



WARWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Court House
Jury Street
WARWICK
CV34 4EW

Tel: 01926 411694

Jayne Topham
Town Clerk

ECONOMIC & TOURISM COMMITTEE TUESDAY 25th APRIL 2023

Present:

Councillor N Butler

Councillor R Edgington (Chair)

Councillor J Tracey

Councillor S Cross

Councillor Mrs M A Grainger

Councillor Mrs L Butler (Sub)

Co-opted Members:

Mrs J Baldry B & B, Mrs S Butcher Chamber of Trade, Mrs E Healey Manager VIC, Tim Clarke St Mary's, Liam Bartlett Warwick Castle and Jo Randall WDC Events.

MINUTES

379. Apologies: The Mayor (ex-officio), Councillor J Darcy, Councillor R Eddy, Councillor O Jacques & Councillor Ms Mary Noone sent their apologies it was resolved to accept them.
Mr T Williams Warwick Racecourse & Mr Aaron Corsi WCC also sent their apologies.

380. Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests - None

381. Matters arising from previous minutes – St Mary's visitor information survey. Tim Clarke advised outline figures. The Town Council requested a repeat as the data is very useful.

382. Chamber of Trade -Sue Butcher Chair, advised that an AGM is being held 22nd May 2023. There are a few empty shops in Warwick – they welcome the Smith Street collective. Smith Street Party is being helped by the Chamber – WDC being asked about empty TSB building.
Chamber will talk to the Coach Companies about the package they are offering for Warwick. Thanks, given to Cllr R Edgington for his support over the last 4 years.
EMPR Strategy 2023/24 – Sue Butcher summarised plans. A review of strategy was requested for next meeting. (Appendix 1)

383. WDC Parking Fees and Charges 2023-4 – Neil Bridges Parking and Ranger Services WDC

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

384. Visitor Information Centre - Mrs L Healey reported – no questions. They are working on translating leaflets into the language for Ukraine. Educational visits reduced by 84%. Japanese Market disappeared. US market returning. In bound flights good due to the exchange rate. Gov. is reviewing the ability for foreign students to travel on ID rather than passports to encourage visits.
(Report attached)

385. Wayfinding project – Discuss funding to complete the project. – The Town Clerk Reiterated the Town Council's commitment to this project, the cost of this completion, being £135K. Grant funding is being applied for along with reserve funding from the Town Council and support from other local businesses. It is the intention to progress before costs increase.

386. Carbon Neutral- – Cllr O Jacques was absent – the committee agreed to commit to ensuring that any events/projects held under this committee were carbon neutral.

387. Christmas Lights contracts 2024-27 – review and approve contractor. Following a review of submissions it was resolved to remain with NS Booth for the next 3 years.

388. Co-opted Members to report

Warwick Castle Easter was disappointing due to the weather. Coaches are returning. Events selling well. International travel picking up. Accommodation bookings are coming in last minute. Hotel planned to open March 2024.

B & Bs Visitor numbers during the week are quieter as business travel has reduced. May and June is looking good.

WDC events Joint Economic Strategy comments are being analysed with a view to taking to cabinet in August 2023. Towns network event – focus is on empty shops. WDC team moving to Salisford in June 2023.

St Mary's New book launched 20th April 2023. 3 events scheduled to start the 900 celebrations. 1st July De Capo concert and 1st June Concert Darkside of the Moon. Liaison with the Lord Leycester and Warwick Arms during this period of celebration.

Councillor R Edgington gave thanks to the committee for their support in the last 4 years and wished the committee success for the future.

Signed.....

Dated.....