



WARWICK TOWN COUNCIL

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WARWICK
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Jayne Topham
Town Clerk

COMMUNITY & CULTURAL COMMITTEE

8th FEBRUARY 2018

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Mrs D Da Cruz	Councillor R Edgington
Councillor Mrs C Cross	Councillor J Holland
Councillor Mrs M Littlejohn (Chair)	Councillor T Morris
Councillor N Murphy	

Co-opted Members:

Unlocking Warwick representative – Rick Thompson, Mrs Bernie Allen WDC

263. Apologies: The Mayor, Councillors PS Birdi & R Eddy. Mrs L Holroyd.

264. Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests. – None.

265. Minutes of the meeting held on 9TH November 2017. It was resolved to approve the minutes as a true record.

266. Christmas Lights

Next year's suppliers – Agree to review contractors as the three-year contract with Booths has come to an end. The Town Clerk will contact 2 other Companies for comparison quotations to be reported back to the next meeting.

267. Warwick in Bloom 2018 – update from Chairman

Vandalism of tubs – following spate of vandalism we have been advised that arrests have been made and that the plants can be replaced in the next few weeks.

Freedom of information request. The Town Clerk advised Councillors about a request received for information regarding the process for selecting the provider for our hanging baskets and tubs, this requested resulted in a further request for an internal review. As all the Councillors were involved in ratifying the decision WALC kindly reviewed the process, as an independent and deemed it to be satisfactory. To avoid future conflict, we

have been advised to hold quotation discussions under closed session.

Warwick in Bloom competition: Warwick has achieved a Gold in the Heart of England Awards for the past 4 years - 2017 Receiving the highest points and only just missing best in category - 94/100. We also hosted the Awards Ceremony with 200 people from the Midlands attending. Cllr Mrs M Littlejohn proposed that it is time for a change - which is the right thing to do for our Town and its Community. We obviously still want our town to be clean and litter free - this hopefully still can be achieved by Ward councillors setting up litter picking days. There is a day in March when we are encouraged to do this - Chase Meadow residents are very good at this and have set up a day each year for a few years now. Also washing street signs!

Schools: It was recommended that each Ward Councillor would encourage their junior schools to participate. However, there are many areas that we as a council can support - pocket parks etc. The Packmores have created a good community space at the back of the allotments.

Evelyn's Gift started supporting Warwick in Bloom a couple of years ago and have achieved a lot at Myton School with the physical help from Land rover Jaguar - they also pioneered the makeover of the gardens at St. Michaels Hospital and have completely transformed the outside space and with a grant from WTC they will be finishing it off in March with sustainable planting outside the Chapel. Helen will be happy to support our ideas. If we can find a community project to transform a space, then there are 80 willing employees from Land rover Jaguar that will help.

Therefore, Cllr Mrs M Littlejohn proposed that we don't enter the Heart of England competition this year and focus on more manageable and equally rewarding projects. All Councillors agreed.

Cllr Mrs M Littlejohn had also spoken this afternoon to the chairman Roger Bach of the Heart of England and he feels we are doing the right thing and is delighted that hopefully we will channel our time and effort into new projects and is happy that Bloom has taught us so much - he will also come and see us in April and give guidance - ideas and support. There is also the conference on March 22nd this year in Upton in Bloom.

It was suggested that the money that it costs to enter and the day itself – approx. £500 can be used to support our junior schools - All Saints and Emscote infants have their own allotments and Westgate have a gardening club and The Ridgeway has a sensory garden.

For the last 2 years the Town Council has engaged with the payback team - they have completed some tasks that councils would never have had the time/money to do - cutting back hedges - street cleaning etc - staining benches etc. Again, think of projects in your wards that need doing. Painting our street posts both blue and black would be amazing as the paint is slowly peeling off - this can all be done by the pay back team of community offenders.

The hanging baskets sold to the residents and business in the town centre - 138 last year brings in an income for the sustainability of our flowers. Sarah has the list of those and

the letters to go out and they all need posting through the doors of residents and the shops being delivered Cllr Mrs M Littlejohn requested volunteers.

268. Community Engagement

'In the Ballroom' Social Group Project- Unlocking Warwick to report. Rick summarised the events held- "in the Ballroom" since the last meeting. The Unlocking Warwick team continue to support the TIC with volunteers, Tours are starting with a group of 51 children from All Saints Juniors. The Regency ball held last Dec was considered to be the best yet. There is a Barn Dance planned for the 20th July 2018. A new drama is being prepared and the group are involved with the War Memorial project. Tea & Dance – Cllr D Da Cruz to update – attendance had improved and the event was progressing well.

269. The Zeebrugge Raid – 22nd & 23rd April 2018.

Councillors to consider marking this event. A local resident had written to request that the Town Council supported the 100 years anniversary. Following liaison with St Mary's it was resolved for the Mayor to support by attending Sea Sunday on the 8th July and to offer a presentation space in the Tourist Information centre on the 22nd /23rd April – which could be advertised in the press.

270. Twinning

Partnership meeting – Cllr M Littlejohn outlined the itinerary for the meeting, advising that the Twinning Association had offered to host a social event which all agreed to. The intention is to invite other Mayors and Twinning Associations from the District to a formal dinner. The full itinerary will be provided to Councillors at the next meeting. Eurocamp 2018 – 4 students had been selected from Warwick. Subject to grant funding being secured 5th student may be included.

271. Community Forums – Mrs Bernie Allen WDC advised that the focus this year was around the traffic improvement on our highways. A summary of the all grant applications to the Community Fund was shared.

272. Holocaust Memorial services – Following a discussion regarding the future of the memorial service it was resolved for the Town Clerk to meet with Mrs M Hooper to discuss an appropriate service for 2019. Ideas will be brought back to the Committee for approval.

273. Closed Churchyard Maintenance – discuss new contractor as Countryside Management has resigned. The Town Clerk is talking to new contractors and will bring proposals back to the next committee meeting. A Tree survey has just been completed at St Pauls Churchyard – prompted by contact from a concerned resident. There were no major issues identified, and works will be carried out by WCC Forestry team this financial year.

274. Blue Plaque application – St Mary Immaculate – following a discussion it was resolved to approve the application subject to planning permission being granted.

275. Community Grant Applications

The Gap - £5000 – approved to take to Full Council.

Kenilworth Helping hands - £750 – approved.

Racing Club Warwick MUGA - £500 – approved.

Racing Club Warwick £5,000 – application to be reviewed before submission to Full Council.

Second Warwick Sea Scouts - £1,500 – Cllr N Murphy to discuss application to bring back to our next meeting.

Citizen’s Advice – South Warwickshire - £5,000 – Cllr T Morris to discuss with applicant before submission to Full Council.

Unlocking Warwick - £600 – approved.

Fusiliers £500 plus – Bernie Allen to discuss with the applicant.

Heritage & Culture Warwickshire - £2,906 - – Bernie Allen to discuss with the applicant.

Signed..... Dated.....