

OLNEY TOWN COUNCIL



Olney Town Council, The Olney Centre, High Street, Olney MK46 4EF
Tel: 01234 711679 Email: townclerk@olneytowncouncil.gov.uk Website: www.olneytowncouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the meeting of **Olney Town Council held** at The Olney Centre on **Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm**

Present: Cllrs Whitworth (Chair), Bethune, Chennells, Diamandopoulos, Hillier, Prosser, Rodden, Rowland, Tennant and Tyler

Absent: None

In attendance: Jane Brushwood, Town Clerk, Rob Mungham, Deputy Town Clerk, Ward Councillor McLean and 6 members of the public

Public forum: None

OTC25/05/01: Election of the Mayor

Resolved: Cllr Hillier nominated, Cllr Prosser seconded Cllr Whitworth for Mayor. With no further nominations and no objections, Cllr Whitworth accepted the nomination, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office, and took up the position of Mayor.

OTC25/05/02: Election of the Deputy Mayor

Resolved: Cllr Chennells nominated, Cllr Hillier seconded Cllr Prosser for Deputy Mayor. With no further nominations and no objections, Cllr Prosser accepted the nomination, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office, and took up the position of Deputy Mayor.

OTC25/05/03: Apologies for absence

Resolved: Apologies were received from Cllr Shaw

OTC25/05/04: Declarations of interests on items on the agenda

Resolved: None

OTC25/05/05: To approve the minutes of the last meeting of the Council on 7th April 2025

Resolved: Cllr Hillier proposed, Cllr Tennant seconded, that the minutes of 7th April 2025 be approved. All in favour.

OTC25/05/07: To receive a Ward Councillors report

Ward Cllr Whitworth invited Peter Taylor, Electoral Services Manager of MKCC, to address councillors on the potential for changes to the electoral warding within Olney at future town council elections. Councillors present provided initial verbal feedback to this proposal and await further information and/or consultation from MKCC.

Ward Cllr Whitworth provided an update on concerns from residents of Osier Way regarding the crane site. The larger tower crane is due to come down by the end of May 2025, whilst the smaller crane will be lowered when not in use. Further construction work by TCUK will continue on site but will not commence before 8am. Should planning application PLN/2025/0143 be approved, this will take in the region of 12 months to complete. TCUK management are to ensure that contractors do not carry out site works outside the permitted times. Any such breach of this would trigger a further Environment Health visit.

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Ward Cllr McLean initially responded to the Olney warding issue and stated his and Ward Cllr Geary's support for whichever stance Olney Town Council took on this matter.

Ward Cllr McLean continued by discussing some changes to the calling-in procedures at MKCC, expressing some concerns about these changes, citing lower levels of scrutiny on the decision-making processes.

Ward Cllr McLean closed by reporting that Thames Valley Police officers in our neighbourhood area are experiencing issues with a lack of access vehicles, resulting in a reduced amount of patrolling in Olney and the surrounding villages. This issue has been raised as a concern with the Chief Constable.

OTC25/05/06 (a): To review the Scheme of Delegation and Terms of Reference

Resolved: Cllr Prosser proposed, Cllr Tennant seconded to accept the Scheme of Delegation. All voted in favour.

OTC25/05/06 (b): Appointment of Members to Committees

Resolved: Cllr Prosser proposed, Cllr Hillier seconded that all committee members to remain as current. All voted in favour.

OTC25/05/06 (c): To review and adopt the Standing Orders

Resolved: Cllr Bethune proposed, Cllr Diamandopoulos, that section 12.a., relating to draft minutes, be re-worded as follows: *'The draft minutes of a preceding meeting shall be served on councillors with the agenda to attend the meeting at which they are due to be approved for accuracy.'* All voted in favour.

OTC to consult with National Association of Local Councils regarding outdated references to the EU within the Standing Orders (some compulsory) and report back to Council at a future meeting.

OTC25/05/06 (d): To review and adopt the Financial Regulations

Resolved: Cllr Prosser proposed, Cllr Bethune seconded to adopt the Financial Regulations. All voted in favour.

OTC25/05/06 (e): Review of inventory of land and other assets including buildings and office equipment

Resolved: Cllr Hillier proposed, Cllr Bethune seconded to note the asset register. All voted in favour.

OTC25/05/06 (f): Confirmation of arrangements for insurance cover in respect of all insurable risks

Resolved: Cllr Bethune proposed, Cllr Tyler seconded, to note the insurance cover. All voted in favour.

OTC25/05/06 (g): Review of the Council's and/or staff subscriptions to other bodies

Resolved: Cllr Prosser proposed, Cllr Chennells seconded, to note the subscriptions. All voted in favour.

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OTC25/05/06 (h): Review of the Council's complaints procedures

Resolved: Cllr Tyler proposed, Cllr Prosser seconded, to note the Complaints Procedure. All voted in favour.

OTC25/05/06 (i): Review of the Council's policies, procedures and practices in respect of its obligations under freedom of information and data protection legislation

Resolved: Cllr Chennells proposed, Cllr Tyler seconded, to adopt the Freedom of Information policy. All voted in favour.

OTC25/05/06 (j): Review the Council's policy for dealing with the press/media

Resolved: Cllr Bethune proposed, Cllr Prosser seconded, to adopt the Press and Media Policy. All in favour.

OTC25/05/06 (k): Review the Council's employment policies and procedures

Resolved: Cllr Prosser proposed, Cllr Chennells seconded, to adopt the employment policies. All voted in favour.

OTC25/05/06 (l): Determining the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the Council

Resolved: Cllr Hillier proposed, Cllr Tyler seconded, to approve the meetings schedule. All voted in favour.

OTC25/05/08: To receive a PCSO's report

Resolved: Noted

OTC25/05/09: To receive the expenditure report and budget to date

Resolved: Cllr Chennells proposed, Cllr Prosser seconded, to approve the expenditure report. All voted in favour. Cllr Chennells proposed, Cllr Diamandopoulos seconded, to approve the budget to date. All voted in favour.

OTC25/05/10: To receive data results from the SIDs

Deputy Town Clerk reported figures as follows for March 2025: Yardley Road, 20mph (outside Olney Middle School, travelling southbound) – average speed of 26,601 vehicles was 18.647mph, with 85% of speeds recorded at or below 23.7mph; Weston Road, 30mph (top, travelling eastbound) – average speed of 52,701 vehicles was 24.97mph, with 85% of speeds recorded at or below 29.1mph; Weston Road, 30mph (bottom, travelling westbound) – average speed of 52,894 vehicles was 23.96mph, with 85% of speeds recorded at or below 28.6mph.

Resolved: Noted

OTC25/05/11: To approve the draft AGAR for submission

Resolved: Cllr Tennant proposed, Cllr Rodden seconded, to approve the draft AGAR for submission. All voted in favour.

OTC25/05/12: To note the Annual Town Meeting Friday 16th May at 7pm

Resolved: Noted

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OTC25/05/13: To note the Armed Forces Day afternoon tea Tuesday 24th June at 3pm
Resolved: Noted

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

Next meeting Monday 2nd June 2025