

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

Draft minutes of the meeting of **Olney Town Council** held at The Olney Centre on **Monday 3rd November 2025 at 7pm**

Present: Cllrs Whitworth (Chair), Bethune, Diamandopoulos, Hillier, Lowe, Prosser, Shaw, Stone and Tyler

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

Public forum: A resident spoke requesting that councillors consider requesting more 20mph speed restrictions within Olney, specifically naming East Street, West Street, Bridge Street and Weston Road, but also asked councillors to consider the option of making all of Olney, except for High Street, a 20mph speed limit.

OTC25/11/01: Apologies for absence

Resolved: Apologies were received from Cllrs Chennells, Rodden, Rowland and Tennant

OTC25/11/02: Declarations of interests on items on the agenda

Resolved: None

OTC25/11/03: To approve the minutes of the OTC meeting held 6th October 2025

Resolved: Cllr Hillier proposed, Cllr Prosser seconded, that the minutes of 6th October 2025 be approved. All in favour.

OTC25/11/4: To receive a Ward Councillors report

Ward Cllr Geary reported that Milton Keynes City Council's (MKCC) New City Plan for 2050 had reached its final stage of consultation, for a period of 6 weeks. It is still to be confirmed where circa 60,000 houses would be constructed, but much of it was expected to be in and around Central Milton Keynes, Campbell Park, and MK East, which is still due for further growth. Ward Cllr Geary urged Olney Town Council to make comment.

On a similar theme, it was reported that national government's New Towns Plan included a proposed new town near to Milton Keynes, and that could bring a further circa 40,000 houses, with some of this figure to be accommodated within the 60,000 already being considered as part of MKCC's New City Plan.

Ward Cllr Geary moved on to news of proposed fire service cuts, with the Bucks and MK Fire Authority likely to lose 7 fire engines, down from 30 to 23.

MKCC continue to receive reports from residents of wheelie bins not being returned to the correct properties after being emptied by the waste and recycling team. Ward Cllr Geary urged residents to continue to report this.

In other brief news, drainage works on the A509 were completed ahead of schedule, and a Regulation 19 report on local flooding is now available.

Signed:

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In role as Ward Councillor, Cllr Whitworth also had three brief items to report. Firstly, the damaged column on Weston Road is due for repair by MKCC on 7th November. Some potholes on Aspreys appear to have reappeared having previously been resolved, but it has been reported from MKCC that they were given a temporary fix ahead of a resurfacing schedule of works, with a date yet to be confirmed. Finally, Thames Valley Police (TVP) are in the process of scheduling talks and advice sessions regarding online safety, scams, and property security over the coming months.

Resolved: Noted

OTC25/11/5: To receive a PCSOs report

Cllr Whitworth reported figures provided by TVP; 2 incidents of assault with injury, 3 assaults without injury, 2 burglaries of business, 5 residential burglaries, 1 drug offence, 3 public order offences, 8 incidents of shoplifting and 4 thefts.

Resolved: Noted

OTC25/11/6: To receive an expenditure report and budget to date

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

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

OTC25/11/7: To receive reports from Councillors who represent at external meetings

Cllr Lowe reported her attendance the North East Rural Forum meeting, where local town and village parish councils reported and provided feedback on a number of current issues, including vehicle speeding, anti-social behaviours becoming more tolerated, and shoplifting.

Resolved: Noted

OTC25/11/8: To receive data results from the SIDs

Deputy Town Clerk reported figures as follows for September/October 2025: Bridge Street, 30mph (travelling southbound) – average speed of 225,055 vehicles was 24.19mph, with 85% of speeds recorded at or below 28.6mph; High Street, 30mph (outside Maya restaurant, travelling northbound) – average speed of 198,959 vehicles was 21.67mph, with 85% of speeds recorded at or below 25.6mph; Yardley Road, 20mph (outside Olney Middle School, travelling southbound) – average speed of 23,552 vehicles was 16.93mph, with 85% of speeds recorded at or below 20.8mph.

Resolved: Noted

OTC25/11/9: To receive an update on river water testing

Cllr Whitworth reported low river levels for this time of year. Blue and green algae appears to be dispersing. Electroconductivity readings have dropped to below 700. Ammonia levels high across all three monitoring sites. Phosphate and nitrate readings remain poor. Olney and Clifton Fishing Association are looking into securing the use of a nitrate meter. Chris Curtis MP remains engaged in the results of the monitoring, as well as liaising with the Environment Agency regarding this ongoing matter.

Resolved: Noted

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OTC25/11/10: To receive an update on the Yardley Manor development

Cllr Whitworth reported that the community building roof timber scaffold was erected today, on track with the most recent timeline provided by developers. Remedial works on play equipment to be carried out soon. A full audit list of tree replacements has been received, with tree replacements due to take place from November to February. Street signs have been ordered and due for delivery to site office in mid-November.

Resolved: Noted

OTC25/11/11: To receive an update on the ex football clubhouse

Town Clerk reported that works should be able to commence prior to the end of the calendar year, as a result of further grant funding being approved. A draft agreement with the Padel Club for their proposal is now needed.

Resolved: Town Clerk to employ legal service for the draft agreement to be drawn up.

OTC25/11/12: To receive an update from the tree working group

Cllr Tyler reported that the group were looking into the possibility of applying for tree preservation orders on trees at The Orchard property, East Street, should that not form part of pending planning applications for the site.

Resolved: Noted

OTC25/11/13: To consider a burial request

Resolved: Cllr Whitworth proposed, and Cllr Hillier seconded, that the request was not granted. 8 councillors voted in favour, 1 abstention, so the motion was carried.

OTC25/11/14: To consider street naming requests

Resolved: Cllr Prosser proposed, and Cllr Hillier seconded, that the street naming request be put forward as Old Convent Gardens, and St. Lawrence Close. All voted in favour.

OTC25/11/15: To consider a survey of shoplifting from Olney retailers

Resolved: Cllr Lowe to distribute surveys to retailers and report findings back at a future full council meeting.

OTC25/11/16: To consider updating the Co-option policy

Resolved: Town Clerk to draft a co-option policy for councillor's approval at a future full council meeting.

OTC25/11/17: To consider precept requirements

Resolved: Cllr Whitworth proposed, and Cllr Prosser seconded, that councillors make contact with the Town Clerk with requests ahead of December's full council meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.09pm

Next meeting Monday 1st December 2025

Signed: