

CRAVEN ARMS TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: Mr C E Williams 2 Jockeyfields Ludlow Shropshire SY8 1PU

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Minutes of the Craven Arms Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 30th March 2021 commencing 7.00pm held by Zoom Virtual Meeting.

Councillors:

Cllr D Mills (Chairman) Cllr N Carter Cllr D Evans Cllr N Stephens
Cllr R Conway, Cllr S Demos

In Attendance:

Mr C E Williams (Clerk)

Apologies:

Cllr S Demos, Cllr A Rao, Cllr J Rickson and Cllr A J Willetts

One Member of the public present.

ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING

The Town Council held the Annual Public Meeting at which the Chairman presented his annual report highlighting the issue that the Council had dealt with over the last twelve months which included the distribution of Smartwater Kits and the installation of CCTV.

This had been a difficult year due to the Coronavirus epidemic with no face-to-face meetings being held the Chairman thanked all Councillors and the Clerk for the help and contribution they had made on behalf of the local Community during the year.

The Chairman paid special tribute to Cllr N Stephens who had now served as a Town Councillor for over 50 years and to the Clerk who had received a long time award from the Shropshire Association of Local Councils for his long-time service as a Clerk to a Council for over 40 years having started as Clerk to Ludford Parish Council in 1976.

Cllr David Evans presented his annual report as Shropshire Councillor highlighting issues dealt with by the Shropshire Council and in particular dealing with the impact of the Coronavirus epidemic on the local community. There were now only two area planning committees covering the Shropshire Council area of which Cllr Evans was the Chair for the Southern Area Committee. The Shropshire Council Tax Rate will be increased by 3.99% for the financial year 2021/2022.

There were no questions from members of the Public and the Chairman closed this unusual Annual Public Meeting and hoped that from May meetings will resume as face-to face meetings.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

70/20 Members of the Public:

One member of the public was present.

71/20 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr D Evans declared a Personal Interest as Chairman of the Southern Area Planning Committee.

72/20 Minutes:

The Town Council confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd February 2021.

73/20 Matter arising from the Minutes:

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

74/20 Chairman's Items:

The Clerk reported that nomination papers had been sent out in respect of the Parish and Town Council Elections to be held on Thursday 6th May 2021 and will be returned to Shropshire Council by Thursday 7th April 2021 by those members wishing to stand for election of the Town Council.

75/20 Highway Items:

- a) Cllr N Carter had reported that the drain clearance issues along Shrewsbury Road Craven Arms had now been resolved by Highways England.
- b) The Clerk will obtain cost for the replacement of the streetlight adjacent to 5 Onnybrook Drive Craven Arms which had been removed by Shropshire Council Emergency Team due to a gas leak which was located underneath the light and will have to be replaced with a new streetlight the cost of which will have to be borne by the Town Council.

76/20 Amenity Items:

- a) **CCTV** – The Clerk reported that the installation of the three CCTV cameras in Craven Arms will be completed in April 2021 with the third camera being installed by the Craven Arms Hotel.
- b) **Craven Arms Playing Fields** – The Clerk reported that due to the poor condition and dangers to users of the skateboard ramps the ramps had been removed and that CAPFA would not be renewing the skateboards unless grant funding can be obtained to meet the estimated replacement cost which would exceed £35,000. CAPFA wished to thank Mr Steven Foxhall for his help in dismantling and removing of the skateboards.

77/20 Financial Items:

- a) The Clerk had produced a statement of Income and Expenditure which showed estimated balances of £212,419 as at the 31st March 2021.
- b) The following accounts for payment were agreed which through the online banking system with the Chairman verifying and releasing the payments setup by the Clerk.

C E Williams	bank	689.00	Disbursement
Inland Revenue	bank	120.00	Tax
Graham Morris	bank	950.00	Amenity
J Kinsey	bank	344.00	Picnic Area/Playing Fields
N Jarrett	bank	110.00	Picnic Area/Playing Fields
British gas	bank	155.79	Public Toilets
Water plus	bank	64.01	Public Toilets
Bank Charges	bank	10.24	Charges

78/20 Planning Items:

There were no planning items to be considered.

79/20 Reports from other Organisations:

Cllr D Evans reported that meetings were still ongoing concerning future development in Craven Arms with an officer at Shropshire Council now having been appointed to help coordinated progress.

Cllr D Mills, Cllr N Carter and Cllr N Stephens had linked into the recent meeting of the South Shropshire Association of Local Councils which had discussed local issues relating to planning, Climate Change, Highways. Mr Clive Leworthy had been appointed the new secretary of the Association with the next meeting to be held on the 7th June 2021.

80/20 Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 25th May 2021 commencing at 7.00pm

Chairman