



Okehampton Town Council



Okehampton Town Council
Town Hall
Fore Street
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www.okehampton.gov.uk

NEWSLETTER - MAY 2023

Sign up to receive the newsletters electronically by visiting the Council's [website](#)

Coronation of King Charles III, 6th May 2023

Working together Okehampton Town Council, Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council and Everything Okehampton are organising events to celebrate the Coronation. Everyone is welcome to attend these events - do come and join in.

Saturday 6th May Morning

On Saturday morning the Coronation of King Charles III will be screened live in the Charter Hall. The hall will be open all morning so you will be able to watch the run up to the Coronation itself which starts at 11am. The Inner Wheel are providing the refreshments during the coffee morning. Why not come down to the Charter Hall and watch the coronation in the company of old friends and new and share the memories of this rare occasion.

Saturday 6th May Afternoon

In the afternoon the celebrations continue. Moving out into St James Street and around St James Chapel there will be a bring and share street party. St James' Street will be closed between 2pm and 5pm with tables and chairs set out for everyone to join in the street party. The local food businesses will have food available to purchase if you don't want to bring something from home.

The Town Crier will be announcing the programme during the day. There will also be musical entertainment during the afternoon from Terrie May McNulty of Nightingale Music, Okehampton Silver Excelsior Band and the Community Dance Project.

Sunday 7th May Morning

The Rev Stephen Cook will be holding a service to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles III in All Saints Church.

Sunday 7th May Afternoon

Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council will be holding a cream tea in Meldon Village Hall.

As part of the Coronation, and partly with thanks to a bequest from the late Mr John Pestridge, Okehampton Town Council are in the process of having the old bandstand in the park reconfigured with a new structure on the base. The bandstand has a plaque dedicating it to the Coronation of King George V so it was felt that this was the ideal place to have a memorial to the late Queen as well as to the Coronation of King Charles III. The planting around the base will be improved with several of the King and Queen Consorts favourite plants.

Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council will be planting two new trees to add to the Queen's Green Canopy scheme.

Okehampton Town Councillors

Persons nominated to both Wards of Okehampton Town Council have been elected uncontested and 3 vacancies, which will be filled in the coming weeks by co-option, remain. Details of your new Councillors whose term of office commences on 9th May can be found at the end of the newsletter. More information about them will follow in June.

Details of how to apply for co-option to fill the three vacancies can be found on the website or obtained from the Town Hall.

If you would like to express an interest or find out more, please contact the Town Clerk.

Elections – 4 May 2023

Elections West Devon Borough Council Councillors in Okehampton South and North Wards are being held on 4th May in the Charter Hall. Voters are now required to take photo ID to be able to vote - details can be found on the [Electoral Commission website](#).



Town Council Staff Achievements

- Jacob Peek is congratulated on passing Level 2 of the Horticultural Apprenticeship and the Council is pleased that he will be continuing to Level 3.
- Emma James, Town Clerk, who was already CiLCA qualified, has completed the Level 4, Certificate of Higher Education in Community Governance with a Distinction awarded by the DeMontfort University and is now tackling the Foundation Degree.
- Caroline Ellis, Assistant Clerk, and Abi Horn, Admin Officer, have both within recent years successfully completed the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA)

Annual Town Council Meeting and Mayor Choosing, Wednesday 17th May

This is the first formal meeting of the Council year and will, for some, also be their first meeting as Town Councillor. As part of the proceedings the 2023/24 Mayor will be elected. At 3pm directly before the meeting there will be a short presentation event when those who have been selected to receive a Town Mayor's Award will be announced. Along with all meetings of the council and its committees, the meeting will be livestreamed through the Council's Facebook page.

Coming up in May

- 2nd Friendly Circle (Charter Hall)
- 3rd Clubercise (Charter Hall)
- 4th Elections (Charter Hall)
- 6th Coronation of King Charles III
- 11th Craft Fair (Charter Hall)
Clubercise (Charter Hall)
- 12th Clubercise (Charter Hall)
- 17th Clubercise (Charter Hall)
- 18th NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)
- 20th Trek 26 South Devon Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
- 27th OkeRail Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)

Town Council Meeting Dates

May 2023

- 17th Mayoral Award Presentation event (3pm)
Annual Council Meeting & Mayor Choosing
- 22nd Full Council

Meeting dates for the 2023/24 can be found on the [website](#). Some Planning Committee Meetings have been scheduled; others will be convened as needed. Council meetings normally start at 7pm and are held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Fore Street. Occasionally meetings are subject to change, the [website](#) or noticeboard in the Victorian Arcade should be checked for up-to-date information.

Park Volunteer Group

What Can I Do
to help in Simmons Park?

Tuesday 13th June
at 10am in the Pavillion in
the Park free tea and cake

Find out more about
the management of
Simmons Park

Meet the Park Keeper
and sign up to the park
volunteer group

Contact Us – 01837 53179

Emma James, Town Clerk & RFO
townclerk@okehampton.gov.uk

Caroline Ellis, Assistant Town Clerk (Accounts)
accounts@okehampton.gov.uk

Abi Horn, Admin Officer and Mayor's Assistant
(Bookings and Invitations for the Mayor)
admin@okehampton.gov.uk

James McGahey, Park-Keeper
parks@okehampton.gov.uk

Your Councillors (from 9th May)

(Town Mayor to be elected on 17th May)

Cllr Laura Bird	Cllr Richard Coleman
Cllr Allenton Fisher	Cllr Carole Holt
Cllr Dr Michael Ireland	Cllr Tony Leech
Cllr Christine Marsh	Cllr Bob Tolley
Cllr Simon Weekes	Cllr Ann Wood
Cllr Julie Yelland	

Individual Councillors contact details, once confirmed will be able to be obtained from the Office or website.