



WARWICK TOWN COUNCIL

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Jayne Topham
Town Clerk

ECONOMIC & TOURISM COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 18th FEBRUARY 2021.

Present:

Councillor M Ashford	Councillor PS Birdi
Councillor N Butler	Councillor S Cross
Councillor J Darcy	Councillor R Eddy
Councillor R Edgington (Chair)	Councillor Ms Mary Noone
Councillor J Tracey	
The Mayor (ex-officio)	

Co-opted Members:

Mrs J Baldry, Mrs S Butcher, Mrs E Healey, Mrs C Hodgetts, Mr A. Klein. Mr L Bartlett Warwick Castle and Mr M Ferguson WDC Events.

Cllr Mrs MA Grainger and Cllr D Skinner were also in attendance.

MINUTES

202. Apologies - none

203. Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests -Cllr N Butler Folk Festival grant.

204. Minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2020

It was resolved to approve the minutes as a true record.

Cllr Skinner advised that he had been approached by a local Company RiVR, They ideally would like to make a virtual reality 'Tour' of all of old Warwick. The Company have asked if they can include a virtual tour of the Courthouse and if we could look into giving him permission and access to do so.

Link to a project carried out for the gadget show <https://youtu.be/Lmvtp1PVtPA>

Following a discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Skinner will respond to establish the next stage.

205. Folk Festival –issue £5k grant - plus update from Dick Dixon

Dick Dixon Festival Director shared a presentation and reviewed the new site for the Festival in 2021 in the field next to Warwick Castle. Some works need to be carried out on the site for which grants are being sort. The intention is to run a smaller festival this year, to trial the new site and subject to Government restrictions. The £5k grant, from the Town Council will be paid this month.

206. Clean Air Warwick – Cllr Birdi advised that the group have produced a Warwick Cycle Map with the help of residents and volunteers. They are looking to produce a simple A4 map of the new developments at Myton Green Area and how they can connect to the Town. A welcome pack for new residents in that area will have this map. The Town Council should get involved with this project.

Journeys to work and school both Myton School & Warwick School Foundation have carried out surveys to create initiatives to promote active travel. They are encouraging Coton End & Westgate Schools to get involved. They are looking at existing Park and Stride initiatives to reduce congestion, they are running a trial in the summer term. Funding for a cycle & pedestrian route, on the new spine road from Europa Way to Gallows Hill is being sort to reduce congestion. Funding may be an issue so support is being sort to back the initiative.

Buses – a service is needed for Warwick Gates area. Cost of providing the service was an issue, a grant has been obtained to run a pilot for a year. During the Summer period funding is being sort for free bus passes for under 19's.

Myton School is going to be monitoring air quality at the school.

Buses south of Warwick – funding being sort to pilot buses.

Cllr Birdi suggested that this committee considered inviting a member of this group to be co-opted onto this committee.

207. Chamber of Trade

#Buy in2 Warwick – Sue Butcher Chair Chamber of Trade advised that new website was being used successfully. Enjoy Warwick is no longer running. Membership of Chamber is increasing.

208. Visitor Information Centre

- (i) Manager Mrs L Healey to report – Appendix A
Adapt and diversity grant being applied for to carry out works in the Tourist Information Centre. Blue plaque walk work carried out being merged with Cllr Eddy's plans.
- (ii) Review usage/ review workshop – Cllr R Edgington advised that the grant, Liz refereed will enable the rotunda to be removed.
- (iii) Coventry City of Culture 2021 – Mrs L Healey reported she is liaising with organisers to be able to sell tickets for the event.

209. Grant application: Warwick Horticultural & Allotment Society - £1,440

It was resolved to approve the grant subject to the event being held with COVID restrictions.

210. Wayfinding project and grant – The Town Clerk advised that we will be receiving a grant

for £35K from WDC CIL monies. The grant should be received in early April 2021.

A project group will be set up to review signage to improve the visitor experience.

211. Commonwealth games 2022 – WDC have asked if we will support bunting costs, for this

event, next financial year 2022/23. It was resolved to appoint Cllr N Butler as a

Champion for the Town Council. A meeting will be organised and WDC representative

invited to future meetings.

212. Co-opted Members to report

Liam Bartlett, Warwick Castle advised that the Christmas period was good running up to Lockdown. The Castle remains closed. Essential works are being carried out during this time. Options to open with outdoor only events are available to them at an appropriate time. The Castle has been involved with a lot of on-line resources – education programmes for home schooling. Donating to local foodbanks, thanks given by the Mayor. They are lobbying to be considered to fall under the “Essential Retail” category for opening and for the VAT rate of 5% to be continued. Continuation of furlough schemes and business rate holidays.

The outdoor Kids trail is ready to be launched as soon as they open.

Two Castles run has been cancelled for 2021. Outside Music and Weddings have been effected.

Marcus Ferguson WDC Events – They have launched a new App. Better Point Scheme.

Running up to the Commonwealth games, to enable points to be gained for walking which can be redeemed at local shops with a discount. The scheme promotes leaving the car at home to reduce air pollution.

Janet Baldry Bed and Breakfasts – During lockdown she has been updating her Social Media with grants and attending training – She is looking forward to taking bookings again soon.

Andre Klein, Warwick Racecourse. All events have been postponed to later in the year.

Private races have been held. The site is being looked at to be a vaccination centre.

Caravan club closed in November 2020. Half Marathon was cancelled.

Andre is also working at Cheltenham – Tommy Williams is taking on more responsibilities for Warwick.

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