



Okehampton Town Council



Okehampton Town Council
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NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 2024

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Play Tractor Donated by Okehampton United Charities

A big thank you to Okehampton United Charities who have donated funds to the Council. This funding has enabled the addition of a play tractor in Simmons Park.

OUC Trustees and Clerk were joined by Town Councillors and the Park-Keeper in early July to inspect and try out the tractor!



Green Flag Community Award winner 2024/2025

This site has met the international standard in the following areas:

A Welcoming Place	Environmental Management	Community Involvement
Healthy, Safe and Secure	Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage	Marketing and Communication Management
Well Maintained and Clean		



Community Green Flag Awarded to Simmons Park

Okehampton Town Council is delighted Simmons Park has been awarded Community Green Flag Status. The Parks Team (James, Neil and Jacob) and Volunteer Group are thanked for their work making this such a special space.

The coveted award, which is the equivalent of the beach Blue Flag Award, was applied for earlier in the year by the Council. An inspector visited in May and the following report stated:

'The site is well managed with a high level of expertise and dedication by the park-keeper, as well as the wider team both within the park and within the Town Council.

This strong site and council team are well placed to continue their program of continual improvement.... I have no hesitation in recommending the park for this award.'

Okehampton Show 8th August

You will find Town Council members of staff, Councillors and some Youth Councillors at the show alongside West Devon Borough Council. Why not come along and show your support to the Youth Council, find out their plans and provide them with some feedback on a questionnaire they have designed.



Fancy throwing wet sponges at Town Councillors?

The Youth Council are trying to persuade some Town Councillors to don their waterproofs for some fun and games - the Mayor, Cllr Fisher will be in the stocks at some point during the morning!

Okehampton Cemetery (newest cemetery adjacent to All Saints Church carpark)

Annual health and safety inspection of the memorial stones was completed on 2nd July. Where defects have been found the families are being contacted where possible and notices are being placed on the associated graves. If you have any concerns or questions about this, please don't hesitate to contact the office.

Business Improvement District (BID) Approved for Okehampton

In July businesses voted in favour of the creation of a BID in Okehampton. Information about the result can be found on WDBC's website www.westdevon.gov.uk/okehampton-bid.

Cllr Tolley says "As the Okehampton Town Council representative on the steering group I am delighted the ballot has produced such a positive endorsement of the plan. I look forward to supporting the BID Committee in now taking the process forward with the support of the community and businesses. Hopefully enhancing services, increasing collaboration and footfall, serving the interests of all local businesses and building a sense of community pride."

Coming up in August

Simmons Park Volunteer Group – Wednesdays 11am-12.30pm, meet at the pedestrian gates

4th Rotary Fair (Simmons Park)

8th Okehampton Show

September – Charter Hall re-opens

Regular events:

- Simmons Park Volunteer Group – Wednesdays from 11am to 12.30pm
- Clubbercise – every Monday and Wednesday (Charter Hall)
- Ballroom and Latin American Dancing – Thursdays from 26th September (Charter Hall)
- 5th NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)
- 7th Okehampton Primary School PTFA Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
- 12th NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)
- 14th Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
- 15th Train Play (Charter Hall)
- 17th Councillor Surgery (Town Hall)
- 19th NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)
- 21st Courtney Players Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)
- 22nd Mayors Civic Service (Procession from Fore Street to Fairplace Church for an 11am Service)
- 28th Concert for Cancer (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.

August

5th Policy & Resources Committee (Extra Ordinary meeting)

19th Planning Committee (applications only)

Meeting dates for 2024/25 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 subject to change, details can be found on the [website](#) or noticeboard in the Victorian Arcade.

Contact Us – 01837 53179

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James McGahey, Park-Keeper
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Your Councillors

Cllr Allenton Fisher (Town Mayor)
Cllr Richard Colman (Deputy Mayor)

Cllr Laura Bird

Cllr Terry Cummings

Cllr Frankee Hart

Cllr Carole Holt

Cllr Dr Michael Ireland

Cllr Tony Leech

Cllr Christine Marsh

Cllr Mark Richards

Cllr Lynne Rogers

Cllr Bob Tolley

Cllr Simon Weekes

Cllr Julie Yelland