

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 Monday 9th January 2023 commencing 6.00pm held at Craven Arms Community Centre.

Councillors:

Cllr D Mills (Chair), Cllr N Stephens, Cllr R Conway, Cllr J Fuller, Cllr S Demos, Cllr D Evans, Cllr J Rickson

In Attendance:

Mr C E Williams (Clerk)

88/22 Apologies:

Cllr V Bailey and Cllr A J Willetts

89/22 Members of the Public:

No members of the public present.

90/22 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr D Evans _ Chairman of the Shropshire Council Sothern Area Planning Committee.

91/22 Minutes:

The Town Council confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on the 29th November 2023 and the 8th December 2023 which were then signed by the Chair.

92/22 Matter arising from the Minutes:

The Clerk reported that all outstanding issues in relation to access and service media Provision had now been resolved in respect of the transfer of the meadow land at Craven arms Discovery Centre from Conexus and the lease had been agreed with Grow Cook Learn. The appropriate solicitor had now been instructed to complete the transaction.

93/22 Chair's Items:

No items to report.

94/22 Financial Items:

The Town Council approved the following accounts for payment.

Parish Online - Subscription	162.00
Inland Revenue - Tax	120.00
C E Williams - Disbursement	738.43
Lanyon Bowdler – Solicitor Fee	2,400.00
G R Morris – Amenity Work	595.00
Shropshire Council - Street Light	1,318.16
Eon- Street Light Repairs	99.11
Eon- Street Light Repairs	171.62
Eon- Street Light Repairs	171.62
Eon- Street Light Repairs	81.38
Eon- Street Light Repairs	148.52

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The Clerk had produced a Budget for 2023/24 giving details of Income and Expenditure and anticipated balances at the 31st March 2023.

The Clerk reported that the Street Lighting Electricity Costs will increase from £4,500 a year to approximately £9,000 a year and the Public Convenience Electricity Costs from £1,700 a year to approximately £3,500 per year.

The National Association of Parish Councils had approved an increase in the hourly rate for Local Government employees of £1 per hour which will result in the Clerk being paid £12.53 per hour that annual cost being £9,775 from 1st April 2022 this being agreed by the Town Council.

Following consideration of the report for which members of the Council thanked the Clerk it was proposed by Cllr S Demos and seconded by Cllr R Conway that the precept for 2023/24 should be £62,483 an increase of approximately 3.3% in the Town Council Tax Rate.

It was proposed by Cllr R Conway and seconded by Cllr D Evans that a scrutiny review of the Public Conveniences be undertaken during the year and that a Public Convenience Reserve Fund should be created with a transfer of £10,000 being made from the General Fund balances which represents the grant received in respect of the COVID Business Support.

The Town Council agreed that the supply of the electricity in respect of the public conveniences be transferred from British Gas to SSE following a comparison of costs with various suppliers this would be initially on a one-year fixed price contract.

95/22 Planning Items:

Reference 22/05311/Full – Proposed Dwelling South of 1 Discovery Close Craven Arms - In view of the number of neighbour objections the Town Council request that the Planning Committee should consider this application to give objectors an opportunity to make their objections directly to the Committee. There are queries concerning the design and position and use of the dwelling and although not a planning criterion there may be covenants on the land that prevent further development.

Reference 22/05627/Full – Rear extension and two garden rooms – Bryn Awel Clun Road Craven Arms – No Objection.

Reference 22/05632/Full – Retrospective application – detached log cabin for holiday let – Callow Hill Cottage, 5 Lower Dinchope Craven Arms – Object to the application as the application does not meet original purpose.

96/22 Item for Next Meeting

Litter/Litter Bins

97/22 Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 31st January 2023 commencing at 7.00pm

Chair