37s WARWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Court House

Jury Street

WARWICK

CV34 4EW

Tel: 01926 411694

 Jayne Topham

 Town Clerk

**ECONOMIC & TOURISM COMMITTEE**

**THURSDAY 22nd JUNE 2023**.

**Present:**

Councillor D Browne Councillor Mrs K Dray

Councillor M Edwards Councillor Mrs M Mangat

Councillor D Skinner Councillor J Sullivan

Councillor P Wightman

The Mayor (ex-officio)

**Co-opted Members:**

Mrs J Baldry B & B, Mrs S Butcher Chamber of Trade, Mrs E Healey Manager VIC, Mr T Williams Warwick Racecourse. Representatives from St Mary’s, Liam Bartlett Warwick Castle and Jo Randall WDC Events.

**MINUTES**

**1. To elect a Chairman for the Municipal Year 2023/24**

Cllr P Wightman was nominated all were in favour there were no other nominations

 received.

**2. Apologies:** Cllr J Sinnott sent his apologies it was resolved to approve them.

 Mr Aaron Corsi WCC also sent his apologies.

**3. Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.** None

**4. To elect a Deputy Chairman for the Municipal Year 2023/24**

Cllr Mrs K Dray was nominated all were in favour there were no other nominations

 received.

**5. Matters arising from previous minutes** – Town Clerk reviewed the minutes.

 Chamber will talk to the Coach Companies about the package they are offering for

 Warwick. This action was carried forward.

 WDC empty shops Jo Randall to find out how many WDC own.

**6. Chamber of Trade** -Sue Butcher advised that the Chamber of Trade had held an AGM.

 There had been antisocial behaviour in Smith Street which she was having difficulty

 reporting the Town Clerk will send her details for the local PSCO. Smith Street party has been

 cancelled this year.

 **EMPR 2023/24 –** Sue Butcher referred to the report from Ellen which was circulated before

the meeting – there were no questions.

**7. Historic Warwick App** – Guy Stanton presented a new App he is looking to introduce.

 The idea was welcomed in principle.

Following a discussion, it was agreed to speak to WCC & Shakespeare’s England about their

 App/social media to avoid duplication.

**8. WDC Parking Fees and Charges 2023-4** – Neil Bridges Parking and Ranger Services WDC –

this item was deferred.

**9. Visitor Information Centre -** Manager Mrs L Healey’s report was reviewed. A question

was raised about finding the on-line shop via your phone. The website has since been

 amended. A discussion was held around footfall and the type of visitors coming to

 Warwick. Footfall figures presented – it was agreed to show the previous year as a

 comparison.

**10. Wayfinding project update** – The Town Clerk had circulated the design document

previously agreed. Whybrow Pedrola will present the next phase at the meeting in

 September. A discussion was held about the benefits for the town and the project is

 wholeheartedly supported by the local businesses.

**11.** **Grant application** – Warwick District Council - £4,000 – Following a discussion is was

resolved to approve the grant – to be ratified by Full Council.

**12. Co-opted Members to report**

**Warwick Racecourse** – the season has come to an end. Support has increased again a very

successful year.

**B & B** International tourism is slow. Bookings are steady. International visitors staying for one

night only – Janet will find out why.

**St Mary’s** The900 celebrations continue**.** A review of the type of visitor was made.

The Scaffolding on the tower is due to be removed in January 2024. Plans are

 starting to celebrate 550years of Beacham chapel in 2025.

**Warwick Castle** Trading is positive thanks to the May bank holidays**.** Concerts are booking

well. Accommodation bookings are really strong. Marketing Strategy

 changing moving away from TV advertising. NewHotel is likely to be

 completed in May 2024. Dragon Slayer returns in August 2023.

 **Jo Randall WDC**– reviewed the events being held in Warwick over the summer - What’s on

 guide available in the Tourist Information Centre.

 South Warwickshire Economic Development strategy is being worked on

 alongside the South Warwickshire Local plan. Consultation is currently

 being reviewed.

 Shakespeare’s England is being restructured joining up with Destination

 Coventry. Jo can report more at the next meeting.

Signed………………………………… Dated………………….