

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 11th May 2026 at 7pm**

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

In attendance: Jane Brushwood, Town Clerk, Rob Mungham, Deputy Town Clerk, Ward Councillor Geary, PCSOs Braddish and Ormston and two members of the public

Public forum: A resident spoke regarding concerns over a recent planning application for proposed alterations to working hours at an industrial site, urging all councillors to respond in objection to the planning application.

OTC26/5/1: Election of the Mayor and to receive the Mayor's declaration of acceptance of office

Resolved: Cllr Hillier proposed, Cllr Lowe seconded a nomination of Cllr Whitworth as mayor. With no other nominations received, and all councillors voting in favour, Cllr Whitworth accepted the nomination, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office, and took up the position of mayor.

OTC26/5/2: Election of the Deputy Mayor and to receive the Deputy Mayor's declaration of acceptance of office

Resolved: Cllr Bethune proposed, Cllr Hillier seconded a nomination of Cllr Prosser as deputy mayor. With no other nominations received, and all councillors voting in favour, Cllr Prosser accepted the nomination, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office, and took up the position of deputy mayor.

OTC26/5/3: Apologies for absence

Resolved: Apologies were received from Cllrs Chennells and Diamandopoulos, Cllr Rodden was absent.

OTC26/5/4: Declarations of interest on items on the agenda

Resolved: None

OTC26/5/5: To approve the minutes of the last meeting of the Council on 13th April 2026

Resolved: Cllr Hillier proposed, Cllr Prosser seconded, that the minutes be approved. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/8: To receive a PCSO's report

PCSO Braddish reported on crime statistics for the past year, up to and including 10th May 2026. 1 assault with injury, 3 assaults without injury, 2 burglaries from businesses, 1 residential burglary, 3 incidents of criminal damage, 3 public order offences, 12 incidents of shoplifting, 4 thefts, various incidents of anti-social behaviour, 10 reports of suspicious persons, 6 reports of suspicious vehicles.

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PCSO Braddish also reported that TVP had recently attended local schools to discuss and observe parking behaviours at drop-off and pick-up times, advising of strategies to help alleviate the problem, and that TVP will continue to monitor this and work with the schools.

Resolved: Noted

OTC26/5/6 (a): To review the Scheme of Delegation and Terms of Reference

Resolved: Cllr Shaw proposed, Cllr Tyler seconded, to adopt the Scheme of Delegation and Terms of Reference. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/6 (b): Appointment of Members to Committees

Resolved: Cllr Chennells to join Finance, HR and Recs and Services Committees. Cllr Prosser to join Olney Community Centres Committee. Cllr Tyler to leave Development Committee.

OTC26/5/6 (c): To review and adopt the Standing Orders

Resolved: Cllr Tennant proposed, Cllr Prosser seconded, to adopt the Standing Orders. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/6 (d): To review and adopt the Financial Regulations

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

OTC26/5/6 (e): Review of inventory of land and other assets including buildings and office equipment

Resolved: Cllr Shaw proposed, Cllr Prosser seconded, to accept the asset register. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/6 (f): Confirmation of arrangements for Insurance cover in respect of all insurable risks

Resolved: Cllr Tennant proposed, Cllr Lowe seconded, to accept the insurance cover. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/6 (g): Review of the Council's and/or staff subscriptions to other bodies

Resolved: Cllr Hillier proposed, Cllr Prosser seconded, to accept the subscriptions. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/6 (h): Review of the Council's complaints procedures

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

OTC26/5/6 (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 Bethune proposed, Cllr Hillier seconded, to accept the policies, procedures and practices under freedom of information and data protection legislation. All voted in favour.

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(7.20pm Cllr Tyler left the meeting)

OTC26/5/6 (j): Review the Council's policy for dealing with the press/media

Resolved: Cllr Lowe proposed, Cllr Hillier seconded, to accept the policy for dealing with the press/media. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/6 (k): Review the Council's employment policies and procedures

Resolved: Cllr Shaw proposed, Cllr Tennant seconded, to accept the employment policies and procedures. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/6 (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 Prosser seconded, to accept the time and place of ordinary meetings. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/7: To receive a Ward Councillors report

No Ward Councillor report received. Cllr Whitworth congratulated Ward Councillors Geary, McLean and Tyler on their recent election to post, as well as thanking all candidates that had stood for election to represent the Olney and Rural Ward.

Resolved: Noted

OTC26/5/9: To receive the expenditure report and budget to date

Resolved: Cllr Prosser proposed, Cllr Hillier seconded, to accept the expenditure report. All voted in favour. Cllr Shaw proposed, Cllr Hillier seconded, to accept the budget to date. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/10: To receive data from the SIDs

Deputy Town Clerk reported figures as follows for March/April 2026: Yardley Road, 20mph (Yardley Manor, travelling northbound) – average speed of 29,773 vehicles was 21.61mph, with 85% of speeds recorded at or below 25.6mph; Bridge Street, 30mph (travelling southbound) – average speed of 169,772 vehicles was 24.04mph, with 85% of speeds recorded at or below 28.5mph; High Street, 30mph (near Maya, travelling northbound) – average speed of 161,306 vehicles was 21.63mph, with 85% of speeds recorded at or below 25.6mph.

Resolved: Noted

OTC26/5/11: To receive reports from Councillors who represent at external meetings

Resolved: None

OTC26/5/12: To receive an update on the ex football clubhouse and Padel and consider the change of name

Town Clerk reported that works continue on the ex football clubhouse, with the new public toilet extension block remaining on target for a scheduled opening in August. It is believed that the group behind the proposed Padel court development are in the process of formulating a planning application.

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Resolved: Cllr Bethune proposed, Cllr Prosser seconded, that the ex football clubhouse be renamed The Rec Community Centre. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/13: To receive an update on the river pollution and seasonal problems

Cllr Whitworth reported that pollution levels had begun to rise, in line with similar timings seen last year. Further testing in the next couple of weeks, with results expected for the next full council meeting. MP Chris Curtis has shown full support of the river working party's concerns over this matter and will be reaching out to the CEO of Anglian Water, as well as the Secretary of State to increase awareness of the concerns over pollution levels and request meetings.

Resolved: Noted

OTC26/5/14: To approve the draft AGAR for submission

Resolved: Cllr Whitworth proposed, Cllr Tennant seconded, that the draft AGAR be approved for submission to external auditors. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/15: To note the Annual Town Meeting, Friday 15th May, at 7pm

Resolved: Noted

OTC26/5/16: To note the Armed Forces Day afternoon tea, Tuesday 23rd June, at 3pm

Resolved: Noted

OTC26/5/17: To consider seeking nominations for a resident to switch on the lights of the new Christmas tree

Resolved: Cllr Whitworth proposed, Cllr Bethune seconded, that nominations be requested for from the public. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/18: To consider security at the rec

Resolved: Cllr Tennant proposed, Cllr Bethune seconded, that security presence at the rec continue to be employed until September. All voted in favour.

OTC26/5/19: To consider applying for S106 for a new tractor and for a heritage trail

Resolved: Cllr Prosser proposed, Cllr Hillier seconded, that S106 funds be applied for both projects. All voted in favour.

The meeting closed at 7.53pm

Next meeting Monday 1st June 2026