**MINUTES OF THE CHEADLE TOWN COUNCIL BUISNESS, TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 23rd OCTOBER 2023 AT THE CHEADLE FIRE STATION AT 7PM.**

**398. PRESENT** – Councillors P. Keeling (Chair), G. Bentley (Vice Chair), C. Clark, B. Charlesworth, P. Routledge and Z. Routledge

**399. APOLOGIES** – Councillors J. Mason and Mrs V. O'Shea

**400. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –** None

**401. SECTION 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS –** None

**RESOLVED ITEMS**

**402. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MONDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2023**
The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted an accurate record.

**403. BTEC WORKING GROUPS – COUNCIL PROCEDURES**
The Chair confirmed that the Working Groups progress the agreed projects, and present them to the BTEC Committee prior to going to Full Council as a Committee motion.

**404. STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS HISTORY**
The Mayor of Leek, Cllr Matt Swindlehurst, was unable to make the meeting however he did provide details of an ongoing project within the Moorlands that would recognise the history of each town and its culture. This was welcomed as it runs alongside the BTEC project entitled 'Legends of Cheadle' and provides assurance that this area of business is co-ordinated across the local area.

**405. TREE PLANTING SMDC GRANT**
Cllr B. Charlesworth confirmed that the Deputy Clerk had provided the relevant financial information for the Application, and stated that it was ready for submission. The Chair also confirmed that areas of land within the town, including space off The Green in Cheadle were amongst discussion for planting and wild flower meadows. Cllr Charles worth to submit Application in due course.

**406. CHEADLE HIGH STREET LINE MARKINGS - UPDATE**
The majority of line markings in the High Street have now been replaced, however there are some ongoing discussions around designated 30 minute parking bays which would require applications to Staffordshire Highways for approval. If granted, these bays would run as a trial period of 12 months in order to establish whether they would be successful in support in local business. This would be reported on further at the next meeting.

**407. TOWN CENTRE EV CHARGING POINTS**
Cllr C. Clark reported that there were ongoing negotiations with the District Council in terms of the EV Charging points, whereby the quality of chargers was under debate. Cllr Clark stated that fast chargers would be preferred over the chargers that were being

proposed by SMDC Officials. He confirmed that three companies had been contacted for quotes, and that these would form a business plan to include fast chargers and a lease agreement that would see the Town Council benefit from any income generated through use. Cllr Clark confirmed that the business plan would be submitted in due course.

**408. NEWSPAPER ARTICLE ISSUES**

Cllr B. Charlesworth asked about press articles which he had produced in order to promote the BTEC Committee. The Clerk advised on the content of press articles and reminded Councillors that the integrity of the Council must be preserved when acting as a Council or Committee, however individual Councillors could comment freely within the press but must retain an individual responsibility for any slanderous or libelous challenges to their comments. It was agreed that the new Council website should be utilised more in respect of sharing information.

**409. ENJOY STAFFORDSHIRE – UPDATE ON CHEADLE BUSINESSES**

Chair, Cllr P. Keeling confirmed that representatives of Enjoy Staffordshire had been invited to come to Cheadle to encourage local businesses to register for the free advertising on the website.

**ITEMS CONSIDERED FOR RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL**

**None**

**ACTION PLAN – ITEMS FOR UPDATE AND PROGRESSION**

**410. EMPTY SHOPS IN CHEADLE HIGH STREET**

Cllr P. Routledge confirmed that a new Nursery had been announced in Tape Street, Cheadle which would replace the former Nursery and occupy a prominent building in the town. He also confirmed that the previously reported spaces were awaiting contact details and that this would be reported on further in the New Year.

**411. PRIVATE CAR BOOT SALE UPDATE**

Cllr G. Bentley stated that efforts had been made to secure a full-time Car Boot sale, and that this would be provided under a private enterprise. As this was not a Council event, there would be no requirement to include the item on future Agenda's other than any relevant updates in terms of Tourism.

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

**Signed**…….