MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 5th JANUARY 2026

390. PRESENT – Councillors Mrs K. Mills (Mayor), S. Ellis, D. Faulkner, J. Jervis, Mrs P. Upton, D. Wilson, P. Jackson, J Aberley, Miss Z. Routledge and P. Routledge.

391. APOLOGIES – Councillors I. Plant (Deputy Mayor), Ms V. Wheeldon, Mrs S. Walley, Ms M. Wells, A. Thomas, C. Richardson and G. Bentley.

392. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None.

393. SECTION 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS
None.

394. STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE/SCC/SMDC/OTHER AUTHORITIES REPORT
PCSO Adrian Waters attended the meeting to provide a report on local policing, and stated that there had been an uplift in shoplifting offences in the town during recent weeks. He reassured Councillors that the offenders were known to Staffordshire Police, and were not from the Cheadle area. He confirmed that one of the identified offenders had been circulated as 'wanted'. PCSO Waters further confirmed that a man had been arrested in connection with the recent spike in vehicle crime in Cheadle.
On behalf of local policing, PCSO Waters asked Council to support their 'drop-in' events, which take place on a monthly basis at the Police Station. He stated that this allows officers the information needed to monitor and record ASB levels and address any concerns bought forward by local residents. PCSO Waters was thanked for his attendance.

395. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
None

396. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 1st DECEMBER 2025
The minutes of the meeting of the Full Council were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

397. REPORT OF THE FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE FROM MONDAY 8th DECEMBER 2025
All items on the report were accepted and approval was given to all items recommended by the Committee.

398. PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL
All payments were accepted and approval was given to all items for approval.

399. COUNCIL TO CONSIDER REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND TOURISM CONFERENCE AT UTTOXETER RACECOURSE 15TH JANUARY
Councillor P. Routledge was nominated to attend, and the £40 ticket fee was approved.

400. COUNCIL TO CONSIDER LIAISING WITH THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES FOR MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR LANDLORDS.

This item was deferred pending the availability of additional information.

401. COUNCIL TO APPROVE CHEADLE SPRING 5 2026 ON SUNDAY 29TH MARCH

This event was approved.

402. REVIEW OF DRAFT BUDGET

This matter was discussed with the Deputy Clerk and an update was given on the current position with the Budget for 2026/27. It was reported that Budget preparations were almost complete, and that the proposed increase in terms of precept was currently 8.81%. It was agreed that the Finance & Resources Committee would continue to work towards a successful budget, and that this would be presented to Council for approval at the meeting of the Full Council in February.

403. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION – UPDATES/MEETINGS

It was reported that there would be forthcoming meetings with the Locality Champion for Cheadle, and that the Clerk was attending a meeting with SMDC to clarify where the District Council policy on asset transference can be used to help Town and Parish Councils. This would be reported back to Council via a report following the meeting. It was agreed by Council that there should be a meeting in the very near future, and as soon as the information becomes available. Some Councillors felt that SMDC were supporting the proposed wider Authority, and that they were 'gift wrapping' Cheadle's assets and handing them to an unknown Authority who potentially would not represent the best interests of the town. The Clerk stated that he would report details of the meeting to Councillors, and that he would take the points raised to the meeting.

404. REPORT ON OUTSIDE BODIES

None

405. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor, Councillor Mrs K. Mills, confirmed that Council had received a resignation statement from Councillor P. Keeling. She stated that she had reluctantly accepted the resignation, however felt that Cllr Keeling had made a significant contribution to Council during his time and therefore thanked him for the work he had done during this time.

The Mayor thanked all those who had attended the Civic Carol Service in December, saying that the event had been a great success and had been well attended. The Mayor put on record her thanks to the St Giles The Abbot Church, and its staff, for hosting the event.

Cllr Mills confirmed that she had accepted a number of invitations at the beginning of 2026, and that she would report on these in due course.

The Mayor further confirmed that it was her intention to move forward with a number of projects during 2026, including some additional fundraising events at the Anchor pub in Tean and a golf competition which was scheduled for March.

Finally, Cllr Mills stated that she was very much looking forward to working with some of the local schools in Cheadle and that this would include some events in Council Chambers where children would be encouraged to debate topics and get a flavour of Council life.

The Mayor wished all Councillors a very happy New Year, and said that she hoped that Council could continue to make good progress in to 2026, including some very exciting projects for the Churchill Road Recreation Ground.

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

Signed……