

**Minutes of the Meeting of
PERTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Perton Civic Centre on
Monday 11th December 2006 @ 7:00pm**

Present A.K.James [Chairman]
Mrs. R. Heseltine [Vice Chairman]
D.J. Billson
Mrs P.Allen
Mrs. P.N. Pitt
Mrs. P.C.Bromley
C.J.Bromley
A.A. Bourke
R.J.Marshall
Mrs A.James
Mrs P.M.French
R.French

Members of the Public present : Three
Journalist from Wolverhampton Chronicle – Katy Muench
Neighbourhood Police – PC Frank Hossack & PCSO Rachel Street

145/07 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were offered and accepted from Mrs J.R.Williams, N.P.Caine and S.Bott.

146/07 **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

Mr Moore – 4 Cabot Grove, raised concerns regarding the state of the paths from the area of Leasowes through to Perton Centre and the lake area. Paths are waterlogged, wet and muddy and talks of plans to improve the paths over the last three years have yielded no actual results. Additionally the lighting in the area is poor and some lights are shaded by trees. Cllr Mrs P.Pitt added that the paths are a constant source of complaint from mothers with pushchairs particularly after rain when the surfaces are often under liquid mud. Cllr Mrs P.Allen said that the crushed brick paths should be tarmaced.

RESOLVED that the Clerk write to Barbara Juniper at SSDC to invite her to inspect the area.

Mrs Lyn Harris raised two concerns, firstly that a group of youths were constantly trying to knock in door gates and this had been reported to PC Frank Hossack and secondly that on the 'Buses only' route the post had been stuck in the up position for some five days. She stated that aside from the issue of access for buses she was concerned about access for emergency vehicles if needed quickly. There was some further discussion regarding bus drivers needing to exchange 'access fobs' rather than having one per bus. Cllr Mrs P.Allen said that traffic was often held up whilst bus drivers stopped to exchange barrier tokens and Mr F.O'Leary added that he had heard that the barrier can easily be jammed by children poking items into

the mechanism.

RESOLVED that PC Hossack will continue investigations in respect to the damage to gates and Cllr R.Marshall will investigate with Staffs CC Highways the reason behind the bus lane closure for five days.

147/07 **PARISH PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE – PRIZE DRAW**

All Parish Plan Questionnaires returned to us by 31st October and including contact details were made available for the draw which was made by Katy Muench from the Chronicle. The draw was as follows:

- 1st Prize: £200 – Awarded to Jill Bassett of Ayrton Close (0434)
- 2nd Prize: £100 – Awarded to the Butler family of Mere Oak Road (0436)
- 3rd Prize: £50 – Awarded to Ms N.Guest of Raglan Avenue (0340)
- 3rd Prize: £50 – Awarded to Miss A.M.Jennings of Auden Court (0336)
- 3rd Prize: £50 – Awarded to Mr & Mrs Bishop of Richmond Drive (0087)
- 3rd Prize: £50 – Awarded to J.Davies of Livingstone Avenue (0346)

All winners will be notified in writing during the current week.

148/07 **A) POLICE MATTERS**

POLICE REPORT

Reported Crime Figs- Police Report 14/11/2006 to 11/12/2006

Report for Perton covering the neighbourhoods

CF24 - Mercia

CF25 - Richmond

CF26 - Central area

CF27 - Leasowe

Violence Against Person	3	* See note 1
Criminal Damage	9	* See note 2
Burglary Dwelling	1	* See note 3
Robbery	1	* See note 4
Theft Other	1	* See note 5
Taking Vehicle Without Consent	1	* See note 6
Damage to Motor Vehicle	3	* See note 7
Vehicle Nuisance	2	* See note 8
Rowdy & Inconsiderate Behaviour	24	* See note 9
Burglary Other	1	* See note 10
Other General	1	* See note 11

1. Nuisance & Generally Anti-Social behaviour towards a member of staff @ Perton library on 24/11/06 is being investigated. 5 local juveniles have been arrested in connection with an assault outside Sainsburys on 5/12/06 which was captured on CCTV.

2. Criminal Damage repeat problems in Browning Grove with damage to fences and gates between 18.00 and midnight. A 10yr old from Billbrook has been

identified for spraying "snow spray" on Perton library.

3. 2/12/06 reported burglary in Gibson Road circumstances are believed to be very suspicious.
4. Robbery 14/11/06 Teenager and girlfriend have been set upon by a large number of youths wearing balaclavas, along the footpath between Spenser Avenue and Ennerdale Drive. The injured party received some bruising to his thigh following the theft of Sony Ericson mobile phone.
5. 18/11/06 Complaint of theft of mobile phone from a bag at the Wrottesley Arms.
6. Taking vehicle without consent. 5 juveniles, three local to the area, 2 from neighbouring Fordhouses and Clargate were arrested by West Midlands Police @ approx 04.30hrs on 09/12/06 in Wightwick Bank. Vehicle belonged to the mother of a 13yr old boy that had stolen the keys from his mothers' handbag. Three offenders charged and 2 have been given warnings/ reprimand.
7. Offences overnight Paxton Avenue, damage caused by a stone to a Mini Cooper 25/11/06. Tyre slashed on Ford Fiesta parked in a car park Wordsworth/Coleridge Drive 8/12/06.
8. Vehicle Nuisance 2 reports this month with one offence 27/11/06 in Gainsborough Drive and another one involving loud music on Sainsburys car park.
9. The problems remain in the central area with complaints from residents in Browning Grove relating to Gate & Fence kicking and egg throwing. Large numbers of youths have been congregating in the shopping centre. A new group of up and coming 10 - 12yr olds resident in Perton are persistently coming to police attention via CCTV and minor acts of damage and vandalism.
10. Perton Youth Club subject to yet another burglary overnight 23/11/06. Slight amount of damage caused internally and the contents of the tuck shop stolen.
11. Concerns have been expressed by the parents of a 17yr old girl walking along the footpath between Ennerdale Drive and Spenser Avenue @ approx 23.15hrs 27/11/06. She was frightened by the sudden appearance of a middle aged white male wearing a hood in the footpath immediately behind number 37 Spenser Avenue. No approach had been made when she ran off. Crime reduction will be expressing concerns with the County Council about the poor lighting conditions which are affecting public safety.

The Neighbourhood Policing Team wishes to take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful and very happy Christmas.

Frank Hossack - PC 3537
Rachael Street - PCSO 8862

Cllr A.Bourke stated that the current perception was that there now seems to be more gangs, their behaviour is more threatening and there are more violent incidents. PC Hossack replied that many of the problem kids are from out of the area and that the robbery incident was the first of this type for a long while. Cllr Mrs P.Allen expressed concern that many 10 – 12 year olds are on the streets without the knowledge and / or concern of their parents. Cllr A.Bourke asked what was the typical response from parents when approached about issues with their children. PC Hossack said that sadly many of them were not particularly concerned, additionally all the data collected goes on to the ASBO database. Cllr Mrs A.James asked if children responsible for the graffiti on Sainsburys wall

could be made to clear it off as was recently the case at Pattingham. Cllr Mrs P.Allen queried the situation regarding car nuisance on Perton. PC Hossack stated that there had recently been an issue with a young driver doing 'wheelies' at the Youth Club and having been warned previously under Section 59 the vehicle was confiscated under the same power.

B) Letter from Insp Pat Shannaghan received on 6th December 2006

RESOLVED that the Clerk write back to Insp Shannaghan to express the Councils support with regard to a 'Dispersal Order' and disappointment that they are not pursuing the Alcohol Ban. To be reviewed once the new PCSOs have had opportunity to generate some improvements.

PC 4259 Lampitt/ PC 3537 Hossack can be contacted for any enquiries or information on voicemail 08453 3031232 (04259 PC Lampitt) (03537 PC Hossack)

149/07 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr C.J.Bromley declared personal interest in cheque No 103262 to R.Weatherington and also a quote for the building work at the new bus shelter from the same source.

Cllr Mrs A.James declared personal interest in cheque No 103254 to Robins Nest. Cllr D.Billson declared personal interest in cheque No 103250 to Promarco Media. Cllrs Mrs A.James, Mrs P.Pitt and A.Bourke all expressed personal and prejudicial interest in the Planning Committee item concerning Bradshaws Farm Shop.

150/07 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the draft minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 13th November 2006 be confirmed as a true record and the Chairman of the Council duly signed them.

RESOLVED that the draft minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on 6th November 2006 be confirmed as a true record and the Council accepted them.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 9th November 2006 together with the Income Statement from April to November 2006 be confirmed as a true record and the Council accepted them.

151/07 **DEFIBRILLATOR - UPDATE**

The Council were pleased to accept the offer of a free Defibrillator to be located at the Civic Centre and FOC training for the Caretakers.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will write to South Staffordshire First Responders to implement the defibrillator provision and training ASAP.

152/07 **CENTRE KITCHEN EQUIPMENT – INVENTORY UPDATE**

Scrutiny of the inventory list indicates that there is no 'unused' spare kit of value that could be sold off. All items are required or of no resale value.

RESOLVED to pass item off to Management Committee.

153/07 **BUS SHELTERS**

A) Existing Shelter Refurbishment Phase 2
Quote received on 5th December 2006

RESOLVED that the quote from MGD be accepted and implemented as soon as possible.

B) New Shelter – The Parkway / Gainsborough Drive Area

RESOLVED that the quote be accepted from Abacus Lighting Limited for provision, delivery and erection of the new shelter. Quoted items for 6 new polycarbonate sheets plus fitting will reduce the quote from £5420.38 to £4608.58; these items are not required since they are for an existing shelter which will be refurbished by MGD Phase 2. Additionally the quote from R.Weatherington is accepted in the sum of £600 for cutting back of conifers prior to new shelter erection and concrete pad after new shelter is erected. The Clerk will seek to obtain a 25% contribution from Staffs CC.

154/07 **PERTON WALKERS LEAFLET – SIZE & QUANTITY**

It was generally agreed that an A4 leaflet map is believed to be more user friendly than an A3 particularly since this format can utilise 170 gsm gloss art paper whilst the best at A3 is 130gsm. It was also felt that regarding the quotes for printing 1000 is not enough and 5000 is too many.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will seek an additional quote to cover a print run of 3000 units and also check the extent of the map coverage with Mr Fred O'Leary and report back at the next meeting.

155/07 **PRELIMINARY BUDGET 2007/08 – PROJECTS FOR 2007/08**

RESOLVED that with respect to the precept for 2007/08 any Councillor wishing to allocate funds to a given project shall advise project and cost details to the Clerk prior to Christmas 2006 in order that the project and project cost may be incorporated into the 2007/08 budget.

156/07 **PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS – CLLR N.P.CAINE**

As Cllr N.P.Caine was unable to attend, this item was deferred until the next meeting.

157/07 **JESSICA HEALE PLAYGROUND / LAKE AREA ISSUES – CLLR A.K.JAMES**

Cllr A.K.James advised the meeting that he had discussed this item with Andy Cousins from SSDC and was to arrange a meeting between Andy and Jessica Heale and had communicated with Jessica accordingly.

158/07 **SLCC MEMBERSHIP**

RESOLVED that membership be continued for 2007.

A) MUGA Update

Cllr A.K.James stated that he had submitted a bid to SSDC by way of application for a share of the available Big Lottery funding.

Cllr R.J.Marshall advised that Graham Bott at Staffs County Council has suggested that we have a good chance of receiving a grant.

B) Summer Chillout Report - 2006

The Exit Report was received from Rachael Martin on 6th December 2006 and was distributed at the meeting. Cllr Mrs P.Allen stated that the information was vague and that a cost analysis was required.

C) Inter Parish Games – Request for Grant

RESOLVED that a grant of £35.00 be provided in line with the requested sum.

D) Sussed ‘Out & About’ 2007 Programme

RESOLVED to fully participate in the 2007 programme at £90.00 per session, with three sessions at Easter (Total Cost of £270.00) and six sessions in Summer (Total Cost of £540.00)

E) Councillors Report

Cllr D.Billson: Licensing Training meeting plus attendance at the Black Country Core Planning Session – With specific regard to Housing it was stated that enough ‘brownfield’ sites currently exist to cater the needs for both new housing and replacement housing.

Also attended, together with the Clerk, a presentation at Telford by the Big Lottery Funding Team for the Community Buildings Programme. Perton Parish Council ‘ticks all the boxes’ in respect to the grant framework applicable to the Civic Centre expansion plans. The programme has £50M to distribute to successful award projects between now and 2009. It is envisaged that the average project value will be in the order of £250k thus nationwide 200 projects should benefit from the programme. There is a two phased application process and applicants must first apply for Stage 1 which focuses on ‘Needs & Options’ – applications must be submitted 30th April 2007.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will approach two potential consultants to own and drive the stage 1 application. The contact details for these will be provided by Cllr D.Billson for Brian Holland and Cllr Mrs P.Allen for John Wilson.

Cllr Mrs P.Bromley reported attendance at a seminar with Trading Standards. A key point arising is ‘Challenge 21’ which is designed to deal with under age drinking where young ladies are currently posing the biggest issue. Licensees and Shop Keepers are co-opted into the programme to keep a list of those denied sale of alcohol. The seminar also covered details on new proposed legislation from April 2007 dealing with ‘No Win – No Fee’ type claims.

Cllr C.Bromley additionally reported that the same seminar had highlighted the possible introduction of a new register to detail both rogue and viable business

operators. He also cautioned the meeting to be aware of a large white van operating in the area selling cheap three piece suites which are not to UK approved fire standards.

Cllr R.J.Marshall provided the answers to the queries raised by Cllr A.Bourke at the last Parish Council meeting concerning the Audit Report on Vision Leisure following their liquidation in March 2006. A written report was provided and this will be distributed to all Councillors. It was stressed that no fraud was suspected and that the evaluation criteria relates to management of systems and the wasting of money. Cllr Marshall said that at the current time there was no visibility of this issue going to Scrutiny Committee.

Cllr A.Bourke informed the meeting that an Executive Meeting on 5th December 2006 had agreed to implement a trial at Cheslyn Hay to test the collection of food waste via 'in-vessel' composting which would enable such waste to be placed in either black or green bins and therefore be subject to collection every week.

160/07 **STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

A) Subway Graffiti & Re-painting

The meeting reviewed the quote that was provided by MGD for a pilot site 'Anti-Graffiti' painting trial. Cllr R.J.Marshall will forward this to David Wright at Staffs CC Highways office and invite him to attend an on-site meeting on Tuesday 9th January 2007 at 9.30 AM.

B) Community Paths Initiative – Grant Bid

RESOLVED that the Clerk will submit a bid of £1000.00 towards the cost of the Perton Walkers Map.

C) Perton Library Peace Garden Proposal by 'Wild About Perton'

Discussions indicated that there was potentially a better use of the area proposed as a 'Peace Garden' and therefore this item will be re-considered at the next meeting once an evaluation of the site has taken place.

D) County Councillors' Report

Cllr R.J.Marshall advised that if the proposition goes through in respect to 'Job Evaluation' then the Social Care and Health sectors would see 56% receiving increases with only 17% seeing a reduction whilst in the Education area the trend would generally be downwards with the exception of Teachers. The County Councils 'star-rating' for Social Care & Health sees them as one of thirty three with only one star. An over spend of £4.2M is the current forecast. Due to usage figures some bus services are likely to be negatively impacted. The Local Member Initiative Scheme sees a pot of £3k yet to be allocated, final applications must be submitted by 15th December 2006. It was felt that the best proposition was to provide a 50/50 split to cover contribution towards restoration of the floor in the pavilion and an additional room at the library.

161/07 **STANDING ORDER No 79**

RESOLVED that Standing Order No 79 (Length of Meeting) be suspended.

162/07 **CORRESPONDENCE**

A) Corsers Court – Parking Issues Update

Following a satisfactory response from SSHA Tenancy Management Officer – Graeme Lane, this matter is now closed.

B) SSHA – Affordable Housing Events

RESOLVED that Cllr D.Billson plus one will attend the session on 18/12/2006

C) BTCV Work Group Projects

RESOLVED that the Clerk will contact BTCV to have them evaluate two possible one day projects on Perton, the first being a comprehensive litter pick at Perton Playing Fields and the second a cutback / tidy up of the interconnecting paths across Perton Village.

163/07 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Planning Applications received from South Staffordshire Council and reviewed by the Parish since the last Parish Council meeting on Monday 13 November 2006.

Application No.	Proposals	Date Returned
06/01043/VAR	Variation of condition 9 on permission 03/00961/FUL for construction of new farm shop - Bradshaws Farm Shop, Wrottesley Park Road, Perton, South Staffordshire. WV8 2HU	05/12/06
06/01044/OUT	Demolition of and replacement farm shop - Bradshaws Farm Shop, Wrottesley Park Road, Perton, South Staffordshire. WV8 2HU	05/12/06

The Council objected to the above planning application on the grounds of the development is within Green Belt and the variation is unnecessary for a farm shop.

(Copy of objections enclosed)

06/01288/FUL	Two Storey extension over garage 18 Raglan Avenue, Perton, South Staffordshire. WV6 7RZ	06/12/06
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The Council raised no objections to the above application.

06/01274/FUL	First Floor extension 25 Hoylake Road, Perton, South Staffordshire. WV6 7YS	06/12/06
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The Council raised no objections to the above application subject to appropriate checks on the steel balcony.

06/01283/FUL	Double extension 19 Kenilworth Road, Perton, South Staffordshire. WV6 7PJ	06/12/06
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The Council raised no objections to the above application subject to a concern on over-development of the site.

164/07 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The Clerk reported that the following accounts duly authorized by designated Member signatories had been paid:

			£
08/11/06	BACS	Wages Week 32	1069.08
15/11/06	BACS	Wages Week 33	1163.82
20/11/06	103243	W.C.A.S.G.	105.00
20/11/06	103244	Penn Flower Club - Deposit Refund	150.00
20/11/06	103245	Miss H.Ceresa - Deposit Refund	150.00
20/11/06	103246	Mrs Cowling - Deposit Refund	50.00
20/11/06	103247	Banner Business Supplies Ltd	212.56
20/11/06	103248	Veolia ES Onyx Limited	158.95
20/11/06	103249	South Staffs District Council	312.12
20/11/06	103250	Promarco Media Division Ltd	398.00
20/11/06	103251	FC Perton - Deposit Refund	150.00
20/11/06	103252	Mr A.Lofting - Deposit Refund	50.00
20/11/06	103253	Mr Gupta - Deposit Refund	50.00
21/11/06	BACS	Wages Week 34	1127.34
24/11/06	DD	Unicom	76.38
27/11/06	103254	Robins Nest Catering	198.50
27/11/06	103255	Mrs L.Powell - Deposit Refund	50.00
27/11/06	103256	Mrs D.Thorpe - Deposit Refund	150.00
27/11/06	103257	Brisol Limited	203.82
27/11/06	103258	Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation	204.46
27/11/06	103259	Perton Place	55.00
27/11/06	103260	F1 Metal Fabrications Ltd	0.00
27/11/06	103261	F1 Metal Fabrications Ltd	5429.91
28/11/06	DD	British Gas - Electricity	583.59
28/11/06	BACS	Wages Week 35	3590.23
30/11/06	DD	British Gas - Gas	92.13
30/11/06	DD	Shell Gas Direct Ltd	454.36
01/12/06	STO	Kalidescope Limited	47.00
01/12/06	DD	SSDC Non -Domestic Rates	1169.00
05/12/06	103262	R.Weatherington	2750.00
05/12/06	103263	SPCA Training	40.00
05/12/06	103264	Mrs S.Hazeldine - Deposit Refund	150.00

05/12/06	103265	SSDC - Parish Games Presentation Tickets	60.00
TOTALS			20451.25

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 8th January 2007 @ 7.00 pm

The meeting closed @ 9.40 pm

Cllr. A.K.James
Chairman
8th January 2007