

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **Tourism and Economy Committee** held on Monday 8th April 2019 at 8.00 pm in The Library, Hungerford

Present: Cllrs Crane, Chicken, Hawkins, Downe, Knight and Alford.
Also, Cllr Simpson and one member of the public.

The member of the public attended the meeting with concerns regarding the proposed Railway Station Car Park development and in particular the amount of traffic that would be generated down Station Road. He felt a possible solution would be to create a private entrance to the development further along Park Street. The committee noted his comments and advised him that approval for this development has recently been granted by WBC and the decision has been noted by the Environment & Planning committee. The member of the public was happy with this and left the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence** – None
2. **Declarations of interests** - None
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11th February 2019** – *Cllr Knight proposed acceptance of the minutes of 11th February 2019 as a true record, seconded by Cllr Chicken, one abstention, rest in favour.*
4. **Review current action plan assigned to the Committee** – This had been circulated and Cllrs advised there were no amendments to be made.
5. **Hungerford Trade Showcase 2019** – The date has been confirmed as Wednesday 16th October 2019 and will take place at the John O’Gaunt School. Cllr Crane has a meeting arranged with a representative of the school after Easter which Cllr Simpson will also attend. It was noted that the current Headteacher will be leaving the school at the end of this school year. Cllr Crane is adjusting the target audience this year to promote future employment opportunities across the board, not just for school students. He has received a positive response from 2 companies at Charnham Park. He feels last year’s event has stood us in good stead regarding organisation and procedures (e.g. Health & Safety). Cllrs would like to see the school take on more responsibility for the organisation of the event with involvement of the PSA. Cllrs agreed the following actions:
 - To clarify the objective for HTC
 - To check the date of the event and ensure it is on the same evening as the sixth form careers evening
 - To expand the event to other local schools and to draft a letter to these schools
 - To form a working party of councillors and to include the school in this.
6. **Welcome Signage** – The signs have been ordered. Cllr Crane has met with WBC about the siting of the welcome signs and locations are agreed.

7. Town Leaflet -

- **Update on meeting with Town Team** – At a recent meeting, the Chamber of Commerce decided that a subcommittee will look after the Town Team and town leaflet. The current idea is for a pop-up tourist information stand on the Town Hall steps on a Friday and Saturday.
 - **Update on ticket machines that are giving discounts to shops** – Confirmation has been received from WBC that the ticket machines have been converted back to a single ticket issue.
- 8. Great West Way Network** – The office has not yet received any copies of the annual magazine – Cllr Crane will chase. The visithungerford.com website is now up and running. Cllrs thought it was a very good first version with great photos and basic information. There was discussion about how far the committee want the website to go. Cllr Crane will investigate at the next GWW meeting as to how other members use their websites.
- 9. Update on Blue Plaque Scheme** – An email had been received from Hungerford Historical Association which was circulated to the committee. HHA have made some suggestions for possible locations and would be happy to be involved if the council decides to progress this. HHA wondered if the Town and Manor trustees would be interested in the scheme and if a joint meeting would be a good idea. Cllrs Knight and Simpson will bring this matter up at their next meeting with Town and Manor.

Meeting closed 8.55pm