



Okehampton Town Council



Okehampton Town Council
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NEWSLETTER - July 2024

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

Okehampton Cemetery (newest cemetery adjacent to All Saints Church carpark)

Annual health and safety inspection of the memorial stones is due to take place on 2nd July 2024, weather permitting. Should any defects be found, we will endeavour to inform the families as soon as possible thereafter. If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact the office.



80th Anniversary of D-Day

Partly funded by a grant from Okehampton United Charity the jointly hosted Okehampton Hamlets Parish and Town Councils D-Day event on Thursday 6th June was a huge success. All those who



contributed in some way are thanked for their assistance, including the RAF and Army Cadets, those who performed or provided much needed refreshments.

Highlights included the lighting of the Beacon at 9.15pm and the flypast of 3 AH64 E Apache Gunships and 2 Auster, AOP 3 and 9 Artillery spotting aircraft used during D-Day, arranged by James, the Town's Park-Keeper.

The operational USAF special operations MC-130 Hercules Commando II plane was delayed in Normandy and unable to

make it to the event, but it did fly over the town the following day.

Cycle Racks Devon County Council have provided the Council with two cycle racks free of charge. One will be located in Simmons Park and the other at the Skatepark.

Simmons Park Volunteer Group meets weekly by the pedestrian gate on Wednesdays from 11am to 12.30pm. Everyone welcome, just bring a pair of gloves and a trowel, if you have them, and wear suitable clothing! A lovely way to meet new people.



Charter Hall Roof Works

Work to the roof of the hall is well underway and on target for reopening on 1st September.

A recent fire audit has highlighted some costly work that is required, including in the Charter Hall Kitchen. Due to funding implications work will be completed in a phased approach with the essential requirements initially being addressed. Unfortunately, this means the kitchen will not be able to be used for any type of cooking for the time being – including bacon baps and big breakfasts.

An action plan has been agreed which will eventually include other improvements to the kitchen opening it up in the future for use as a full cooking facility instead of its recent status as a warming kitchen.

Town Council Grants £15,975 of grant funding, details as follows, was awarded to local not-for-profit groups and organisations by the Policy & Resources Committee at a meeting in June.

- **Okehampton & District Twinning Association** for a grant of £350 towards the provision of activities and events during the visit to Okehampton in 2024
- **Okement Rivers Improvement Group** for a grant of £500 towards maintenance of the riverbanks, coppicing of vegetation and insurance costs.
- **Okehampton Community Recreation Association** for a grant of £500 towards funding of a fields in trust celebration and Sporting Sunday event in July
- **2443 (Okehampton) Squadron Royal Air Force** for a grant of £500 to support an adventure training activity for cadets.
- **All Saints Church Hall** for a grant of £500 towards the purchase of a commercial dishwasher
- **Ockment Centre** for a grant of £5,000 towards reception staffing costs
- **The Museum of Dartmoor Life and Tourist Information Point** for a grant of £3,500 towards the running costs of the Museum and £1,500 towards the Tourist Information Point
- **Okehampton Fairtrade Group** for a grant of £125 to support the fairtrade community enabling the town to maintain its fairtrade status.
- **Tor Support Services** for a grant of £3,000 to fund 56 counselling sessions
- **Okehampton Friendly Circle** for a grant of £500 towards the cost of a coach for the group annual trip.
- **Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal** to approve a donation of £50 towards the 2024 appeal and wreath for the Remembrance Service



Okehampton Show 8th August

Youth Councillors will be accompanying Council staff to the show this year. Please come and meet them to find out what they are doing and to show your support. Does anyone have a stocks that could be borrowed for the event? If so, there may well also be the opportunity to throw wet sponges at Town Councillors in Stocks!!

Coming up in July

Simmons Park Volunteer Group – Wednesdays, 11am to 12.30pm

14th OCRA Sports Sunday and Fields in Trust (Simmons Park)

16th Councillor Surgery (Town Hall)

Town Council Meeting Dates - July

1st Planning Committee

8th Parks Committee

22nd Property Committee

29th Full Council

Meeting dates for 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

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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
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Your Councillors

Cllr Allenton Fisher (Town Mayor)
Cllr Richard Colman (Deputy Mayor)

Cllr Laura Bird	Cllr Christine Marsh
Cllr Terry Cummings	Cllr Mark Richards
Cllr Frankee Hart	Cllr Lynne Rogers
Cllr Carole Holt	Cllr Bob Tolley
Cllr Dr Michael Ireland	Cllr Simon Weekes
Cllr Tony Leech	Cllr Julie Yelland