

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 27th February 2024 commencing 7.00pm held at Craven Arms Community Centre.

Councillors:

Cllr D Mills (Chairman), Cllr J Fuller, Cllr D Evans, Cllr Mrs R Pitt, Cllr N Stephens, Cllr R Conway, Cllr S Demos, Cllr J Rickson.

In Attendance:

Mr C E Williams (Clerk)

91/23 Apologies:

Cllr V Bailey, Cllr J Rickson, Cllr A J Willetts

92/23 Members of the Public:

No members of the public were present.

93/23 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr D Evans – Southern Area Planning Committee Shropshire Council, Cllr D Mills – Planning application 24/00660/Full, Cllr J Fuller – Planning application 24/00660/Full

94/23 Minutes:

The Town Council confirmed the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 30th January 2024 which were signed by the Chairman.

95/22 Matter arising from the Minutes:

No Items.

96/23 Chairmans Items:

The Chairman had met with the leader of Shropshire Council Lesley Picton when she had visited Craven Arms and had highlighted the need for investment in the local highway/transport infrastructure through Craven Arms,

97/23 Highway and Amenity Items:

a) **Craven Arms Playing Fields** – The Town Council had received a request for cricket nets to be installed on the playing fields to which there was no objection subject to consultation with the Clerk and Cllr D Evans concerning positioning of the nets.

b) **Craven Arms Flooding Scheme** – The Clerk reported that Shropshire Council had made payment of £610 for the clearance of the Water Grill by the Stokesay Hotel during adverse weather conditions.

Cllr D Evans had submitted photos to Shropshire Council concerning the blocked Gulleys in Watling Street Craven Arms.

c) **Highways/Street Lighting** – The Clerk reported that all the outstanding highway issues along the A49 passing through the main area of Craven Arms had been reported in detail to Highways England who had acknowledged the issues which related highway lights, highway road signs and damaged verges.

There was an issue with a stone boulder which had encroached on the footpath by Harry Tuffins supermarket – Cllr J Fuller will approach the manager at the supermarket to see if they will relocate the boulder.

d) **Planters:** The Town Council agreed to purchase of the Streetlight Flower Planters from Shrewsbury Town Council for the Spring/Summer 2024.

The Town Council thanked the volunteers who maintained the planters at the entry to the Craven Arms and Corvedale Road Craven Arms throughout the year.

e) Benches: The Clerk confirmed that the two new benches will be installed early Spring the one at the Childrens Play Area Newington Road Craven Arms and one in Greenfields Road Craven Arms (this following consultation by Cllr J Fuller and Cllr N Stephens about the positioning of the bench in Greenfields Road).

8/23 Financial Items:

The Clerk had produced an Income and Expenditure Statement which showed the Council had balances of £203,331.78 as at the 27th February 2014 following approval of the accounts listed below and a statement of balances held in the appropriate bank accounts to comply with the Councils investment policy.

The Following accounts were approved for payment:

Eon	148.52	24.75	Streetlights
Eon	184.67	30.78	Streetlights
Eon	68.42	11.40	Streetlights
Eon	146.78	24.46	Streetlights
Charges	5.50		Bank Charges
Water Plus	97.19		Water Rates
C E Williams	680.50		Disbursement
Inland Revenue	170.00		Tax
Cyril Bason	62.93		Supplies
G Morriss	710.00		Amenity Work
Shropshire Council	70.00		Street Licence
Shropshire Council	854.28	142.38	Play Inspections
Shropshire Council	2,545.42	424.24	Street Lighting Energy

The Clerk reported on the investment of £60,000 held with Lloyds Bank Ltd which will be due for annual renewal on the 6th March 2024 – It was agreed by the Town Council that the investment should be renewed for a further 12 months and increased to £80,000 if this could be achieved.

The Town Council approved a grant of £300 to Stokesay PCC and £300 to Halford PCC towards the upkeep of the Grounds which attract many visitors to the area.

The Town Council considered a grant application of £2,000 from the Men's Shed towards new tools however this was not agreed by the Council as it is believed that if enquiries were made that tools may be subject to donation from different sources.

The Town Council do appreciate the purpose and work of the Men's Shed and its role in the community.

99/23 Planning Items:

Planning Application 24/0024g/Full – Lower Dinchope Farm – Erection of single storey extension to side elevation. – No Objection

Planning Application 24/00660/Full – Hill View Clun Road – Erection of single storey rear and side extension, loft conversion and access – Object as the proposals will not fit in with the local environment and adjacent dwellings it is an over development of the site.

(Cllrs D Mills and J Fuller left the Meeting while this item was discussed by the Town Council).

It had been reported that some works had commenced on the site it was agreed by the Town Council that the matter should be referred to the Shropshire Council Planning Enforcement Officer for investigation.

100/23 Reports from Other Organisations:

Cllr D Evans reported on Shropshire Council matters with reference to the annual budget where savings of over £64 million had to be achieved despite an increase in the Council Tax rate of 4.99% the largest item of expenditure was Adult and Social Care.

Cllr D Mills reported on the recent meeting of the South Shropshire Area of Parish and Town Councils which had received a presentation from the Shropshire Council Planning Enforcement Officer and a Presentation by the Fire Service.

Cllr R Pitt reported on the litter picking group the requirement replacement of missing litter bins outside the Abattoir and the unofficial layby at Halford.

101/23 Items for the Agenda Next Meeting:

No Items

102/23 Next Meeting:

Tuesday 26th March 2024

Chairman