



Okehampton Town Council

Town Hall
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www.okehampton.gov.uk

**Minutes of a meeting of Okehampton Town Council held on
Wednesday 13th May 2026 at 6pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Okehampton**

Members Present:

Cllr R Colman	Cllr L Bird
Cllr T Cummings	Cllr T Leech
Cllr A Fisher	Cllr J Yelland
Cllr C Holt	Cllr B Tolley
Cllr M Ireland	Cllr M Ricketts
Cllr C Marsh	Cllr M Richards
Cllr D McNeill	

In Attendance:

Mrs E James (Clerk)	Mrs A Horn (Assistant Clerk)
Mr D Ellis (Mace Bearer)	Mr D Piper (Mace Bearer)
Rev Hall (Outgoing Mayor's Chaplain)	Rev C Reynolds (Incoming Mayor's Chaplain)
Incoming (Army) and Outgoing (RAF) Mayor's Cadets	
Cllr P Vachon (WDBC)	Cllr G Dexter (WDBC)
Mayor of Tavistock	Mayor of Launceston

Approximately 20 members of the public including a representative of the outgoing Mayor's Charity Rock4Recovery and past Town Council Mayors

Prayers were offered by Rev Reynolds prior to the commencement of the meeting.

The outgoing Mayor, Cllr Colman, opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

1. Election of Mayor

On the proposition of Cllr Cummings, seconded by Cllr Fisher it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Colman as Town Mayor for 2026/27.

Cllr Colman read out and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and made an acceptance speech stating he was delighted to be appointed for a second year, thanking those who had assisted him, welcoming the incoming Mayors Cadet and highlighting some of the events that had occurred during the previous year.

2. Election of Deputy Mayor

On the proposition of Cllr Fisher, seconded by Cllr Ireland it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Bird as Deputy Mayor for 2026/27.

Cllr Bird read out and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and made an acceptance speech

3. Apologies for Absence

On the proposition of Cllr Leech, seconded by Cllr Cummings, it was **RESOLVED** to approve apologies tendered by Cllr Weekes (Work).

4. Declarations of Interest

None

5. Mayors Expenses

On the proposition of Cllr Yelland, seconded by Cllr Leech, it was **RESOLVED** to endorse a budget of £2,500 to defray the expenses attached to this office in pursuance of section 15 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972.

6. Council Committees

On the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded by Cllr Bird, it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Councillors to the Property, Policy & Resources, Planning, Parks Committees and the Personnel Sub-Committee in accordance with the previously circulated list.

7. Committee Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen

An explanation of the work of the Planning Committee was provided by Cllr Yelland. On the proposition of Cllr Yelland, seconded by Cllr Cummings, it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Leech to be Chairman of the Planning Committee and Cllr Ireland to be Vice-Chairman.

Cllr Tolley provided an overview of the work of the Policy & Resources Committee. On the proposition of Cllr Tolley, seconded by Cllr Richards, it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Yelland to be Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee and Cllr Bird to be Vice-Chairman.

An overview of the work of the Property Committee was provided by Cllr Colman. On the proposition of Cllr Colman, seconded by Cllr Cummings, it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Bird to be Chairman and Cllr Fisher to be Vice-Chairman of the Property Committee.

The remit and work of the Parks Committee was explained by Cllr Ricketts. On the proposition of Cllr Ricketts, seconded by Cllr McNeill, it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Tolley to be Chairman and Cllr Marsh to be Vice-Chairman of the Parks Committee.

8. Working Groups

On the proposition of Cllr Cummings, seconded by Cllr Fisher, who provided details of the groups, it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Councillors to the Working Groups in accordance with the previously circulated list.

9. Representatives to External Bodies

The purpose and role of the representatives was explained by Cllr Leech. On the proposition of Cllr Bird, seconded by Cllr Leech it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Councillors as representatives of the Council to other bodies and to agree the reporting arrangements in accordance with the previously circulated list.

Cllr Colman concluded with a short speech thanking those present for attending. The meeting was closed at 6.18

Councillor Colman, Mayor