MINUTES OF THE CHEADLE TOWN COUNCIL LEISURE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16th MARCH 2026

542. PRESENT – Councillors I.W. Plant (Chair), Mrs P. Upton (Vice Chair), S. Ellis, P. Routledge, Miss Z. Routledge, J. Jervis, Mrs K. Mills, D. Faulkner

543. APOLOGIES – Councillors T.Cann, M. Downie and T. Durose, D. Wilson, Mrs S. Walley and C. Richardson.

544. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

545. SECTION 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS - None

546. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF MONDAY 16th FEBRUARY 2026

Approved and confirmed as a correct record of the meeting.

547. COMMUNITY REASSURANCE UPDATE – IF ANY

There was no report received from Community Reassurance. The Deputy Clerk informed Members that an arson incident had occurred in a peripheral area, which had been reported to the police for investigation.

548. ASSET TRACKER UPDATE

The tracker actions which the Committee are working on

- Footpaths – Cemetery, bowling pavilion – pending quotes
- Wooden Play Equipment Removal/Replacement – Equipment has been removed and quotes are pending for replacement equipment specification approved. Once all quotes received, they will be reviewed
- at full Council and public engagement for feedback on the preferred equipment will be arranged.
- Skate Park Ground Works – The Deputy Clerk has chased the contractor for a commencement date.
- Ground works – Tean Road play areas quotes requested

549. CHEADLE TOWN COUNCIL ASSETS – MAINTENANCE PLANS & RISK ASSESSMENTS

No further updates were presented. The Committee agreed that this item should remain on the agenda for ongoing monitoring and review of progress.

550. PLAY EQUIPMENT – REMOVAL & REPLACEMENTS

Councillor I. Plant confirmed that the wooden play equipment identified as a risk during inspections had been removed. It was noted that funding is available through Section 106 agreements and approval was given to obtain quotations for replacement equipment. Councillor J. Jervis recommended that a public consultation exercise be undertaken once suitable options are available..

551. CHURCHILL ROAD PROJECT – UPDATE

Councillor I. Plant confirmed that the necessary documentation had been signed to approve the specifications for the Churchill Road Recreation Ground project. Members were advised that the project is being progressed with potential contractors and that fencing requirements are included within the scope of works.

552. SPECIFICATION FOR APPROVAL FOR CHURCHILL ROAD FENCING

It was confirmed that Councillor D. Faulkner had forwarded the fencing specification to Angela Dale. Councillor I. Plant will provide a list of potential contractors to ensure that the fencing works are incorporated into the overall project delivery.

553. SPECIFICATION FOR APPROVAL FOR TEAN ROAD TODDLER AREA

TThe Committee reviewed and approved the specification for the toddler area at Tean Road. It was noted that quotations are awaited and that public engagement will be undertaken to determine the preferred equipment provider. A report will then be submitted to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council to facilitate the release of funding.

554. UPDATE ON GREEN SPACE GRANT

Councillor Upton confirmed that funding had been secured. The Committee considered options for the style and colour of benches and agreed a preference for a steel overhang design. A maroon finish was preferred, although it was acknowledged that this may not be available, in which case black would be selected. Two locations for installation were identified within the play area.

555. DEFIBRILLATOR AT FREEHAY CROSSROADS POTENTIAL RELOCATION FOLLOWING FINANCE & RESOURCES MEETING

It was discussed at Finance & Resources Committee that the cost of the electricity charges was high and following this it was reported that the Queens Arms Pub had recently had defibrillator installed which is in very close proximity to the telephone box. It was suggested an agenda item be included at Leisure & operations to review if this would be better located elsewhere. It was agreed that there is no benefit in relocation of the debrillator.

556. COMMITTEE TO REVIEW PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS FOR JANUARY 2026

The Deputy Clerk advised the Committee of the following actions

Tean Road

- Zip Line – Hags are due to visit site at the end of March to review the equipment
- Tennis Court Post – This is damaged and requires repairs Deputy Clerk to arrange the appropriate repair in preparation for the season
- Accessible roundabout - Hags are due to visit site at the end of March to review the equipment
- Youth Shelter – Chase AES to confirm completed
- Skate Park – Works have been completed by Bencrete, and the second phase of works contractor has been chased for an ETA.
- Swing Saturn – Awaiting third quote for replacement will review at Aprils meeting
- Swing Saturn Ground works – Project under review for repair works
- Wetpour – Patch work repair quotes

Kenilworth & Churchill Road no actions required.

557. UPDATE ON CHEADLE CEMETERY EXTENTION

Cllr I Plant provided the committee with the update in relation to the planning conditions. The Staffordshire Wildlife Trust have rejected the BNG report and the HMMP report submitted and following this the Deputy Clerk and Cllr Plant meet via zoom with a representative to gain a clear picture the requirements they wish the Council to meet to discharge the condition. Following this the feedback received will be submitted to Hewitt & Carr to submit updated reports to accommodate the suggestions that the Council will need to be able to accomplish in the 30 year maintenance plan but a achieving a net gain BNG. The potential with a more rich species hedge row and a the introduction of bird and bat boxes should represent a net gain

558. TEAN ROAD CARPARK SPECIFICATION FOR FUNDING PROPOSALS

The Committee approved the specification for submission to SMDC to support funding considerations.

559. COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR LEGACY PLAN FOR SMDC ENGAGEMENT

The Committee considered potential initiatives for inclusion in the SMDC legacy plan. A proposal for town centre bunting infrastructure was suggested as a viable project to support community events and long-term town enhancement.

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

Signed…….