

APPENDIX 2: OVERVIEW OF TOURISM DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN WARWICK TOWN

Following a summer of activity in Warwick there is also much development being undertaken, or planned, in the town to enhance the tourism and hospitality offer to residents and visitors and the VIC plays an important part in the promotion of such attractions and events. The following is a list of some of the major developments:

- 1. The Lord Lycester Hospital** – is undergoing major capital works and improvements following a £4.5M investment including a £1.8M grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund. The grant will be used to transform The Lord Lycester into a modern, authentic visitor attraction and is due to open in Summer 2023.
- 2. Warwick Castle Hotel Development** – planning has been granted to Merlin Entertainment to extend the accommodation offering at Warwick Castle to develop a two storey, 60 bed ‘medieval-themed’ hotel in the main car park of The Castle. This will be in addition to the 28 wooden lodges, glamping tents and 2 ‘chambers’ within The Castle and thereby offering overnight and longer stay opportunities to visitors to enjoy Warwick Town and the wider area.
- 3. Collegiate St Mary’s Church-** restoration of St Mary’s Tower; celebration of 900th anniversary of the foundation of the college of St Mary in 2023 and the 550th anniversary of the consecration of the Beauchamp Chapel are significant events in the Church’s calendar to celebrate. The Church is marking the occasions in several ways including the launch of a published book ‘Faire and Goodly Built’ on 27 April 2023 and a series of seminars and musical events. St Mary’s is one of the country’s hidden treasures as it enshrines much of the history of England and is home to significant and beautiful medieval artefacts and architecture which are considered some of the finest examples in Europe.
- 4. Fusiliers Museum-** following grant funding the museum is moving from its current site to a new central location in Pageant House, Warwick.
- 5. St Mary’s Lands Masterplan** – plans to make best use of the land for recreation, biodiversity, and economic uses in line with the adoption of the masterplan are being developed alongside current uses and needs of tenants, community organisations, sports clubs, and residents. Many milestones have already been achieved with the development of a multi-use 2.5K perimeter track available on non-race days and the multi-use games area.
- 6. Railway Station improvements** – has seen extensive improvements which will continue next year with the installation of two lifts to make the station a welcoming and fully accessible entrance to the town.
- 7. Racecourse improvements** – new catering and conferencing facilities have been launched at the racecourse to offer a range of event options catering

for up to 160 delegates. The site also has plans for the development of a hotel offering additional overnight and longer stay accommodation for visitors to the venue, town, and wider district.