

CRAVEN ARMS TOWN COUNCIL

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

Email: cewilliams1@btinternet.com Phone: 01584 874661 Website: www.cravenarmstowncouncil.org.uk

Minutes of the Craven Arms Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 29th September 2020 commencing 7.00pm at the Craven Arms Community Centre.

Councillors:

Cllr D Mills (Chairman) Cllr N Carter Cllr A Rao Cllr D Evans Cllr S Demos Cllr J Rickson Cllr N Stephens
Cllr R Conway

In Attendance:

Mr C E Williams (Clerk)

Apologies:

Cllr V Bailey, Cllr S Demo and Cllr A J Willetts

15/20 Members of the Public:

One member of the public was present to enquire about potential flood relief schemes in Craven Arms particularly Clun Road.

16/20 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr N Stephens declared a Personal Interest as member of the Craven Arms Youth Forum.

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

Cllr A Rao declared a Personal Interest in relation to the proposed telecommunications site on land at Euro Quality Lambs Dale Street Craven Arms.

17/20 Minutes:

The Town Council confirmed the minutes of the meetings held on the 26th May 2020 and the 11th August 2020.

18/20 Matter arising from the Minutes:

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

19/20 Chairman's Items:

There were no matters to report.

20/20 Highway Items:

The Town Council is responsible for the fir trees that border the railway line in Brook Road and along the station footpath to the rear of Craven Arms Hotel this under an agreement with National Rail in 1985.

Some of the branches are now overhanging Brook Road and along the station footpath, it was agreed by the Town Council to tidy up the overhanging branches and also to obtain a tree inspection report on the condition of the trees.

21/20 Amenity Items:

- a) **CCTV** – The Clerk reported that street work permits are currently being obtained by the supplier for the installation of the CCTV cameras by the Public Conveniences Shrewsbury Road Craven Arms and by the roundabout at the entrance to Corvedale Road Craven Arms. In respect of the CCTV camera to be installed near the Railway Bridge Corvedale Road work is still awaited by Shropshire Council for the installation of the new street column.
- b) **Remembrance Sunday** – Laying of Wreaths will be organised by Sharon Demos
- c) **Christmas Light/Christmas Trees** – It is planned to install the Christmas Lights and purchase some Christmas Trees with the main Tree being in the Auction Yard Square.
- d) **Update from Craven Arms Flood Group Representatives** – A recent meeting and walk around was held with the Mr J Bellis Drainage and Flood Risk Manager Shropshire Council to discuss the flooding issues in Craven Arms.

The following update has been provided by Mr Bellis:

Replacement of Grilles: Shropshire Council are working with both the Environment Agency to deliver this scheme as soon as possible. Although due to Covid19 allocated funding had to be deferred. Shropshire Council are exploring opportunities to secure Environment Agency underspend to fund the project.

Clun Rd Attenuation: Shropshire Council are exploring this potential project and have undertaken some basic calculations on the volumes of water which can be stored on the land off Clun Rd. Initial indications look promising however it is very early days with this project. The Environment Agency are assessing the funding that could be available for a project of this type based on the number of properties protected. The scheme may also reduce the flooding on the Clun Rd and A49 the impact on transport infrastructure should increase the potential funding.

21/20 Financial Items:

- a) The Clerk had produced a statement of Income and Expenditure to the 30th September 2020 which showed balances of £262,919.73. The Clerk also provided a schedule of payments made from the 1st April 2020 to the 30th September 2020. A payment of £10,000 has been received in respect of a business relief grant for the public conveniences this being a revenue contribution by the Government in respect of the public convenience. The Council also received a grant of £5,000 from the COVID19 19 Small Market Towns Marches Investment Fund which can be given to local organisations to help attract visitors to the area or to increase use of facilities but must be committed by the end of October 2020 although certain activities may not take place until later this year or early next year. The report was noted by the Town Council and it was agreed that all payments be confirmed that were included on the schedule provided by the Clerk.
- b) The Clerk reported that the Accountability and Annual Governance Return 2019/20 had been approved by the Council's external auditors PJK Littlejohn with no items to report.
- c) The Town Council approved the Annual Grant to £12,000 to Craven Arms Playing Fields as the contribution towards the Management Fees of the Craven Arms Community Centre.
- d) The Town Council considered the allocation of the COVID19 Small Market Towns Marches Investment Grant and approved the following items:

Grant to Grow Cook Learn - £500 to be used to support the provision of an Outdoor Local Produce Market.

Craven Arms Community Centre - £500 to help advertise and encourage the use of the newly provided Gym Facilities.

Craven Arms Youth Forum - £500 to be used to organise a Children/Youth Day/Sessions.

Craven Arms Playing Fields Association - £500 to be used to enhance the seating facility at the Play Area Craven Arms Playing Fields.

Christmas Lights Committee - £500 to fund the provision of Christmas Lights and Trees.

Craven Arms Town Council - £500 to fund provision of Planters within the Town Area.

Craven Arms Childcare and Preschool - £300 to fund play bark for the new play area and to make the facility safe.

Craven Arms Youth Forum – £300 to re-establish contact with young people to undertake a consultation on the BMX Pump Track and Skate Ramps.

Craven Arms Youth Forum - £350 to re-establish the Craven Arms Muslim Youth Group looking at a 'time capsule' project.

This leaves a balance of £1,050 to be determined at the October Council Meeting.

22/20 Planning Items:

- a) The Town Council considered a suggestion that a change to the Craven Arms and Rural Local Plan be submitted to Shropshire Council to add Halford as a Hub/Cluster to allow small market housing development. When the Town Council had originally considering the Local Plan a considerable amount of time was given to agreeing the sites where Market Housing should be developed in the Craven Arms Area. The Town Council agreed that it would not be appropriate to consider the suggestion for inclusion of Halford as a Hub/Cluster in the current Local Plan Review.
- b) The Town Council considered a pre-consultation letter and drawing in respect of the proposed telecommunications site on land at Euro Quality Lambs Dale Street Craven Arms. The Council subject to a detailed planning application would welcome increased reception for mobile technology but would also need to be satisfied that all necessary environmental implications had been met.

23/20 Reports from other Organisations:

No Items to report

24/20 Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 27th October 2020 – venue to be determined dependant on COVID 19 restriction

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Chairman

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