

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 2nd June 2025 at 7pm**

Present: Cllrs Whitworth (Chair), Bethune, Chennells, Diamandopoulos, Hillier, Prosser, Rodden and Shaw

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

Public forum: A resident was pleased to see the tower crane removed.
Another resident planned to visit Ypres for the 11th November commemoration and suggested taking a wreath from Olney Town Council to lay at Menin Gate.

OTC25/06/01: Apologies for absence

Resolved: Apologies were received from Cllrs Rowland, Tennant and Tyler

OTC25/06/02: Declarations of interests on items on the agenda

Resolved: Cllr Prosser declared an interest in agenda item 10 as she lives on the Yardley Manor estate.

OTC25/06/03: To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Council on 12th May 2025

Resolved: Cllr Chennells proposed, Cllr Prosser seconded, that the minutes of 12th May 2025 be approved. All in favour.

OTC25/06/04: To receive a Ward Councillors report

Ward Cllr McLean reported that there was nothing much to report! Planning Enforcement are dealing with the travellers in Sherington.

Ward Cllr Whitworth reported "I would like to reassure residents that I am in constant conversation with officers at Milton Keynes City Council in particular the current situation regarding the cranes - whilst some believe nothing is being done by OTC and MKCC and I confirm the correct process is duly being followed and as your ward councillor and mayor, plenty is being done.

I asked officers for a site visit regarding complaints I've received in relation to dust; assurances were given at that site meeting to myself and the town clerk that TCUK would take down the large crane by the end of May, this has now been done.

We are awaiting an outcome from all the objections made by residents, and councillors.

We are deeply concerned about the health issues that are arising, and I urge residents to continue making myself and my colleagues aware, so that we can continue to report them.

For those who have already contacted me, sharing your concerns on dust emissions, I have sent these across to the EHO.

Everyone who has given their contact details to me to date the EHO will be sending letters and log sheets for records over 5-7 days to return to EHO at MKCC.

MKCC's Reg Unit Senior Practitioner has given me the following message to pass on:

"Thank you Councillor Whitworth, I will write to the residents that you have listed. I visited the site, and the earthworks are on the site that is subject to planning applications 23/02776/FUL

Signed:

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& PLN/2025/0143 so I have reported the matter to planning enforcement on your behalf ref; ENF/2025/0195”

Please continue to send any reports and issues you are facing; it is important that we have as much information as possible”.

OTC25/06/05: To receive a PCSO's report

While there was no report available, Cllr Whitworth updated that our PCSO says that only by regular reporting are we able to build a picture of what is truly going on, this in turn helps direct where we focus our resources, they have been out and about, speaking to local shops only to hear some were not reporting thefts.

As frustrating as it seems to residents and shops when calling in or reporting online, by not doing so is not helping with resources, they state “Just to reassure you, retail crime is one of the Force's priorities for 2025-26 and we deal with all matters as robustly as possible. Our concentration clearly has to be on our most prolific offenders and for that reason whilst understanding their frustrations we have to encourage staff at retail outlets to report every incident to us, we are acutely aware that there is potential under-reporting of retail crime, not just in Milton Keynes but nationally and that is something we are working hard to address, only by regular reporting are we able to build a picture of what is truly going on, this in turn helps direct where we focus our resource”.

Resolved: Noted

OTC25/06/06: To receive an expenditure and budget to date

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

Cllr Hillier proposed, Cllr Chennells seconded, to approve the budget to date. All voted in favour.

OTC25/06/07: To receive reports from Councillors who represented at external meetings

Cllr Prosser reported that she and Cllr Chennells, as trustees of the Alms Houses, hosted a very successful soiree, getting to know the residents and seeing them enjoying themselves.

Cllr Bethune reported that the AGM for the Patient Participation Group (PPG) is being held at The Olney Centre at 7pm on Tuesday 10th June, all welcome.

Resolved: Noted

OTC25/06/8 To receive data results from the SIDs

Town Clerk reported figures as follows for April 2025: Yardley Road, 20mph (outside Olney Middle School, travelling northbound) – average speed of 31,438 vehicles was 19.66mph, with 85% of speeds recorded at or below 23.9mph; 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 eastbound) – average speed of 56,467 vehicles was 26.17mph, with 85% of speeds recorded at or below 30.3mph.

Resolved: Noted

Signed:

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OTC25/06/9: To receive an update on the water testing

The test results show the pollution is getting worse in all areas. They will test again just before Riverfest is due to take place. MKCC will consult with the EA

Resolved: Noted.

OTC25/06/10: To receive an update on the Yardley Manor development

The drainage to the play area was re-attended to last week. They are preparing the area at the community building ready for the celebrations of the 700th year of the church and the 300th birthday of John Newton, "we are doing everything we can to get the area ready and the artwork sculpture installed in time for it so we can do a nice unveiling".

Resolved: Noted

OTC25/06/11: To approve the addendum to the preschool agreement

Resolved: Cllr Prosser proposed, Cllr Hillier seconded that the addendum to the preschool agreement be approved, all in favour.

OTC25/06/11: To consider allowing a non-resident to be buried in the Olney Cemetery

Resolved: Cllr Prosser proposed, Cllr Diamandopoulos seconded that the applications from the non-residents to be buried in Olney cemetery be approved, all in favour.

The meeting closed at 7.35pm

Next meeting Monday 7th July 2025

Signed: