

Somerset Market Towns Forum was established in late 2003 with the aim of bringing together representatives of all the market towns and larger villages across Somerset in a network, so as to share issues of common concern, and help in the economic, social and environmental regeneration of the local communities.

Objectives

1. To promote mutual support and collaboration between Somerset Market Towns and the larger villages – by sharing good practice through visits, invited speakers and the circulation of information.
2. To develop the capacity of the Forum and its members to serve and assist Somerset's communities – by organising appropriate seminars and training for its members.
3. To establish an active role for the Forum in promoting regeneration in Market Towns – by acting as a 'voice' from across the County in discussions with other bodies and forums.

Reply Form

I/We will be attending the Axbridge Network Event on 2nd October.

Name(s):

Organisation:

(maximum 2 representatives from each member town inc LA Officers)

Address or email:

Please indicate whether you will also attend the Guided Tour or partake of the Buffet:

Guided Tour Yes [] No []

Buffet Yes [] No [] Any dietary requirements?

Please reply to Matt Day, contact details below.



Somerset Market Towns Forum

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Somerset Market Towns Forum Network Event

Axbridge - 2nd October 2007

Theme: Involving local businesses in
revitalising your town



Front cover photos by Barry Cawston and Jeremy Gall

www.somersetmarkettowns.co.uk

Programme

3.30 Optional Guided Tour of town centre – featuring a brief look at some of Axbridge's key features, improvements under-way and completed and issues of concern, which include traffic management and parking

4.15 Registration for all attendees, tea & coffee

4.30 Welcome

Mike Taylor, Mayor of Axbridge, and Mike Murphy, Chair of Somerset Market Towns Forum. Forum Officer Jane Wilson to explain the programme and report on what has been a busy summer for the Forum.

4.40 From Parish Plan to implementation

Presentation on community planning in Axbridge—what's happened and what's happening now. Barry Hamblin, Axbridge Town Council.

4.55 Involving local businesses in regeneration

Axbridge's Chamber of Commerce formed as a result of their Parish Plan. One year on, they are keen to learn about what other towns' business organisations have done to revitalise their towns' economy and any wider effects. Speakers from Chambers who are working with their community planning groups will be invited, and there will be time for questions to the speakers.

5.50 Buffet and Networking opportunity

Delicious buffet, a chance to discuss and view updates from Member towns projects. Information Officer Matt Day will be available during this break to give demonstrations of the new Forum website—and training for the really keen!

6.20 Forum Business Meeting

This meeting will focus on elements of the Forum's draft new Business Plan. Those not wanting to attend this can leave at this point.

7.00 Finish

Hosts

We are grateful to Sedgemoor District Council and Axbridge Town Council for hosting this event.

Guided Tour meeting point, Venue and Directions

For Guided Tour of town centre:

Meet at the Axbridge Museum at King John's Hunting Lodge (see map below) at 3.30pm sharp please. The Museum will be open from 3pm for viewing.

King John's Hunting Lodge, The Square, Axbridge, Somerset BS26 2AP

Please park in the town's main car park in Meadow Street.

Venue for Network Event:

Compton House Hotel, Townsend, Axbridge, Somerset BS26 2AJ

Telephone: 01934 733944 Website: www.comptonhse.com

Limited parking on site—please try to use town's main car park at Meadow Street, approx 500m/yards from Compton House Hotel. See map below.

Directions to Axbridge

Axbridge is on the A371 between Weston-super-Mare and Wells. On the M5, take exit 22 joining the A38. Follow the "Cheddar Gorge and Caves" brown signs for 5 miles to the village of Cross, then turn right on to the A371. The Axbridge turn-off is about a mile on, clearly signposted.

