Oakham Town Council

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**MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9th JULY 2025 AT 6.30 P.M. IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Cllrs: C. Nix, C Clark, M Brookes, A Douthwaite.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Kathy Geraghty (Deputy Clerk) and two members of the public.

Cllr C. Nix opened the meeting and welcomed all present, especially the new councillors

**07/25–01 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCES:**

Cllr P Ainsley, Cllr S Wadsworth. Cllr E Tempest had resigned that day.

Proposed Cllr Nix, seconder Cllr Clark, carried.

**07/25–02 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS’ INTERESTS AND APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION:** Reminder to Members to disclose either a Pecuniary Interest or Other Interest in any item on the agenda. The clerk cannot advise members on this. Members are personally responsible for declaring an interest. Members are respectfully advised to read the Code of Conduct for more information. Councillors are also responsible for ensuring that their Registers of Interests are up to date (within 28 days of any changes) None.

**07/25–03 DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** An opportunity for members of the public to speak in accordance with Standing Orders. None.

**07/25–04 MINUTES:** To confirm the accuracy of the minutes from the meeting held on 23rd June 2025 Proposed by Cllr Nix, seconder Cllr Brooks, carried.

**07/25–05 COUNCILLOR’S QUESTIONS**: Bring **agenda item 10** on the agenda to now. Cllr Douthwaite advised about the new co option form to bring us in line as requested by RCC.

Proposed by Cllr Nix, seconder Cllr Clark, carried.

The form has been sent to LRALC for advice 10/07/25.

**Agenda item 11**. John Harris was accepted for Co-option (South Ward). Proposed by Cllr Brookes, seconder Cllr Nix, carried.

**07/25-06 CHAIRMANS/CLERKS REPORT:**

**For each of the following events I represented OTC as Mayor of Oakham.**

**Monday, 23rd June**, Raising the flag at Oakham Castle for Armed Forces week.

**Saturday 28th June,** Speech Day at Oakham School,

**Sunday 29th June,** Church service followed by Party in the Park.

The Deputy Clerk shared a lovely card regarding the beautiful Queens statue.

The upcoming VJ Day 15th August to meet at the war memorial to lay a wreath, with Lord Lieutenant, High Sheriff, Rev Ellis then onto Rocks by Rail for 1.30pm.

As the Party in the Park had been such a great success, need to book the end of armed forces week 28th June 2026 to allow more time, better involvement for military jeeps & families.

**07/25-08 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:** None

**07/25-09 BANK STATEMENTS:** To consider and approve the bank statements for June 2025.Appoint two Cllrs to sign the paperwork monthly.

Cllr Douthwaite proposed a new form which was accepted going forward.

Proposed by Cllr Nix, seconder Cllr Douthwaite, carried 1 x Abstention.

**07/25-12 FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Abolish the Finance Committee, effective immediately. In its place, a Finance Working Group shall be formed to carry out its functions. This Working Group shall convene in the public chamber, ensuring transparency and open participation going forward.

Proposed by Cllr Brookes, seconder, Cllr Clark, x 2 against x 1 Cllr Douthwaite, abstained x 1 carried.

To form a working group for finance: Cllrs Douthwaite, Nix, Harris & Clark. Proposed by Cllr Nix, seconder, Cllr Brookes, carried.

Cllr Douthwaite presented the Metcalf final invoice. Proposed by Cllr Brookes, seconder Cllr Clark, carried

### 07/25-13 PICNIC TABLES: Deferred to 6th August as need to investigate a better quality of table. Proposed by Cllr Nix, seconder Cllr Clark, carried.

### 07/25-14 ELCTRICITY SUPPLY MARKET PLACE:

Cllr Brookes has identified that the Market Place lacks sufficient power points, in liaison with Nigel (Market Manager) we have asked our electrician to liaise to obtain quotes & for Gaol Street (separate quote) then bring them back to council for our next meeting in August.

Proposed by Cllr Brookes, seconder Cllr Nix carried.

**07/25-15: METCALF INVOICE:** To pay the next stage payment as agreed in March 2025.

Proposed Cllr Douthwaite, seconder Cllr Clark carried, against Cllr Brookes, 1 x abstained.

**07/25-16 AMENDMENTS TO SYSTEMS OF INTERNAL CONTROL:** Internal Auditor’s Observations. Cllr Douthwaite explained the updated version of Systems of Internal Control.

Proposed by Cllr Douthwaite, seconder Cllr Nix, carried, 1 x abstention.

**07/25-17 VICTORIA HALL:** Surveyors Report to note. Cllr Brookes highlighted that the report has a leaky roof, past neglect, offices are damp.

It’s a consideration that the VH needs £200,000-£300,000 spending on it to be fit for purpose. OTC needs to review the decision to move to the VH.

Proposed by Cllr Brookes, seconder Cllr Nix, carried.

**Meeting Finished 20.00pm**

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS: 6th August 2025**

Signed………………………………………………….. Date………………….