



# OYEZ!

April 2017

News from your Town Council

## New councillor

At its April meeting the Council co-opted Mr Graham Page to fill the vacant place on the Council. He signed his declaration of office and took up his place immediately.

## Town Bailiff

The Town Council still has a vacancy for the position of Town Bailiff. The Town Bailiff is an honorary officer of the Council, who undertakes ceremonial duties at key events during the year, including ;

- Celebration of Axbridge Civic Service
- Mayor Making
- Harvest Service
- Remembrance Service

Anyone interested in taking on this role or receiving more details of it should contact the Town Clerk (*contact details overleaf*). The deadline for applications is 29th May, and applications will be considered at a committee meeting on the 5th June.

## Mayor Making

All residents of the town are invited to the Annual Council Meeting and Mayor Making to take place on Monday 8th May at 7.30pm for 8.00pm in the Town Hall. Councillor Pauline Ham has been nominated as Mayor for the coming year, and Councillor Barbara Wells as Deputy Mayor.

## Public Spaces Order

The Council resolved that Sedgemoor District Council be requested to officially designate the Furlong as a "Dogs must be kept on lead" area within its Public Space Protection Order.

Members noted that dogs should be kept on control within the Town and that any incidents, with supporting evidence, can be reported directly to the dog warden.

## Parking on Houlgate Way

Somerset County Council's Transport Development Group has commented to Sedgemoor on the Houlgate Way planning application. They recommended that any planning permission should be conditional on the banning of all parking on the south side of Houlgate Way between Starrs Close and the Surgery, and on

the removal of the garden by the Starrs Close junction.

The Town Council has responded to Sedgemoor that:

- it would be not be acceptable to have no parking on the south side of Houlgate Way from Starrs Close to the surgery and would oppose its removal as this would be contrary to the town council's parking policy, would exacerbate the already existing parking problems around the town and, in addition, if removed would increase the speed of traffic and inconvenience patients attending the doctors surgery.
- The garden referred to was installed as a memorial garden and the Council would not be happy to lose this amenity.

## Town maintenance contractor

The maintenance contractor worked 8 hours over the past month, including:

- litter picking & disposal on the Furlong & car parks
- removal & disposal of rubbish from the cemetery

He was also asked to clear rubbish from the churchyard.

## Use of litter bins

There are problems of litter, especially in the Square, which are caused by litter falling from over full litter bins. It appears that this is the result of bins being used for disposal of domestic waste. Residents are reminded that bins in the Square and car parks are not intended for this sort of material which should be disposed of through the routine refuse & recycling collections,

## Closure of Cross Lane

The next stage of Bristol Water's Southern Resilience Scheme will begin on the 2nd May when Cross Lane will be closed for some weeks. During this period traffic coming from the Bridgwater direction will need to continue along the A38 to the Shute Shelve junction which will be controlled by traffic lights.

## Reporting incidents to the Police

Residents are urged to report criminal incidents to the police so that an accurate record can be kept. If minor incidents are not reported police reports can give a false picture for the area.

## Axbridge Day

A reminder that the Axbridge Day will be held in The Square from 2pm to 10pm on Saturday 17th June, when the road will be closed to traffic.

## Axbridge Town Trust

The latest winning 100 Club numbers are:

- 1st winning number (£100) = 6
- 2nd winning number (£50) = 67
- 3rd winning number (25) = 4

## The Strawberry Line

Although it is commonly referred to as the Strawberry Line Cycle Path this is in fact a dual use path for pedestrians and cyclists, and everyone using it is asked to be considerate of the needs of all users. Some cyclists feel they are being intrusive by ringing a bell, but the evidence is that practically all walkers, especially dog walkers, appreciate the warning.

## Recycling centres

Taking household garden waste or other household materials to a recycling site using vans, pick-ups and car-towed single-axle short trailers now requires a free permit. For an instant download or an email to either print out or use immediately on your smart device (your plastic permit card will arrive in a few days), it is simple and quick to apply online here:

<http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/sites/van-trailer-permits>

## Somerset CC elections

County Council elections will be held on Thursday 4th May. The Town Hall will be open as a polling station from 7am to 10pm on that day.

## Avian flu restrictions

All poultry in England are to be allowed outside from Thursday 13 April 2017 following updated evidence on the risk posed by wild birds. Other measures recently introduced as a precaution against Avian Flu remain in force, including a ban on poultry gatherings.

## Other matters . .

- Furlong car park barrier & fencing
- Repair of outdoor gym equipment on the Furlong
- Parking on yellow lines in High Street & West Street
- Clearing of gulleys in the car parks and by the Church Steps
- Renewal of licence for the Parish Online mapping facility
- Ceiling cleaning in the public conveniences
- The mound under the aerial runway
- Furlong & play area safety logs
- Sedgemoor Housing car park in Houlgate Way - need for rubbish clearance
- Litter left after waste & recycling collections
- Missing bollards by Shute Shelve slip road

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 May meeting will be on Monday 15th May 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](http://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