



OYEZ!

June 2018

News from your Town Council

New councillor

At its June meeting Joe Williams was co-opted to fill the vacant place on the Town Council. Councillor Williams took his place at the meeting, having signed his declaration of office.

Axbridge Day

Axbridge Day was held on 16th June 2018, and was very successful, with excellent entertainment provided at no cost by Axbridge residents. The Sports & Social Club was delighted with a childrens' initiative to clear up the rubbish, and extended thanks to all those involved in the event, including the gentleman from Sedgemoor District Council who had removed the rubbish collected.

The Council thanked the Club for their hard work in organising the event.

Pageant fundraising

Council was informed that Phil Prior's Charity Walk around the reservoir raised £3000 towards the 2020 Axbridge Pageant and £650 for the injured jockey's fund. Phil has indicated that his fundraising endeavours would continue with a repeat next year.

Major planning application

Though outside our area council considered a major planning application for the building of 60 houses on the Steart Farm site in Cheddar, once earmarked for a Sainsbury's supermarket. Council informed Sedgemoor that it objected to this on the following grounds:

- the proposed vehicular access to the site is not in a reasonable position, making access/egress difficult
- the increase of traffic in this already congested area
- issues with pedestrian access exacerbated by the fact that the pedestrian access over the Sharpham Road bridge from an earlier development has still not been completed.

Refuse & recycling

Concerns have been expressed recently about refuse and recycling, including mess left behind, bins not properly replaced and missed collections. Somerset Waste Partnership representatives will be on the

Community Stall at the Farmers' Market on Saturday 4th August to provide information and answer questions.

Somerset Waste Partnership are asking that knives and sharp objects should not be left in kerbside recycling boxes as they can cause injury, or be picked up by children or those with criminal intent. Knives should be taken with care to recycling sites; broken glass should be well wrapped to ensure no risk and added to rubbish bins; syringes must be disposed of in a sharps boxes, which SWP collects and replaces but must first be obtained from a doctor or pharmacy.

Rotary Club

The Rotary Club will also be using the Community Stall at the Farmers' Market on the 4th August.

Town Maintenance Contractor

The maintenance contractor worked 16 hours during April and May. The work completed included:

- Removing litter from The Furlong and car parks
- Gully work and hedge work
- Strimming on the allotments
- Removing litter from the cemetery and churchyard
- Removing mud from Old Church Road

Reporting to Police & Somerset Highways

Members were disappointed to note that the Police had not visited Axbridge when advised of concerns of a large group of men looking into cars and garages late one night. The police will be contacted drawing attention to this matter. Residents are encouraged to report any incidents to the police, on the non-emergency 101 number, and to ask that the call is logged. If incidents are not reported then there is no record of any problem.

Similarly a response from Somerset Highways to a local resident suggests that they are not aware of the number of accidents or near misses believed locally to take place at Townsend, which again stresses the importance of reporting such incidents.

Sedgemoor matters

District Councillor Scott updated the council on several Sedgemoor matters:

- Problems with visibility at slip road junctions caused by untrimmed grass
- Issues regarding missed refuse/recycling collections
- Availability of grants for small businesses (see Sedgemoor website for more details)
- Redevelopment of the former Sedgemoor Splash site in Bridgwater for cinema, gym & restaurants.
- Homes in Sedgemoor are looking to build more social housing and would welcome details of suitable Sedgemoor owned sites.

Other matters . . .

Other matters raised or discussed at Council in June include:

- Grass cutting on slip roads
- Methods for payments
- Review of standing orders and direct debits
- General Data Protection Regulations
- Play area & Furlong safety check
- Public conveniences log and upgrade
- Possibility of installing a swing seat in the play area suitable for children with disabilities
- Pothole at bottom of High Street (since repaired)
- Grass cutting in areas in Chestnut Avenue now owned by the Town Council
- Neighbourhood Plan Group
- The Emergency Plan

Some useful contact numbers/addresses

Police	Emergency 999 Anti-social behaviour / Non-emergency 101
Dog Warden	0300 303 7806
Parking services/enforcement	01823 - 210566
Problems on the road	www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-transport
Street lighting	0845-6010939
Village Agent - Kirsten Rushby	07746 - 332897 kirsten@somersetccc.org.uk
Power cuts	0800 - 6783105
Sedgemoor District Council (For a list of direct lines look at www.sedgemoor.gov.uk/contact)	0300 - 303 7800
Somerset County Council (For a list of direct lines look at www.somerset.gov.uk/contact-us)	0300 - 123 2224

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 16th July 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