



Okehampton Town Council

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Emma James
Town Clerk & RFO

Minutes of a meeting of Okehampton Town Council held on Monday 12th October 2026 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Okehampton

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

Present:

Cllr C Colman (Mayor)
Cllr T Cummings
Cllr A Fisher
Cllr M Ireland
Cllr C Marsh
Cllr D McNeill

Cllr B Tolley (Chairman, Parks)
Cllr J Yelland (Chairman, Policy & Resources)

In Attendance:

Mrs A Horn (Ass Clerk)
Mrs K Percival (OUC Clerk)
Rev C Reynolds (OUC)
Cllr M Cooper (OUC)

Absent:

Cllr S Weekes
Cllr C Holt

The meeting was livestreamed through the Council Facebook page.

297. Apologies for Absence

On the proposition of Cllr Ireland and seconded by Cllr Cummings it was **RESOLVED** to approve apologies tendered by Cllr Ricketts (Personal), Cllr Bird (Prior engagement) and Cllr Leech (Illness)

298. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Marsh and Cllr Colman declared a personal interest in Min Ref 301 as Trustees of Simmons Homes.

Cllr Ireland, Cllr Tolley and Cllr Yelland declared a personal interest in Min Ref 301 as Trustees of Okehampton Foundation.

299. Public Participation

None

300. Members' Questions

Cllr Ireland reported that there was still overcrowding on the trains as two car units were still being used.

Cllr Cummings reported that many users of the 118-bus service were getting off at the town station as the announcements on the train are confusing. Those who are getting off at the interchange are missing connections in town to Bude and Holsworthy as the timetables do not line up. Cllr Cummings also reported that the frequency of breakdowns had increased

and the 118 buses had been leaving the town bus stop before the timetabled time to get to the interchange.

Cllr McNeill reported that the roads had been improved lately and asked if the council could thank Highways.

Cllr Cooper and Rev Reynolds left at 7:10pm.

301. Okehampton United Charities

On the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded Cllr Cummings it was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders to permit Mrs Percival to comment on this item of business.

Mrs Percival gave the councillors a report on the background of Okehampton United Charities and Simmons Homes and the reasoning behind the request.

On the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded Cllr Cummings, it was **RESOLVED** to reinstate Standing Orders.

On the proposition of Cllr Fisher and seconded by Cllr Cummings it was **RESOLVED** (3 abstentions) to support the merger between Okehampton Foundation (OF) and Simmons Homes (SH), as set out in the recently agreed Heads of Terms.

Mrs Percival left at 7:15pm

302. Devolution in Devon Consultation

Cllr Marsh left at 7:20pm

- a) On the proposition of Cllr Yelland and seconded by Cllr Ireland (1 against, 2 abstentions) it was **RESOLVED** to support Plymouth City Council becoming a constituent member of the DTCCA.
- b) On the proposition of Cllr Fisher and seconded by Cllr Tolley it was **RESOLVED** to not support the DTCCA progressing to become a Mayoral Strategic Authority

The meeting was closed at 7.33pm.

Councillor Colman, Mayor