



## WARWICK TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN CLERK

Jayne Topham

Court House, Jury Street, Warwick CV34 4EW Tel: 01926 411694

Email: [jaynetopham@warwicktowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:jaynetopham@warwicktowncouncil.org.uk)

Website: <https://www.warwicktowncouncil.gov.uk/>

## ECONOMIC & TOURISM COMMITTEE

19<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**PRESENT:**

Councillor D Browne	Councillor Mrs K Dray
Councillor Ms 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 Present:**

Mrs J Baldry B & B, Mrs K Bryan Chamber of Trade, Mrs E Healey Manager VIC, Alan Faulkner St Mary's Church, Liam Bartlett Warwick Castle, Ms Jo Randall WDC Business Dev. Mrs Emma Andrews Warwick Museum, Jody McCarthy Lord Leycester Hospital. Mrs Kelly Scott Town Centre Manager.

## MINUTES

43.	<b>APOLOGIES:</b> Councillor M Edwards sent his apologies; it was resolved to accept them. T Williams Warwick Racecourse sent his apologies and a report.
44.	<b>DECLARATION OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST:</b> None
45.	<b>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES.</b> November 2025 1) The electronic parking signs advising you on the number of spaces available – update TCM. Kelly advised that she is creating a survey to provide information to WCC that the signs are no longer needed by local organisations/businesses. <a href="#">E T Minutes 2025 redacted.docx</a> Minutes attached for reference

46.	<p><b>TOWN CENTRE</b> – To RECEIVE and APPROVE Reports from Kelly Scott Town Centre Manager  <a href="#">TCM Report Feb 26.odt</a>  <a href="#">Flora Quote 2026- Warwick Town Centre.docx</a>  <a href="#">ET Finance update Feb 2026 (2).docx</a></p> <p>Kelly provided an overview of her report. There was an update to the bottle to bear costs, the St George’s day event and the Big Screen event.  The financial requests in association with events and projects outlined in the financial report and Warwick Flora Project 2026 for the enhancement of Warwick in Bloom. It was resolved to approve the requests unanimously.</p>
47.	<p><b>TOWN PROMOTION</b>  Report from Ellen EMPR PR &amp; Comms Consultant. To RECEIVE a written report.  <a href="#">EMPR E &amp; Tourism Update Feb 2026.docx</a>  The report was noted.</p>
48.	<p><b>CHAMBER OF TRADE</b> - Report from Chair  To RECEIVE a verbal report.  The Chair advised that a successful meeting was held at the Castle in January.  A WhatsApp group is being set up for members. Membership is now paid monthly.  Members are being encouraged to stay open later for the St George’s day event.  The AGM will be held on the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026.</p>
49.	<p><b>VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE</b> – Report from Mrs E Healey  To RECEIVE a written report.  <a href="#">Report to Economic and Tourism Committee .docx</a>  <a href="#">Visit Warwick Stats Report to E T Feb 2026.docx</a>  There were no questions around information shared in the report. Liz added that they were busy planning ahead for the year. They will have an Easter Trail. The repair café goes from strength to strength.</p>
50.	<p><b>WARWICK TOWN VISION WORKSHOP</b> – Written progress report from Kelly Scott Town Centre Manager  <a href="#">Vision Report Feb 26.docx</a>  <a href="#">Terms of Reference for the Board (2).docx</a>  Terms of Reference - There was a slight change with the removal of the wording local lobbying. The terms of reference were then approved unanimously.</p>
51.	<p><b>FOLK FESTIVAL 2025</b> Economic Impact Report – for information  <a href="#">WFF 2025 Economic Impact Report.docx</a>  The report was noted.</p>
52.	<p><b>VICTORIAN EVENING</b> – review report from WDC. – review of follow up meeting from the Town Clerk  <a href="#">Review Victorian evening date change 29.01.26.pdf</a>  The report was noted. It was disappointing that the changes could not be made for 2026. There was a view that the request has been dismissed and the consultation was not wide enough. The Chamber of Trade will pick up the proposal and speak to members.</p>
53.	<p><b>SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY</b>. REVIEW and APPROVE recommendations for additional feature.  <a href="#">SBS Snow Globe.docx</a>  <a href="#">Risk Assessment Small Business Saturday 5.12.26.docx</a></p>

	It was resolved to approve the recommendations to purchase the Snow Globe. All were in favour.
54.	<p><b><u>CO-OPTED MEMBERS</u></b></p> <p>To RECEIVE verbal reports.</p> <p><u>Warwick Racecourse</u> – Warwick half marathon was at the start of February; they had the highest number of runners and spectators. Racing starts tomorrow with strong ticket sales for half term.</p> <p><u>Lord Leycester</u> – They are holding the Beer Festival this weekend with the Court Leet. They are welcoming the new Master and a new brother in March. 2026 sees the focus being footfall, smart talks and workshops. They will be holding an Easter Trail. There will be a rotation of displays. They reopen on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026.</p> <p><u>WCC Museums</u>. They have had steady visitor numbers in the start of 2026. Roof works on the Market Hall Museum have been delayed. Warwick Castle unboxed opens the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of March. This links the Greville family to the town. 18 businesses have signed up to the Event Town Trail. This is a free family trail which will drive footfall, linking stories of the town to the exhibition. The Visitor Information Centre is hosting. This will be launched in June ready for the summer holidays. St John’s museum is holding a Civic War reenactment. There will be an exhibition regarding Regency Women at the Court House.</p> <p><u>Warwick Castle</u> This has been their quieter trading period. February half term was wet and windy. They have a typical year ahead. There will be 3 small concerts in the Courtyard at the end of August 2026. Changemakers event will be returning. £600K restoration project being started to repair and repoint stonework will start this year.</p> <p><u>St Mary’s Church</u> The concerts in St Mary’s will continue. Sunday service attendance has increased by 47%. A peace festival is being planned for May. They are currently looking for premises in Warwick for a social impact centre and community hub. They will be holding a teddy bear drop from the top of the tower for children. The dog show will return next year. The candlelight concerts will also continue. An update of Vision 2030 was shared. New website has been launched.</p> <p><u>WDC</u> – Jo Randall reported that they were organising a visit to Rugby to learn about how the Borough Council were dealing with long standing empty shops. Concerns were raised regarding 16-18 High Street. Kelly suggested areas that enforcement could look at. There were 2 WDC business premises coming up for rent. There has been a lot of interest shown.</p> <p><u>B &amp; Bs</u> December 2025 was busy. January very slow. The Half Marathon and Races improved visitor numbers. Warwick Arms was proving very competitive. Half term was busy guests were impressed with the Market Hall museum and the Castle.</p>

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