



Okehampton Town Council

Okehampton Town Council
Town Hall
Fore Street
Okehampton EX20 1AA

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www.okehampton.gov.uk

NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2026

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Okehampton Youth Council

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



2025/26 External Audit Certificate

The External Auditor, PKF Littlejohn is appointed by the Small Authorities Audit Appointments (SAAA). The 2025/26 AGAR (Annual Governance Accountability Return) has been audited and returned with no observations or recommendations made indicating that the council is effectively managing its finances and processes.

Documentation can be found on the council [website](#) or obtained from the office.



Interchange Railway Station

The Council welcomes the recent opening of the new Interchange Railway Station at the east end of the town and is pleased to be able to share details of bus services to both this and the original Town station.

GWR have confirmed that parking charges at the station are not

increasing in September and that the notices had been displayed in error.

From 30th August the Stagecoach 317 service between Okehampton and Bideford will be stop at the Town Station and the 118 Tavistock bus will serve the Interchange Station.

The 178 Country bus will visit Moyses Meadow instead of the 317.

The timetables can be found at

<https://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables>

<https://countrybusdevon.co.uk/routes/>

Council Budgets

Workshops to review the Policy & Resources and Parks budgets were held in August and one for the Property budget is scheduled in September.

The purpose of the workshops is for councillors to review expenditure and income so far this year and to start to consider the budget requirements for the 2027/28 financial year. Each Committee will then review recommendations arising from these workshops and Full Council will agree and set the budget and precept in January.

Annual Mayor's Civic Service – Sunday 13th September



For the first time in recent years the Service is being held in St James' Chapel, also known as the Mayor's Chapel.

There will be a Road Closure to allow the Parade led by Okehampton Excelsior Silver Band. The Parade will form up in Fore Street and march to St James' Chapel via George Street and St James Street. After the 11am Service the Parade will reform in Fore Street for an Inspection by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant and Mayor.



Image of the 2025 Parade

The Council thanks residents and visitors for their patience during the short road closures.



Facilities Team

Lynda Gray is welcomed as she joins the Facilities Team at Okehampton Town Council as one of the two Caretakers, the other being the Senior Caretaker, Jonathan.

Rosi, the Facilities Officer, manages the team which is responsible for looking after and

maintaining the council buildings, including health and safety in these areas.

Buildings the council are responsible for includes the Town Hall, Charter Hall, public toilets and roofed structures in other locations such as Simmons Park. The team also prepare facilities and host events, for example Coffee Mornings in the Charter Hall and Ceremonies in the Council Chamber.



Simmons Park Footpath



The footpath through the woodland behind Chalet Treloar was damaged by a falling tree over the winter and has been repaired and reopened for use.

Allotments

Full Council met in August and approved the new Allotment agreement. The Council will assume responsibility for the North Street, Castle Road and Fatherford Road Allotment Sites on 29th September.

Allotments are for the use of Town residents. This includes those who will transfer from the Hamlets into the Town following the boundary change in May 2027.

Waiting lists for allotments are in place and will be allocated on a first-come basis.

Information about this can be found on the council [website](#), or obtained from the Council office.



Coming up in September

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

September

- 1st Friendly Circle (Charter Hall)
3rd NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)
5th Oke Youth Football Club Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
12th Tamar Energy Festival (Charter Hall)
13th Annual Civic Service
19th Oke Primary School and College PFTA Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
24th NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)
26th RBL Dinner Dance (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.

September 2026

- 7th Planning and Policy & Resources Committees
21st Full Council
28th Parks Committee

Meeting dates for 2026/27 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, agendas can be found on the [website](#) and noticeboard in the Victorian Arcade.

Did you know that meetings are Livestreamed through the Council [Facebook Page](#) and are then transferred to [YouTube](#)?

Contact Us – 01837 53179

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Your Councillors

Cllr Richard Colman (Town Mayor)

Cllr Laura Bird (Deputy Mayor)

Cllr Terry Cummings

Cllr David McNeill

Cllr Allenton Fisher

Cllr Carole Holt

Cllr Mike Ricketts

Cllr Dr Michael Ireland

Cllr Bob Tolley

Cllr Tony Leech

Cllr Simon Weekes

Cllr Christine Marsh

Cllr Julie Yelland

Contact details available from the website
or council office