



Okehampton Town Council



Okehampton Town Council
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NEWSLETTER – JULY 2025

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

Okehampton Youth Council

Youth Councillors met with and interviewed the CEO of the Dartmoor Multi-Academy Trust on 9th June. A copy of the questions and answers can be found on the Youth Council page of the Council website. They are meeting with the College Headteacher and will be visiting West Devon Borough Council in Tavistock in July when they will have the chance to talk to Officers and Councillors as well as viewing a meeting. Okehampton Show will be an opportunity to meet some of the Youth Councillors and find out more about what they are doing.



If you are interested in joining the Youth Council, please email youthcouncil@okehampton.gov.uk or contact us through the council office

Simmons Park and No Mow May continued into June in Simmons Park and other areas.



Recent comments taken from trip advisor:

‘Beautiful park with lovely walks along the river and fantastic play areas suitable from toddlers to older kids. This is honestly the best park in Devon by far! Take a picnic as some great spots.’ (April 2025)

‘When driving from Somerset to Cornwall for a short break we decided to go to Simmons Park after researching it on the Internet. The parking is reasonably priced, the scenery is beautiful, and the cafe is amazing.’ (March 2025)

‘Simmons park is a beautiful place it is well worth a visit it well looked after and some lovely walks around the area I love this place’ (December 2024)

Okehampton Castle - The Council is working with Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council, within whose boundary it lies and other organisations to investigate possible solutions for the way forward. A public meeting is planned to be held in the Charter Hall at 7pm on 11th July

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

Councillor Surgeries

In June the Council decided not to continue to hold monthly Councillor Surgeries from the Town Hall because there had been almost no interest in the previous 12 months. Councillors will continue to hold surgeries occasionally from other locations on varying days and times.

Anyone wishing to speak with a Councillor can make an appointment by visiting, phoning the office or emailing the council or an individual Councillor. Contact details for Councillors are available from the office or website.

Wales and West Utilities Gas Mains Replacement Works –

The Council has been informed that major gas mains replacement works in the Exeter Road area of Okehampton is due to take place. A drop in event is being held by Wales & West Utilities on Thursday 17th July in the Charter Hall between 10am and 5.30pm



BMX/Pump Track improvement work has commenced following a successful consultation evening.

The new track will be a vast improvement on the existing and it will be open in early August.

‘Rock2Recovery’ is the Mayors Charity of the Year

‘Rock2Recovery’ is dedicated to saving and transforming the lives of individuals in the Armed Forces, veterans their immediate family members and funded 999 services, who are facing difficult challenges.’

<https://www.rock2recovery.co.uk/>

Future Diary Date Wildlife Day in Simmons Park, 21st August at 1pm with Dartmoor National Park, pond dipping and riverbed dredging.

Coming up in July

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 pedestrian entrance gates

- **Saturdays:** Parkrun, 9am Simmons Park

1st Friendly Circle (Charter Hall)

4th Wren Ceildh (Charter Hall)

5th Community Links Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)

12th Mayor’s Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)

Footsteps School of Dance Gala (Charter Hall)

17th Wales and West Utilities Gas Mains Replacement information day (Charter Hall)

19th Hockey Club Comedian Night (Charter Hall)

20th Okehampton Music Day (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.

July

7th Planning Committee

14th Parks Committee

21st Policy & Resources Committee

28th Full Council

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.

Contact Us – 01837 53179

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parks@okehampton.gov.uk

Your Councillors

Cllr Richard Colman (Town Mayor)

Cllr Laura Bird (Deputy Mayor)

Cllr Terry Cummings

Cllr Allenton Fisher

Cllr Frankee Hart

Cllr Carole Holt

Cllr Dr Michael Ireland

Cllr Tony Leech

Cllr Christine Marsh

Cllr David McNeill

Cllr Mark Richards

Cllr Bob Tolley

Cllr Simon Weekes

Cllr Julie Yelland