



Okehampton Town Council



Okehampton Town Council
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NEWSLETTER – MAY 2025

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

Okehampton Town Council – Job Vacancies

Level 2 Horticultural Apprenticeship

Okehampton Town Council is seeking to employ a full-time apprentice to work within its Parks Team from September 2025. For further information and to apply please [visit the apprenticeship website](http://www.okehampton.gov.uk).

Facilities Officer

A new position has arisen to work with existing members of the council's staffing team. The successful candidate will line-manage the caretaking staff and have responsibilities including the facilitation of events, and health & safety.

26 hours p/week. Working days/hours to be agreed, can be flexible but must include Thursdays and will include some evenings and weekends.

Starting salary £20,780.32 p/a (FTE £29,572)

Closing date: 9th May 2025

For further information please visit www.okehampton.gov.uk



Okehampton Youth Council

[A page on the Council's website](http://www.okehampton.gov.uk), which has seen gradual improvement over the last few months, has been dedicated to the 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

The Youth Council met in March to write an article for the Annual Council Report and prepared a presentation for the Annual Town Assembly on 8th April, photo to the right.

Youth Councillors have been preparing questions for the CEO of the Dartmoor Multi-Academy Trust who has agreed to meet them in June.

Okehampton Cemetery – Headstone Inspections

Annual safety inspections of the headstones in the Council owned Cemetery adjacent to All Saints Church will take place in the summer. Should you have any concerns about this, please get in touch with the Council.



REGISTRATION ON THE DAY FROM 11:00AM - FOR MORE INFO CALL: 01837 55778

17TH MAY 12PM - 4PM

EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL AGES AND ABILITIES - REGISTRATION FOR COMPS TAKES PLACE ON THE DAY FROM 11AM
HELMETS MUST BE WORN BY COMPETITORS - RIDE AT YOUR OWN RISK

Parks News and No Mow May

An additional member of permanent staff will be joining the parks team. Jacob, the parks horticultural apprentice, applied for this position and will become a permanent member of the team on completion of his apprenticeship in the next few weeks. CONGRATULATIONS JACOB!



The Volunteer Group restarted in April and have been working to tidy up the sensory garden area at Fairplace.

Areas of Simmons Park, the BMX/Skatepark and the verge at West Bridge will be left to nature in the next new weeks for No Mow May. Apologies if it means that these areas will look a little untidy over the next few weeks, but this will allow the grasses and plants to do their own thing helping to provide vital food needed by bees and butterflies who play a very important role in our ecosystems.



Coming up in May

- **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 Devon County Council Elections (Charter Hall)
3rd Everything Okehampton Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
6th Friendly Circle (Charter Hall)
8th VE Day 80th Anniversary, 3pm-8pm (Simmons Park)
9th NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)
17th Okehampton Primary School PTFA Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
Skatepark event, 12noon-4pm (Skatepark)
24th Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
31st Trek26 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.

May

- 12th Policy & Resources Committee
14th Annual Council Meeting and Mayor Choosing
19th Parks Committee

Meeting dates for 2025/26 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.

Simmons Park Book Swap

has been plagued recently by theft of books which have then been set fire to in a shelter on the opposite side of the river.

The CCT system covers this area and the Police are using footage to identify those involved.

A big thank you to those who have topped the books back up.

Contact Us – 01837 53179

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Abi Horn, Assistant Clerk
admin@okehampton.gov.uk

Tracey Bryant, Finance Officer
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James McGahey, Park-Keeper
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 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