

Delegate Pack Warwickshire Towns Network Conference for 2023

Welcome to Warwickshire

What will you get out of this event?

An opportunity to meet other place practitioners and activists in a supportive and informative environment. Guest speakers will inject new ideas and flip thinking to energise placemaking in your town.

How can we support each other?

Our roles continue at a time where the cost of living is a factor for all of us, businesses, consumers, and residents. However, our towns have community assets of all types and each a unique place-based offer, whether its green spaces, business, or community action: we will explore, what makes a place vibrant and how we can do more with less. We will weave in a positive story of place, flipping the current narrative and think about the role each of us plays in creating vibrant places.



Foreword from Izzi Seccombe

“I am delighted to welcome you to this event, an opportunity to meet colleagues, businesses, and place makers, to explore ideas and consider approaches you might take to effect change in a supportive and informative environment. Guest speakers will inject innovative ideas and flip thinking to energise placemaking in your town.

Today is about how we can all come together and work for Warwickshire and offer support and leadership to enable positive engagement with our towns and villages and it is a chance to reflect on what Warwickshire offers as a place to live and a place to do business outside of our usual specialisms. I hope you have a brilliant day.”

Agenda

- 9:30 am arrival and networking
- 10:00 Welcome to the day
- 10:05 Scene setting with Ojay McDonald ATCM
- 10:15 Welcome to Warwickshire with Cllr Isobel Seccombe OBE
- 10:20 Change – it's happening! with Ojay McDonald
- 10:30 High Streets, evolving or dying? with Iain Nicholson
- 11:00 Break
- 11:15 Institute of Place Management with Joe Barratt working with young people and place positivity & intro to Place Leaders Programme
- 11:40 Urban and Civic - Joh introduces place creation for Houlton
- 12:00 Pride in Place Panel – meet people with experience in delivering and understanding place projects Q & A to include place sentiment, the power of place based and working with young people.PR
- 12:30 – lunch and networking
- 13:30 – Welcome back with Ojay
- 13:35 Workshop with New Local – How does community power contribute to thriving towns and place
- 14:10 – Comfort break
- 14:45 - Elevator pitches - skills, transport, tourism and local food and drink
- 15:15 – Takeaway points and summary via Menti board
- 15:30 – networking and close.

Meet the speakers

Name	Organisation	Further reading
Ojay McDonald	Association of Town and City Managers	Meet Ojay here
CLlr Isobel Seccombe OBE Stour and Vale	Warwickshire County Council	Meet Izzi here
Iain Nicholson	PRBI	Meet Iain here
Joe Barratt	Institute of Place Management Manchester Metropolitan University	Meet Joe here
Johanne Thomas	Urban and Civic Houlton	Meet Joh here
Nicola Steur New Local	A workshop on asset-based approaches in place	Meet Nicola here

Pride in Place Panel – chaired by Ojay McDonald

There is already some great stuff happening in our towns and the Warwickshire Towns network team have already delivered several creative projects will tell a story of place. Along the way, we have met some great people who have inspired us, either as project partners or people that are already out there making things happen in our towns.

The pride in place panel is your chance to learn a little bit more about their approach and a chance to ask questions so we can understand what are the things that connect people to place and how we can deliver projects which create that sense of local pride which builds loyal connections to our high streets.



Pride in Place Panel		
Nikoleta Jones University of Warwick	Research and sustainability, how do you consider the things that matter in a world of commentary on public projects?	Meet Nikoleta Jones
Gary Chamberlain, Atherstone Partnership	Getting on with it and the power of art in the public realm	The Atherstone Partnership/
Kim Hulse, Visit Knowle	The importance of coordinating your message	Meet Kim Hulse
Red Isaac, Ruby Road	Working with young people and local story telling	Learn more about how Red engaged young people and considered accessibility in Stratford We Shadows
Shipston on Stour	Getting on with it Totally Locally and the power of a good tea towel!	Totally Locally Shipston

Afternoon Elevator Pitches

Who am I, what can I tell you, why this is important and how can I find out more?



Alex Holmes
Tourism

[Visit Warwickshire, who's it for and how can you get involved?](#)



Tim Snazell,
Cycling

[Cycle routes, cargo bikes, active travel – what's on in Warwickshire](#)



Fay Winterburn
Warwickshire Skills Hub

[What support is available for businesses to skill up and employ local people?](#)



Jonathan Smith
Foodie Awards

[Who are the key people in your place and what's the benefit of being involved?](#)



Sue Tonks
Federation of Small Businesses

Awards, events and how to get involved

<https://www.fsb.org.uk/>



Keely Hancox and Paul Jones
Chamber

What can chamber of commerce offer to support high streets and town centres?

<https://www.cw-chamber.co.uk/>

What's for lunch?

You will have been asked to provide any special dietary requirements at the time of booking and we will endeavour to keep the caterers in touch were special arrangements:

Meat

- Sesame sticky Meat
- chicken skewers (579 kcal per skewer)
- Homemade sausage rolls served warm (211 kcal per sausage roll)

Fish

- Tempura prawns with citrus mayonnaise (130 kcal)
- Vegetarian / Vegan
- Potato wedges with soft herb mayonnaise (V)
(140 kcal per 100g)
- Vegetable samosa with mango chutney (V)
(184 kcal per 100g)

Salads

Puy Lentil and Bean Salad

Finger Options

GF Moroccan Cauliflower Bites.

Talk up the Towns Features

WTN is proud of all the county towns and villages, their unique story and how they connect with residents. Knowing that there are difficult times on the high street doesn't mean we should focus on the negatives of place which risks exposing our places to a self-fulfilling prophecy. To take a fresh look at Warwickshire's places, Warwickshire Means Business, the business focussed monthly newsletter is hosting a new monthly feature all about place which has so far covered:

- [Rugby](#)
- [Southam](#)
- [Alcester](#)

Sign up to Warwickshire Means Business [here](#).

Further reading

Find out more about Warwickshire Towns Network

Warwickshire Towns Network brings together place practitioners to share best practice and offer practical place-based support through:

- Monthly newsletters
- Monthly meetings
- Regular town visits
- Project development support
- Problem solving
- Social media stories and connections
- Opportunities for short term projects which benefit place vitality.

To sign up for our newsletter or to get involved in the meetings, please email towns@warwickshire.gov.uk.

Event FAQs

Where do I park if arriving by car?

Please access Warwick Racecourse via Bread and Meat Close, taking an immediate left at the entrance and following the signage to the main car park in front of the hospitality suite.

Electric vehicle charging points

BP pulse is available at Warwick Racecourse, Hampton St, Warwick CV34 6HN

How accessible is the venue by train?

Arrive by train to Warwick town centre. The venue is approximately 20-minute walk from the station.

Event Accessibility

The venue is fully accessible with disabled toilet facilities and a lift. If you require any assistance, please let us know.

Stalls

You may be interested that we have invited several WCC service areas to join us to promote their latest schemes so you can make connections with new projects and meet the officers behind them.

These include:

- [Child Friendly Warwickshire](#)
- [Our Spaces](#)
- [Cycling in Warwickshire](#)
- [Heritage and Culture](#)
- Skills and business support.

Message to all delegates:

We hope you have a brilliant day, all that remains is a thank you from all of the WTN team for joining us today and for all that you do in Warwickshire's places.

Julia Aratoon, Aaron Corsi, Abi Culley and Audrey Brown (left to right)

