

OLNEY TOWN COUNCIL



Draft Minutes of the meeting of the **Recs and Services Committee** held at The Olney Centre on **Monday 10th August 2026 at 7pm**

Present: Cllrs Chennells, (Chair), Cooper, Diamandopoulos, Hillier, Lowe, Rodden and Stone
In Attendance: Jane Brushwood, Town Clerk, 7 members of public

Public Forum: Resident spoke as a member of the Rec WG wanting to talk directly to council for more than the allocated 3 minutes or through the WG Chair, feeling her voice was just a token. She was unsure of the motivation for the agenda item on Terms of Reference.

Second resident advised he will be stepping back from litter picking.

Third resident talked about monitoring cctv and welcoming visitors but deterring ASB

RS26/8/1: Apologies for absence

Resolved: Apologies received from Cllrs Bethune, Carlisle, Rowland and Whitworth.

RS26/8/2: Declarations of interests on items on the agenda

Resolved: No declarations of interest were received.

RS26/8/3: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2026

Resolved: Cllr Hillier proposed, Cllr Stone seconded that the minutes of 13th July be approved, all in favour.

RS26/8/4: To receive an update on the ex-football club building and Padel

Resolved: It was noted that the Rec Community Centre will be ready to be used next week. An Open Day to be arranged in September. Padel will be ready to submit a planning application in August.

RS26/8/5: To receive reports from CSO and BFRS

Resolved: Due to the explosion in Newton Longville, CSO and BFRS are unable to attend, they sent to following *"As this is the committee meeting this evening and limited public engagement, we will take the time now to prepare some more detailed information and data reference fires and other Fire Service incidents at the Rec and surrounding areas so we can provide more valuable data in September to the full Council meeting.*

Just for clarity, the Fire Service do not have any enforcement powers relating to ASB and fires in external parkland areas, we are still more than happy to provide advice and guidance reference prevention, however the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 only covers premises excluding domestic dwellings"

RS26/8/6: To review the Terms of Reference of the Rec Working Group

Resolved: It was agreed that the Terms of Reference were rushed through at the July meeting, in order to progress with the individual proposals. It has become apparent that these need to be revisited with a lot more thought. For example:

Clerk informed the committee that professionals advise that it is not possible to "devise a proposed contingency plan"!

The WG do not need to consult "others outside the group", it has already been established that TVP wish to continue to consult with Mayor and Clerk and we do not want to risk a return to the negative relationship of a few years ago. Likewise, with MKCC Parking Enforcement. Joint Users Group did not wish to engage.

Retailers have expressed their concern over the approach of some individuals purporting to represent the council and again, we do not wish to revert to the negative relationship that we have worked hard to overcome.

Some problems are beyond the remit of the WG, this does not include badgering the police on matters beyond the rec. It was reiterated, if it's seen happening, call it in on the official lines. A lot of information is on the TVP website. WG's remit is to encourage calling in of ASB. WG needs to move forward with things we can do something about and manage expectations.

Chair summarised that there needed to be an element of pragmatism and flexibility with the WG reporting back with recommendations.

RS26/8/7: To receive an update on the river pollution and seasonal problems

Resolved: The results of the water pollution to be forwarded to councillors.

To discuss the proposals from the Rec WG line by line. Many items have already been actioned.

1. TVP will continue to attend as and when they can.
2. With regards to action to amend 101 procedures, unless a formal complaint is made to Police Professional Standards, they're not aware of a problem and nothing will happen, it is unreasonable and unfair to take it up with the PCSOs.
3. Communication has already been agreed with councillors attending on the market.
4. BBQ lighting, the government decision should help.
5. The DYLS are being refreshed by MKCC, the hashed lines outside the emergency entrance have been painted but may not last due to the surface breaking up.
6. By December 2026, WG to bring back further information to FC on automated parking charges, to include a simple questionnaire to residents.
7. By December 2026, WG to bring back further information to FC on parking generally.
8. By January 2027, WG to bring back further information to FC on emergency contingency plan.
9. By December 2026, WG to bring back further information to FC on CCTV
10. Based on what WG feels is required, tenders for security to be sought for 2027.
11. A meeting could be held for residents to interact with councillors based on "submit a question" in advance of the meeting.
12. Communication has already been agreed with councillors attending on the market.
13. Monthly R&Ss meetings not necessary as discussions happen monthly at FC.
14. To discuss at HR an additional member of staff.
15. To look into a traffic light system of water pollution.

RS26/8/8: To consider allowing a burial for a non-resident

Resolved: Cllr Hillier proposed, Cllr Diamandopoulos seconded to approve the request for the burial of a former resident, all in favour

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed:

Dated: