

WARWICK TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY & CULTURAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

6.30pm

Thursday 5 November 2015

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs C Cross (in the Chair)
Councillors S Cross, Mrs D Da Cruz, R Eddy, R Edgington, G Guest,
J Holland and the Mayor (ex officio)
Mrs L Holroyd and Mrs M Hooper

227 Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend were received on behalf of Councillor T Morris
Mrs B Allen & Ms N Curwood

228 Declarations of Interest

Members did not notify the Town Clerk of any matters arising from the agenda on which Members might have an interest of a personal or prejudicial nature.

229 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2015 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

230 Town Twinning

Members received the report from the Chairman of the Twinning Association which indicated that a revised constitution was to be determined, as membership now stood at far below what it had been when the current constitution was formulated. However, the core aims to promote and support links between the Towns would remain.

Social functions still proved to be popular with more to be organised for the New Year. The Chairman would also be visiting Saumur and Formigine next year to establish further links toward joined up twinning & events such as Saumur Beer Festival, Classic Car Run and the Classic Bicycle Velo in Saumur.

231 Euro Camp

(i) Members watched a presentation of the DVD made by the participants of Warwick Eurocamp 2015 which included their own composed music track, interviews and many photographs all evidence of the "life changing and wonderful experience" acknowledged by all involved.

Warwick participant Gemma Skinner, Youth Leader Luke Spate and Mosaic co-ordinator Fran Godwin informed the committee of the continued contact between the group, the ongoing positive feedback and acknowledgment that the Mosaic was the perfect activity that encouraged team building, a cross cultural shared experience which built confidence and led to an immense sense of achievement with the end result.

The message was affirmed by all involved to continue with such exchanges between the Towns.

(ii) The Final Costing Summary of Warwick Eurocamp 2015 of £14,425.20 was reported to the Committee and showed that with exception of Formigine who would contribute £2363 / €3,200 (which was agreed with the partners prior to the event to enable them to take part); the remaining four Towns would share the outstanding cost of £12,062.

It was agreed that the Assistant Town Clerk contact each Town with a request for their contribution toward the Eurocamp project of £3015 and Warwick as host town would meet an additional sum of £157.

Each town would also receive a copy of the DVD with further copies and download link to be forwarded to their participants.

232 Warwick in Bloom

It was reported that Warwickshire County Council were to place 9 Planters along the edge of the pathway outside the shops at St John's to address illegal parking and also to improve the area for visitors to Warwick who arrived by train.

Members agreed that the Town Council would commit to future planting whilst the maintenance and repair of the planters would remain with the County Council.

Lighting at St John's was to be adjusted to illuminate the pathway as part of the overall improvement.

The Mayor, Councillor Mandy Littlejohn requested that the ongoing changes at St Nicholas Park be added to the next Agenda to update the Committee of the schedule of works put forward in January 2015 and that consultation was yet to be undertaken on outstanding issues.

233 New Signage

Members were advised that Warwickshire County Council were in the process of an audit about the 'Welcome Message' in the district towns with a view to a more joined up approach in design. The Committee agreed that the requested new sign suggested for the Hampton Road be delayed until this process was completed.

Assistant Town Clerk was requested to communicate with the County Council to request an update and to seek an assurance that the County Council would consult on any proposals.

234 Fair Trade

The 'Fair Trade Town' status application at the time of the meeting was still unconfirmed but expected imminently. If successful, future action plans were being formulated by the Town Council representatives and the Steering Group. A launch would be co-ordinated with recognition extended onto www.warwicktowncouncil.gov.uk.

Councillor R Edgington and Mrs D da Cruz would report at the next meeting.

235 Community Grant Applications

(i) An application for a Community Grant was received by Warwick Sports Club for £1,000 towards refurbishment of Warwick Sports Club building on Hampton Road who hoped to offer more community activities and encourage sport and a healthier lifestyle.

The Committee approved the request and acknowledged its support for the Club assured that it offered a different type of service for the local community to that of nearby Warwick Racing Club who had recently received funding.

(ii) A Community Grant Application was also submitted by Warwick Junior Youth Groups who sought funding of £1280 outlined in their requirements to restore the Packmores Community Garden which had been neglected and had become overgrown and attracted fly tippers. The Committee congratulated co-ordinators and volunteers from the community involved in the project and approved the funding.

236 Community Support Grant Application

Citizens Advice also submitted an application for Community Support Funding for £5,000. The Committee acknowledged the services provided by the CAB for the 'Warwick Advice' project which would send advisors to visit people in their homes and targeted in the areas of highest need. The Committee approved the grant.

237 Blue Plaques

The Chairman reported that as Deputy Mayor, she had unveiled the original octagonal Blue Plaque which had been restored onto the Old Gas Works building by the developers.

238 Christmas Lights

The Mayor, Councillor Mrs M Littlejohn reported that the Town Centre Management Group had received a grant of £10K from the County Council for Christmas lights & Visitor promotion. Funding by the Town Council would also be extended by funds from the Mayors Charity Appeal have ensured a ceiling of lights to be installed into the Market Place and the Holloway with replacement and more cost effective LED braids of light around the town.

239 War Memorial

Members were informed that the bronze plaques that contained the six new names for the War Memorial had been placed in time for the Remembrance Sunday on 8 November 2015.

Signed.....Date.....