

## **A RECORD TOWN A.G.M?**

You do not expect a town Annual General Meeting to attract a lot of people and generate a buzz of interest. And you wouldn't expect an attempt at running a drop-in meeting with lots of local clubs and bodies to be a success. You'd be wrong.



*There's a quiet revolution going on here. It's the Town Annual General Meeting and lots of people are turning up and asking questions. Amazing!*

There were two parts, the first at the Primary School, where 85 people were clocked in, and the second at Lacon Childe, where 73 came through the door. There they looked around a range of 25 stalls including the new nursing home development, Cleobury Patients' Voice and our own Concert Brass. There was a two minute interruption for the formal bit, when Cllr Debbie Brown explained what was going on, then it was back to questions, answers and chat.

Edwin Sayers sold five copies of his fine little Coracle Boy books, people learned about activities they'd not heard of before and at 7.15 we all packed up and went home. If this was the Town Council on show, it impressed.

## **ABOUT PLASTICS**

A working group has been formed under the umbrella of the Town Council to see how we recycle and what can be done to reduce the risks of plastics harming our environment.

They are looking at the 3Rs of Recycling, Reducing and Replacing. The town is reasonably good at recycling plastic using Veolia's kerb side collection crates and it looks as if around 40 tons of plastic a year are recycled in this way. There is still some confusion as to which plastic can not be

recycled eg black plastic trays, polythene, cling film and the mixed plastic/card Tetra products.

The Government's scheme to reduce plastic use by charging 5p a polythene bag was successful. More can be done by shoppers reducing buying plastic into the home, such as shopping in plastic free aisles in supermarkets where available, using paper bags, selecting wrap free products, and reusable containers such as lunch boxes.

We shall have to replace plastics within 20-30 years as hydrocarbon oil and gas reserves dwindle and new plastic production ceases. Pressure applied to retailers and manufacturers will create new alternatives to plastic use and its dangers.

National and our local Women's Institute are leading on the End to Plastic Soup. Microplastics fibres are shed from synthetic clothing with every wash and are the main contributors to microplastic contamination of our oceans.

The working group needs more volunteers. Please contact Cllr. Neil Tysall or Kit Smith if you are interested and do please fill in the Big Cleobury Survey on line or on a hard copy to influence how you want the Neighbourhood Plan to shape the future of our town.

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## **A SWIFT NOTE**

Our swifts will be back with us by the first week in May. Last year we had 15 pairs nesting; let's hope we have a few more this year. *Kit Smith*

## **THANK YOU FROM THE TALBOT**

The Talbot held an Easter raffle for Cleobury Cattery and raised the grand sum of £400. This would not have been possible had we not had a very generous donation from a Cleobury resident Mrs Yvonne Walton who donated a mountain of chocolate to allow us to make five wonderful prizes. We were shown great support from our customers who bought the tickets and joined in the fun we had finding out who the lucky winners were. We would like to send a heartfelt thank you to Yvonne and our customers for helping us raise this amazing amount for a great cause. *Val*

## **AND FROM COCO**

Many thanks to everyone who bought tickets for the Easter Egg Raffle and the pubs that hosted it and sold tickets. A total of £210 was raised towards the important work CoCo does in our community. *Catherine Evans*