

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 25th November 2025 commencing 7.00pm held at Craven Arms Community Centre

Councillors:

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

84/25 Apologies:

Apologies were received from
Cllr S Demos

85/25 Members of the Public:

Two Members of the public were present to provide proposals for housing development at the Temperance Hall and Wilmot Lodge sites.

The Local Police were present to provide an update on local issues.

Shropshire Councillor J Dickin was unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a report on Shropshire Council Matters which had been circulated to all Councillors and was duly noted.

86/25 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr D Evans – Planning application 25/04212/Full.

87/25 Minutes:

The Town Council confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 26th October 2025 and they were duly signed by Chairman

88/25 Matters arising from the Minutes:

No items to report.

89/25 Chairman's Items:

The Clerk referred to the AGM of Crow Cook Learn Thursday 27th November 2025 to which members had been invited.

90/25 Amenity Items:

- a) **Craven Arms Playing Fields** – No items to report.
- b) **Craven Arms Flooding Scheme**- Cllr R Pitt provided an update on the clearance of the ditches and reported that the alterations to the Grill at Stokesay had made an improvement to the waterflow during heavy rain.
- c) **Other Amenity Items** – The Town Council agreed to remove four benches and replace with two benches outside of the tree canopy by the Bowling Club at an estimated cost of £650 per bench the cost of which will be met from the Neighbourhood Fund, the work will be undertaken in the Spring 2026.

91/25 Highways Items

Network-Rail had undertaken the cutting-back of the trees along Brook Road Craven Arms for which the Clerk will send a letter of thanks and to ask if the trees could also be cutback along the rear of the Craven Arms Hotel.

Highways England have confirmed that they would be providing a replacement Craven Arms Gateway sign at the South Entrance to Craven Arms by the layby at junction to Stokesay Castle.

92/25 Financial Items:

The Clerk had produced an Income and Expenditure Statement which showed that the Council had balances of £256,329 at the 25th November 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. The Town Council approved the Statement and the accounts for payment.

The Clerk reported that the Banks Financial Guarantee would now be increased to £120,000 with effect from the 1st December 2025.

Payments - November	Gross	VAT
Inland Revenue	658.30	Employers NI
Eon	105.24	Electricity Toilets
Hugo	11.99	Website
Graham Morris	595.00	Amenity Work
C E Williams	656.00	Disbursement
Inland Revenue	395.50	Tax NI
Cyril Bason	28.90	Supplies

The Town Council approved a grant of £1,000 to Halford PCC towards the cost of upgrading the heating system for the benefit of the local community with the church now being hopenfor social events.

The Clerk to the Council had produced an updated Risk Analysis for the Town Council in accordance with the requirements of the Annual Governance Statement which was considered and approved by the Town Council.

93/25 Planning Items:

Planning application 25/04213/Full – Retrospective application for replacement garage amenity land on the west side of Newington Away Craven Arms – The Town Council objects to the application the development is much larger than the original demolished garage and does not fit into the surrounding environment.

Planning application 25/04212/Full – Retrospective Planning Application change of use from former ambulance station to one dwelling – The Town Council object to the retrospective application and the inadequate plans submitted in respect of the application.

Planning application 25/04052/Full – Extend culvert to facilitate access – Euro Quality Lambs – As the Town Council has no expertise in relation to the impact of altering a culvert the decision will need to be made by the relevant officers of Shropshire Council and the Environment Agency with the Town Council offering no comment.

Planning application 25/03986/Full – Demolition of buildings to allow the future conversion of the remaining buildings Market House, Market Street Craven Arms – This application had been withdrawn

Planning application 25/03858/Full – Installation of a children's play area – Stokesay Castle – No Objection

94/25 Reports from other organisations to which the Town Council has a representative:

No items to report.

95/25 Items for the Next Agenda:

No Items

96/25 Next Meeting

Next Meeting Tuesday 27th January 2026