

OTC response to a letter from a member of the public 4th March 2021.
Response to Social Media Comments

FACTS: Public Record

1) Letter was not anonymous, name and address withheld as requested to protect from being bullied on social media.

2) Office remodelling project

- The design was based around the previous Town Clerk's requirements.
- 25th June 2018 Olney Centre Management committee – Chairman Cllr Deirdre Bethune (DB) advised Bethune Architects produced drawings to obtain planning permission, there was no competitive quote involved as it was confirmed by Cllr DB that the work was **free**. If the project commenced and working drawings were needed such drawings would be charged for.
- Payment to Bethune Architects 18th December 2018 listed in January 2019 full council meeting expenditure list for council review (note after payment made)
- January 2019 Olney Centre committee meeting item 5 – contractors raised concern regarding removal of chimney and resolved to obtain quotes with and without removal.
- Full council meeting 1st April 2019 – item raised by Cllr. DB. Two quotes provided both with significant exclusions requiring further quotes to be obtained- council resolved to proceed with quote 1.
- June 2019 Olney Centre committee meeting – agenda item 5 to confirm office works to start in October 2019 (no minutes available)
- 12th August 2019 full council stopped the project.
- August 2020 – Cllr DB raised agenda item to resurrect the project based on same old design and suggesting taking a public loan as a source of funding. Motion received no seconder and councillors were unanimous in stopping the project again.
- The recording of the August OTC Meeting was supplied to the MKC Unitary Authority Monitoring Officer for oversight of the

meeting who concluded that there was **NO** cause for complaint or Code of Conduct issue for any of the councillors who **remain**