

# OLNEY TOWN COUNCIL



Olney Town Council, The Olney Centre, High Street, Olney MK46 4EF  
Tel: 01234 711679 Email: [townclerk@olneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@olneytowncouncil.gov.uk) Website: [www.olneytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.olneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

## STATEMENT FROM THE MAYOR OF OLNEY

This bank holiday weekend at the recreation ground in East Street, Olney, we have seen unprecedented levels of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), sadly displayed by young people – behaviour that has scared local residents, leaving them unable to leave their homes or visit our beautiful open green spaces.

This was one of the worst weekends in terms of the sheer number of people coming to the town.

The parking of vehicles was diabolical, utterly selfish without a thought to how their parking would affect residents – blocking driveways, double parking, blocking emergency access at the recreation ground and at the Rugby Club, and if that wasn't bad enough, cars were seen blocking East Street where our local Fire Service is located – resulting in them putting out a warning that their emergency response times were impacted by illegally parked vehicles in East Street.

Needless to say, my fellow councillors and I were calling TVP and making them aware of the situation, both in terms of the sheer volume of youngsters with alcohol and the appalling obstruction caused by vehicles on pavements and blocking emergency access for the elderly and emergency services.

We were informed that the situation was being monitored, and the advice remained the same: to continue advising our residents to report their concerns.

Both I and a councillor at OTC continued calling in our concerns, highlighting the situation as it continued to escalate.

So much so, later that evening, a dispersal order was activated by TVP and officers on the ground, including an Inspector, who remained until all those present vacated the recreational ground and understood that they were not to return whilst the order was in place.

I have been in contact early this morning with TVP, also Head of Parking at MKCC, and the ASB team, requesting an urgent meeting asap with OTC and all stakeholders to discuss ways forward for working together to prevent this from happening again.

Following police advice regarding ASB in Olney, please report the following by calling 999 if the ASB is in progress.

- Someone under the influence who is being abusive
- Drug use in public spaces
- Riding a motorised vehicle on public recreational spaces

Cllr Debbie Whitworth  
Mayor of Olney  
On behalf of Olney Town Council