

**Minutes of the Meeting of
PERTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Perton Civic Centre on
Monday 11th June 2007 @ 7:00pm**

Present: Mrs. R. Heseltine [Chairman]
Mrs. C.M.Young [Vice Chairman]
Mrs. P. Allen
Mrs. A James
Mrs. P.N. Pitt
A.K.James
D.J.Billson
N.P.Caine
A.A. Bourke
S.Bott
Mrs S.Bott
Miss C.Duffell
A.K.Black
D.Fereday
D.Heseltine

Also Present: R.J.Marshall – County Councillor
R.E.Moreton – Perton District Councillor
Pat Davies – South Staffordshire Council Senior Landscape Officer
Jim Brady – Staffordshire CC Assistant Director
Parish Clerk – Tony Tappenden
Rachel Street – PCSO
Members of the Public present : Six
Journalist from Wolverhampton Chronicle – Katy Muench

30/08 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were offered and accepted from ex Perton Parish Councillors Mrs.J.R.Williams, Mrs.P.M.French and R.French in respect to the Presentation Agenda item.

31/08 **PRESENTATIONS TO FORMER COUNCILLORS**

Councillor A.K.James presented a hand painted Perton Parish Council Heraldic shield to Councillor R.J.Marshall in recognition of his time and efforts spent as Perton Parish Councillor.
No other ex Councillors were available for similar presentations.

32/08 **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

Mr. Pritchard from Melrose Gardens raised two issues:

- Firstly that the Childrens Playground had a hole in one area of the safety surface which was a potential safety hazard, he also queried whether or not the Safety Inspector used is ROSPA trained / qualified. - The Clerk informed Mr. Pritchard that the safety inspectors were commission via South Staffs Council who utilized the services of Zurich Risk Services but was unable to say if these were ROSPA qualified or not but would check. Also the play surface was recently repaired at considerable cost but would identify and resolve the problem ASAP.

- Secondly that on 22nd May during the drainage works at the Playing Fields a trench had been left open overnight and the works should be subject to 'Clerk of Works Supervision'. - Cllr A.K.James explained that the whole process had taken a great deal of time and effort to put in place and all of the checks and assurances that were needed had been obtained. The approved contractor has their own PLI and had been involved in the full selection process with regards to standard of work and safety.

Mrs. Tina Davies from Harald Close raised three concerns:

- Firstly she expressed frustration following further new graffiti attacks in the underpasses following a long and finally successful campaign to have new paintwork with anti-graffiti surfaces which had only recently been completed.
- Litter in the area particularly the childrens playground.
- The whereabouts of the neighbourhood PCs stating that since the PCSOs were introduced only one PCSO was regularly seen in the area. – The Clerk stated that all these points were agenda items for discussion during the meeting.

Mr. Paul Chapman, Chairman of Perton FC stated his gratitude to the Council for the use of the Civic Centre and also to Cllr A.K.James for his great efforts and successes via PPFA.

33/08

POLICE MATTERS

a) **Perton Community Beat Office**

The Clerk stated that he had recently been advised that all of the necessary IT infrastructure in the Beat Office, within the Civic Centre, was now complete and available for occupation. Additionally Sgt Tim Heap from Codsall had visited recently and stated that Policing on Perton would greatly improve once the room was occupied by the neighbourhood team which was imminent. Arrangements were made for the appropriate keys to be made available for copying to the relevant individuals and the Clerk was arranging for the alarm fobs to be made available. Sgt Heap committed to ensure that a 'signing in' book would be provided in the main reception area to allow sign in / out for health and safety reasons and to enable the public to see if a PC or PCSO was in attendance.

b) **Police Report**

Reported Crime Figs- Perton- 14/05/07- 10/06/07

PERTON CENTRAL 13 EVENTS

ROWDY/ANTISOCIAL EVENTS

All events for this area are mainly regarding the following areas including Browning Grove, Anders Square, the lake area & the temple area. These areas are being frequented by youths loitering behaving inconsiderately.

- 1) 01/02/2007 male youth ages 15yrs stopped by police in Anders Square alcohol confiscated, information given where alcohol may have been purchased. PC Hossack and PCSO Street visited the off licence strong advise given re: the over 21 policy.

- 2) Youths stopped on 30/05/2007 by police patrols in Anders Square, names took section 30 warnings given all names recorded, youths dispersed by officers.
- 3) Youths dispersed from lake area by PCSO & patrols on 25/05/2007 section 30 warnings given.
- 4) Anders Square complaints from Flamingo's Restaurant re: footballing outside PCSO Wilkes dispersed youths.
- 5) Perton Library incident youths playing up inside library main culprit was identified by staff and using library CCTV and was already known to police the offender was later caught and arrested. Others involved received police visits.

ASSAULT

- 1) A female youth had her hair sprayed by another male youth, offender currently being dealt with.

THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE

- 1) A Land Rover had its rear lights stolen from Sainsbury's car park.

SHOP THEFT

- 1) A prolific shoplifter stole 4 bottles of Bacardi from Sainsbury's he was later caught and arrested.
- 2) Elderly female was caught shoplifting in Sainsbury's by store security police patrols in attendance with PCSO, offender was street bailed for being her 1st offence.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

- 1) Sandown School had windows smashed.
- 2) Browning Grove had spray paint graffiti to fencing, offenders have been named.
- 3) Ennerdale Drive a house had its conservatory roof hit with stones PCSO visited the house it backs on to an alley way.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO MOTOR VEHICLE

- 1) 09/06/2007 Vehicle parked on Sainsbury's car park had damage to all its panels, it's believed that a sharp instrument had been used to scratch the paintwork.

RICHMOND – 8 INCIDENTS

ROWDY/ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

- 1) Youths gathering in Gainsborough Drive behaving inconsiderately shouting on 23/05/07 patrols attended.
- 2) Gainsborough Drive a lamppost pushed down.
- 3) Youths caught playing football in Perton Middle School grounds

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

- 1) 19/05/07 Gainsborough Drive mobile phone stolen and necklace from youths playing football. A gang of 3 black males approached the youths and took the items, then fled towards Tettenhall Wood area, no other incidents have occurred since therefore we believe this to be an isolated incident.
- 2) Dunster Grove – security light damaged.
- 3) Damage to concrete rings left at Gainsborough Drive where construction work is being carried out.

DRUGS POSSESSION

- 1) 20/05/07 Gainsborough Drive male stopped by PC Hossack and PCSO Street, a small amount of cannabis was seized the offender was given a warning.

SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT

- 1) 26/05/07 Richmond Drive males knocking doors offering tree felling

services, thought to be bogus workmen.

LEASOWE – 3 INCIDENTS

ROWDY/ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

1) Nash Avenue youths gathering in street causing loud noise 19/05/07.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

1) Leasowe Drive a group of males caused damage to a lamp post.

VEHICLE DAMAGE

1) Vehicle in Hawksmoor Drive had two tyres slashed.

MERCIA – 1 INCIDENT

ROWDY/ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

1) Damage caused to the subway at Harald Close, spray paint has been used to graffiti the walls in yellow spray paint. I believe the council have been notified. Spoken to resident via the phone to discuss.

END OF POLICE REPORT

Any information please contact Pertons Neighbourhood Team via voicemail 08453 303132 - PC Duncan Lampitt(04259), PC Frank Hossack(03537), PCSO Teresa Wilkes(08861) and PCSO Rachel Street(08862).

34/08 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr A.K.James declared personal and prejudicial interest in cheque numbers 103372 and 103354. Cllr Mrs P.Allen declared personal interest in the agenda items relating to both Pertons Carnival and Pertons and Codsall UFC.

35/08 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th May 2007 be confirmed as a true record and the Chairman of the Council duly signed them.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Special Parish Council meeting held on 21st May 2007 be confirmed as a true record and the Chairman of the Council duly signed them.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 5th June 2007 be accepted for information pending formal acceptance at the next Finance Committee meeting.

36/08 **STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

(a) **Youth Provision: (Jim Brady, Assistant Director Lifelong Learning)**

Jim Brady made a brief statement to the Members following issues flagged previously, his principal comments were:

- Thanks to PPC for inviting him to the meeting to address the issues.
- That the Youth Centre at the Middle School is not 'fit for purpose' and there are some health and safety issues.
- That the Library room was used as a 'drop in' centre but they had been unable to recruit Friday workers and the room is generally empty and not a 'drop-in' attraction during summer.
- They are fully supporting the Pertons MUGA and are also seeking new premises for the long term view.

- Their 'Detached Youth Workers' had special skills and meet youngsters 'where they gather'.
- They had a mobile vehicle used around the area and expected to be in Perton during September / October.
- They would be conducting a 'Big Brother' type consultation in conjunction with the Fire Service.

Cllr Mrs P.Allen disputed some of the assertions made and stated that the Youth Service provision on Perton was woefully inadequate. That kids turn up in numbers at both the Youth Club and the Library but they don't open their doors. She further stated that there was no visibility of the detached workers and Perton was consistently the victim of false promises.

Cllr D.J.Billson reiterated these comments and further stated that the Partnership approach was non-existent and many promises had not been honoured.

Cllr N.P.Caine made reference to good facilities at Great Wyrley and queried how these would be financed.

Jim Brady countered these comments saying that the last Ofsted review provided good and positive feedback for their service. He further stated that all commitments were made in good faith but could sometimes prove problematic due to unknown timescales; also he said that young people are not the sole responsibility of the Youth Service and that the local community had a responsibility for its young people, the most effective engagement with young people would be on a partnership basis.

Additionally resources are limited and budgets were again being cut. Also Police 'Dispersal Orders' are not constructive or helpful since they simply move problems from one area to another.

RESOLVED that via Jim Brady Youth Services will:

- Improve communication and ensure that, via Richard Coggins, PPC will receive monthly reports of issues and actions similar to the Police Report.
- Define the hours of opening for the Youth Club at Perton Middle School.
- Determine funding arrangements for Gt Wyrley Internet Café facilities and determine whether potential exists to do something similar at Perton.
- Detail how Detached Workers turn up and interface to local youths. Where and when do they operate and how is success measured?
- Develop Internet Café at the Library? What is the current pattern of use of this room?
- Define the status of the proposed rebalance of Youth Centre Provision to Perton forming Codsall as the satellite centre. (There is a higher youth population in Perton).
- Define overall structure of S.Staffs Youth provision and how the budget is deployed.
- Define status of the Youth Capital Fund bid for Perton MUGA.
- Consider possible collaboration with Police and other partners to provide diversionary activities at Perton 'Temple'.

37/08

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

(a) Presentation by Pat Davies – Lakeside Project:

Pat Davies delivered an overview presentation to the Members to provide

awareness of the proposed Lakeside works prior to this information being subject to public exhibition from 25th to 29th June at both Perton Civic Centre and Perton Library. The overall objective is to improve the area generally, improve the water quality and bring about a reduction in the number of Canada Geese. The overall budget for the project is £141,200.00, the outline plans are retained in the Clerks office.

38/08 **CLERKS REPORT – June 2007**

Matters ongoing / resolved as at 11th June 2007

- New Drain Request – Sandown Drive. Agreed by Staffs CC Highways Division – Awaiting completion on 2007 / 2008 budget. Delayed due to shared resource issues within division. (David Wright)
- Landscaping @ Livingstone Avenue – Staffs CC (David Wright) now has quotation from SSDC and will issue order for works completion.
- Staffordshire County Councils Strategic Plan available in Clerks Office or via <http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/yourcouncil/staffordshire2012/>
- Receipt & Thank You letter received on 25th May from County Air Ambulance in respect to grant of £200.00.
- Insurance Renewal 2007 / 2008. Initial renewal fee of £6949.00 reduced to £6451.12. Second reduction due to policy issue with Councilors Fidelity Guarantee reduces premium to £6183.37 (2006/07 premium was £6055.70).
- 3 Additional CCTV cameras now added and commissioned. Only three of the quoted additional lights are fitted and required. Cabling installed for PC networking.
- St Andrews / The Parkway Chicane: Letter sent to Wayne Mortiboys on 21st May 2007.
- Perton Parish Plan report document e-mailed to Andrew Johnson Director of Planning and Strategic Services at SSDC and Helen Riley, Deputy Corporate Director - (Policy and Performance) at Staffs CC on 22nd May. No response received as yet

39/08 **GARDENS COMPETITION**

Cllr D.J.Billson informed the meeting that following on from the comments made at the meeting in May it was apparently too late in the year for the competition to take place this year due to seasonal planting limitations. However following some discussion it was agreed in principle that a competition of this sort should be considered for next year.

RESOLVED that Cllr D.J.Billson will come back later in the year with specific proposals for a competition in the new year.

40/08 **TRAFFIC ROUNDABOUT NAMING**

Due to issues of navigation around Perton Village it was suggested by Cllr D.J.Billson that each of the Perton roundabouts should be given a name. The members agreed that this was potentially a good idea.

RESOLVED that the Council will take suggestions from members at the next meeting regarding possible 'names' for each of the roundabouts.

41/08 **PERTON FIRST SCHOOL (COUNTY RECORDER FESTIVAL 2007)**

RESOLVED that following attendance at the 2007 County Recorder Festival at Lichfield Cathedral by Cllr Mrs R.Heseltine Perton Parish Council will extend a vote of thanks to the Perton children involved. They were a great credit to themselves, their school and Perton and the Council is proud to be associated with them. It was further proposed that the Council would like to see more direct involvement with the Schools Council at Parish meetings.

42/08 **PERTON MIDDLE SCHOOL (SCHOOL COUNCIL)**

Cllr A. Bourke informed the meeting that following a recent discussion with Mr Kerin Jones, Head of Perton Middle School that they had agreed that they would like to see two way representations between the School Council and the Parish Council; he further noted the comments made to the previous agenda item. The members agreed that as a general principle this should be encouraged.

43/08 **GRAFFITI & CHEWING GUM**

Cllr Mrs P.Allen described the general poor state of the area around Anders Square due to pollution from chewing gum and also the rapid deterioration in the bus shelters and under-passes due to graffiti attacks and other damage following very recent refurbishment. It was noted that finally Sainsburys now appear to be improving their local car park surfaces and signage.

RESOLVED that the Clerk, who has recently pre-empted this issue and discussed the matter in some depth with MGD Solutions, will seek to obtain some form of local contract to gain regular and rotational cleaning of troubled areas. The Clerk will seek to have some form of proposal for the next meeting date.

44/08 **LITTER WARDEN – Cllr A.A.BOURKE**

RESOLVED that the Clerk will:

- Prepare costs statement for an additional part-time litter warden for consideration at the next Parish meeting.
- Write to the portfolio holder at South Staffordshire Council to request more support with litter collections in key Perton areas.

45/08 **GRANT APPLICATIONS:**

(a) **1st Perton Scouts:**

RESOLVED to provide a donation of £500.00 towards replacement heating system.

(b) **Nicky Thacker Compton Hospice Fund Raising Event:**

RESOLVED to provide a contribution equal to 50% of the room hire charges by way of discount on hire fees. Individual Councillors will contact Mrs.Thacker direct in respect to personal donations.

(c) **Perton & Codsall UFC**

RESOLVED to provide a donation of £200.00 towards the cost of kit renewal.

46/08 **STANDING ORDER No 79**

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

47/08 **SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL**

(b) **MUGA:**

Cllr D.J.Billson advised that he and other District Councillors had recently met with Barbara Juniper at South Staffs Council and she had advised that her group could deal with the design work and project costings at a chargeback to PPC of about £1k. Then, in conjunction with the findings of the Youth investigation South Staffs Council could project manage the MUGA which would alleviate any problems regarding planning permissions. The basic design is likely to incorporate Football, Netball and Basketball and the initial design can incorporate duct work for flood lighting which may be added at a later date. Barbara also suggested that PPC may wish to contribute towards the Lakeside project.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will write to Barbara Juniper (copy Katie White) at South Staffordshire Council to formally request that her department acts on an 'agency basis' for Perton Parish Council with respect to project design, costing and project management. Perton Parish Council will be charged for this work. Additionally rapid access to Perton Parish Council for consultation and decision making purposes is delegated to Perton District Councillors. A decision regarding contribution to the Lakeside Project will be deferred until all costs and grants can be determined for the MUGA.

(c) **Telephone Mast Emissions Report:**

RESOLVED that the report is accepted for information purposes and the Clerk will arrange to have it posted on the PPC website.

(d) **Community Safety Partnership – Invite 27th June:**

RESOLVED that in the event that any of the Members can attend they will notify the Clerk as soon as possible.

(e) **Parish / District Council Liaison Group Meeting – 25th June:**

RESOLVED that this meeting will be attended by Councillor Mrs R.Heseltine, the Clerk will notify David Coghill accordingly.

(f) **Councillors Report:**

Cllr A.K.James advised the meeting that in respect to the Planning Application for Cranmoor Lodge Farm he believed that this would be passed subject to modifications to the intended demolition of one building in order to assure the preservation of existing Barn Owls.

Cllr R.E.Moreton advised that his initial meetings were related to the allocation of committees and suchlike.

Cllr D.J.Billson stated that:

- He also believed that the Cranmoor Lodge Farm plans would pass if the Barn Owl building was retained.
- He had attended a number of meetings in Stafford and Stoke concerning Regional Spatial Strategy.

- The Regional Spatial Strategy dictates that Staffordshire will need to have a further 400k houses but the impact to South Staffordshire was a further 5k over the next 20 years.
- Much of the required infrastructure will be delivered via 106 agreements.
- Water supply will be a major issue in certain area with regard to the planned expansion.
- Waste disposal sites will become 'specialised' for certain types of waste products.

48/08

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

(a) **County Councillors Report:**

Cllr R.J.Marshall informed the Members that:

- Staffs CC had 'signed-up' to reducing its carbon footprint in aid of global warming issues. A 2% year on year reduction could save up to £15.7m over five years and £79m over ten years.
- Consultation had now started in respect to closure of Day Care / Residential Homes.
- With regard to street lighting there is a PFI in place to replace every light in the County. On Perton a number of streets have already been completed though the issue is that some lights are bigger than is necessary.
- With regard to bus transport to schools he was attending a key meeting on Wednesday 13th June and will subsequently provide the Council with a report.
- He has been promoted to become a member of the Corporate Policy Scrutiny committee.
- He will be holding a Surgery on the last Thursday of every month.

Cllr Mrs C.Young queried the policy for replacement of pavements stating that many in the local area were rubbish.

Cllr R.J.Marshall stated that the CC policy was to look at this on a 'special request' basis.

Cllr A.K.James requested yet another update concerning the junction of the A461 / A464 which is still as dangerous as ever and the CC have had more than enough time to develop a solution. Recently there had been several accidents over just a few days.

Cllr R.J.Marshall stated that unfortunately accidents of themselves were not key statistics and only serious injury or fatality were triggers for rapid action. He stated that all Staffordshire speed limits are to be reviewed.

49/08

CORRESPONDENCE

(a) **Perton Carnival**

The Council noted the letter of thanks for the PPC grant and also the associated accounts from the Carnival organizer.

(b) **City of Wolverhampton College**

The Council noted the correspondence terminating the agreement between the College and PPC which had been bought about since charges were introduced on training courses as a result of termination of adult education grants. The impact of this will be considered at the Management Committee.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

- (a) Planning Applications received from South Staffordshire Council and reviewed by the Parish since the last Parish Council meeting on Monday 14 May 2007.

Application No.	Proposals
07/00486/FUL	Conservatory to rear 14 Gibson Road, Perton, Wolverhampton
07/00503/FUL	Extend front, rear and side of existing house 16 Athelstan Grove, Perton, Wolverhampton
07/00496/FUL	Two storey extension to provide lounge, bedroom and en-suite 11 Ennerdale Drive, Perton, Wolverhampton
06/01369/FUL Amended Plans	Bedroom and play room extension 1 Harald Close, Perton, Wolverhampton

The Council raised no objections to the above proposals.

05/00454/FUL Amended Plans	Conversion and adaption of barns and dormer RAF buildings to provide 21 residential units with associated garden, parking and communal courtyards areas, landscaping and access improvements. Land at Cranmoor Lodge Farm, Wrottesley Park Road, Perton, South Staffordshire
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The Council raised no objections to the above proposals but would like to see traffic lights or a mini island at the entrance to the development made a condition before commencement.

- (b) **Planning Process**

The Clerk informed the meeting that following discussions with other local Parish Offices there seemed to be no consistent prescriptive method for obtaining the 'Council' view of any given application.

RESOLVED that each application will have a summary sheet attached to simplify the Councillors comments and then if any conflict arises this will be referred to the full Council meeting as appropriate.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

			£
01/05/07	STO	Kalidescope Limited	47.00
01/05/07	DD	SSDC Non -Domestic Rates	1199.00
01/05/07	103352	Post Office Limited	163.97
01/05/07	103353	Computacenter	34.04
01/05/07	103354	DowntoEarth Grounds Maintenance Limited	94.00
01/05/07	103355	Mr A.Cox - Deposit Refund	50.00
01/05/07	103356	Mr G.Willis - Deposit Refund	150.00
02/05/07	BACS	Wages Week 5	1185.67
02/05/07	BACS	Inland Revenue	2181.17
02/05/07	BACS	Staffordshire CC Pension Fund	1133.09
02/05/07	103357	ADT Fire & Security PLC	29.38

02/05/07	103358	Perton Parish Council	75000.00
08/05/07	BACS	Wages Week 6 - Part	331.27
08/05/07	BACS	Wages Week 6 - Part	749.23
11/05/07	103359	ThyssenKrupp Elevator UK Limited	165.12
11/05/07	103360	South Staffordshire District Council	88.13
11/05/07	103361	South Staffordshire District Council	152.77
11/05/07	103362	Brisol Limited	113.63
11/05/07	103363	McNaughton Graphical Papers Ltd	85.54
11/05/07	103364	Veolia ES (UK) Limited	158.74
11/05/07	103365	Nobisco Limited	55.05
11/05/07	103366	Perton Place	55.00
16/05/07	BACS	Wages Week 7	1063.87
16/05/07	103367	Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association	653.00
16/05/07	103368	Community Council of Staffordshire	20.00
16/05/07	103369	County Air Ambulance Charity	200.00
16/05/07	103370	Campaign to Protect Rural England	100.00
17/05/07	DD	Severn Trent	125.06
23/05/07	BACS	Wages Week 8 & Week 9 Advance - Part	4502.58
23/05/07	BACS	Wages Week 8 & Week 9 Advance - Part	65.07
24/05/07	DD	Unicom	60.05
25/05/07	103371	Welbeck Sports	67.08
25/05/07	103372	DowntoEarth Grounds Maintenance Limited	94.00
25/05/07	103373	Nobisco Limited	106.57
25/05/07	103374	Brisol Limited	94.82
25/05/07	103375	Mrs C.Bradley - Deposit Refund	150.00
25/05/07	103376	ADT Fire & Security PLC	49.35
25/05/07	103377	Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation	102.23
28/05/07	DD	British Gas - Electricity	334.92
28/05/07	DD	British Gas - Gas	171.61
30/05/07	103378	Allianz Cornhill Insurance PLC	6183.37
30/05/07	103379	Wombourne Printers Ltd	35.66
		TOTALS	97401.04

Cllr N.P.Caine queried cheques 103359 and 103377 together with the Direct Debit to 'Unicom', The Clerk was able to provide satisfactory explanation regarding these expenses.

- (b) **2007/2008 Budget-to-date**
The budget figures were noted.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 9th July 2007 @ 7.00 pm

The meeting closed @ 10.10 pm

Chairman
9th July 2007