



OYEZ!

February 2017

News from your Town Council

Civic Service

A very successful Civic Ceremony was held on 26th February when the High Sheriff of Somerset presented a Civic Award to Wendy Mace and the Freedom of the Town to James A Lukins. The church was crowded for the event, as was the Town Hall afterwards.

Annual Assembly

The Town's Annual Assembly will be held on Monday 13th March at 8.00pm in the Town Hall. This is an open meeting for all residents of the town.

Council vacancy

Sedgemoor District Council has confirmed that no election for the council vacancy had been requested and the Council may now proceed to co-opt a new member. The vacancy has been advertised on the notice board and made available on the website and in the Post Office. Applications are sought by Monday 13th March 2017, and the Council will consider the co-option of a new member at its meeting on 20th March 2017.

Axbridge Day

On Saturday 17th June there will be an *Axbridge Day* event in The Square. The event will run from 2.00pm until 10.00pm, will follow the same format as the successful Jubilee event held last June, and the road will be closed to traffic.

There will be no Fun Day on The Furlong this summer, though this event will return again in the future.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan Group wishes to thank everyone who completed a questionnaire. The group is in the process of analysing the results and working to take the development of the Plan forward.

Sedgemoor Local Plan

As reported last month Sedgemoor District Council, as the local planning authority, is now undertaking a six-week consultation on its new Local Plan. This document lays out the policies which will be the basis of planning up to 2032 and against which planning applications will be judged.

The draft local plan can now be found in Cheddar Library and on the Sedgemoor website at:

<http://www.sedgemoor.gov.uk/LocalPlan>

The Local Plan is a very important document which will shape the future of Axbridge for years to come. The town council will be commenting on the draft, and it is open to individual residents to comment directly to Sedgemoor by 5.00pm on the 17th March.

Sea Cadet Unit

Mr. Baz Hamblin gave the Council an update on the Sea Cadet Unit. The Unit is now looking to recruit new cadets, and would also welcome new members on the management committee.

For more information or contact details go to:

www.sea-cadets.org/Axbridge/

The Strawberry Line cycle path

David Parkin updated the council on the Strawberry Line for which he is now the chairman:

The Axbridge Cheddar section of The Strawberry Line was started over 30 years ago as a safe route to school after a Kings of Wessex student had a bad road accident on his bike. Maintenance and funding are on an entirely voluntary basis - we receive no public funding or help from Sedgemoor or Somerset Councils. A lot of support has traditionally come from the Cheddar end but it would be good to get more participation from Axbridge on this popular route - workdays, fundraising, publicity. Contact David Parkin (07974 969557). Facebook: Axbridge Cheddar Cycleway, e-mail: axchedway@gmail.com

Axbridge Museum

Council received an update from the Museum, which reported that visitor numbers in 2016 were up by 45% compared with 2015.

The official opening of the Museum for the 2017 season will be on the 1st April.

The trustees are looking for help to clean the Museum, perhaps a couple of hours a week. If anyone is interested they should contact Dr P Wookey on 01934 733212.

There is more information on the flyer distributed with this month's Oyez.

Axbridge Town Trust

February draw winning numbers for the Town Trust 100 Club:

- 1st winning number for £100 = 23
- 2nd winning number for £50 = 31
- 3rd winning number for £25 = 17

The Trust is investigating:

- new planters to replace the existing concrete ones in The Square.
- the possibility of Heritage Funding for displaying the maces and banner in the museum
- repair of the grandfather clock in the Council Chamber.

- redecoration of the disabled toilets, kitchen and corridor.

Mr Jim Day has been elected as a new trustee to replace Mr John Albone who has resigned.

John Pound

The Sports and Social Club and The Museum were grateful for donations from the family of John Pound in support of their activities.

Bristol Water roadworks

The pipeline laying along the main part of the by-pass has been completed ahead of schedule apart from resurfacing, which will be carried out once testing of the completed pipeline is successfully carried out.

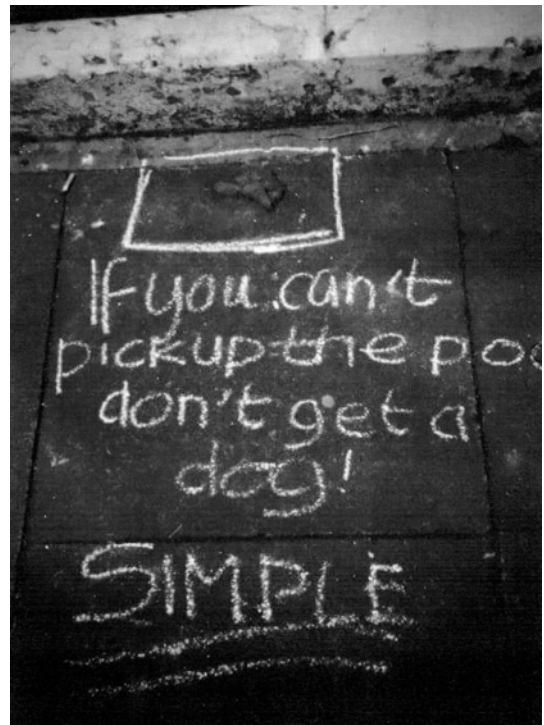
The next part of the project will take the pipeline down the slip road from the by-pass to Townsend which will be closed from 20th March for up to 7 weeks. During this closure a diversion will be signposted taking traffic along the A371 to Shute Shelve Hill, down the A38 to Cross then along Cross Lane to Townsend.

Houlgate Way yellow lines

Council noted that proposed parking restrictions have been advertised, including the long-awaited yellow lining in Houlgate Way. Objections may be made by 9th March.

Dog fouling

Concern was raised again about the level of dog mess in the Town, and Council noted the strong feeling about this expressed recently on the Axbridge Connected Facebook page. Council wishes to remind owners that it is an offence not to be in control of your dog (which is difficult to achieve if they are off lead), and to encourage the reporting of dog owners not picking up after their dogs. This can be done by phoning the Town Clerk (*details below*) or the Dog Warden Service on 01278-435210 with as much detail as possible.



Other matters . .

Other matters raised or discussed in Council in February include:

- Appointment of internal & external auditors
- Improvements to Town Council website
- Purchase of new display stand for the community stall
- Replacement of missing bollard in The Square
- Purchase of a further dog bin
- Repair of the carriageway in Meadow Street
- Ownership of land between Starrs Close and Houlgate Way
- Flooding of the road by the Jubilee Road bus stop
- Review of Risk Assessment & Management document
- Management of the Hand Bell set.
- Allotment allocation
- Timing of quarry lorries along the by-pass and Cross Lane in the early hours & Saturday mornings.

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 normally held in the Town Hall on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7.30 pm.
The next meeting will be on Monday 20th March at 7.30pm

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