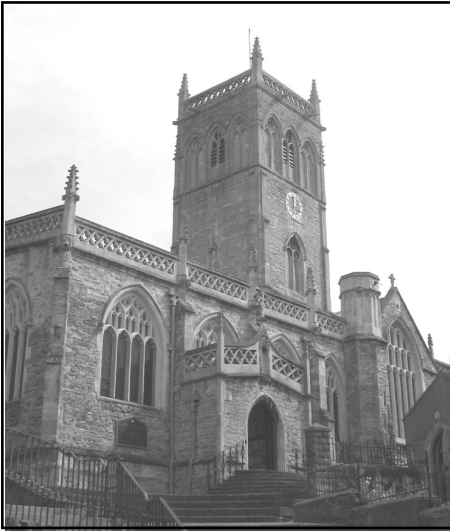




OYEZ!

DELIVERED BY
NEIGHBOURS
FOR
NEIGHBOURS
JUNE 2007

The Mayor, Councillor Mike Taylor chaired the June Town Council Meeting.



C o u n t y
Councillor Dawn Hill reminded councillors that she had a fund of £1600 to make as a grant to the town and it was agreed to find out if this money could be put towards the **repair of the church clock**

Cllrs. Hamblin and Passey had attended a recent meeting of the Sedgemoor Area Working Panel, at which it was decided that funds of £60,000 would be available as grants for initiatives across the District. It was agreed that the Town Council should consider a bid to fund the proposed **new lighting** from the Square to the Youth Club.

Council will object at a Sedgemoor Planning Meeting that having agreed previously that its Conservation Officer would propose a plan to protect an ancient **wall** at the rear of the Manor House, SDC now has agreed it may be breached for a gateway. Clerk will also speak against SDC's decision to permit a narrow (1.3m.) new **footpath** in front of the new houses in Moorland Street (1.8m is standard width).

Councillors expressed disappointment that there was no report from the **local Police**. Clerk was asked to write to request a monthly report of police activity in the town.

The Axbridge Sports and Social Representative, Cllr. Pauline Ham, reminded Council that **Axbridge Fun Day** takes place on Saturday July 7th. from noon to midnight.

The **Friends of Houlgate Society** is holding a barbeque on Saturday 18th August 4:30pm - 8:30pm at Moor Green Cottage. Tickets cost £3.50 (£2.00 for Children) for food, and a welcoming glass of wine, and to follow that, please bring your own drinks. Contact Jennifer Trotman on 01934 733306, or e-mail chairman@axbridge-twinning.org.uk,

Cllr. Jim Lukins reported that the Town Trust had obtained sponsorship from Costains and Bristol Water for the **planters in the Square** for the Autumn and Spring (2008) season. The Trust also has plans for some **refurbishment of the Town Hall**.

Concerns were expressed about the possible adverse health effects of a **mobile phone mast** to be sited on agricultural land at the end of Moorland Street.

Council agreed that should the need arise to produce more copies of the "Circling the Square" **walk guide**, then a licence to re-print the map may be obtained from the Ordnance Survey. Since there is to be no further financial support from Somerset County Council it was agreed that sponsorship may be sought from elsewhere and the County logo be replaced by those of any **sponsors** who come forward. **Any offers out there?**

"Oyez" will continue to offer its **"Axbridge Flyer" delivery service** each month. Flyers from community, non-commercial groups will be accepted on A5 paper (860 copies). A donation to the Council's funds for this service will be expected **BEFORE** delivery.

Please contact the Editor, Paul Passey (733373) for more information.

The matter of replacement **notice boards** on the Town Hall will be pursued by the Promotion Advisory Committee (APAC) and will be discussed with the Town Trust at the next joint Council/Trust meeting.

APAC will also investigate the cost of production of **flags** for use as bunting during town events such as Showcase or Carnival.

Council adopted the new Standards Board **Code of Conduct** with the inclusion of a provision that councillors, who have a "prejudicial interest" in an item must still declare it, but may speak on the issue, in the same way as a member of the public. However they will be obliged then to withdraw from the meeting and not vote on the issue.

Council agreed to engage **solicitors** for legal advice on a proposed licence for the Jack Todd Changing Rooms, drawn up between Wells Diocese, Sedgemoor District and the Town Council.

Councillors agreed that part of the RLT2 funds, collected from developers and available from Sedgemoor for recreational provision should be spent on a replacement for the present **see-saw** in the Furlong Play Area. Some of the fund may be made available for lighting on the proposed Youth Shelter.

It was reported that the Axbridge Cricket Club had been promised a grant of £5,000 from the "Jack Todd Charity" towards the cost of **cricket nets** on the Furlong. Axbridge Sports and Social had offered £500 and the Town Council up to £500. A further grant-aid application was yet to be made.

Councillors were in favour of the general principles behind a management plan being worked out with the Cricket Club. The nets would be for general use when not pre-booked with the Council by the club. The Council would meet repair costs when used by the general public and by the Club for any damage they may cause. The Council would arrange third party insurance cover.

A site meeting is planned with Somerset Highways to discuss the possible levelling of areas of the Square for safer **bus "pick-up"** points and to discuss the **incomplete footway** at the "Old Butchers Yard" development.

It was agreed to try to convene a meeting between Compton Bishop and Axbridge Councils and their respective County and District Councillors to discuss the problems on the **A38 at Cross**.

The members agreed that the Council should have a regular presence within the **monthly Farmers' Market**; a stall to display Council information and also to be used by other community groups to advertise their activities - sell raffle tickets - attract members. **Watch this space!**

Final costs were accepted for the erection of stone markers at the entrances to the town. It was agreed that **Yeo Valley Dairies**, the major sponsor of this project. should be invited to the unveiling ceremony.

A meeting will be organised between the Council's Highways Advisory Committee and the Axbridge Action group to discuss the next stages in the Action Group's proposal to commission an **independent Streets and Parking Options Appraisal**. Concerns were expressed about the Action Group's proposed methodology and its apparent dependence on material gleaned from the Parish Plan questionnaire.

Council also discussed the need for clarity about funding both for the initial Appraisal and then the costs of any resulting proposals. Any changes to parking or to highways must be agreed and funded either by Sedgemoor, or Somerset Councils. **Axbridge has no highway or parking powers of its own.**

Nevertheless, councillors welcomed the possibility of a new opinion about the town's traffic problems, bearing in mind that the Council already has developed its own Parking and Public Transport Policies.

A REQUEST FOR HELP

COULD YOU DELIVER 10 OR 20 COPIES OF "OYEZ" ONCE A MONTH IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD?

I AM ANXIOUS TO RE-ORGANISE THE CURRENT DELIVERY SYSTEM AFTER 2 YEARS - MORE DELIVERERS DELIVER LESS!

Offers to: PAUL PASSEY 733373 OR paul@westmead31me17.freeseve.co.uk

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED TO HELP AT SOMERSET SHOWCASE - FIRST SATURDAY IN SEPTEMBER - PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK OR CLLR MRS. TROTMAN WITH OFFERS - phone 733306

Issues for the Town Council? Come to Council Meetings (3rd. Monday each month 19.30 at Town Hall) **or** contact Mrs. Vicky Brice, the Town Clerk on 07884 264033 or email vbrice@axbridge-tc.gov.uk