



WARWICK TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN CLERK

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ECONOMIC & TOURISM COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 23rd APRIL 2026

PRESENT:

Councillor D Browne

Councillor Mrs K Dray

Councillor K Gorman (sub)

Councillor O Jacques

Councillor Mrs M Mangat

Councillor J Sinnott

Councillor P Wightman (Chair)

The Mayor (ex-officio)

TOWN CLERK Mrs J Topham

COOPTED MEMBERS:

Mrs K Bryan Chamber of Trade, Mrs E Healey Manager VIC, Alan Faulkner St Mary's Church, Liam Bartlett Warwick Castle, Lord Leycester Hospital. Mrs Kelly Scott Town Centre Manager. Mrs M Vincent Hill Close Gardens.

MINUTES

1.	<u>APOLOGIES:</u> Councillors D Browne, M Edwards & Mrs K Dray sent their apologies. It was resolved to accept them. Cllr Mrs M Mangat was absent. Mrs J Baldry B & B, T Williams Warwick Racecourse, Mrs Emma Andrews Warwick Museum, Mary Vincent Hill Close Gardens. Ms Jo Randall WDC Business Dev. Sent their apologies.
2.	<u>DECLARATION OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST:</u> None
3.	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES.</u> February 2026 1) The electronic parking signs advising you on the number of spaces available – update TCM. A survey is to be sent to confirm the businesses wish to have the signs removed. E T Minutes February 2026.docx Minutes attached for reference

4.	<u>TOWN CENTRE</u> – To RECEIVE and NOTE Reports from Kelly Scott Town Centre Manager TCM Report April 2026.docx proposal for chiltern CONFIDENTIAL.docx The report was summarised by Kelly, Match funding was required of £2,500 for the Tracks to Town project – all approved. Forthcoming events reviewed. St Georges is proving popular Teen market has been agreed for the 18th July 2026.
5.	<u>TOWN PROMOTION</u> Report from Ellen EMPR PR & Comms Consultant. To RECEIVE a written report. Eco Tourism Update April 2026.docx Copy of Warwick PR Report .xlsx The report was noted – no questions.
6.	<u>CHAMBER OF TRADE</u> - Report from Chair To RECEIVE a verbal report. Victorian Evening – update Date can't be changed for 2026 – dates being discussed for 2027. There will be a Victorian Evening meeting in July – Chair and Town Clerk will raise changes for 2027. Extra Christmas lights requested – Chair to email the Town Clerk exact locations. 29th April 6pm Racecourse AGM
7.	<u>VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE</u> – Report from Mrs E Healey To RECEIVE a written report. VIC Report to Economic and Tourism Committee 23 April 2026.docx Report was noted. Maintenance Operative successfully recruited. The Town Clerk advised that Liz had formally resigned and will be leaving on the 24th July 2026 after nearly 25 years service. Formal thanks given.
8.	<u>WARWICK TOWN VISION WORKSHOP</u> – Written progress report from Kelly Scott Town Centre Manager Vision Report April 26.docx Report was noted. Partnership group working well – projects reviewed. Good progression being made with the short term projects. Pop up shops will be held back as there are not sufficient empty shops. Youth Council are involved with board game project. Medium/longer term goals to be worked on in the near future.

9.	<u>GRANTS</u> To RECEIVE and APPROVE grant applications – see below, documents attached: • WHAS grant for £750 supported by Dave Skinner  2026 WHAS April 2026.pdf Cllr Skinner presented the application -Following a discussion, it was resolved to approve the application, the majority were in favour. • Warwick District foodbank contribution of £5000 supported by Dave Skinner  Warwick District Foodbank - Contribution April 2026.pdf Cllr Skinner presented the application -Following a discussion, it was resolved to approve the application, the majority were in favour. • New life church, grant contribution to cooker and meals for £1890 supported by Jim Sinnott  NLC Cooker and Meals April 2026.pdf Cllr Sinnott - Following a discussion, it was resolved to approve the grant, the majority were in favour.
10.	<u>CO-OPTED MEMBERS</u> To RECEIVE verbal reports. <u>St Marys Church</u> Opening times changed for summer, number of services increasing. Peace Festival 8/9th May – Panel discussion and event in College Gardens. Youth Council have been involved and are encouraged to attend. A strong event which is hoped to be repeated annually. Beauchamp Chapel has a chargeable entry fee now. Market Place project – Antique centre will be used to provide a place for food plus hospitality training and shop. Advice and support centre. Details to acquire the property being finalised. Thanks given to the Town Centre Manager for her support. <u>Warwick Castle</u> Good start to the year. High volume pass strategy to support cost of living crises has resulted with Easter bringing 5-6K people per day. Concerts have changed due to costs and complaints so big concerts not happening this year. Comedy in Castle in May. Viking show being held in May – Summer when Jousting will come back. Liam is going to be moving to a regional role a new General Manager will be recruited and be represented on this committee. Liam is now Chairman of Shakespeare’s England. An update will be given at the next meeting.

	<u>Warwick Museum:</u> Launch of the 'Warwick Castle Unboxed' exhibition took place at the end of March. Good media coverage locally and positive response from visitors. Associated programme of events talks and activities underway across the Market Hall, St Johns House and County Record Office. Coming up: Grit and Grace, Women of the Regency Era - Saturday 9th May - Courthouse. Tickets still available and a great range of speakers. St Johns Beer, Gin and Cider Fair - Saturday 16th May Launch of the Greville Family of Warwick Castle archive catalogue (held at Warwickshire County Record Office) - Weds 10 June at Warwick Castle. Civil War reenactment weekend at St Johns House - Saturday 8/Sunday 9 August <u>Warwick District Council</u> Update on Shakespeare's England The C&W Growth Hub has closed. WCC has launched its Warwickshire Business Growth Service and are working with D&Bs to provide business support.
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Signed..... **Dated**.....