

CRAVEN ARMS TOWN COUNCIL

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

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Minutes of the meeting of Craven Arms Town Council held on Tuesday 27th January 2026 commencing 7.00pm held at Craven Arms Community Centre

Councillors:

Cllr D Mills (Chairman) Cllr R Pitt (Vice-Chairman), Cllr N Stephens,
Cllr R Conway, Cllr N Carter, Cllr D Evans, Cllr J Rickson and Cllr T Willetts
Mr C E Williams (Clerk)

97/25 Apologies:

Apologies were received from
Cllr S Demos, Cllr J Fuller

98/25 Members of the Public:

The Local Police were present to provide an update on local issues, the crime rate was low for the area. Shropshire Councillor J Dickin was unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a report on Shropshire Council Matters which had been circulated to all Councillors and was noted.

99/25 Declarations of Interest:

Nil

100/25 Minutes:

The Town Council confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 25th November 2025 and they were duly signed by Chairman

101/25 Matters arising from the Minutes:

No items to report.

102/25 Chairman's Items:

The Clerk referred to the AGM of Crow Cook Learn Thursday 27th November 2025 to which members had been invited.

103/25 Amenity Items:

- a) **Craven Arms Playing Fields** – The Clerk reported that the Outdoor Gym Area had been inspected and any faults replaced.
- b) **Craven Arms Flooding Scheme** - Cllr R Pitt reported that clearing the ditches and modifying the Stokesay Grill improved waterflow during heavy rain. Some debris remains to be cleared, and the Clerk will ask Shropshire Council about a flood plan for Newton following a resident's inquiry.
- c) **Other Amenity Items** – The Clerk reported that a quote had been received for the cleaning and repainting of the existing four benches outside the bowling green, this instead of having previously been agreed to replace the benches with two new benches. The Town Council accepted AF Dixon's quote of £965 to clean, repaint, and add wooden seating to the existing benches.

104/25 Highways Items

Network Rail had cut back trees along Brook Road; the Clerk will request similar work behind the Craven Arms Hotel.

The Clerk will continue to press Highways England to enhance the verge outside the Doctors Surgery and improve the shop frontage near the Clun Road roundabout pedestrian crossing.

105/25 Financial Items:

The Clerk had produced an Income and Expenditure Statement which showed that the Council had balances of £248,907.73 at the 25th January 2065 following approval of the expenditure listed below, and a statement of the balances held in the appropriate bank accounts to comply with the Council's investment policy. The Town Council approved the Statement and the accounts for payment.

	Goss	VAT	
Highfields Electrical	608.40	101.40	Street Lighting
Creative Play	354.00	59.00	Outside Play Area Equipment
Cave	187.09		Insurance/Plants
Charges	8.50		Bank Charges
Eon	141.75		Electricity Toilets
Hugo	287.86	47.98	Website - Email Address & Domain Name
Hugi	11.99	2.00	Website Maintenance
G R Morris	460.00		Amenity Works
C E Williams	655.80		Disbursement
Inland Revenue	395.65		Tax and Employers NI
Parish Online	162.00	27.00	Mapping Online subscription
D Mills	181.58	30.25	Grill Work - Recovery from Shropshire Council
Water Plus	73.99		Water Rates Toilets
Bank Charges	8.50		Bank Charges
Halford PCC	1,000.00		Grant
Shropshire Council	125.00		Election Costs
Eon	130.96	6.24	Electricity Toilets
Hugo	11.99	2.00	Website Maintenance
J Kinsey	360.00		Grill Work - Recovery from Shropshire Council
Halo	600.00	100.00	Rent of Community Centre Meetings
Arrow	405.67	67.61	Toilet Supplies
G Morris	485.00		Amenity Works
C E Williams	752.99	15.83	Disbursement
Inland Revenue	395.65		Tax and Employers NI
Medicare	66.00	11.00	Defibrillator Pads

The Clerk had produced a Budget Statement for the financial year 2026-27 giving details of estimated Income and Expenditure. After consideration of the Statement, it was agreed that the precept should remain at £67,000 for the Financial Year 2026-27.

This was mainly due to a substantial decrease in Streetlighting energy costs due to the conversion of the Streetlights to LED lanterns.

A grant application was received from Craven Arms Bowling Club towards the cost of a defibrillator – It was agreed that as the allocation for grants for the financial year 2025-26 had been exceeded that the application should be deferred until the new financial year 2026-27.

106/25 Planning Items:

Planning application 25/04638/FUL- Building B, Market House, Market Street, Craven Arms,
Proposal: Demolition of building B to allow the future conversion of the remaining buildings – No
Objection.

Planning application 25/04729/FUL - Sunnydale, 32 Shrewsbury Road, Craven Arms
Proposal: New 2.0m entrance gates – No Objection

107/25 Reports from other organisations to which the Town Council has a representative:

No items to report.

108/25 Items for the Next Agenda:

To consider ways of promoting the Town Council through social media

109/25 Next Meeting

Next Meeting Tuesday 24th February 2026

Chairman