

## 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 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025 commencing 7.00pm held at Craven Arms Community Centre**

### **Councillors:**

Cllr D Mills (Chairman), Cllr N Stephens (Vice Chair), Cllr R Pitt, Cllr J Fuller,  
Cllr D Evans, Cllr R Conway, Cllr S Demos and Cllr T Willetts  
Mr C E Williams (Clerk)

All Members signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as a Town Councillor.

### **01/25 Apologies:**

Josh Dickin – Newly elected Shropshire Councillor

**02/25 Members of the Public:** -No members of the public attended

### **03/25 Election of Chairman for the ensuing Year:**

It was agreed by the Town Council that Cllr D Mills be elected Chairman for the ensuing Year.

### **04/25 Election of Vice-Chairman for the ensuing Year:**

It was agreed by the Town Council that Cllr R Pitt be elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

### **05/25 Appointment of Representatives to the South Shropshire Association of Parish and Town Councils**

It was agreed that Cllr D Evans and Cllr S Demos be appointed as the Town Council Representatives. For South Shropshire Association of Parish and Town Councils.

### **06/25 Co-option of Town Councillor:**

It was agreed that Mr J Rickson be co-opted as a Town Councillor – this leaves one vacancy on the Town Council.

### **07/25 Declarations of Interest:**

Nil

**08/25 Minutes:** - The Town Council confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

### **09/25 Matters arising from the Minutes:**

The Clerk reported that he had spoken to Mr A Boak a member of the River Onny Preservation Society who would be prepared to come to a future meeting of the Council to discuss the future of the River Onny and explain the water testing that is undertaken and appropriate results. The Town Council agreed to invite Mr A Boak to a meeting of the Council.

### **10/25 Chairman's Items:**

It was agreed by the Town Council that a training session will be held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025 of the Code of conduct which will be held prior to the Town Council meeting commencing 6.00pm.

The Town Council thanked David Evans for representing the Craven Arms Community during his time as a Shropshire Councillor and for regularly updating the Council on Unitary matters.

**11/25 Amenity Items:**

- a) **Craven Arms Playing Fields** – No current issues but the next meeting of CAPFA will be held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at the Community Centre commencing 6.00pm
- b) **Craven Arms Flooding Scheme**- Communication was still awaited from Mr J Bellis Shropshire Council concerning improvements to the Grills adjacent at Stokesay the Clerk will pursue. A draft letter had been received from Mr J Bellis Shropshire Council which could be used by the Flood Scheme Working Groups to circulate to local volunteers and landowners to organise a cleaning of the streams in the locality during the Spring/Summer months. The Clerk would forward a copy of the letter to Cllr R Pitt who would be organising the cleaning of the streams.
- c) **Other Amenity Items** – Cllr S Demos agreed to discuss with Shropshire Highways under their voluntary maintenance scheme the cleaning of the benches on the parcel of land outside the Craven Arms Bowling Club or if required obtain cost of cleaning.

**12/25 Highways Items**

Cllr N Stephens raise the speeding of traffic entering Craven Arms from the norther end of the A49 which has been discussed on several occasions with the Highway England over the last few years and who were reluctant to reduce the speed limit. This item would be discussed at the next meeting of the Town Council. It was good to note that after many years that the part of Brook Road Craven Arms running from Clun Road to the Playing Area had been resurfaced, David Evans was thanked by the Council for ensuring this work had been completed.

**13/25 Financial Items:**

The Clerk had produced an Income and Expenditure Statement which showed that the Council had balances of £272,202 at the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025 following approval of the expenditure listed below, and a statement of the balances held in the appropriate bank accounts to comply with the Council's investment policy.

Craven Arms Events	500.00		Grant VE DAY
Bank Charges	8.50		Charges
Eon	126.06	6.00	Lighting Toilets
Water Plus	84.56		Water Charges Toilets
J Morris	1,210.00		Amenity Work
Eon	443.76	73.96	Street Light Repairs
Eon	1,582.42	263.74	Street Light Repairs
SALC	1,189.63		Subscription
C E Williams	821.00		Disbursement
Inland Revenue	188.00		Tax
Arrow	209.71	34.95	Toilet Supplies
Cyril Bason	24.00	4.00	Toilet Supplies
DC Gardening	380.00	76.00	Playing Fields

The Internal Auditor had verified the Town Councils Accounts for the Financial Year 2024/25

The Town Council approved the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the Financial Year 2024/25 which were signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

The Town Council approved a grant of £300 to Halford PCC and £300 to Stokesay PCC.

**14/25 Planning Items:**

There were no planning items.

**15/25 Reports from other organisations to which the Town Council has a representative:**

David Mills as Chairman of the Souths Shropshire Association of Parish Town Councils reported on the recent SALC Executive meeting.

**16/25 Items for the Next Agenda:**

Co-option of Town Councillor, Litter Picking and Highway Item

**17/25 Next Meeting**

Next Meeting Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Chairman