

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 **Dickens of a Christmas Committee** held at The Olney Centre on **Monday 17th February 2025 at 7pm**

Present: Cllrs Hillier, Prosser and Whitworth, and Trevor Aldred

Apologies: Cllr Bethune, Mike Kennedy and Gill Parker

In attendance: Rob Mungham (Deputy Town Clerk)

In the absence of Cllr Bethune (Chair), those present agreed for Cllr Whitworth to chair the meeting.

DoaC25/02/01: Apologies for absence

Resolved: Apologies received from Cllr Bethune, Mike Kennedy and Gill Parker

DoaC24/02/02: Declarations of interests on items on the agenda

Resolved: None

DoaC25/02/03: To approve the minutes of the DoaC meeting held on 18th November 2024

Resolved: Cllr Hillier proposed and Trevor Aldred seconded that the minutes of the DoaC meeting held on 18th November 2024 be approved. All in favour.

DoaC25/02/04: To discuss wash up matters from Dickens 2024

Deputy town clerk reported that the event had been deemed successful overall, with feedback provided by stallholders and attending entertainers being almost entirely positive. A majority of stallholders reported verbally on the day that sales had been strong, with some selling out of entire stock. Weather had been mostly favourable, and this supported a positive atmosphere on the day amongst customers and traders. One complaint from a regular Sunday market trader had been received, expressing concerns about the location of regular Sunday market traders at the north end site of the event.

Cllr Prosser reported that St. Peter and St. Paul's church was overwhelmed with visitors, some having travelled from distance to attend, as well as being generous with donations.

Trevor Aldred reported that the Lions Group Craft Fair had received an estimated 1200 adults and 500 children, with approximately 20-25 stallholders attending, helping the Lions Group to raise a good amount on the day.

Resolved: Noted

DoaC25/02/05: To consider arrangements for the 2025 Dickens of a Christmas event

Committee members present discussed the potential for changes to the 2025 event, with the possible re-location of regular Sunday market traders

Resolved: OTC staff to identify potential alternatives to present to committee at next meeting for further consideration

Signed: *Cllr Deirdre Bethune* – 8th September 2025

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DoaC25/02/06: To select a date for the 2025 Dickens of a Christmas event

Resolved: Cllr Prosser proposed, and Cllr Hillier seconded, that Sunday 7th December 2025 be the date for the 2025 Dickens of a Christmas event. All voted in favour.

The meeting closed at 7.38pm

Signed: Cllr Deirdre Bethune – 8th September 2025