MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2026

453. PRESENT – Councillors I. Plant (Deputy Mayor), G. Bentley, S. Ellis, D. Faulkner, J. Jervis, P. Jackson, Miss Z. Routledge, P. Routledge, A. Thomas, Mrs P. Upton, Mrs S. Walley, Ms V. Wheeldon and D. Wilson.

454. APOLOGIES – Councillors Mrs K. Mills (Mayor), J Aberley, Ms M. Wells and C. Richardson.

455. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs I. Plant and Ms. V. Wheeldon recorded an interest in any planning matters as they are Members of the Planning Applications Committee at SMDC.

456. SECTION 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS

None.

457. STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE/SCC/SMDC/OTHER AUTHORITIES REPORT

Cllr G. Bentley stated that the County Council had released some funding for highways, and encouraged Councillors to report any defects via the online reporting platform. This included potholes and any grids that were missing or unserviceable.

Cllr A. Thomas asked for an update in relation to the proposed school on the North-East Ward. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Jane Cole at Staffordshire County Council for an update.

458. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

459. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5th JANUARY 2026

The minutes of the meeting of the Full Council were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

460. REPORT OF THE FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE FROM MONDAY 12th JANUARY 2026

All items on the report were accepted and approval was given to all items recommended by the Committee.

461. REPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE FROM MONDAY 19th JANUARY 2026

All items on the report were accepted and approval was given to all items recommended by the Committee.

462. REPORT OF THE LEISURE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE FROM MONDAY 19th JANUARY 2026

All items on the report were accepted and approval was given to all items recommended by the Committee, however item 433 was moved to Confidential Items for discussion as it related to an ongoing matter that carried financial and contractual implications for the Council.

463. CO-OPTION TO THE CHEADLE TOWN COUNCIL – COUNCIL TO CO-OPT FOR THREE VACANCIES

The Clerk advised Council that there were six Candidates who had qualified for consideration, and that there were three vacancies to fill covering the North-East, South-East and West Wards. All Candidates had submitted 'Personal Statements' to Council before the meeting and these had been distributed to Councillors prior to the process. Four of the Candidates were present at the meeting, and had the opportunity to speak and answer questions put to them by Councillors.
Following a ballot vote by Councillors who were present, Mark Downie, Tom Cann and Tony Durose were duly Co-Opted onto Cheadle Town Council.

464. DRAFT BUDGET 2026/2027 – SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL OF FULL COUNCIL

Following an extensive update by the Deputy Clerk and the Chair of Finance & Resources, Cllr Ms V. Wheeldon, the Budget for the period 2026/27 was approved by Council.

465. THE LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME – COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ACCREDITATION.

It was agreed that Council should strive to achieve this award, and that Cllr Mrs P. Upton and the Clerk would look to progress this before reporting back to Council in due course.

466. TOWN COUNCIL LOGO – COUNCIUL TO CONSIDER REQUIREMENT FOR UPGRADE.

This item was deferred in the absence of Cllr Mills, who had bought the Motion forward.

467. FUNDRAISING CYCLE RIDE – APPROVAL OF DONATION

This matter was discussed with the Clerk informing Council that local Parishioner, Gary Wheawall, was doing a cycle ride to France in order to raise funds for an additional Defibrillator in Wedgwood Road, Cheadle. It was confirmed that whilst Cheadle Town Council could not consider a grant to an individual, there were other options available to Council in terms of supporting the event financially, and that individual donations from Councillors could also be made to the event. It was agreed to invite Mr, Wheawall to the next meeting.

468. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION – UPDATES/MEETINGS

It was reported by the Locality Champion, Cllr I. Plant, that the District Council had released a Community Asset Transfer Policy and that this would be distributed to all Councillors in due course. Further updates on the progress of the Cheadle Market and Leisure Centre would be issued once known, and it was confirmed that a meeting with the Chief Executive in terms of Asset Transfers would be taking place in the coming weeks.

469. REPORT ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr Mrs P. Upton reported that she had been asked by the Guildhall Committee to pass on its thanks to the Town Council for the approved grant, which had been used to make the necessary repairs to furniture and other areas of the hall.

470. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

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

Signed……