

Craven Arms Town Council Budget Report for Meeting 26th January 2020

Estimated Income and Expenditure 2020/2021

Expenditure	Actual 2018-2019	Budget 2019-2020	Revised 2019-2020	Budget 2020-2021	
Grass Cutting Amenity Areas and Planters	3,610	3,500	3,600	3,500	Grass Cutting fortnightly, Corvedale Road, Shrewsbury Road, Picnic Area, Top Hotel, Labour Club and Planters Strimming White Bridge twice during Spring/Summer Season and provision of Spring/Summer planters
Watering of plants	1,660	1,300	1,240	1,300	Watering of Planters - based on £20 per day June - September
Litter Picking	1,265	1,200	1,200	1,200	Litter picking in Corvedale Road, Picnic Area and Community Field
Lighting - Energy	1,831	1,900	2,400	4,895	Cost of Street Lighting Energy 89 Lights - Npower contract expired 16/10/2020
Lighting- Repairs	2,961	2,000	2,000	2,000	Repair of the Town Council Lights if this budget is exceeded in the year cost will have to be met from Street Lighting Reserve Insurance lights covered for Public Liability only and not Impact Damage -The Council also has no annual maintenance contract
Insurance	1,640	1,640	1,655	1,655	The Insurance covers Public Liability, Employers Liability, Libel and Slander, Fidelity Guarantee, All Risks to Public Conveniences and to Outdoor Gym Equipment. Equipment
Audit	720	750	740	750	Internal and External audit of the Councils Financial Accounting records
Subscriptions	864	880	865	880	Annual Subscription to the Association Of Local Councils and the Clerks Society
Hire of Community Hall	250	500	500	500	Hire of Community Centre for Council meetings
Administrative Costs	10,281	10,000	10,140	10,230	Administrative Costs Clerk Salary, Stationary, Postage, Travel Costs, Phone and Use of Computer Facilities
Community Playing Fields	5,395	5,225	5,730	5,990	Cost of grass cutting and maintenance of the Community Field which includes Outdoor Gym Area, BMX Track. and cost of cutting the New Play Area reimbursed by Shropshire Council £960
Public Conveniences	7,042	7,000	7,000	7,250	Cost of Cleaning, Water, Lighting and Maintenance including Ground Maintenance
Grant Community Centre	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	Annual payment to CAPFA to meet the Annual Management Fee agreed with HALO until 1st October 2023
Committed Costs	49,519	47,895	49,070	52,150	
Other Expenditure					
Grant Stokesay PCC	0		200		Grant towards Upkeep of Grounds
Crucial Crew Grant	200		200		Grant for Safety Awareness provided to Young Children
Citizens Advice	2,000		2,000		Grant for the provision of monthly drop in centre at the Craven Arms Community Centre
British Legion	40		40		Memorial Wreath
Grant Halford Church	0		0		
Grant Craven Arms Youth Club	2,250		800		Grant to Craven Arms Youth Group
Grant to Craven Arms Pre-School	1,500		0		Grant to Craven Arms Pre-school
Craven Arms Playing Fields Replacement Fencing			752		Cost of new fencing was £1,159 however £407 met from balance of Outdoor Equipment Fund
Repairs to Picnic Area/Car Park Steps			1,234		Repairs to Railings and Steps Corvedale Road
CCTV _ Replacement Equipment			3,388		CCTV -See Note below - subject to Council approval 28/01/2020
Defibrillator	1,345				New Defibrillator
Skate Park	1,530				Repairs
MUGA Lights	1,380				Repairs
Repairs to Street Furniture	143				Repairs
Other Grants		9,000	374	9,000	Other Expenditure Provision for items not met from Reserves
Other Expenditure	10,388	9,000	8,988	9,000	
Total Expenditure	59,907	56,895	58,058	61,150	
Income					
Precept	56,815	55,864	55,864	59,215	See Note Below
Interest	428	350	350	350	Interest on Bank Balances
Environmental Maintenance Grant	625	1,500	625	625	Environmental Maintenance Grant from Shropshire Council
Craven Arms Playing Fields	960	960	960	960	Payment from Shropshire Council for Grass Cutting
Total Income	58,828	57,714	57,799	61,150	

Note:

Councils it was suggested that I contact Shropshire Council and benefit from their energy contract which I have done on behalf of the Council at an annual cost of £4,895 this to be reviewed annually.
CCTV - I have been working with Shropshire Council and the Police on the provision of a new CCTV system to replace the existing CCTV Cameras and the provision of Vehicle Plate Recognition. The cost of the final proposed scheme is £17,776.
 Funding of £12,000 (£5,500 Shropshire Council, Police Commissioner £6,500) has been obtained leaving a shortfall of £5,776 however I have applied to the Police Commissioner for further funding of £2,388
 this represents 50% of the cost the maximum they will provide. The Town Council had previously promised a contribution of £1,000 and therefore are requested to meet the other outstanding balance of £2,388 which could be met from the existing
 for Grants, New Service/Other Expenditure
 Street Lighting - The five year fixed priced contract with Npower came to an end on the 16th January 2020 with Npower costs estimated to increase to over £7,000 per Year, After Consulting SALC and Other Parish and Town

Smartwater - I have assumed that when purchased the cost of Smartwater will be met from existing Reserve Funds/Balances.

Balances Estimated at the 31st March 2020

Balances	31/03/2019	31/03/2020
Regeneration Reserve	122,120	122,120
Street Lighting	25,306	25,306
Recreation Reserve	18,470	18,470
Election Reserve	3,815	3,815
Picnic Area Reserve	4,275	4,275
Neighbourhood Fund	522	1,105
General Fund	17,200	16,929
Balances	191,708	192,020

The Council also has a balance of £2,500 in Christmas Lights Fund

PRECEPT

During 2019/20 the Town Councils Council Tax base has increased by 1.07% this is mainly due to a change in Council Tax Support mainly due to new properties

The Council could therefore increase the precept to £56,461 to show a 0% increase in the Band D Council Tax Charge.

However to enable the same level of service and provision of monies for Grants/New Services and Other Expenditure the Precept will need to be increased by £ 3,350 representing an increase of £3.42 in the Band D Council Charge.

The Increase is mainly due to the increased cost of Street Lighting Energy Charges with the previous five year fixed price contract finishing on the 16th January 2020.

Number of Properties in each band		Property Valuation Band							
		Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
		353	380	231	89	125	31	5	0
If Craven Arms Town Council increased the Precept to the following amounts the Council Tax Charge is as follows:									
Precept £56,461	0%	46.76	54.55	62.35	70.14	85.72	101.31	116.9	140.28
Precept £56,561	Increase of £100 -	46.84	54.65	62.45	70.26	85.87	101.48	117.10	140.52
Precept £57,461	Increase of £1000 - 1.24%	47.59	55.52	63.45	71.38	87.24	103.10	118.97	142.76
Precept £59,215		49.04	57.21	65.39	73.56	89.91	106.25	122.60	147.12

An increase in the Precept to £59,215 would represent an annual increase of £3.42 per year on the Band D Council Tax Band which is a percentage increase of 4.9%

C E Williams