MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2026.

201. PRESENT – Councillors V. Wheeldon (Chair) S. Ellis, J. Jervis, P Upton A. Thomas, T. Cann and D. Faulkner

202. APOLOGIES – Councillor I. Plant and D. Wilson.

203. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – NONE

RESOLVED ITEMS

204. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF MONDAY 14th JULY 2026 –

The minutes were confirmed as correct and approved.

205. PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL SEPTEMBER 2026–

The payment for the elections was queried with SMDC but the response was the correct charge and no breakdown could be given. The Committee were disappointed with response but approved the payment.

Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
Salaries & Employment Liabiliti	Cheadle Town Council	Z	7,579.81		7,579.81
Cheadle West Ward By Election	SMDC	Z	9,199.49		9,199.49
Slabs for bench bases - Cemete	Travis Perkins	S	93.31	18.66	111.97
Safety Sign for Churchill Road	Woodward Printers	S	85.00	17.00	102.00
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Replacement Seat - Tean Road	Alliance Environmental Ser	S	677.08	135.42	812.50
Barrier Install at Churchill Road	Lee Trumble	S	350.00	70.00	420.00
Wooden Posts	W burton & Sons	S	31.00	6.20	37.20
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Window Cleaning	Libra Cleaning Services	Z	15.00		15.00
Maintenance Contract	Happy Pig Company	Z	1,137.00		1,137.00
Mayor Allowance	Cllr P Routledge	Z	12.25		12.25
Photocopier quarterly charges	Xerox	S	77.62	15.52	93.14
Office Cleaning	Happy Pig Company	Z	225.00		225.00
Enforcement Eviction Services	Clearway	S	2,470.00	494.00	2,964.00
Environmental Cleaning Service	Alliance Environmental Ser	S	264.58	52.92	317.50
Insurance Reclaim - Tean Road	Lee Trumble	S	7,975.00	1,595.00	9,570.00
	Total		**30,290.34**	**2,424.36**	**32,714.70**

RECOMMENDATIONS TO FULL COUNCIL

206. APPROVE THE BANK RECONCILIATION FOR JUNE 2026 – The bank reconciliation for was reviewed and accepted as a true record with the corresponding bank statements signed and approved. The Variance relates to petty cash and the Clerk is working on resolving the balance.

	Bank Reconciliation at 30/06/2026			
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2026			290,408.02
	ADD			
	Receipts 01/04/2026 - 30/06/2026			307,424.19
				597,832.21
	SUBTRACT			
	Payments 01/04/2026 - 30/06/2026			56,500.12
A	**Cash in Hand 30/06/2026** (per Cash Book)			**541,332.09**
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements			
	Petty Cash	30/06/2026	110.68	
	Business Money Manager	30/06/2026	542,704.17	
	Current Account	30/06/2026	2,500.00	
				545,314.85
	Less unpresented payments			3,961.60
				541,353.25
	Plus unpresented receipts			
B	**Adjusted Bank Balance**			**541,353.25**
	Error A does NOT equal B			
	ERROR IS	**£-21.16**		

207. PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS LIST REPORTS FOR JUNE 2026 – Reviewed & accepted reports as a true record, with a recommendation for Full Council to approve.

208. REVIEW OF BUDGET MONITORING YEAR TO DATE

The Clerk produced a brief budget summary of year to date spend and projects that there will be a small under spend, however there are various projects that the Council wish to deliver therefore close monitoring will be required.

2026/27 Budget Monitoring and Forecast Position

Overall Forecast

Current budget monitoring indicates a healthy overall position, with several underspends offsetting known overspends. Based on expenditure to date and forecast commitments, the Council is projected to end the financial year with a modest surplus position.

Key Forecasted Overspends

Budget Heading	Forecast Overspend (£)	Comments
Local Elections	5,199.49	Election costs exceed budget. £4,000 to be funded from reserves, leaving a net overspend of £1,199.49.
Training	823.00	CILCA qualification (£775) plus officer training requirements.
Gas / Electricity	761.98	Forecast based on expenditure trends to date.
Allotments	250.00	Additional road plainings required, subject to lease review.
SPCA Membership	255.18	Membership renewal higher than budget provision.
Accessible Picnic Bench	1,120.99	Unbudgeted expenditure.
Insurance	49.14	Premium slightly above budget.
Scribe Accounts	88.00	Increased annual subscription cost.

Total Forecast Overspends: £4,550.78

Key Forecasted Underspends

Budget Heading	Forecast Underspend (£)	Comments
Water Rates	2,500.00	No invoices received; significant underspend anticipated.
Employer Liabilities & Salaries	7,422.19	Forecast remains below approved budget despite pay increases and overtime.
Grants	5,000.00	Homelink funding not expected to be spent this year.
Christmas Lights	2,000.00	Expenditure forecast below budget allocation.
Lodge & Cemetery Rates	649.10	Final expenditure lower than budget.
IT Support	281.00	Forecast based on approved quotation.
Office Cleaning	168.00	Forecast based on average expenditure.
Telephone	230.23	Forecast below budget.
Stationery, Printing & Postage	144.34	Forecast below budget.
Other minor underspends	2,183.97	Across several budget headings.

Total Forecast Underspends: £20,577.83

Net Budget Position

Description	Amount (£)
Total Forecast Underspends	20,577.83
Less Forecast Overspends	(4,550.78)
Net Budget Surplus Available	**16,027.05**

Projected Commitments Before Year End

Project	Cost (£)
Reserve shortfall - current gate spend	3,398.77
Tean Road Gates (Jim Plant)	2,000.00
Tree Works (Kenilworth, Allotments & Survey Costs)	5,000.00
Tean Road Bollards	2,500.00
Churchill Road Gates Match Funding	1,500.00
Total Project Commitments	**14,398.77**

Forecast Year-End Position

Description	Amount (£)
Net Budget Surplus Available	16,027.05
Less Projected Project Costs	(14,398.77)
Forecast Year-End Surplus	**1,628.28**

Summary

The latest budget monitoring suggests that the Council is forecast to remain within its overall budget for 2026/27. Significant underspends in Water Rates (£2,500), Staffing (£7,422) and Grants (£5,000) help offset known pressures, particularly Local Elections, Training, and utility costs.

After allowing for anticipated year-end project commitments of £14,398.77, the Council is projected to achieve a year-end surplus of £1,628.28, subject to no significant additional expenditure arising before 31 March.

COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN

209. MID TO LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLANNING –

This will be reviewed once maintenance plans have been developed and will form the budget setting process later in the year and considerations will need to be given to LGR.

210. WEBSITE UPDATE

The Deputy Clerk has a scheduled meeting with the provider to review the required snagging works. The website working party is to hold a meeting with the provider before the end of September to finalise the website and the retainer arrangements.

211. PREPERATIONS FOR SETTING THE BUDGET 2027-2028 AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

The current spend was reviewed in depth and at the next meeting the budget will be reviewed for the forth coming year. Agenda items will be included on the Committees for submitting proposals and the long-term maintenance plans for sites will form part of the short term and long-term financial plans.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

212. CHURCHILL ROAD GATES CONSIDER QUOTES FOR GRANT APPLICATION

This item was deferred to Leisure & Operations to allow further time for the quotes requested following Full Council to be received.

213. TELEPHONE & BROADBAND CONTRACTS TO BE CONSDIERED

Cllr A Thomas will review with the Clerk and bring back to the next meeting.

214. COMMUNITY REASSURANCE CONTRACT A& BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Cllr V Wheeldon will investigate at SMDC to see what grant funding is available and report back at the next meeting. The requirements for the contract will be reviewed with L&O and the Community Reassurance Officer and the contact itself will be constructed in collaboration with Staffing Committee.

215. COMMITTEE TO RECONSIDER THE TREE SURVEY REMEDIAL WORKS QUOTE

The Committee reviewed the updated quoted and approved the approved Contractor to carry out the necessary maintenance works. The Clerk advised that she has chased for the other sites to have their surveys completed as soon as possible.

216. COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER COSTS FOR PAT TESTING

The Committee reviewed the costings received and the estimates calculated for the service and agreed to approved the £1.80 charge per item from LSAB which is competitive with local charges for the service. As the previous provider is no longer trading.

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

Signed…….