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Somerton Town Council - November 2016



CONTACT: TOWN CLERK 272236 OR TOWN.CLERK@SOMERTONTOWNCOUNCIL.GOV.UK

Meeting	Date	Time	Venue
Access & Highways	5 th January	7.00pm	Edgar Hall
Full Council	10 th January	7.00pm	Edgar Hall
Promotion & Communication	24 th January	7:00pm	Parish Rooms
Planning (if required)	5 th /17 th January	7.00pm	Edgar Hall

Everyone is welcome to attend and there will be opportunities to ask questions. Planning applications may be viewed on the SSDC website with application details displayed on the notice board outside the Parish rooms and on the STC website.

All agendas and minutes are available on the STC website

www.somertontowncouncil.gov.uk

All Full Council and Committee meetings will start at 7pm from January 2017, this will be reviewed in April 2017.

- The 2017/18 budget will be discussed at the full council meeting on the 10th January 2017.
- Somerton Town Council are seeking to co-opt new councillors, anybody interested should contact Terry Philpott, Town Clerk on 01458 272236.
- A new car park is open at the Recreation Ground on match days providing 60 additional spaces which will help reduce congestion in the neighbouring roads.
- Etsome Terrace planning application put forward in 2015 and opposed at that time for 10 houses and a retail outlet has gone to appeal and been passed by the planning inspector. There are covenants on the site preventing commercial development.
- The Deaf Plus bus will be in the Cox's Yard between 1pm and 2.30pm on Wednesday 11th January 2017. If the construction of the new car park is happening at the same time the bus will relocate to another suitable location nearby.
- Road names: Following the discussion at last months meeting the proposed street names are Bramley Road, Russet Road, Pippin Road and Pearmain Road.
- A compound will available at Edgar Hall for residents to dispose of natural Christmas trees for shredding, the final date for depositing trees is 15th January 2017

SOMERTON TOWN COUNCIL PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING GRANTS

- Parish Rooms, £1000 towards new chairs
- Parish Rooms, £1000 towards essential electric works
- Somerton Scouts, £1000 towards new heating and insulation at the Scout hut
- Somerton Arts Festival, £600 towards venue hire for the 2017 event.
- A contractor has been selected to complete the works at the cemetery store to convert to a place of reflection.
- Active work is being taken to investigate the traffic along Bancombe Road due to the Bovis development.
- Thanks expressed to the Lights Brigade on the wonderful Christmas Lights in Somerton.
- South Somerset District Council Transformation Programme is looking to make staffing reduction of 70 places, some through natural transition.
- Somerset County Council has set a budget of £107 million pounds, for the next financial year, the highways budget was not altered and is a very positive step.

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE, RICKSEY LANE, SOMERTON: Somerset County Council as the Highway Authority have received an application for the temporary closure of Ricksey Lane from Somerset Highways. This road will be closed from 23rd January 2017 and is expected to last for 12 days including the weekend to enable drainage works to be carried out in this road.

News

SOMERTON TOWN PLAN 2016 - 2017

Following on from the introductory meeting on 10th November we wish to give another opportunity for Somerton people to come along and give their views. This meeting will be on Monday 23rd January at 7.30 pm in the Parish Rooms where we wish to listen to your ideas to build up a clearer picture for a vision of Somerton. Most people who attended the last meeting were aged 50+. Somerton mums and dads, especially, we need your ideas because your children are the future of Somerton. You are very precious.

The Issues we are considering are:

- 1. Getting around Somerton;
- 2. More events in the town to broaden the range of cultural activities;
- 3. Green space and links to the countryside to aid expansion of sporting and leisure activities in our growing community;
- 4. Housing, development and new business;
- 5. Improve the facilities for younger members of the community;
- 6. Encourage more tourism and support the preservation of the heart of the town.

You can find the results of the first meeting on Somerton Town Council's website www.somertontowncouncil.gov.uk. In February there will be a report back meeting with

a question and answer session. For more information or to volunteer to join the working party please contact Pat Colyer on pat.colyer@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk or Mo Fletcher on mo.fletcher@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk.

SOMERTON RAINBOWS AND BROWNIES

Sally Snaddon, Division Commissioner and Mo Fletcher, Honorary Division President are going to re-open both units in January on Mondays:

Rainbows 4.30 - 5.30pm

Brownies 5.30 - 7.00pm

Guides as usual 7.00 - 8.30pm.

This will start on Monday 16th January at St Cleers Chapel. They hope that some mums will join them as helpers on a regular basis. Come and join the fun. Contact Sally on 01458 250879 or Mo on 01458 274631 for more details.

ST MARGARET'S HOSPICE CHARITY EVENT

Ian Williamson is running an event "Amy Herzog - 4,000 miles" at the Swan Theatre on Mon 16th January at 7.45 pm - Tickets £12. Concessions available, see swantheatreboxoffice@gmail.com. He is appealing for raffle prizes. Contact him on idcwilliamson@gmail.com.

SOMERTON COMMUNITY WEBSITE - WWW.SOMERTON.CO.UK

Please check to see if the information is correct for your organisation/society/club on the Somerton Community Website. These are listed on the societies and clubs pages. Please advise if you have any corrections, deletions or additions and also if and when there are future alterations.

The website has an events page on which all entries are free of charge. We are very keen to have listings of meetings or events, with any information you can give, to keep the people of Somerton up to date with what's going on in their town. Please email or send any information to the address below. Help us to keep local people informed. Please contact Somerton Community Website c/o lan Laker, London Cigarette Card Co, Sutton Road, Somerton, Somerset, TA11 6QP. Email: somerton@somerton.co.uk Phone: 01458 272041 fax: 01458 273515

BEWARE OF FACEBOOK FLY-TIPPERS

During the festive period residents across south Somerset are being warned not to take to Facebook in the attempt to find a cheap way of disposing of waste this Christmas. There is a growing industry of 'Facebook Fly-tippers' who pose online as legitimate waste removal companies but then dump the rubbish down country lanes and in laybys. If fly-tipped waste can be traced back to its owner, the owner can be fined even if they had no idea it was going to be fly-tipped.

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS FOR COLLECTION OF WASTE

Christmas waste collections will be running but with revisions to the day of collection as listed below:

Monday 19 December to Friday 23 December - No change Monday 26 December - moves to Tuesday 27 December

Tuesday 27 December - moves to Wednesday 28 December Wednesday 28 December - moves to Thursday 29 December Thursday 29 December - Friday 30 December Friday 30 December - moves to Saturday 31 December Monday 2 January - moves to Tuesday 3 January Tuesday 3 January - moves to Wednesday 4 January Wednesday 4 January - moves to Thursday 5 January Thursday 5 January - moves to Friday 6 January Friday 6 January - moves to Saturday 7 January

Monday 9 January - Usual collections resume.

In the two weeks after Christmas, all recycling, rubbish and clinical collections are one day later, including Friday pick-ups on Saturday, and a Monday collection on Bank Holiday Tuesday 27 December. During that fortnight, there are no garden waste collections. Usual services resume from Monday 9 January 2017.

If you have a missed collection over the Christmas period please accept our apologies. Missed collections can be reported online at www.southsomerset.gov.uk/online-services.

Office Hours

If you want to visit us, the majority of offices are open until 4.45pm on Friday 23 December and back to normal working hours on Tuesday 3 January 2017. If you have an emergency whilst we are shut you should ring us on 01935 462462 and you will be put through to our out-of-hours cover. A range of services are also available on-line at: www.southsomerset.gov.uk/online-services.



CHARITY THEATRE TRIPS TO BRISTOL HIPPODROME

With the 200th trip party behind us, here we go into 2017 heading for trip 300 with no resting on our laurels! January brings the last chance booking and payment dates to be certain of a ticket for:

Funny Girl starring Sheridan Smith. With Tue 21 Mar almost full we have added a matinée trip on Thu 23 March

Madam Butterfly is the much loved Welsh National production with their superb chorus and orchestra. Sat 1 April

The Red Shoes, Matthew Bourne's dance/ballet take on the much loved film which opened to ecstatic reviews. Tue 4 April Eve and Thu 6 April Mat.

Blood Brothers will make us laugh then cry. Many musical lovers all-time favourite. Thu 20 April

We can probably still fit you in for the following trips as well:

Aida on Sat 11 Feb, Evita on Tue 14 Feb (what a Valentine gift that would make!). The Commitments on Wed 22 Feb and Anton & Erin 2017 on Sun 26 Feb. Many other trips are available, see them all and book places at www.theatretrips.webeden.co.uk, e-mail coxtheatretrips@btinternet.com, or phone 01458 273085 to receive a postal listing.

APOLOGY

With reference to the Memoriam message about the late Michael Lewis in the December issue. Sadly the name Caroline Wallbank was included from another message. The editors wish to apologise to Michael's family for any upset this has caused. Mo Fletcher and Neal Barton.

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REPORTS

REPORT ON OAK TREE PLANTING

The tree planting event was very successful and provided an excellent educational opportunity for the children with regard to oak trees in particular and their origin. The children were able to participate fully in the planting under the guidance and encouragement of Phil Poulton. The schedule was undertaken as planned with the schools and in accordance with Mr Copeland's wishes.

We were also able to plant several more oak trees on privately owned land and have received permission to plant more on the approaches to the town on private land which will therefore not require Council maintenance or upkeep. There has also been a suggestion that instead of planting oaks anywhere along the boundary with David Wilson Homes on the recreation ground, that one or two can be planted in the 'wild' corner out of the way of the grass pitches. This area is now properly drained and much drier and could form the beginnings of a peaceful nature area as requested by the community in the initial consultation earlier this year.

This project is going a long way to putting Somerton on the map as a community which cares about its trees. One of the most beneficial aspects of the project to date, is that a great deal has been achieved with the help of the future generation and at no cost to the public purse! It has been such an encouragement to find local landowners willing to plant trees on the approaches to Somerton. As a community we can take credit - if we continue the project - for forward thinking to mitigate the undoubted huge loss of tree cover anticipated by ash die-back disease. Our thanks to Phil Poulton - SSDC Tree Officer for his hard work, and his encouragement of the project. Judith Hurley and Brian Raybould.



CITIZENS ADVICE

Restarts in West Street Church on Tuesday 10th January at 10 am.

A BIG THANK YOU

Well done Lights Brigade, Somerton Fire Fighters, Somerton Volunteers and Santa and his Elf for a wonderful Christmas Fayre organised by Sedgemoor Lions on Friday Dec 12th in the Town Square. Thankyou also to Somerton Town Council and Somerton Business and Trade Association for their sponsorship of the event. About £400 was raised for local Lions Charities. If anyone is interested in finding out more about being a Lion please contact Carla Warren on 01458 253835.

PETS AS THERAPY

Do you have a gentle, affectionate dog you would be willing to share? Pets as Therapy are looking for additional PAT dogs to work in the Somerton area. It would involve $1-1^1/2$ hours fortnightly visiting either Wessex House, the housebound, stroke victims, special needs youngsters or reading at the infants' school. Sharing your pet with others is both rewarding and incredibly valuable - please consider this if you have some time to share. Go to http://petsastherapy.org or call Mary Beth Greenop on 01458 270193 for more information. Your pet could bring much happiness and help to others.

SOMERTON FIRE STATION OPEN DAY

This was a very enjoyable day with many fire fighters past and present celebrating the 120th Anniversary of the service in Somerton. The cake was cut by Don Puddy, Derek Locke and Christian Lazenbury. There were many displays of photos and equipment of the past and present.

There will be letters out in January seeking sponsorship for the commemorative book to be published in the summer of 2017, with profits going to the Fire Fighters charity. Local companies, clubs and individuals can sponsor a page for £25 or place adverts for £25 to £70. Contact Mo Fletcher at fletcher080@btinternet.com or on 01458 274631 for more information.

WITH THANKS ALAN PURNELL

Angela, Brian and family would like to thank everyone who attended Alan's funeral, and for the kind cards and messages at this sad time. A total of £400.20 has been donated to the Stroke Association.

Forthcoming Events

NEW CRAFT GROUP

I am starting a new crochet/knitting group at Full of Beans Café on Tuesday afternoons from 2pm. This will meet every Tuesday and the only stipulations are that crafters bring something to work on and buy some refreshments from the café. Anyone wanting more details can text me on 07427 695694. With thanks, Caroline Wallbank.

SOMERTON WI: TUESDAY 3 JANUARY

Catherine Murton, The History of Wills. 7.15pm in the Parish Rooms.

ARTHRITIS CARE: THURSDAY 5 JANUARY No meeting, restart on Thursday 2nd February.

HEALTH WALKS: THURSDAY 5/19 JANUARY

This month on Thursday 5th and 19th leaving from Somerton Library at 11.30 am. We walk for about an hour and then go to The White Hart for refreshments - optional. Please wear wet weather clothes and suitable shoes. Contact Mo Fletcher on 01458 274631 for more info.

CHARITY THEATRE TRIP: SATURDAY 7 JANUARY

Sat 7th Jan Late Matinee to Cinderella

SOMERTON GARDENERS' CLUB: MONDAY 9 JANUARY

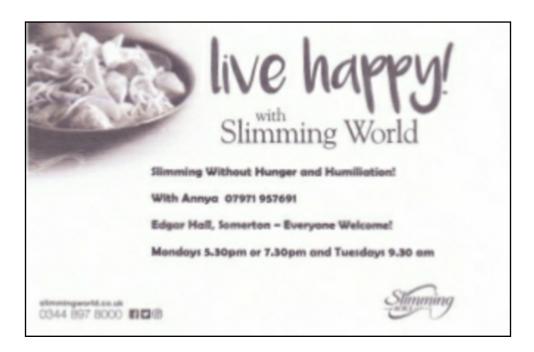
Is breaking new ground with a meeting in January with the AGM and a quiz on Monday, 9th at 7.30pm - Wessex Rooms on Broad St. Come and join us. £10 buys you a cornucopia of gardening treats across 2017!

PARDOES SOLICITORS: TUESDAY 10/17/24 JANUARY

Need advice about wills, probate, powers of attorney, tax planning or trusts? Come to one of our legal clinics for a free chat with one of our solicitors 9.00am - noon on Tuesdays 10^{th} and 24^{th} .

HEART OF THE LEVELS: TUESDAY 10 JANUARY

7.30pm Parish Rooms. James Packer describes why many species of birds cross the Mediterranean Sea. He examines the various species that use the important Mediterranean flyways, their strategies for crossing, and the benefits and hazards to them in doing so. Start 19.30 with tea and coffee available after the talk. Cost: Members £2.50 Non-members £3.00.



FRIENDSHIP CLUB: THURSDAY 12 JANUARY

We meet at Somerton Sports Club on the second Thursday of the month so on 12th from 10.30am - noon. Join us for a relaxed chat and refreshments. Contact Mo Fletcher on 01458 274631 for more info.

NADFAS: TUESDAY 17 JANUARY

Our lecture this month is "Two Queens of the Desert - Lady Stanhope and Zenobia of Palmyra" at Caryford Hall, Castle Cary on Tuesday 17th at 10.30am. Free parking, £6 entry. Info on 01963 350132.

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR SURGERY: SATURDAY 21 JANUARY

Will be held between 9.30 and 11am on Saturday, 21st January, 2017, in the White Hart Somerton.

TOWN PLAN MEETING: MONDAY 23 JANUARY

An opportunity for Somerton people to come along and give their views. Monday 23rd January at 7.30pm in the Parish Rooms

SOMERTON HISTORY SOCIETY - THURSDAY 26 JANUARY

Our next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday 26th January in the Parish Rooms. Starting at 7.00pm for coffee and followed at 7.30 pm by our speakers for the evening, Chris and Judy Rouse, with a talk entitled "The Life of Railway Navvies". Members are reminded that their annual subscription for 2017 is due this month, but guests are always welcome at a cost of £2 per meeting. For more information contact Nancy Schooling on 273859.

WANT TO BE A POSITIVE FORCE FOR SOMERTON RECREATION GROUND? WHY NOT LOOK AT BEING A RECREATION GROUND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBER? PLEASE EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST TO THE SECRETARY OF THE RECREATION BY 31st JANUARY 2016 Please submit your contact details preferably by e-mail to Terry Philpott the Recreation Ground Secretary at town.clerk@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk After the 31st January all interested parties will be invited to attend a meeting. Thank you.

U3A: FRIDAY 27 JANUARY

The Somerton U3A meeting on Friday 27 January 2017 will be a medley of comic stories and poetry by Fred Phelps who has entertained other U3A branches in this way. A good way to spend a grey winter's morning.

Monthly meetings take place on the fourth Friday of each month at the Edgar Community Hall, Somerton, starting at 10am with coffee (30p) and chat. After any notices the main event begins at 10.30am and finishes by 12 noon latest. Meetings are free for members, visitors £1.50 each

STAPLING AND FOLDING OF VIADUCT: FRIDAY 27 JANUARY

Friday 27th Jan 2pm Parish Rooms.

SOMERTON MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL: SATURDAY 28 JANUARY

Somerton Music and Arts Festival invites you to....... Dust of those post-Christmas and January blues with a good helping of HMS Heron's volunteer band. The committee have booked this brilliant highly talented band for a night of music and entertainment on in St Michael's Church on Saturday 28th January 2017 at 1930. Tickets are on sale from Palmer Snell at £8.00 or online via www.eventbrite.co.uk. If you want to know more about the band check them out at www.hmsheronband.co.uk.

Don't forget the festival starts on the 7th of July through to the 16th with lots planned. Follow us on Twitter, Facebook or visit the website for more details. The committee of the Somerton Music and Arts Festival would like to wish you all a healthy and happy 2017, Alex

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S SURGERY: SATURDAY 28 JANUARY

Stephen Page, South Somerset District Councillor for the Wessex Ward (Somerton and Compton Dundon), will be holding his regular monthly morning surgery on Saturday 28th January 2017 from 11.00am to 12.30pm in the Full of Beans cafe. All are welcome to meet with Stephen and discuss any concerns or issues. To make an appointment kindly contact him by e-mailing stephen.page@southsomerset.gov.uk or telephoning 07519 739137.

LATEST NEWS FROM WEA: TUESDAY 31 JANUARY

The WEA will be running a course on Maritime Archaeology. The course will begin on Tuesday 31st January in Long Sutton Village Hall from 7.30pm to 9.00pm and will run on Tuesdays for six weeks (no session on 14th February). The last session will be on March 14th.

People have taken to the sea from earliest times, the course will look at how ships have developed, the voyages taken, how they navigated and affected the coasts. Local examples will be chosen as often as possible with particular emphasis on the coast of Dorset. The professional tutor leading the course will be Gordon Le Pard and the cost will be £25. Why not join us? Further inquiries or to enrol please email Kim Bailey on wealongsutton@gmail.com or call on 01935 850077.

What's on In Brief

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAY

- 10.30am -11.30am Age UK Movement to Music, Parish Rooms
- 2.00pm 5.00pm Bridge Club (Chicago) West Street Church
- 5.30pm Slimming World, Edgar Hall
- 4.30pm 5.30pm Rainbows, St Cleers Chapel
- 5.30pm 7.00pm Brownies, St Cleers Chapel
- 7.00pm Girl Guides, St Cleers Chapel
- 7.30pm Slimming World, Edgar Hall

TUESDAY

- 9.30am Slimming World, Edgar Hall
- 9.30am 1030am Tai Chi (Beginners), Parish Rooms
- 10.00am 11.30am Treasure Island Toddlers, Edgar Hall (term time)
- 10.00am 12.00noon Citizens' Advice, West Street Church
- 10.30am 11.30am Fitness League Exercise, Parish Rooms
- 10.30am Coffee Morning, Laburnum Drive
- 5.15pm 6.15pm Rainbows, Keinton Village Hall (term time)
- 6.15pm 7.45pm Brownies, Keinton Village Hall (term time)
- 6.30pm 7.30pm Line Dancing (Beginners), Junior School
- 7.00pm 9.00pm Scouts, Scout Hut
- 7.30pm Mid Wessex Singers, West Street Church
- 7.30pm 9.00pm Line Dancing (Improvers), Junior School

WEDNESDAY

- 10.00am 12noon Life Drawing, Pinney Room
- 10.00am 12noon Line Dancing (Intermediate), Edgar Hall
- 12.30pm Yarlington lunch (pre-order), Laburnum Drive
- 2.00pm Knitting afternoon, Laburnum Drive
- 2.30pm -4.00pm Foodbank at the Angel, Langport
- 5.00pm 6.15pm Beavers, Scout Hut
- 6.30pm 8.00pm Cubs, Scout Hut

THURSDAY

- 9.00am 11.00am Weightwatchers, Parish Rooms
- 9.00am 11.30am Rainbow Rascals, West Street Church (term time)
- 9.30am 10.30am Tai Chi (Advanced), Parish Rooms
- 11.00am 12noon Line Dancing (Improvers), Parish Rooms
- 2.00pm Fun Bingo, Laburnum Drive
- 6.00pm 7.30pm Junior Youth Club, Wessex Rooms
- 7.00pm 10.00pm Bridge Club (Duplicate), New Room, West Street Church
- 7.30pm 9.00pm Archies Xtra (11-18 years), Recreation Ground
- 7.30pm 9.30pm Scottish Country Dancing, West Street Church (term time)

FRIDAY

9.30am - 11.30am St Cleers Toddlers, St Cleers Chapel

10.45am Flexercise, Laburnum Drive

7.00pm - 8.30pm Rezound Youth, Edgar Hall

7.30pm - 9.00pm St Cleers Youth, St Cleers Chapel

SATURDAY

9.00am Yeovil Parkrun, Montacute House

9.30am - 12noon Wessex Market, Unicorn Skittle Alley

SUNDAY

10.30am Life Church, Edgar Hall

JANUARY

Tue 3rd New Craft meeting in Full of Beans Café 2pm every Tuesday Somerton WI History of Wills 7.15pm PR

Thu 5th Health Walk 11.30am Library

Sat 7th Late matinee Theatre Trip to Cinderella

Mon 9th Somerton Gardeners AGM & Quiz 7.30pm Wessex Rms, Broad St

Tue 10th Pardoes Solicitors Free Legal Clinic 9am - noon at PRs

Rummikub 2pm PR

Heart of Levels Bird Migration 7.30pm PR

CAB restarts weekly 10am West Street Church

Thu 12th Friendship Club 10.30am Somerton Sports Club

Mon 16th St Margaret's Charity Event Swan Theatre, Yeovil 7.45pm

Tue 17th Pardoes Solicitors Free Legal Clinic 9am - noon at PRs

Nadfas lecture Two Queens of the Desert 10.30am Caryford Hall Castle Cary

Thu 19th Health Walk 11.30am Library

Sat 21st County/District Councillor surgery 9.30-11.00am White Hart

Mon 23rd Somerton Town Plan meeting 7.30pm Parish Rooms

Tue 24th Pardoes Solicitors Free Legal Clinic 9am - noon at PRs

Thu 26th Som History Soc History of Railway Navies 7pm for 7.30pm PR

Fri 27th Staple & Fold 2pm PR

U3A Fred Phelps entertains 10 for 10.30am at EH

Sat 28th DC Stephen Page's Surgery 11am - 12.30pm Full of Beans Café

Somerton Music & Arts Festival HMS Heron Band Concert 7.30 pm St Michael's Church

Tue 31st WEA course on Maritime Archeology starts 7.30pm Long Sutton V. H.

MORE DETAILS ON EVENTS IN SOMERTON AT WWW.SOMERTON.CO.UK



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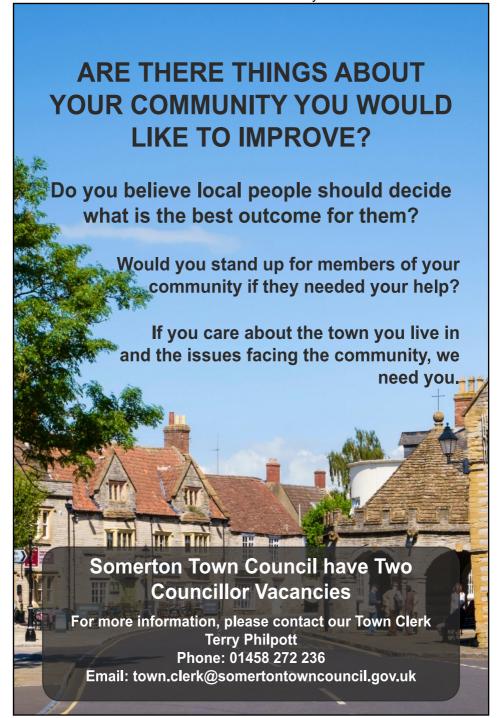
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Viaduct is published and printed by Somerton Town Council and is distributed FREE to residents. Opinions expressed are those of the contributors, for which the Council and the Editors cannot be held responsible. Items for inclusion should be sent in by 12th of the month previous to the edition of Viaduct in which the item is to appear.

Editors: Mo Fletcher, 3 Barn Close, Somerton TA11 6PH. Tel: 274631 and Neal Barton. Email: viaduct@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk





COMMUNITY AWARD LAUNCH 2017

DO YOU KNOW A SPECIAL PERSON
WHO DESERVES TO BE RECOGNISED FOR
THE CONTRIBUTION THEY MAKE TO OUR COMMUNITY?

Why not nominate this person for the Town Community Awards to be presented at the Parish Meeting?

The categories are:

Youth
Art
Sport
Business
Community

Nomination forms are available in Somerton Library and via the Somerton Town Council Website.

The closing date for nominations will be March 31st 2017 Nominations will be viewed in April 2017

The three shortlisted in each category will be invited to the Annual Parish Meeting, where a prize will be presented to the winner of each category and a certificate for the runners up.





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