

Bishop's Castle Town Hall Access Statement

Introduction

The Town Hall is located in the Shropshire town of Bishop's Castle.

The building is Grade II* Listed and is around 250 years old. The Town Hall has recently undergone a major renovation.

Our aim is to meet the needs of all users and visitors to the Town Hall. However, there are some aspects of the location and features of the building which might make access difficult for people with limited mobility.

We are located at the "top" of the town and approach is via a steep hill. We have limited disabled parking facilities and so encourage visitors to call ahead so that we can make any arrangements to assist you.

We look forward to welcoming everyone to the Town Hall. If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 01588 630023 or email: info@bishopscastletownhall.co.uk.

Getting Here

We are located within the town of Bishop's Castle at the top of High Street.

You can plan your journey by car or public transport using www.transportdirect.info. Simply enter your post code and ours, which is SY9 5BG to get directions.

The nearest bus stops are just 50m away. There is a small shelter and seating.

Craven Arms railway station is approximately 7 miles away, connecting with Ludlow and Shrewsbury railway stations. But public transport from Craven Arms is poor. Shrewsbury has a scheduled bus service to Bishop's Castle every day but Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays www.minsterleymotors.co.uk

We are a pet friendly venue and welcome assistance dogs.

Car Parking

We have no dedicated car park but free on and off street parking is available throughout the town. We have 2 disabled (blue badge) parking bays but given the location these can still be a challenge and we advise only using with assistance. We can arrange assistance if needed if you phone ahead or on arrival in the town.

Disabled access to the property is via the basement level. The doorway provides level access, along with a Radar key system and also a call system during core opening hours. The entrances are well lit.

Entrance Areas

The main entrance is located at the front side of the building and is accessed by four stone steps [with handrail support](#).

Disabled and wheelchair access is located below this entrance on the same east side of the building.

Once inside the building at basement level ~~access is there is available to~~ fully accessible toilet facilities.

Access to the upper floors is via a lift. The internal door to the lift area will be open during core opening hours but closed outside these for security reasons. If you are attending an event outside standard opening hours please contact the organiser or the Town Hall to ensure the necessary doors are opened to enable access.

Stairs and Landing

Access through the main entrance leads to an entrance lobby and historic staircase.

All entrance areas, stairs and landing areas are well lit.

The main historic staircase is oak and is uneven in places. There is a handrail but anyone with visual or physical disabilities is encouraged to use the lift.

Fire Safety, Accidents and Evacuation

There is an automatic audible smoke detection facility and alarms throughout the building.

An Evac Chair is available at the top of the stairs in the event of evacuation. [A maximum of 2 mobility impaired people should be on the upper floor at any one time to ensure that they can be safely evacuated in the event of an emergency.](#)

There are 'In Case of Fire' instructions at visible points on each floor of the building

All external doors are emergency exits and fire extinguishers are available in prominent positions on each floor. There are first aid kits in the kitchen, the Town Clerk's Office and the Market Hall.

Public Toilets

There is a fully accessible unisex toilet in the basement area. Baby changing facilities are also available. Two further toilets are available within the basement area and two general public toilets can be accessed via the rear of the building on the cobbles side. These are unsuitable for anyone with mobility disabilities.

Additional Information

Free Wi-Fi facilities are available - password on [requestdisplay](#).

Mobile phone reception at is generally good for ~~Orange and T-Mobile~~[EE \(previously Orange, now BT\) & Vodaphone](#), but is poor for other network providers.

The Town Hall is a Grade II* Listed Building. The recent renovations have made the building fully accessible for the first time in its history.

However, there remain challenges to the building and all users are encouraged to take care and be aware when entering and inside the building.

If you have any comments to make or suggestions on how we can improve access at the Town Hall we would be pleased to hear from you.

Contact Information

Address: The Town Hall, High Street, Bishops Castle, Shropshire, SY9 5BG

Telephone: 01588 630023

Email: info@bishopscastletownhall.co.uk

Website: www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk

Hours of Operation:

~~Summer Opening Easter to end September: Monday – Saturday 10am – 4pm~~

~~Winter Opening October – Easter: Monday – Saturday (closed Weds) 10.30am – 3pm~~

~~Visitor Information Centre Closed in January. Closed Sunday except for planned events.~~

The Town Hall may be open for activities and events beyond these core opening hours. Please visit the website for more information.

Local Accessible Taxi: Bishops Castle Taxi; 075~~55~~-1_825 931

Local Public Transport: www.traveline.info

Information Correct at ~~November 2014~~July 2015