



Okehampton Town Council



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NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2025

Sign up to receive the newsletters electronically by visiting the Council's [website](http://www.okehampton.gov.uk)

Devon and Cornwall Alert

PCSO Sean Jones will be setting up in the town centre on Saturday 8th March to provide information about the DC Alert system <https://alerts.dc.police.uk/>

The Alert is a two-way community messaging system operated by Devon and Cornwall Police which helps them to connect with communities, it tells people what is happening in their area and allows them to respond directly with any information.

Simmons Park Volunteer Group

Want to meet new people and get out in the fresh air? The volunteer group is recommencing in April with the first session from 11am to 12.30pm on Wednesday 2nd and weekly throughout the spring, summer and into the autumn. Signs of spring are appearing in Simmons Park.



Play Equipment

The Parks team have been busy replacing the matting under the Typhoon. They have also installed new cycle racks in Simmons Park and at the Skatepark which were kindly provided free of charge by DCC.



Okehampton Youth Council

If you are interested in joining the Youth Council or can assist in any way, please email

youthcouncil@okehampton.gov.uk or contact us through the council office.



In early February the Youth Council set off for a walk through Simmons Park in the early evening dusk in order to think about areas where they felt safe and where they didn't.

A first aid course for children aged 7+ was hosted by the Youth Council in the Charter Hall during half term. The course was funded by a grant from Cllr Lois Samuel, DCC, meaning that it was able to be offered to local children free of charge.



Town Council Grants 2025-26

Okehampton Town Council has agreed a budget of £29,000 for the award of grants supporting community organisations and groups to the benefit of the residents of Okehampton in the 2025/26 financial year.

Applications will be considered in the spring and autumn. Those for consideration in the spring must be received by Friday 25th April 2025 and in the autumn by 29th August 2025. The grant policy and application form can be downloaded from the council website or obtained from the Town Hall.

BMX/Pump Track Improvement (Tender opportunity)

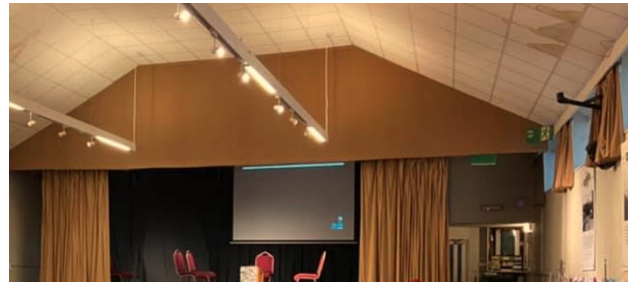
The Skatepark Complex, incorporating the BMX track and skatepark, is in need of improvement but due to the size of the project the work is being phased. Phase 1 is the upgrading of the existing BMX track.

The Council has commenced the process for a design and build tender for a BMX/MTB/Skate Asphalt surfaced pump track on the footprint of the existing BMX track off of North Road which is approximately 300m in length. The track needs to cater for all abilities, whilst challenging experienced riders and being safe for beginners as well as being suitable for use for scooters and skateboards.

The successful tender will be required to hold public consultation to enable residents and users to comment on the proposed design. Details of the tender can be found at <https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Notice/b83fabaf-a59b-4d5f-8e6c-6fe43bd5f2c1>

Free to a Good Home (collection only)

The old Charter Hall curtains. There are 6 pairs of window curtains which are 1m in length, 2 full length stage curtains with longer side panels and a large trapezoid piece of fabric.



2 x sinks and pedestals with taps, good condition

Old wooden 4 drawer filing cabinet. It has a lock, but the key is missing.

If anyone can make use of them,

please let us know. The items are currently in the Town Hall where they can be viewed.

Hedgehog Walk | The Wildlife Trusts

Devon Wildlife Trust Hedgehog Walk sign-up is now, the link can be found here <https://buff.ly/433frPg>



Why not do your Hedgehog Walk in Simmons Park



Forward dates for your diary:

Commonwealth Day – Monday 10th March, 10am outside of St James' Church (change of time)

Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 8th April 2025, 7pm.

VE Day 80th Anniversary – Thursday 8th May, 3pm - 8pm

Mayor Choosing and Annual Council Meeting – Wednesday 14th May

Coming up in March

- **Mondays** - Mental Health Drop-in Sessions, Charter Hall 10am-1pm
- **Tuesdays** – West Devon Folk Choir, Charter Hall
- **Mondays and Wednesdays** – Clubbercise, 6pm-8pm Charter Hall
- **Wednesdays** – Simmons Park Volunteer Group, 11am-12.30pm, meet at the pedestrian entrance gates (recommencing 2nd April 2025)
- **Thursdays** - Ballroom and Latin American Dancing, 7.30pm-8.30pm Charter Hall
- **Saturdays** – Parkrun, 9am Simmons Park

1st RAF Air Cadets Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)

4th Friendly Circle (Charter Hall)

7th NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)

8th Inner Wheel Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)

15th Friendly Circle Coffee Morning (Charter Hall. 10am – 3pm)

19th CGE Antiques and Jewellery Roadshow (Charter Hall)

Councillor Surgery (Town Hall, 10am -12noon)

22nd Trek 26 Jurassic Coast Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)

Dartmoor Storytelling Performance (Charter Hall)

28th Mayor's Fundraising Charity Quiz (Charter Hall)

April

1st 1st Okehampton Scouts Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)

4th Friendly Circle (Charter Hall)

7th NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)

8th Inner Wheel Coffee Morning (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.

March

10th Parks Committee

17th Policy & Resources Committee

24th Planning Committee

31st 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 added or subject to change, details can be found on the [website](#) or noticeboard in the Victorian Arcade.

Contact Us – 01837 53179

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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 David McNeill
Cllr Frankee Hart	Cllr Mark Richards
Cllr Carole Holt	Cllr Bob Tolley
Cllr Dr Michael Ireland	Cllr Simon Weekes
Cllr Tony Leech	Cllr Julie Yelland