 WARWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Court House

Jury Street

WARWICK

CV34 4EW

Tel: 01926 411694

 Jayne Topham

 Town Clerk

 **ECONOMIC & TOURISM COMMITTEE**

 **16th NOVEMBER 2023**

**Present:**

Councillor D Browne Councillor Mrs K Dray

Councillor S Pargeter (sub)

Councillor J Sinnott Councillor D Skinner

Councillor P Wightman (Chair)

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. Tim Clarke St Mary’s, Mr Aaron Corsi WCC, and Jo Randall WDC Events.

**MINUTES**

**24. Apologies:** Councillor M Edwards, Councillor Mrs M Mangat & Councillor J Sullivan sent

their apologies it was resolved to accept them. Liam Bartlett Warwick Castle also sent his

 apologies

**25. Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.** Cllr S Pargeter and The Mayor

 declared an interest in item 31.

**26. Matters arising from previous minutes** – Town Clerk noted that the following item was to

 be carried forward.

 Comments were made about the electronic parking signs advising you on the number of

 spaces available – it was felt the numbers didn’t change – Aaron Corsi WCC will find out and

 report back.

**27. Chamber of Trade** -Sue Butcher Chair advised that they had a positive open meeting on the

4th October 2023. EMP presented. Their membership is growing. The Castle are hosting a

 follow up meeting on the 21st November. It is their intention to hold meetings for members

 4 times a year. Arrangement for Victorian evening were reviewed.

 **EMPR 2023/24 –** Sue Butcher Chair reviewed a report circulated to members. In addition

BBC Midlands Today are hosting their weather report from Warwick Market Square on

Victorian Evening – they are also inviting a speaker to their breakfast show to talk about

 Victorian Evening the next morning. Cosmopolitan magazine is running a feature on places

 to visit at Christmas including Warwick. Promotion for all ethnic backgrounds was asked

 for. This will be considered in future.

**28. Christmas Lights –** The proposal was reviewed; it was requested that the Town Clerk

ensured that CJ Events and Highways were happy with the location in the Market Square.

 The new lights will be installed in 2024. The proposal was approved subject to these

 points.

**29. Visitor Information Centre -** Mrs E Healey reviewed her report. There were no questions.

**30. Wayfinding project update** – The Town Clerk reviewed a working group meeting held the

previous week and the next steps.

**31. Grant applications:**

 **The Gap - £2,935 –** approved.

 **Priory Area Community - £1,270 –** following a discussion regarding lasting impact it was

approved.

 **2nd Warwick Sea Scouts** **-£2,922.40** the costs of some items had reduced and the grant

was approved at the reduced cost.

**32. Warwick Town Visioning Workshop** - update and next steps – Aaron Corsi Lead

 Commissioner Places Projects and Partnerships gave Councillors and update and reviewed

 the action plan. The intention is to run similar sessions involving residents within their

 wards and continue reporting through this committee. The end result will be a firm plan

 for Warwick.

**33. Beach for the Market Square next summer** – Discuss - Cllr Mrs K Dray led a discussion

about having a beach in the Market Square next summer. It was resolved to review the

 availability and costs and circulate for future discussion.

**34. Terms of Reference** – for discussion and approval – Cllr P Wightman reviewed the

document circulated. It was resolved to approve including St Marys as a Co-opt.

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

 **Racecourse - Hosted** Warwick Bonfire 6k people attended. Winter Festival was well

 supported local businesses were invited with complementary tickets. Future events include

 Christmas parties and New Years eve races which are selling well. Their new Weighing room

 featured on Midlands Today.

 **St Marys Church -** The new Vicar is expected at the end of March. They are running a

 competition to design a cover for the kneeing cushions around Beauchamp Chapel.

 The Town Council will promote on their social media.

 **B & Bs –** they were busy in October thanks to the 40% discount on entry to the Castle.

 November is also positive thanks to events at the NEC and Warwick Racecourse.

 More Australians and Americans are arriving. It was noted that the business market had

 declined.

**WDC events –** Tourist impact results were shared. Their team were involved in the road closures for Remembrance services around the district and the Christmas light switch ons.

Signed……………………………………………….. Dated……………………………………………….