



Okehampton Town Council



Okehampton Town Council
Town Hall
Fore Street
Okehampton EX20 1AA

01837 53179

www.okehampton.gov.uk

NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2026

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

Follow the Council on [Facebook](#), Instagram and [YouTube](#)

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.



Update – 2027 Boundary Change between Okehampton Town and Hamlets Parish Councils

The Order for the change to the boundary between Okehampton Town and Hamlets Councils has been officially signed and will take effect on 1st April 2027 to match the financial year and the council tax bills.

Following the elections in May 2027 the number of Councillors elected to Okehampton Town Council will increase by one to fifteen, and the Hamlets Parish Council will reduce by one.

These boundary change will only affect the eastern side of the town, which will transfer from Okehampton Hamlets to Okehampton Town Council. It does not include Brightley, Meldon or Southcott.

Further information can be found on the [council website](#) and will be updated as plans develop.

Banking Update

The Town Council welcomes the change that once again allows Lloyds cheques to be deposited at Post Offices.



Civic Service For the first time in many years the Annual Civic Service was held in St James' Chapel, also known as the Mayor's Chapel.



Carnival Fair – Simmons Park Carpark Closure

To facilitate the Fair Simmons Park carpark will be closed from Sunday 11th to Monday 19th October. The Fair opening days will be Thursday 15th, Friday 16th and Saturday 17th October.

Clapps Wood

The footpath through Clapps Wood will be closed from 8am Tuesday on 27th October until 8am on Wednesday 28th October.

A summary of the Okehampton Town Council meeting on Monday 21st September

Councillors welcomed several recent improvements, including the completion of the Crediton Road footpath and crossing, the reopening of the resurfaced Leeze Park footpath to Castle Road, and the opening of the Interchange railway station. Work continues to reopen the Mill Road footpath, while concerns were also raised about missing timetable information at some bus stops and overcrowding on the rail line.

The Council supported a proposal seeking further consideration of local traffic and road infrastructure. Members noted that any next steps would need Devon County Council involvement and a new digital traffic survey, taking account of possible future housing and the capacity of local infrastructure. Devon County Council is also exploring advisory direction signs to help discourage traffic from using unsuitable roads, particularly when routes such as the A30 are closed.

Councillors considered the South Hams and West Devon Joint Local Plan consultation in detail and agreed responses for submission. The Council also noted that local government reorganisation in Devon has been paused and that elections are expected to go ahead in 2027 with existing boundaries.

A confirmed community governance boundary change between Okehampton Town Council and Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council will take effect in 2027.

The Council received a positive external audit report for 2025/26, with no concerns or required actions identified. Members also approved a range of updated council policies and confirmed arrangements for the next internal audit.

The Mayor reported on recent community events, including an RAF Cadets fundraiser for Rock2Recovery which raised around £2,800, and thanked everyone involved in the Civic Service at St James' Chapel. Residents can follow future Council meetings through the Council's Facebook page and find further information on the Council website.

Charter Hall Coffee Morning Availability

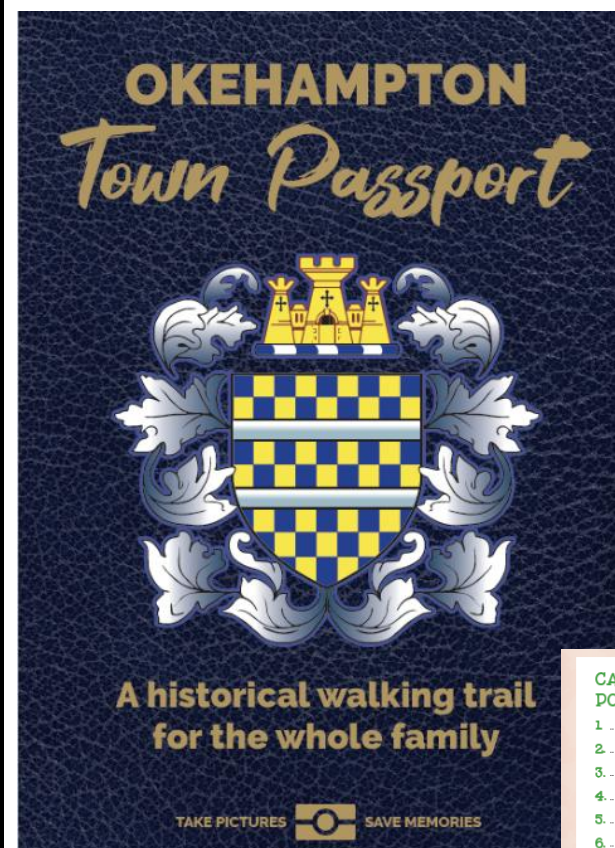
Due to a cancellation there is availability for a coffee morning in the Charter Hall on 7th November. This can be booked in addition to the usual two coffee morning limit for regular hirers.

Remembrance Parade and Service 8th November
at All Saints Church. Photographs from 2025.



Okehampton Youth Football Club Grant Award

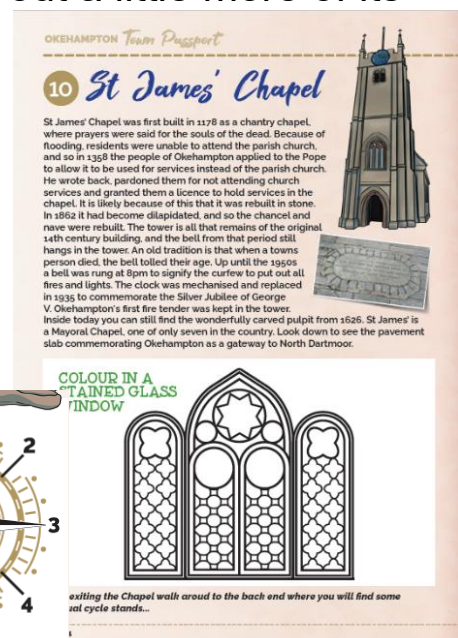
A grant of £375 toward the purchase of equipment was awarded to the group by the Policy & Resources Committee in September. Cllr Yelland, Committee Chairman, said 'The Committee was delighted to be able to support the Football Club by awarding this grant as so many young people enjoy playing football and having the opportunity to be part of a Team. Developing teamwork skills, learning and taking part in a sport teach vital transferrable life skills which stand them in good stead for whatever may come their way in the future. It is a privilege to be able to contribute in some small way to the ongoing success of the Youth Football Club.'



Okehampton Town Passport

This Town Trail has been created as an easy-to-follow walk that we hope all the family, young and old, can use to explore our town and find out a little more of its long history.

It will soon be available from the Town Hall and Museum of Dartmoor Life.



Coming up in October

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

October

- 3rd RBL Social Club Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
6th Friendly Circle (Charter Hall)
8th Employment Fair (Charter Hall)
10th Community Links Big Breakfast/Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
15-17th Anderton & Rowland Fair (Simmons Park)
17th Carnival Coffee Morning (Charter Hall) followed by the Carnival
23rd Rotary Club Bingo (Charter Hall)
24th Mayor's Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
30th NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)
31st Courtney Players 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.

October 2026

- 5th Property and Policy & Resources Committees
12th Full Council
19th Planning Committee
26th Full Council

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

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 David McNeill

Cllr Allenton Fisher Cllr Carole Holt

Cllr Mike Ricketts VACANCY

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