



## WARWICK TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN CLERK

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## ECONOMIC & TOURISM COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2026

### **PRESENT:**

Councillor D Browne

Councillor K Gorman (sub)

Councillor Mrs M Mangat

Councillor P Wightman (Chair)

The Mayor (ex-officio)

Councillor Mrs K Dray

Councillor O Jacques

Councillor J Sinnott

TOWN CLERK Mrs J Topham

### **COOPTED MEMBERS:**

Mrs K Bryan Chamber of Trade, Mrs E Healey Manager VIC, Alan Faulkner St Mary's Church, Liam Bartlett Warwick Castle, Lord Leycester Hospital. Mrs Kelly Scott Town Centre Manager. Mrs M Vincent Hill Close Gardens.

## MINUTES


1.	<p><b><u>APOLOGIES:</u></b> Councillors D Browne, M Edwards &amp; Mrs K Dray sent their apologies. It was resolved to accept them. Cllr Mrs M Mangat was absent.</p> <p>Mrs J Baldry B &amp; B, T Williams Warwick Racecourse, Mrs Emma Andrews Warwick Museum, Mary Vincent Hill Close Gardens. Ms Jo Randall WDC Business Dev. Sent their apologies.</p>
2.	<p><b><u>DECLARATION OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST:</u></b> None</p>
3.	<p><b><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES.</u></b> February 2026</p> <p>1) The electronic parking signs advising you on the number of spaces available – update TCM. A survey is to be sent to confirm the businesses wish to have the signs removed.</p> <p><a href="#">E T Minutes February 2026.docx</a></p> <p>Minutes attached for reference</p>

4.	<p><b><u>TOWN CENTRE</u></b> – To RECEIVE and NOTE Reports from Kelly Scott Town Centre Manager  <a href="#">TCM Report April 2026.docx</a>  <a href="#">proposal for chiltern CONFIDENTIAL.docx</a></p> <p>The report was summarised by Kelly, Match funding was required of £2,500 for the Tracks to Town project – all approved.  Forthcoming events reviewed. St Georges is proving popular  Teen market has been agreed for the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2026.</p>
5.	<p><b><u>TOWN PROMOTION</u></b>  Report from Ellen EMPR PR &amp; Comms Consultant. To RECEIVE a written report.  <a href="#">Eco Tourism Update April 2026.docx</a>  <a href="#">Copy of Warwick PR Report .xlsx</a></p> <p>The report was noted – no questions.</p>
6.	<p><b><u>CHAMBER OF TRADE</u></b> - Report from Chair  To RECEIVE a verbal report.  Victorian Evening – update Date can't be changed for 2026 – dates being discussed for 2027. There will be a Victorian Evening meeting in July – Chair and Town Clerk will raise changes for 2027. Extra Christmas lights requested – Chair to email the Town Clerk exact locations.</p> <p>29<sup>th</sup> April 6pm Racecourse AGM</p>
7.	<p><b><u>VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE</u></b> – Report from Mrs E Healey  To RECEIVE a written report.  <a href="#">VIC Report to Economic and Tourism Committee 23 April 2026.docx</a></p> <p>Report was noted. Maintenance Operative successfully recruited. The Town Clerk advised that Liz had formally resigned and will be leaving on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2026 after nearly 25 years service. Formal thanks given.</p>
8.	<p><b><u>WARWICK TOWN VISION WORKSHOP</u></b> – Written progress report from Kelly Scott Town Centre Manager  <a href="#">Vision Report April 26.docx</a></p> <p>Report was noted.</p> <p>Partnership group working well – projects reviewed.  Good progression being made with the short term projects. Pop up shops will be held back as there are not sufficient empty shops.</p> <p>Youth Council are involved with board game project.</p> <p>Medium/longer term goals to be worked on in the near future.</p>


9.

**GRANTS**

To RECEIVE and APPROVE grant applications – see below, documents attached:

- WHAS grant for £750 supported by Dave Skinner  
 [2026 WHAS April 2026.pdf](#)

Cllr Skinner presented the application -Following a discussion, it was resolved to approve the application, the majority were in favour.

- Warwick District foodbank contribution of £5000 supported by Dave Skinner  
 [Warwick District Foodbank - Contribution April 2026.pdf](#)

Cllr Skinner presented the application -Following a discussion, it was resolved to approve the application, the majority were in favour.

- New life church, grant contribution to cooker and meals for £1890 supported by Jim Sinnott  
 [NLC Cooker and Meals April 2026.pdf](#)

Cllr Sinnott - Following a discussion, it was resolved to approve the grant, the majority were in favour.

10.

**CO-OPTED MEMBERS**

To RECEIVE verbal reports.

St Marys Church

Opening times changed for summer, number of services increasing. Peace Festival 8/9<sup>th</sup> May – Panel discussion and event in College Gardens. Youth Council have been involved and are encouraged to attend. A strong event which is hoped to be repeated annually.

Beauchamp Chapel has a chargeable entry fee now.

Market Place project – Antique centre will be used to provide a place for food plus hospitality training and shop. Advice and support centre. Details to acquire the property being finalised. Thanks given to the Town Centre Manager for her support.

Warwick Castle

Good start to the year. High volume pass strategy to support cost of living crises has resulted with Easter bringing 5-6K people per day. Concerts have changed due to costs and complaints so big concerts not happening this year. Comedy in Castle in May. Viking show being held in May – Summer when Jousting will come back. Liam is going to be moving to a regional role a new General Manager will be recruited and be represented on this committee. Liam is now Chairman of Shakespeare’s England.

An update will be given at the next meeting.

Warwick Museum:

Launch of the 'Warwick Castle Unboxed' exhibition took place at the end of March. Good media coverage locally and positive response from visitors. Associated programme of events talks and activities underway across the Market Hall, St Johns House and County Record Office.

Coming up:

Grit and Grace, Women of the Regency Era - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May - Courthouse. Tickets still available and a great range of speakers.

St Johns Beer, Gin and Cider Fair - Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May

Launch of the Greville Family of Warwick Castle archive catalogue (held at Warwickshire County Record Office) - Weds 10 June at Warwick Castle.

Civil War reenactment weekend at St Johns House - Saturday 8/Sunday 9 August

Warwick District Council

Update on Shakespeare's England

The C&W Growth Hub has closed. WCC has launched its Warwickshire Business Growth Service and are working with D&Bs to provide business support.

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

DRAFT