



WARWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Court House
Jury Street
WARWICK
CV34 4EW
Tel: 01926 411694

Jayne Topham
Town Clerk

ECONOMIC & TOURISM COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 16th AUGUST 2018

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Councillor M Ashford
Councillor P S Birdi
Councillor Mrs L Bolton
Councillor S Cross
Councillor Mrs D DaCruz
Councillor R Edgington (Chair)
Councillor G Guest
Councillor J Holland
Councillor N Murphy

Co-opted Members:

L Bartlett, Mrs S Butcher, Mrs E Healey, A Klien

110. Apologies – The Mayor

It was resolved to accept the apologies made.

111. Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

None.

112. To elect a Deputy Chairman for the Municipal Year 2018/2019

Cllr PS Birdi was nominated to be Deputy Chair of this committee. All agreed.

113. Minutes of the meeting held on 4th June 2018 – It was resolved to approve the minutes as a true record.

114. Town Centre Management

Discuss any issues raised.

- 1) The poor state of the entrance to the railway station was discussed. It was agreed for the Town Clerk to write to the Friends group and also Network rail/Chilton Railways to gain improvement. – Cllr Mrs M A Grainger is determining who owns the land before the TC writes. A discussion was held around the finger posts – some have been repainted

and some removed for restoration – The Town Clerk will contact WDC for an update. – The finger post was knocked down and it is being assessed to see if it can be repaired – TC will report at next meeting.

- 2) Commercial waste – concern was raised by the quantity of commercial waste being left in the streets – it was considered to be a fire risk and health hazard. The Town Clerk will write to Environmental Health to ask for their code of conduct and report back. Environmental Health do not have any code of conduct the TC is awaiting a response.
- 3) Bins outside of Costa – the bins are continually being left half way across the pavement causing a hazard. The Manager has been written to, but staff change frequently – The Town Clerk will speak to the current Store Manager to ask for a staff notice to be placed to ensure bins are put back against the wall in future. TC has given her contact details to Managers at Costa as they are being told by the DCA not to put their bins back against the wall. TC advised to ask the DCA to contact her if this happens again.
- 4) Parking notices were incorrect during the recent Food Festival. Sue is liaising with WDC events team to ensure this doesn't happen again in the future. Sue has advised the Events team.
- 5) Bins at St Johns continue to be an “eyesore” – this was raised during the Ward Walk. Cllr J Holland offered support to Martyn Stacey as the time unfortunately this has not been followed through due to absence from work. The Town Clerk will write to Environmental Health to try to find a solution. TC has not had a response and will liaise with Cllr Mrs MA Grainger to reach a resolution and report back.

Grit bins – it was felt that placing a grit bin at the bottom of Smith Street and also in New Street would assist with concerns raised last winter. Budget to be confirmed at Finance and policy.

Chamber of trade are holding an open meeting in October to advise retailers on Cybercrime. Plans for Victorian Evening are underway.

The Chamber are concerned that they are no longer consulted prior to road closures or changes with Highways – TC to speak to Highways to encourage consultation with the Chamber and the Town.

Sue Butcher will share a link, with the TIC, to a survey carried on disabled access in the town.

115. Car Parking charges – update on new technology – discuss concerns/ideas – Zoe Court WDC

Zoe gave Councillors an informative overview of the changes planned with WDC car parks. There are no planned increases for the forthcoming year. Including remote payments. New payment machines are being installed to allow card payments and also for WDC to make offers on parking prices across the town. West Rock will be closed for 10 days for resurfacing and relining this is likely to take place in October this year. Linen Street is being assessed structurally in August 2018.

Electric charges points – there will be 4 in Warwick – locations to be confirmed. There is one at the racecourse at the moment.

Zoe was asked several questions including the impact of the road infrastructure, evening parking charges, assistance in getting the signage improved for the Barrack Street car park the TC has invited Zoe to come back to a later meeting to update Councillors.

116. Christmas Campaign – Cllr R Edgington has met with the Chamber of trade to instigate a

campaign to promote shopping in Warwick running up to this Christmas. Councillors were asked to email Cllr Edgington ideas and also thoughts on a strap line for the campaign.

117. Change of removing plastic by 2020 – Several Councillors and two members of the Chamber will meet to review a campaign. There will also be a representative from the Racecourse and a member from Surfers against sewage. The TC will set up the initial meeting.

118. Visitor Information Centre

(i) Manager Mrs L Healey to report (see Appendix 1)

(ii) Ambassadors.

The Ambassadors Grace and Harry attended the meeting they fed back their experiences in the role. They were appointed in July and will be in post to early September 2018.

A discussion was held about the positive impact their appointment had had on the town. Funding for the project was gained from WDC by Cllr Edgington and a review will be made to determining repeating the initiative next year and how this could be funded.

LH will bring proposals to the next meeting.

The race course reported a successful year. They have experienced a spate of vandalism and antisocial behaviour. Over 100,000 have attended events at the racecourse this year. A new event has been added for next season. With the changes at St Mary's lands they are seeing more families using the cycle paths.

The castle has seen reduced visitor numbers for the first half of the year. There has been a dip in International visitors, which has also affected our TICs footfall and sale of castle tickets. They have also had issues with vandalism.

The weather has also been a contributing factor. The new Dragon Slayer event has been a big success and is sold out. Glamping is also seeing success and the numbers of visitors over the last two weeks are showing a positive sign.

119. Grant request.

Leamington Music £1,500

Da Cap Chamber Choir £750

Warwick Poppies £300

Following a debate around repeat grant applications it was resolved to approve the grants as stated. TC will ensure that addition funding for the Da Cap Chamber choir is secured before monies are released.

120. Review Co-opted Member- reviewed is was resolved to retain the same members.

TC to speak to Hill close Gardens, Lord Leycester Hospital, Saltisford Canal Trust and St Mary's about dropping in to attend these meetings.

Signed..... Date.....