## MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 1ST JUNE 2026

**33. PRESENT –** Councillors P. Routledge (Mayor), J. Jervis (Deputy Mayor), I. Plant, G. Bentley, L. Bentley, S. Ellis, M. Downie, M. Wells, C. Richardson, S. Walley, D. Faulkner, V. Wheeldon, T. Durose, P. Jackson, P. Upton, T. Cann and D. Wilson.

**34. APOLOGIES –** Councillors K. Mills, A. Thomas, Z. Routledge and J Aberley.

**35. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor G. Bentley declared an interest in any Lengthsman agenda items.

**36. SECTION 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS**

None.

**37. STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE/SCC/SMDC/OTHER AUTHORITIES REPORT**

Sergeant John Edwards of Cheadle Police attended the meeting and engaged in an open discussion with Members regarding current issues and concerns within the town. The following matters were highlighted:

- **Speeding within the Town** – The introduction of Community Speed Watch was welcomed by Members. Cllr Wells requested further information regarding participation in the scheme, and Sergeant Edwards agreed to provide the relevant contact details.
- **Parking on the High Street** – Whilst acknowledged primarily as an enforcement matter for the District Council, Sergeant Edwards confirmed that the Police have powers to intervene where vehicles are causing an obstruction. Increased police presence on the High Street may also help deter motorists from parking in prohibited areas.
- **Sale of Age-Restricted Products** – Concerns were raised regarding the illegal sale of age-restricted items. Sergeant Edwards advised that recent joint operations with Trading Standards have resulted in improvements and that continued police visibility would assist further.
- **Youth Provision and Anti-Social Behaviour** – The potential establishment of a youth club was discussed as a means of engaging young people positively. Sergeant Edwards reported that levels of anti-social behaviour within Cheadle remain relatively low.
- **Electric Scooters and Electric Bikes** – Members raised concerns regarding the use of electric scooters and bikes. Sergeant Edwards confirmed that this remains an ongoing policing priority and encouraged residents to report incidents via the digital 101 reporting service.
- **Petrol Station Area** – The petrol station was identified as a potential hotspot for anti-social behaviour and would continue to be monitored by the Police.

Members thanked Sergeant Edwards for attending and for his continued support and engagement with the Council.

**38. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**39. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON MONDAY 18TH MAY 2026**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 18 May 2026 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record,

**40. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 18TH MAY 2026**

The Clerk noted amendments to Minutes 11, 14 and 15. Subject to these amendments being incorporated, the minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. with the exception of Minute 31.

The Clerk advised Members that additional information had been received from Staffordshire Moorlands District Council regarding the likely timescales and associated costs of undertaking a Community Governance Review. Members agreed that this new information had implications for the proposal and resolved to defer consideration of Minute 31 until the next meeting of the Full Council.

**41. TO REVIEW & ACCEPT THE INTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT**

The Internal Auditor's Report for 2025/26 was reviewed and accepted.

Members noted that several assertions had received a negative response, principally those relating to Assertion 10 concerning the use of.gov.uk email addresses, IT policies and website compliance requirements.

The Clerk reported that significant progress had already been made in addressing these matters. Councillors have now been issued with.gov.uk email addresses for official Council business, an IT Policy has been approved and adopted, and work continues with the Council's website provider to ensure full compliance with statutory requirements.

**42. TO APPROVE BY RESOLUTION OF THE FULL COUNCIL AND SIGN THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE 2025/2026**

That the Annual Governance Statement for 2025/26 be approved and signed.

Members noted that Assertion 4 would be answered "No" due to an issue arising during the migration of the Council website, which resulted in the temporary omission of information relating to the publication of electors' rights. Whilst the required notices were published within the statutory timeframe and were available on the previous website, the information was not transferred correctly to the new site.

The Clerk confirmed that all matters resulting in negative responses have now been addressed or are in the process of being addressed, and a supporting report detailing corrective actions would accompany the submission.

**43. TO APPROVE BY RESOLUTION OF THE FULL COUNCIL AND SIGN THE ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS/ANNUAL RETURN 2025/2026**

The accounting statements were reviewed and approved for 2025/2026.

**44. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION**

Cllr P. Upton provided Members with an overview of correspondence received from the Chief Executive of Staffordshire Moorlands District Council, Mr Andrew Stokes, regarding potential asset transfers under Local Government Reorganisation.

The correspondence indicated that the transfer of certain assets, including Cheadle Leisure Centre, Cheadle Car Parks and the Market Place, may not be considered feasible. Following a detailed discussion, Members resolved to submit formal Expressions of Interest for the following assets:

- Cheadle Leisure Centre
- Tape Street Car Park, including the Toilets
- Cheadle Market Place
- Churchill Road Recreation Ground

**45. COUNCILLOR .GOV.UK EMAIL ADDRESSES**

The Clerk reminded Members that Council business should now be conducted through their allocated.gov.uk email accounts.

Members who had not yet obtained their passwords were encouraged to do so following the meeting.

Cllr G. Bentley expressed reluctance to utilise the Council email account and requested that communications be provided verbally or in hard copy. The Clerk advised that guidance would be sought from the Internal Auditor, given the requirements of Assertion 10 and associated governance obligations.

**46. COUNCIL TO CONSIDER REQUEST TO USE TEAN ROAD RECREATION GROUND FOR ADULT SPORTS DAY**

This request was approved by members.

**47. COUNCIL TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SATURDAY MORNING RUGBY TOTS SESSIONS ON TEAN ROAD RECREATION GROUND**

This request was approved by members.

**48. COUNCIL TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM OUTSIDE ARTS FOR FLAG POLE LOCATIONS FOR PRIDE 2026 WEEKEND.**

It was agreed that the Town Council do not hold any suitable locations for the flag pole that would be central for the Town.

**49. COUNCIL TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM EVERYONE HEALTH TO USE TEAN ROAD RECREATION ON TUESDAY, 9TH JUNE 2026.**

This request was approved by members.

**50. UPDATE ON TEAN ROAD GATES**

The Clerk advised members that the Arch is now repaired and is awaiting further works to be shot blasted and parts to be galvanised, once completed will need to be painted which the Contractor will organised directly with Mr Jim Plant. The Clerk

confirmed that the approximate installation for reinstatement will be the 1st week in July. Any events during this period will be taken into consideration.

**51. REPORT ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Mayor, Cllr P Routledge advised members that Cheadle in Bloom carried out the planting day around Cheadle and thanked all Volunteers for their kind support and efforts in making the Town look so

**52. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Town Mayor, Cllr Mr P Routledge, reminded members of the Spit Fire Event in the Town on Sunday 6th June 2026.

**Confidential**

**53. REPORT OF THE STAFFING COMMITTEE MINUTES 15TH APRIL 2026**

The minutes of the meeting of the Staffing Committee were accepted and approved as a true record of the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was brought to a close.

**Signed**……