



Okehampton Town Council
Town Hall
Fore Street
Okehampton EX20 1AA

01837 53179

www.okehampton.gov.uk

## **NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2025**

Sign up to receive the newsletters electronically by visiting the Council's website

## **Okehampton Youth Council**

The Youth Council had a busy October.



Youth
Councillors took
part in the Civic
Parade and
Service,
attended a



public speaking workshop hosted by a member of the community and visited the Police Station.

Unfortunately, planned presentations at Okehampton College assemblies were postponed to early 2026.

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

# **Lloyds Bank Closure - Okehampton**

Lloyds Bank have announced their intention to close the Okehampton Branch in March 2026.

An extra ordinary meeting of the Council was held on 13<sup>th</sup> October to consider this, a Cash Analysis Impact Assessment carried out by LINK, correspondence from the Head of Banking at LINK and Sir Mel Stride MP. This information suggested that indicated a cash access service should be provided before the branch could shut.

The Council is objecting and is requesting that a banking hub be provided before the branch closes and has invited a representative from Lloyds to council meeting to explain their reasoning.

## **Remembrance Parade and Service**

This annual event is taking place on Remembrance Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> November. The Parade route is Fore Street, Market Street, Upcott Hill, Vicarage Road to All Saints Church, and returns to Fore Street following the service.

Please be advised there will be a short time when the relevant roads will be closed for to allow the procession to safely get to and from the Church.



(Photograph from 2022)

## Mayor's Carols and Edwardian Evening

At 6pm on Edwardian Evening, 4<sup>th</sup> December, the Mayor will be hosting the singing of some festive carols outside of St James' Chapel. The Okehampton Excelsior Silver Band will be accompanying the singing of the carols. Do come along and join in.







## **Christmas Car Parking**

From Monday 1st December until Thursday 1st January 2026 (inclusive) Okehampton Town Council are offering free parking in Simmons Park Car Park Monday to Friday from 12noon, all day Saturdays and Bank Holidays.

WDBC are offering free parking after 3pm on Thursday and Fridays from 1st to 26th December in Mill Road Car Park.

# **Shop Local**

Where possible please do your shopping locally to support the town's lovely shops and businesses.

## Free Simmons Park Christmas Trail

Starting on 1<sup>st</sup> December the council is offering a free to all Christmas Trail in Simmons Park. The information sheets will be available from the Town Hall, the book swap in



Simmons
Park (the
phone box),
or
downloadable
from the
website.

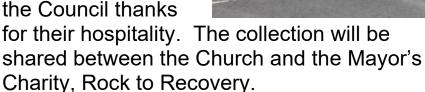


## Civic Service

The Council was joined by Vice Lord-Lieutenant Rear Admiral Chris Snow CBE and representatives from DCC, WDBC, nearby town and parish councils, local groups and organisations for the Annual Mayor's Civic Service on 12th October



This year the service was held at All Saints Church, who the Council thanks



Thank you to all those who assisted in some way or took part in the parade, including the Okehampton Excelsior Silver Band who led the Parade.



# OFFICE SPACE

£75pw For rent + Utilities and rates

Lower Market Street, Okehampton, EX20 1HN

- 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR SPACE
- KITCHENETTE APPROX 5X3M
- 12 MONTH MINIMUM LEASE



01837 53179

facilities@okehampton.gov.uk



# Coming up in November and December

- Mondays and Wednesdays: Clubbercise, 6pm-8pm Charter Hall
- Tuesdays: West Devon Folk Choir, Charter Hall
- Saturdays: Parkrun, 9am Simmons Park

#### November

- 1<sup>st</sup> Okehampton Community Christmas Fundraising Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Friendly Circle (Charter Hall)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Friendly Circle Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
- 15<sup>th</sup> Mayor's Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
- 21st Come and write a letter to Santa (Charter Hall)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Tapathon in aid of Children in Need (Charter Hall)
- 29<sup>th</sup> Rotary Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)

#### December

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Friendly Circle (Charter Hall)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Edwardian Evening College PTFA Event (Charter Hall)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Okehampton Community Christmas Fundraising Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
- 13<sup>th</sup> Santa's Breakfast (Charter Hall)
- 14th Okehampton Excelsior Silver Band Concert (Charter Hall)
- 19<sup>th</sup> NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)
- 20th Carnival Committee 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.

	<u>November</u>		<u>December</u>	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Policy & Resources Committee (Grants)	1 <sup>st</sup>	Committee Budget Meetings	
10 <sup>th</sup>	Property Committee	8 <sup>th</sup>	Policy & Resources Committee	
17 <sup>th</sup>	Parks Committee	15 <sup>th</sup>	Full Council	
24 <sup>th</sup>	Full Council			

Meeting dates for 2025/26 can be found on the <u>website</u>. 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

Emma James, Town Clerk & RFO
townclerk@okehampton.gov.uk
Abi Horn, Assistant Clerk
admin@okehampton.gov.uk
Tracey Bryant, Finance Officer
accounts@okehampton.gov.uk
Rosi Wills, Facilities Officer
facilities@okehampton.gov.uk
James McGahey, Park-Keeper
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

Contact details available from the website or council office