



Okehampton Town Council  
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[www.okehampton.gov.uk](http://www.okehampton.gov.uk)

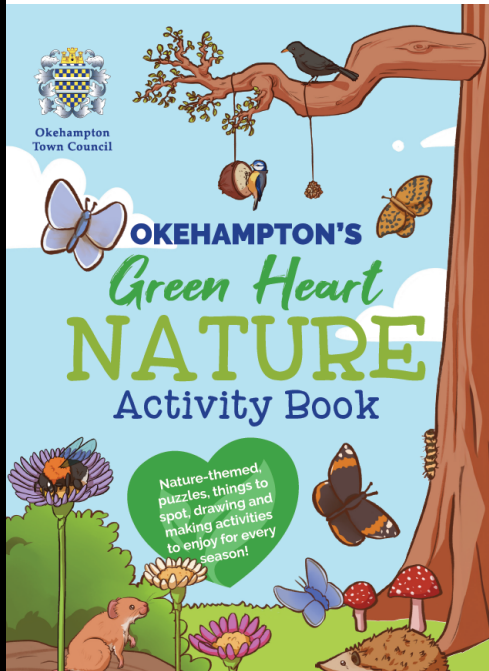


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Okehampton Town Council

## NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2024

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



### Nature Activity Booklet

A nature activity booklet that can be used in Simmons Park, has been created and launched by the Town Council. Copies are available from the Town Hall.

### Civic Service, 22<sup>nd</sup> September

The Parade will form up in Fore Street at approx. 10.15am and will march to Fairplace Church, via East Street and Mill Road, for an 11am Service. After the service the Parade will reform and return to Fore Street via George Street. Rolling road closures, will be kept as short as possible to minimise disruption.

Fingers crossed for better weather than in 2023.



### Councillors in Stocks at Okehampton Show!

Town Council staff were joined by some Youth Councillors (Ava, Annabell, Darcey and Niamh).

At the persuasion of the Youth Council, Town Cllrs, including the Mayor Cllr Fisher, and Inspector Walker, got a little wet thanks to members of the public who took delight in playing 'Splat the Cllr and Police Insp'!!



### Charter Hall reopens following Roofing Work and Internal Decoration



The hall was officially reopened for business by the Mayor, Cllr Fisher, who cut a ribbon at the first event, an Everything Coffee Morning, on 31<sup>st</sup> August.

A massive thank you to all those individuals, groups and organisations who generously donated towards the cost of the slates. The Council also thanks a person who wishes to remain anonymous, for very generously making new stage and window curtains for the hall.



The 24m long Timeline created to celebrate 400 years of Okehampton's Royal Charter 1623-2023 is on display in the Charter Hall. A limited number of souvenir A4 versions are available to purchase.

**Grant Applications Invited** - Applications for a grant from the Town Council from not-for-profit groups and organisations are invited to be submitted by the 30<sup>th</sup> September for review by the Policy & Resources Committee in early November. Information and the application form is available from the website or Town Hall.

**Town Centre Business Grant Initiative** - At the beginning of the financial year, the council put aside unspent funds amounting to £2,896 from the 2023/24 Grant budget to be used this year for a pilot scheme – a Town Centre Business Grant Initiative. This grant will enable businesses to apply for funding to spruce up their shop fronts which will improve the overall look of the town centre.

WDBC have added to this grant pot by providing double the funds, increasing the amount available within the budget to £8,688. The result of an application to DCC's Quick Win Scheme for £3,312 which would bring the total to £12,000 is awaited.

This funding has to be spent within the next few months, so businesses are encouraged to apply for funding as soon as possible. Please see the council website for information.

# POLL TIME!

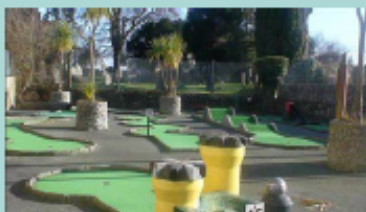
Okehampton Town Council are going to keep using the green space by the Leisure Centre as a Putting Green. Help us to decide what you would like the putting green to look like if we get the funding to improve it. Which would you prefer A, B or C? Please return the poll to the Town Hall or email it to [admin@okehampton.gov.uk](mailto:admin@okehampton.gov.uk) by 6<sup>th</sup> September



As it is now



Holes with hard standing surrounded by wildlife and bee friendly planting



The whole area hard standing with no planting



Any other comments?





## Cybercrime Awareness Presentation

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October Devon and Cornwall Police are offering a free Cybercrime awareness presentation in the Charter Hall at 7pm.

Mick, a Cyber Protect Officer, advises

*'The presentation is designed to raise general understanding of how Cybercriminals operate and promote some simple preventative measures that are available for individuals and organisations to implement and so reduce the chances of them becoming Cybercrime victims'.*

### Coming up in September

- Mental Health Drop-in Sessions- Mondays (Charter Hall 10am-1pm)
  - Simmons Park Volunteer Group – Wednesdays 11am to 12.30pm, meet at the pedestrian gates
  - Clubbercise – Mondays and Wednesdays, except 4<sup>th</sup> September, (7pm-8pm Charter Hall)
  - Wren Choir – Tuesdays (Charter Hall)
  - Ballroom and Latin American Dancing – Thursdays from 26<sup>th</sup> September (Charter Hall)
- 5<sup>th</sup> NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)  
7<sup>th</sup> Okehampton Primary School PTFA Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)  
12<sup>th</sup> NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)  
14<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)  
15<sup>th</sup> Train Play (Charter Hall)  
17<sup>th</sup> Councillor Surgery (Town Hall)  
19<sup>th</sup> NHS Blood Donation Session (Charter Hall)  
21<sup>st</sup> Courtney Players Coffee Morning (Charter Hall)  
22<sup>nd</sup> Mayors Civic Service (Procession from Fore Street to Fairplace Church for an 11am Service)  
28<sup>th</sup> 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 where they are available to view.

#### September

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Personnel Sub-Committee followed by Property Committee  
9<sup>th</sup> Planning Committee followed by Parks Committee  
16<sup>th</sup> Policy & Resources Committee  
30<sup>th</sup> Full Council

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

Emma James, Town Clerk & RFO  
[townclerk@okehampton.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@okehampton.gov.uk)

Caroline Ellis, Assistant Town Clerk (Accounts)  
[accounts@okehampton.gov.uk](mailto:accounts@okehampton.gov.uk)

Abi Horn, Admin Officer and Mayor's Assistant  
(Bookings and Invitations for the Mayor)  
[admin@okehampton.gov.uk](mailto:admin@okehampton.gov.uk)

James McGahey, Park-Keeper  
[parks@okehampton.gov.uk](mailto:parks@okehampton.gov.uk)



Police/Community Event

## Come and visit us

We are at the following location

Okehampton Library

9<sup>th</sup> September 2024

13:00 to 15:00

All welcome. Fingerprints and colouring for kids.

Drop by to discuss any policing issues you have

Visit our website for lots of useful information



101 non-urgent  
999 in an emergency

Find your neighbourhood policing team at  
[www.devon-cornwall.police.uk](http://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk)

### Advance Notice

Anderton and Rowland Fair are coming to Okehampton for the Carnival. Simmons Park carpark will be closed from 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> October.