

**CRAVEN ARMS TOWN COUNCIL**

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

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**Minutes of the Craven Arms Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 commencing 7.00pm at the Craven Arms Community Centre.**

**Councillors:**

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

**In Attendance:**

Mr C E Williams (Clerk)

**Apologies:**

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

**59/20 Members of the Public:**

One member of the public was present.

**60/20 Declarations of Interest:**

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

**61/20 Minutes:**

The Town Council confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

**62/20 Matter arising from the Minutes:**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

**63/20 Chairman's Items:**

The Clerk reported that nomination papers would shortly be sent out in respect of the Parish and Town Council Elections to be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021. Members should note that from the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021 the pre-election period will apply known as "purdah" in which no decisions or publicity should be made that may influence electors.

**64/20 Highway Items:**

- a) Cllr N Carter had reported drain issues along Shrewsbury Road to Highways England.
- b) The Clerk reported that the streetlight adjacent to 5 Onnybrook Drive Craven Arms had been removed by Shropshire Council Emergency Team due to a gas leak which was located underneath the light and will have to be replaced with a new streetlight the cost of which will have to be borne by the Town Council. The Clerk will obtain the cost of providing a new streetlight however an assessment of need will be undertaken with there being other lights nearby in the street.

**65/20 Amenity Items:**

- a) **CCTV** – The Clerk reported that the Shropshire Council had now installed a new street column by the Craven Arms Hotel on which the third CCTV camera can be installed with the work to be undertaken by the end of March /beginning of April 2021.
- b) **Planters/ Picnic Area** – Consideration for the provision of the flower planters will need to be considered at the May 2021 meeting this will be dependant on the relaxation of Coronavirus Regulations and the availability of the planters.  
Following the recent floods, it had been necessary to purchase and site some new boulders to prevent cars parking on the grassed areas and in addition replacement fencing and posts had been placed at the entrance to the carpark/picnic area.
- c) **Update from Craven Arms Flood Group Representatives** – A report was given by Cllr D Evans and Cllr N Carter on the latest developments in respect of the Craven Arms Flood Prevention. Concern was expressed at the lack of cleaning of the Trash Guards situated at Brook Road and Stokesay Hotel with this work often being undertaken by both councillors which was unacceptable due to Health and Safety Reasons and this had been taken up with Shropshire Council. Shropshire Council have agreed to provide better access to the grill by Stokesay Hotel and have no objection to the Town Council arranging to have the grill cleared on a regular basis and then make a recharge for the cost of the works. The Town Council agreed that the Clerk should look at the implications in undertaking this arrangement.
- d) **Craven Arms Playing Fields** – The Clerk reported that due to the poor condition and dangers to users of the skateboard ramps the ramps had been removed and CAPFA at a future meeting will need to consider their possible replacement.

**66/20 Financial Items:**

- a) The Clerk had produced a statement of Income and Expenditure which showed balances of £213,742.12 on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021.
- b) The accounts for payment included on the statement and attached to the minutes were approved for payment and will be paid through the online banking system with the Chairman verifying and releasing the payments setup by the Clerk.
- c) It was agreed by the Town Council that grant applications will be considered at the May meeting of the Town Council.

**67/20 Planning Items:**

- a) The Town Council had no objections to the following planning applications:  
Planning application 21/00643/FUL – Proposed Commercial Building to The South of Callow Hill Craven Arms – installation of two air source heat pumps.
- b) Following a letter received from Church Stretton Council the Town Council discussed the Shrewsbury Town Plan which proposes to demolish the Shrewsbury Bus Station in the centre of the town and adjacent to the railway station which may have significant implications for all residents across the county who travel into the town by bus. It is planned that rural bus services will terminate at their nearest Park & Ride hub, enabling passengers to interchange with the more regular services to access town. The Town Council agreed to express concern at this proposal as this may disadvantage rural bus service users and their use of public transport when travelling to Shrewsbury.

**68/20 Reports from other Organisations:**

Cllr D Evans reported on Shropshire Council Matters which related to the Councils Budget, Highway Issues, Housing and future planned meetings to discuss the proposed roundabout north end of Craven Arms.

The Clerk reported that the next meeting of the South Shropshire Parish and Town Councils Association will be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

Cllr R Conway reported on his research into obtaining Village Green Status on the Discovery Centre fields and the most appropriate option was if the Connexus would consider an appropriate registration.

**69/20 Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021 commencing at 7.00pm

Chairman