which thinks it has a project which may qualify can find more information by going to:

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/celebrate

Other matters . . .

Other matters which were raised or discussed at Council meetings this month include:

- Sedgemoor house building programme
- Town Hall security cameras
- Updating committee & advisory group remits
- First quarter financial report
- Financial reserves policy
- Cleaning of changing rooms
- Hanging baskets outside public conveniences
- Allocation of allotments
- Protective covers for the new robes
- The emergency plan
- Highways report on the *Magic Roundabout*
- Procedure for unblocking drains under parked cars.
- Loose and noisy drain covers in Old Church Road and Houlgate Way

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 next meeting will be on Monday 15th August

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