



Okehampton Town Council



Okehampton Town Council
Town Hall
Fore Street
Okehampton EX20 1AA

01837 53179

www.okehampton.gov.uk

facebook.com/okehamptontowncouncil

NEWSLETTER - MAY 2024

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

Councillor Vacancy

Following a resignation due to business pressures the applications for co-option to the North Ward are invited.

Not sure if the role is for you?

Come along to a meeting of the Council and see how it works or pop into the office in the Town Hall and have a chat with the Clerk or members of staff. Further information can be obtained from the Town Hall or the website.

Closing date: 12noon Friday 10th May 2024.

Applications will be considered by Full Council at a meeting on 20th May.

Anderton & Rowland Fair and Simmons Park carpark closure

In June we will be hosting a Spring Fair once again in Simmons Park which will be open from



Thursday 6th through until Sunday 9th June. In order to facilitate their visit, the carpark will be closed from 0800 Sunday 2nd June until 8am on Tuesday 11th June.

Okehampton Railway

Network Rail have agreed to come to Okehampton on Thursday 20th June at 10am to give a presentation about railway services in the town. This is in lieu of the Annual Town Assembly meeting that they were unable to attend in April.

This presentation is open to the public and will be held in the Council Chamber which is located in the Town Hall. Fire regulations limit the maximum number of persons permitted in the room to 60.

Okehampton Community Emergency plan

The Council has approved a Community Emergency Plan. The aim of the plan is to increase community resilience through the development of a co-ordinated approach to large scale major incidents, for example closure of the A30 due to heavy snowfall. Householder self-help information and useful tips are included. A copy of this plan will soon be available from the Town Hall and council website.

BUILDING FRAUD

Building fraud is **increasing**
Rogue traders target all types of building projects, from minor home repairs to large scale extensions and renovations

Losses range from **£1,000's** to **£10,000's**

FINDING A REPUTABLE BUILDER

- Patience**: Good builders are in demand, so be prepared to wait
- Quotes**: Get at least three detailed quotes
- Question**: Check reviews and references
- Research**: Find out as much as you can about the builder
- Withhold**: Never pay upfront and never by cash
- Contract**: Get everything in writing before you start
- File**: Keep copies of all correspondence
- Recommendations**: Ask people you know and trust for recommendations

DEALING WITH A ROGUE BUILDER

- Red flags**: Don't ignore the warning signs that things aren't going well
- Communicate**: If you're unhappy with the work, speak to your builder to try and resolve matters

For more information, including how to report a rogue builder, visit www.tssw.org.uk/consumers/building-fraud

Business Grant Initiative Pilot Scheme for 2024/25

Utilising a small underspend from the 2023/24 Grant Budget, the Council is about to launch a Town Centre Business Grant Initiative. This scheme will allow businesses to apply for a small grant to help enhance the look and appearance of the town centre by improving the external look of their premises. Details will be available from the council website.

Okehampton Town Youth Council (OTYC) Launch

Youth Councillors will be announced in the next few weeks and the first meeting of OTYC is being held on 22nd May.

Whilst the original application period has closed, there are still a few remaining spaces for which interest for those aged between 10 and 18 years of age is welcomed.

Mayor Choosing and the Annual Meeting of the Town Council

is taking place on Wednesday 8th May following presentations to the Mayoral Award winners at 2pm. These events will be Livestreamed.

Coming up in May

Simmons Park Volunteer Group – every Wednesday from 11am to 12.30pm

21st Councillor Surgery (Town Hall, 2pm-4pm)

Town Council Meeting Dates - May

8th Annual Council Meeting and Mayor Choosing

13th Planning Committee followed by Parks Committee

20th Full Council

Meeting dates for 2023/24 and 2024/25 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 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Fore Street. Occasionally meetings are subject to change, details can be found on the [website](#) or noticeboard in the Victorian Arcade.

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

Cllr Allenton Fisher (Town Mayor)
Cllr Christine Marsh (Deputy Mayor)
(Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2024/25 will be officially appointed on 8th May 2024)

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

Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council & Okehampton Town Council commemorates

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF D DAY
6TH JUNE
OKEHAMPTON SHOW FIELD



Made possible with a grant from OUC

STARTING AT
5:45PM

Humming Birds

Get Changed Theatre Company



Community Choir

Fly Past by Lockheed MC-130 Hercules
Combat Tallon II United States SOC
Subject to operational requirements

Military Vehicles

Excelsior Silver Band Last Post
Beacon Lighting

9:15PM

Eddie Kingdom Jazz Collective

Hog Roast
Taw River IceCream

Lions Food Van
Syrian Kitchen
Pies and Pasties

GATES OPEN AT 5PM
PARKING AVAILABLE

London Inn Bar

Meetings of the council are livestreamed through the Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/okehamptontowncouncil>