

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 31st May 2022 commencing 6.00pm held at Craven Arms Community Centre.

Councillors:

Cllr D Mills (Chair), Cllr N Stephens, Cllr A Jolley, Cllr J Rickson, Cllr S Demos, Cllr V Bailey
Cllr A J Willetts, Cllr D Evans (part of Annual Meeting)

In Attendance:

Mr C E Williams (Clerk)

Apologies:

Cllr R Conway, Cllr D Evans (Annual Public Meeting)

Annual Public Meeting:

Annual Report of the Chairman:

Cllr D Mills presented the annual report a year in which the Council had been able to return to meeting in public following the COVID Epidemic. The Council continues to consider highways, planning and amenity items with Climate Change added to the monthly agenda. It is hoped that the "Meadow Land" at the Discovery Centre will shortly be transferred to the ownership of the Town Council from Connexus which will then be leased/licenced to Grow Cook Learn. The work on the resurface of the BMX track to make it accessible for multi-use had been completed in July 2021 and has become a popular feature at the Playing Fields. The Council had received a grant from the Governments Welcome Back fund which had provided for the installation of four replacement public benches and the tidying of the Corvedale Car Park Area and the footpath behind the Craven Arms Hotel leading to the Station. There had been the introduction of the "Men's Shed" an initiative of Cllr. N Carter based at Craven Arms Community Centre who with assistance with some of the local youths had recently repaired the memorial bench at the centre. The Chair thanked Councillor colleagues for their help and support during the past year and the Clerk for his work and invaluable guidance.

Financial Report:

The Clerk had produced a summary of Income and Expenditure for the Financial Year 2021/22 which showed that the Council held balances of £198,746 at the 31st March 2022.

Report from Shropshire Councillor Mr D Evans:

Cllr S Demos read the report of Cllr D Evans on Shropshire Council matters which included planning and highway matters and his role the Council which included membership of the Southern Area Planning Committee and the Standards Committee. The Shropshire Local Plan which details Employment Land and Housing Land to the Year 2036 was now awaiting approval from the Planning Inspectorate. Although there is a balance budget for the financial Year 2022/23 there is an anticipated shortfall of £50million for the financial year 2023/24 unless additional fund is made available by the Government. Shropshire Council had established a Task and Finish Group to look at the current Ambulance service.

As there were no members of the public present the public meeting was closed.

Annual Meeting of the Town Council

1/22 Election of Chair for the Ensuing Year:

Cllr D Mills was re-elected Chair for the year 2022/23 and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2/22 Election of Vice-Chair for the Ensuing Year:

Cllr N Stephens was elected Vice-Chair for the year 2022/23.

3/22 Appointment of Town Council representatives to the following organisations:

Craven Arms Youth Group – Cllr A Jolley, Cllr J Rickson

South Shropshire Area of Parish and Town Councils – The Chair and Vice-Chair

Footpaths Officer – Mr R Conway.

CAPFA – Appointment of Committee Representatives acting on behalf of the Council as Sole Custodian
Trustees – All Council Members.

4/22 Declarations of Interest:

Nil

5/22 Minutes:

The Town Council confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on the Tuesday 26th April 2022 which were then signed by the Chair.

6/21 Matter arising from the Minutes:

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

7/22 Chair's Items:

The Chair reported the resignation of Cllr N Carter who was thanked for his contribution as a Councillor on behalf of the local community. The Clerk will issue the Notice of Vacancy for a Town Councillor.

8/22 Highway/Street Lighting Items:

Cllr N Stephens reported that the streetlight at the junction of Greenfields Road with Clun Road which was the responsibility of Shropshire Council had still not been repaired.

The Clerk reported that that an invoice had been received from Western Distribution Power for making safe the damage to the electricity supply to the Streetlight at Mable Close at a cost of £4,305 plus VAT this will be reclaimable from the third-party Insurance Company.

Cllr A J Willets referred to the junction of Dinchope Lane/Halford which required the provision of white lining and a Give Way sign this would be taken up by Shropshire Councillor D Evans.

9/22 Amenity Items:

- a) **Craven Arms Discovery Centre and Meadow Land** – The Clerk reported that the solicitors were currently exchanging the necessary legal documents after completion of the required searches for the transfer of the Meadow Land from Connexus to the Town Council, completion of the land transfer is expected in June/July.
- b) **Climate Change:** - Cllr A Jolley had forwarded a report to all councillors and commented on the Next Generation Fair recently undertaken at the Craven Arms Discover Centre for which the Town Council provided a grant.
- c) **Planters**- The planters will be installed on the streetlights in Corvedale Road in early June 2022.
- d) **Benches**- The Clerk reported that the four new benches provided under the Welcome Back Fund had now been installed by Shropshire Council these being situated in the Play Area of the Craven Arms Playing Field, Adjacent Bus Shelter Craven Arms Community Centre, Adjacent Fire Station Shrewsbury Road and School Road Carven Arms.
- e) **Nature Reserve** – Cllr V Bailey raised concerns about the area of land know as the “Nature Reserve” in Corvedale Road and enquired who was responsible for the area of land. The Clerk would make appropriate enquiries.
- f) **Christmas Lights** – Cllr S Demos reported that additional Christmas Lights would be purchased this financial year.

10/22 Financial Items: (Cllr D Evans joined the meeting)

The Clerk had produced an Income and Expenditure Statement and comparison with the annual budget the Town Council approved the following accounts for payment.

Bank Charges	5.50
Water Plus	65.68
Water Plus	68.06
B G Business	127.60
C E Williams	666.00
Inland Revenue	120.00
Cyril Bason	59.90
G Morris	1,190.00
D Campbell	360.00
Zurich	1,803.11
K Adams	450.00
Information Commissioner	40.00

11/22 Planning Items:

Cllr D Evans reported that the application for the provision of a new rail bridge over the footpath running from Newington to Cheney Longville (the application being in Wistanstow Parish but bordering Craven Arms) had been referred to Shropshire Council Southern Planning Committee for determination.

Planning Application 22/0318/Full – Erection of a two Storey Extension – 135 Whettleton Craven Arms – No objection

12/22 Reports from other Organisations:

No items to report

13/22 Items for the Agenda next Meeting:

Emergency Planning

14/22 Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 28th June 2022 commencing at 7.00pm

Chair