

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 August 2026 at 7pm**

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

In attendance: Jane Brushwood, Town Clerk, Rob Mungham, Deputy Town Clerk, Ward Councillor McLean, PC Govier, PC Mulligan, PCSO Braddish, PCSO Ormston and 10 members of the public

Public forum: A resident spoke regarding concern at the state of the recreation ground most mornings, where they pick up the litter regularly.

A resident spoke regarding the recreation ground, including the continued anti-social behaviour, drug and alcohol use. Initial work of the Recreation Working Group with Olney Town Council has been received positively and is helping to improve resident opinions of how the issues can be addressed. The resident appreciated the mayor's initial response in a recent Phonebox Magazine article.

A resident spoke regarding the importance of improved lines of communication of how issues at the recreation ground are being worked on and resolved.

A resident spoke to express their belief that Olney's issues at the recreation ground are a result of the success of the town, believing that the combined efforts of residents, the Recreation Working Group, and Olney Town Council continue to make Olney a nice place for people to come to – they want this to continue. They urged people to report all witnessed incidents to Thames Valley Police, so that an accurate record can be built up, and deployment of patrols in the future, when most needed, becomes more likely.

OTC26/8/1: Apologies for absence

Resolved: Apologies were received from Cllrs Rowland and Tennant

OTC26/8/2: Declarations of interest on items on the agenda

Resolved: None

OTC26/8/3: To approve the minutes of the OTC meeting on 6th July 2026

Resolved: Cllr Hillier proposed, Cllr Prosser seconded, that the minutes be approved. 10 voted in favour, 2 against, 1 abstention, therefore the minutes were approved.

OTC26/8/4: To receive an update on the river pollution and seasonal problems

Cllr Whitworth reported that no updated river statistics had been received. Cllr Whitworth praised the continued work of the Recreation Working Group and thanked them for the additional proposals provided ahead of this meeting. PCSO Braddish addressed councillors and residents on matters raised relating to TVP. Cllr Whitworth reported that multi-agency communications should remain via the Mayor, or the Town Clerk, so that authorities are not

Signed:

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having to relay information or provide answers to questions that are repeated by representatives of the same organisations.

Resolved: Cllr Whitworth proposed, Cllr Chennells seconded, that the Spartan Protection existing contract be checked against their current actions, that Spartan Protection be provided with an incident reporting facility, that their Sunday hours be revised to 2pm to 10pm, and that a revised recreation ground security provision contract for 2027 be put out to tender. All voted in favour.

Cllr Chennells proposed, Cllr Stone seconded, that Recreation Working Group proposals that have not yet been resolved or addressed, or that are dated for late 2026 or early 2027, are to be discussed and considered for resolution at an early calling of the next Recs and Services meeting, to be brought forward from Monday 21st September 2026 to Monday 10th August 2026. 10 voted in favour, 4 abstentions, so the motion was carried.

Cllr Whitworth proposed, Cllr Hillier seconded, that councillors make themselves available for community engagement monthly at the Thursday market and monthly on Saturdays at Market Place. All voted in favour.

Cllr Lowe proposed, Cllr Cooper seconded, that QR codes providing links to river safety information be displayed at the recreation ground. All voted in favour.

The meeting closed at 8.26pm

Next meeting Monday 7th September 2026

Signed: