



WARWICK TOWN COUNCIL

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WARWICK
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Jayne Topham
Town Clerk

ECONOMIC & TOURISM COMMITTEE

MINUTES

23rd JUNE 2020

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 M Noone
Councillor J Tracey

Co-opted Members:

L Bartlett (Warwick Castle), Mrs E Healey (Warwick Tourist Information Centre),
Mrs C Hodgetts (Warwick Society), Janet Baldry (B & B).

Also, attending Cllr Mrs MA Grainger.

402. Apologies: The Mayor, Sue Butcher, Marcus Ferguson and Andre Klein.

It was resolved to accept their apologies.

403. Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests. Cllr Birdi – item 4 – he is on the committee.

404. Minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2020

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

405. Clean air Warwick – introduction to project – representation from group.

Cllr PS Birdi introduced Jon Grey. Jon kindly agreed to attend the meeting to advise Councillors of the groups aims.

Clean Air Warwick has been formed to focus on promoting actions that will improve air

quality in Warwick to make residents' lives better. There was a discussion about timescales with Covid restrictions and also the cost of bus travel. Some very good points were raised. Cllr Birdi will represent the Town Council at future meetings and will give an update at this committee's meeting in September 2020.

406. Town Centre Management – Cllr Edgington advised that a meeting was deferred due to “Lockdown” – he has asked for a meeting to include Warwick County Council due to the issues raised following the road closures.

407. Chamber of Trade update – The Chair of the Chamber of trade was unable to attend but sent an update.

Buy in2 Warwick: Progress had started on new website. This has slowed due to Covid 19 but we are looking to accelerate that soon.

Vision for Warwick: Original proposal for this has had to be put on hold due to Covid. We recognise we need something more immediate to help kick start the towns economy hence the grant application.

Plastic Free Warwick. I had a conversation with Jane Sault and was about to arrange a meeting when lockdown happened. I will be looking to resurrect that soon.

Clean up Britain: Ditto above. We would like to have a councillor get involved with this and act as a champion. The appointment of Champion will be deferred to September's meeting.

We also have spent a lot of time trying to influence and respond to the WCC proposals on reallocating road space. It has been very frustrating and time consuming. One success was that Chamber asked for access to Barrack Street and Cape Road Car parks and this has been agreed.

408. Visitors Information Centre

- (i) Manager Mrs E Healey reported – (appendix 1)
- (ii) Review usage/ review workshop – Cllr R Edgington has deferred this to the September meeting.

409. Grant – supporting Warwick Town and its businesses - £3k – The Chairman gave a background to the grant application. The Chamber are looking for an agreement in principle. Quotes will then be obtained, and firm figures agreed, with the Chair of E & T and C & C, before any funding is released. The project was seen to be very important, in the current climate, and all agreed to approve.

410. Reports from Co-opted Members

Warwick Castle – Due to Covid - The Castle were closed for 82 days. The grounds and gardens have been open for the last two weeks, booking in advance. Visitor numbers are only 20% of normal volume. The Lodges will open in July – glamping has been cancelled this year. The Castle will be only taking advance bookings in future, on the gate ticket sales will no

longer be available.

There will be no Jousting this year, due to restrictions. The Falcon display will continue. The Digbeth Dinning Club are offering to support local bars/restaurants, who are restricted for space in the current climate. They will organise for an event for them at the Castle for a fee.

The Bed and Breakfast business are looking to open in July. New processes are being put in place to ensure safety.

Warwick Society will be carrying out Guided Walks in September for Heritage Open Day – information can be obtained from the Tourist Information Centre.

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