



Okehampton Town Council



Okehampton Town Council  
Town Hall  
Fore Street  
Okehampton EX20 1AA

01837 53179

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

[facebook.com/okehamptontowncouncil](https://facebook.com/okehamptontowncouncil)

## NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2024

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



DEVON & CORNWALL  
POLICE  
CYBER PROTECTION  
UNIT

FREE  
CYBER  
SECURITY  
AWARENESS  
SESSION

24TH OCTOBER  
CHARTER HALL  
7PM



### **FREE** Cybercrime Awareness Presentation

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October Devon and Cornwall Police are offering a free Cybercrime awareness presentation in the Charter Hall at 7pm.

The presentation is free and open to all town residents. Refreshments will be available.

Mick, a Cyber Protect Officer, advises:

*'The presentation is designed to raise general understanding of how Cybercriminals operate and promote some simple preventative measures that are available for individuals and organisations to implement and so reduce the chances of them becoming Cybercrime victims'.*

### **Community Green Flag**

**Award** - The Green Flag awarded to Simmons Park earlier this year was officially raised by Councillor Tolley, Chairman of the Parks Committee, on 5<sup>th</sup> September.



**Town Centre Business Grant Initiative** - At the beginning of the financial year, the council put aside unspent funds amounting to £2,896 from the 2023/24 Grant budget to be used this year for a pilot scheme – a Town Centre Business Grant Initiative. This grant will enable businesses to apply for funding to spruce up their shop fronts which will improve the overall look of the town centre.

WDBC have added to this grant pot by providing double the funds, increasing the amount available within the budget to £8,688. The result of an application to DCC's Quick Win Scheme for £3,312 which would bring the total to £12,000 is awaited.

This funding has to be spent within the next few months, so businesses are encouraged to apply for funding as soon as possible. Please see the council [website](#) for information.

### **Civic Service**

The Civic Service on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September turned out to be just as wet, if not wetter than last year and due to the torrential rain the Parade was cancelled. A lovely service was held in Fairplace Church with readings by the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Richard Colman, and the Chairman of Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council, Cllr Maria Cooper.

All those who turned out ready to take part in the Parade are thanked for their support, including Dinah Cox OBE Deputy Lieutenant, and Okehampton Silver Excelsior Band. Fingers crossed that next years event is blessed with better weather!

**Advance Warning – Remembrance Parade and Service  
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

Fore Street and the roads leading to All Saints Church will be closed for a short period of time to enable the procession to and from the Church for this annual event.

**Town Councillor Vacancy**

Following the resignation of Cllr Lynne Rogers, a casual vacancy has arisen. The Notice of Vacancy has been published.

**Coming up in October**

- **Mondays** - Mental Health Drop-in Sessions, Charter Hall 10am-1pm
  - **Tuesdays** - Wren Wellness Singers, Charter Hall
  - **Wednesdays** - Simmons Park Volunteer Group 11am-12.30pm, meet at the pedestrian gates
  - **Mondays and Wednesdays** – Clubbercise, 6pm-8pm Charter Hall
  - **Thursdays** - Ballroom and Latin American Dancing, Charter Hall
- 1<sup>st</sup> Friendly Circle, Charter Hall  
 5<sup>th</sup> Royal British Legion Coffee Morning, Charter Hall  
 Michael Morpurgo - Kensuke’s Kingdom fundraising event, Charter Hall, 4pm-5.15pm  
 11<sup>th</sup> D-Day Dinner and Dance, Charter Hall  
 15<sup>th</sup> Councillor Surgery, Town Hall, 10am-12noon  
 16-19 Anderton & Rowland Fair, Simmons Park  
 19<sup>th</sup> Okehampton Carnival Coffee Morning, Charter Hall  
 24<sup>th</sup> D&C Police Cyber Security Awareness Presentation 7pm Charter Hall  
 26<sup>th</sup> Okehampton Energy Festival, Charter Hall

**Town Council Meeting Dates**

Members of the public are welcome to attend council meetings and have the opportunity to address the council. Alternatively, meetings are livestreamed through the council Facebook page where they are available to view.

October

28<sup>th</sup> 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.



**Councillors Surgery**  
 15<sup>th</sup> October in the Town Hall between 10am and 12noon. PSCO David Condon will be joining Councillors Holt and Yelland if you have any questions or concerns.

**Simmons Park Carpark Closure**  
 Simmons Park carpark will be closed from 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> October.

**Contact Us – 01837 53179**

Emma James, Town Clerk & RFO  
[townclerk@okehampton.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@okehampton.gov.uk)

Caroline Ellis, Assistant Town Clerk (Accounts)  
[accounts@okehampton.gov.uk](mailto:accounts@okehampton.gov.uk)

Abi Horn, Admin Officer and Mayor’s Assistant  
 (Bookings and Invitations for the Mayor)  
[admin@okehampton.gov.uk](mailto:admin@okehampton.gov.uk)

James McGahey, Park-Keeper  
[parks@okehampton.gov.uk](mailto:parks@okehampton.gov.uk)

**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	VACANCY
Cllr Carole Holt	Cllr Bob Tolley
Cllr Dr Michael Ireland	Cllr Simon Weekes
Cllr Tony Leech	Cllr Julie Yelland