

## Minutes Othene Neighbourhood Council Meeting 7 May 2026

**Date** : May 7, 2026  
**Time** : 19:30 uur  
**Location** : Brede School Othene

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### Chairman's Presentation

- The meeting starts with an introduction round of the neighbourhood council.
- The chairman presents the neighbourhood statistics: residents, number of families, number of cars, and property values. The Othene neighbourhood currently consists of 4,700 residents, spread across 1,700 households. In the neighbourhood, 91% of homes are owner-occupied and 2,500 cars are registered in Othene.
- The mission and vision of the neighbourhood council are discussed.
  - De wijkraad haalt signalen, ideeën en zorgen op bij bewoners.
  - The neighbourhood council brings together residents, the municipality, organisations and initiatives.
  - The neighbourhood council contributes ideas on traffic, green spaces, safety, youth, activities and everything that contributes to pleasant living in Othene.
- The chairman makes an urgent call for volunteers who want to help organise and carry out activities in the neighbourhood. Sign up by email at [info@wijkraadothene.nl](mailto:info@wijkraadothene.nl)
- The chairman clarifies the scope of what the neighbourhood council can do. It is not intended for the council to be used for reports that residents can submit directly to the municipality, unless the issue concerns the entire neighbourhood or a large part of it.
- Activities were presented, along with a renewed call for volunteers. Activities the neighbourhood council would like to plan include:
  - Litter-picking campaign
  - All of Othene Bakes
  - Outdoor Play Day (2027)

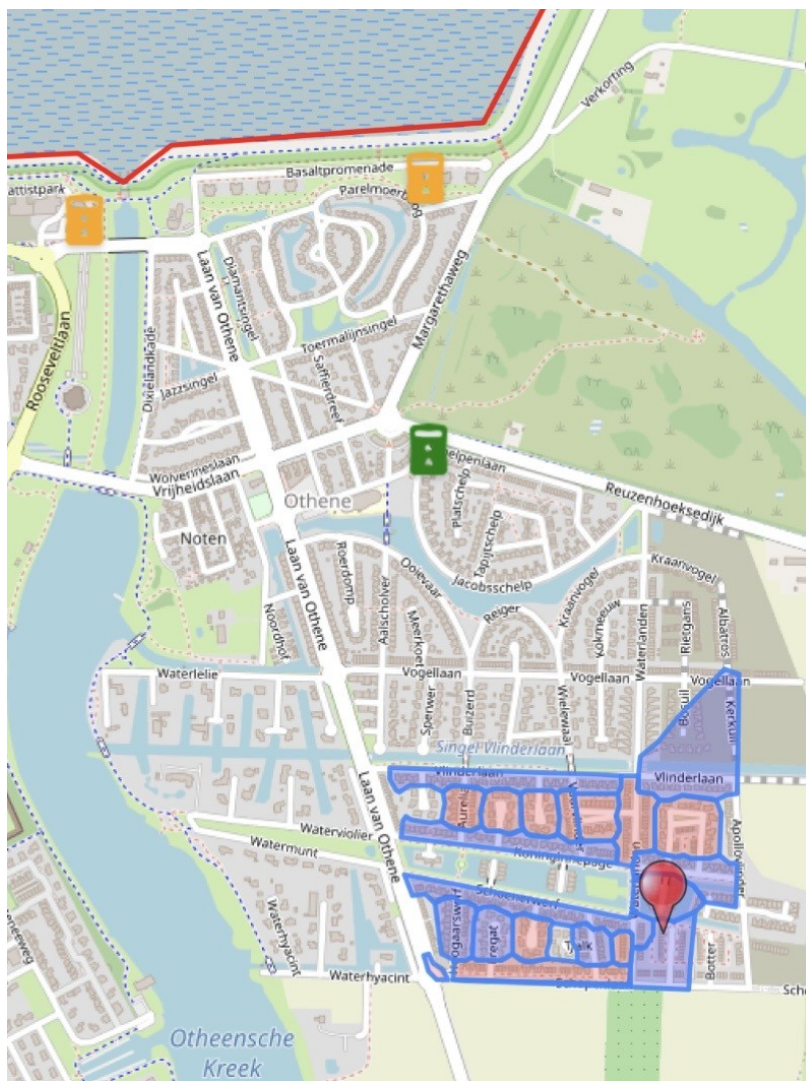
Questions from residents following the presentation:

- There is a lot of loneliness in the neighbourhood. A community centre is desired!
- Litter-picking campaign: How can we ensure the litter does not come back straight away.
- The behaviour of fat bike riders is undesirable. They do not wear helmets and it is an accident waiting to happen. It would be good if parents required their child to wear a helmet.
- Does Noten belong to the neighbourhood? Yes, Noten is part of the neighbourhood, but for some residents it was not possible to collect information.

### Presentation on AEDs:

Er zijn twee soorten gebieden op de kaart met de AED's, rode en blauwe. Het rode gebied betekent niet gedekt door een AED en geen hulpverlener. Het blauwe gebied betekent dat er geen AED is, maar dat er wel minstens één hulpverlener is aangemeld.

The map also shows coloured AEDs. In Othene there is one green and one orange AED. The orange AED is located inside a building and becomes unavailable after a certain time. The green AED is available 24/7.



Based on the presentation, various questions are raised and options are suggested for new AED locations.

- The representative from Zeeuwse Gronden mentions that they have two AEDs, but these are installed inside the building. She will look into whether it is possible to move them outside. She will send an email to the neighbourhood council.
- A resident mentions she does not know how to use an AED. Is there a course for this? As a neighbourhood council we want to assess how many people are interested and facilitate this. Anyone interested can let us know by email at [info@wijkraadothene.nl](mailto:info@wijkraadothene.nl)
- It is noted that account must be taken of water between locations, which can make it difficult to reach an AED.
- It is suggested to place one at the dental practice. If this succeeds and possibly also at Zeeuwse Gronden, the entire area would be covered. First responders would still be needed.
- Explanation: If you register via [hartslag.nu](https://hartslag.nu) (after the course) you receive a notification on your phone. First, 112 is called and 112 activates the app of the person closest to the victim. The app also indicates where the nearest AED is and what the code is to open the cabinet.
- After the break, the chairman again calls on residents to register for the AED course.

#### **Neighbourhood Police Officer Presentation:**

Gijsbert Treurniet, neighbourhood police officer for all of Terneuzen, together with his colleague Lindsey Tak. The role of the neighbourhood officer has evolved into a neighbourhood director. Due to staff shortages, daily presence in the neighbourhood is not possible. Gijsbert forwards questions to his colleagues.

Questions from residents to the neighbourhood police officer:

- Young people on fat bikes ride dangerously and the risk of something going wrong is very high. Parents should require children to wear a bicycle helmet. However, this is not yet legally required, so the neighbourhood officer cannot take action.
- At Margarethaplein the road goes down towards the garages. Young people ride their fat bikes there. This creates very dangerous situations. The difficulty is that these are not criminal offences, so the police cannot always act on them.
- At the Bazaltpromenade there are many young people displaying certain behaviour. The youths provoke the officers and residents have the impression that the officers do not address their behaviour.
- A resident of Bazaltpromenade mentions that she sees the police drive past at 10:00 in the morning. At that time, however, there are no problems. Is it possible for the police to come by at other times? The youths are very intimidating. Gijsbert acknowledges this is a known issue and will take it up.
- The roundabout near Margarethapolder is dangerous. Cars are not allowed there but enter anyway. Nancy Herwegh from the municipality of Terneuzen indicates that the teardrop roundabout will be modified this year.
- Traffic in general is also problematic on some streets. Cars sometimes drive at 70-80 km/h. Someone mentions that speed bumps will soon be installed on Vlinderlaan.

- Someone suggests placing speed cameras. However, this is not handled by the police but by the municipality. Gijsbert requests that this be passed on to the municipality.
- A resident reports that the Margarethapolder area is very unruly during New Year's Eve. Gijsbert advises that she report this to the police during the year, as hotspots are designated where disturbances are expected.
- A report from a resident about cars driving along Laan van Othene with people standing on the bonnet. Gijsbert requests that licence plates be noted and reported.
- A report from a resident of Othene Noord. He has sent messages and called both the police and the municipality multiple times but receives no response. He finds it frustrating that communication is not running smoothly. Nancy Herwegh will speak with him outside the meeting.
- The same resident also reports an additional bench in the playground. This causes him a great deal of nuisance from young people who hang around there in the evenings. When the police do come, they arrive in uniform and the youths are already gone by the time they arrive. The resident asks why the police cannot come in plain clothes. Gijsbert explains that due to staff shortages they must always come in uniform and by car, as they may be called elsewhere and need to be recognisable as officers.
- It is noted that youth workers could play a role here. Why are there no youth workers in the Othene neighbourhood? AanZ is the provider. In summer, youth workers accompany the police/community enforcement officers along the Kreek as there are many more young people gathering there.
- A resident asks whether the police ever visit schools – in this case to talk about fat bikes. This is not the case. The chairman adds that officers do visit schools but that this has decreased due to capacity issues.
- A resident also compliments the police, saying that the police are always ready to help residents.
- Bewoner geeft aan dat ze de negativiteit niet prettig vindt en dat ze had gehoopt op een positieve avond met een kennismaking van de wijkraad en met de wijkagent. Ook wordt aangegeven dat het niet persé aan de jongeren ligt, maar ook aan de ouders. Zij geven die fatbikes en zij rijden zelf ook soms gevaarlijk. Dit wordt door de meerderheid van de aanwezigen erkend.

After the neighbourhood council's presentation, the chairman closes the meeting at 21:00. The next meeting will be in September. This will be communicated via flyers and social media.