



Okehampton Town Council



Okehampton Town Council  
Town Hall  
Fore Street  
Okehampton EX20 1AA

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[www.okehampton.gov.uk](http://www.okehampton.gov.uk)

## NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2024

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

### Hello 2024 ...

As we welcome 2024 and say goodbye to 2023 we wonder what this new year will bring to us all, and from myself as Town Clerk, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a happy and healthy year.

In the first few weeks of 2024 Okehampton Town Council is:

- awaiting the result of its petition to West Devon Borough Council for amendment to the boundary between itself and its neighbouring parish of Okehampton Hamlets which is expected towards the end of February;
- budgeting for the 2024/25 financial year so that it can continue to support its community and provide facilities including CCTV, public toilets and Simmons Park for the benefit of all;
- continuing to support its residents by objecting strongly to DCC's pay and display consultation to implement on-street parking charging in the Okehampton, and working with the other communities who are also objecting to similar schemes;
- developing and improving communication by considering the provision of additional noticeboards and investigating how it can more effectively engage and listen to young people;
- engaging with other stakeholders towards the potential creation of a Business Improvement District to support traders and assist the economy of the town.

### DCC's Pay and Display Consultation for the Implementation of Charging for On-Street Parking

Around 100 people turned out for the public meeting hosted by the Town Council in the Ockment Centre on 14<sup>th</sup> December to voice their opinions about DCC's proposals. In attendance were the majority of the Town Councillors, some Councillors from WDBC and Cllr Samuel from DCC.

Chaired by the Town Mayor, Cllr Allenton Fisher, attendees made it very clear the proposals were not supported with not one person being in favour. The Town Council continues to support its residents and traders by objecting to the proposals and will be submitting its own response to the consultation by the closing date of 7<sup>th</sup> January.

Numbers count, and the Town Council urges everyone to complete the survey if you have not yet done so, with the reminder that each person in a household should individually fill it out. [The form can be accessed through this link.](#)

### Charter Hall Roofing Work and Closure

The long-planned repairs and improvements to the roof of the Charter Hall are due to commence on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024. It is expected that the work will take 5 months to complete but in total the hall is anticipated to be closed until September 2024 to allow some time for internal TLC to also take place before it reopens.

Other facilities in the Town Hall including the Council Chamber and Committee Room will remain open and bookable for meetings, events and Ceremonies.

## Okehampton Town Council Cemetery

Please note that Christmas wreaths in the Cemetery adjacent to All Saints Church owned and managed by the Town Council will be removed by staff during the last week of January.

### Coming up in January

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)
- 5<sup>th</sup> NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)
- 10<sup>th</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)
- 11<sup>th</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Ballroom and Latin American Dance (Charter Hall, evening)
- 15<sup>th</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)
- 18<sup>th</sup> NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)  
Councillor Surgery (Town Hall, 12.30pm to 2.30pm)
- 19<sup>th</sup> Ballroom and Latin American Dance (Charter Hall, evening)
- 20<sup>th</sup> Trek 26 South Devon Coast Path Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)
- 24<sup>th</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)
- 26<sup>th</sup> Ballroom and Latin American Dance (Charter Hall, evening)
- 27<sup>th</sup> Wren Music Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
- 29<sup>th</sup> Business Improvement District Workshops (Town Hall)
- 29<sup>th</sup> Business Improvement District Workshop (Town Hall)
- 30<sup>th</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)
- 31<sup>st</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)

### February

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ballroom and Latin American Dance (Charter Hall, evening)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Community Links Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Friendly Circle (2pm, Charter Hall)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)
- 8<sup>th</sup> NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)
- 9<sup>th</sup> Ballroom and Latin American Dance (Charter Hall, evening)
- 10<sup>th</sup> Okehampton Memories Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Clubbercise (Charter Hall, 6.30pm)

### Town Council Meeting Dates - January

- 8<sup>th</sup> Full Council (6.30pm) Planning Committee (7pm)
- 15<sup>th</sup> Policy & Resources Committee
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Full Council (Budget and Precept setting)

Meeting dates for 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 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Fore Street.

Occasionally meetings are subject to change, details can be found the [website](#) or noticeboard in the Victorian Arcade.

### Do you have a question to ask the Council or a suggestion to make?

There are several you can do this including:

- Attending a council meeting to which members of the public are welcomed and able to address the council;
- Popping along to the Councillor surgery between 10am and 12noon on 18<sup>th</sup> January in the Town Hall
- By emailing or ringing a Councillor or Officers
- Calling into the Town Hall to speak to a someone.

Council Meetings are livestreamed through the Council Facebook page, so you could watch proceedings from the comfort of your own home if you want to find out what the council is doing or see how meetings work.

The Town Hall Office is open to the public from Monday to Thursday, 9.30am to 4pm.

### Contact Us – 01837 53179

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Caroline Ellis, Assistant Town Clerk (Accounts)  
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Abi Horn, Admin Officer and Mayor's Assistant  
(Bookings and Invitations for the Mayor)  
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James McGahey, Park-Keeper  
[parks@okehampton.gov.uk](mailto:parks@okehampton.gov.uk)

### Your Councillors

Cllr Allenton Fisher (Town Mayor)  
Cllr Christine Marsh (Deputy Mayor)

Cllr Laura Bird	Cllr Tony Leech
Cllr Richard Colman	Cllr Mark Richards
Cllr Terry Cummings	Cllr Lynne Rogers
Cllr Mike Harding	Cllr Bob Tolley
Cllr Carole Holt	Cllr Simon Weekes
Cllr Dr Michael Ireland	Cllr Julie Yelland

Contact details available from the website or the office.