

Minutes of the meeting of
PERTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Perton Civic Centre on
Monday 13th March 2006 @ 7:00pm

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

Members of the Public present : One

Journalist from Wolverhampton Chronicle

193/06 **APOLOGIES**

N.P.Caine, Mrs P.M.French, R.French

194/06 **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

The meeting started a few minutes late, the single member of public present suggested that it would be a good thing for all Councillors to attend and to be punctual. The Chairman explained that as most Councillors had full time jobs this was not always possible.

The Harald Close Subway was further discussed having recently been re-painted and subsequently de-faced with graffiti. Anti-graffiti paint is not used due to cost and poor effectiveness, it is more economical to paint on a regular basis. The Clerk also read out a letter that had recently been received from Gaby Cartwright (10 years) of Mercia Drive who had suggested that she and her friends be allowed to over paint the subway with their own portraits as a method of combating the problem. The letter was passed to County Cllr R.J.Marshall and Cllr Mrs A.James suggested that perhaps a Detached Youth worker may wish to follow up with Gaby.

Cllr Mrs A.James also made comment that there had recently been some incidents of anti-social behavior in the local area around Jedburgh Drive.

195/06 **Police Matters**

The Clerk distributed the current report provided by the Perton Community Officers

Police Report from 13th February 2006 – 12th March 2006

Criminal Damage		5
Burglary dwelling		0
Burglaries – Other Building	NOTE 1	2
Theft of M/V	NOTE 2	2
Theft from M/V	NOTE 3	3
Rowdy behaviour		6
Robbery		0
Assaults		0
Sex Offence	NOTE 4	1
Theft		1

NOTES:

- 1) One of the burglaries 'other' occurred at the Perton Youth Club. Enquiries are in hand and offenders are being dealt with.

- 2) One of the Theft of Motor Vehicles resulted in the apprehension of offenders after vehicle being picked up in a number plate reader operation.

- 3) Theft from motors has increased around the whole division. This would be due to motorists leaving sat navigation systems in their vehicles. Would suggest this practice to cease.

- 4) The sex offence relates to a female jogger being stopped by a motorist, in a grey vehicle, who exposed himself. Would suggest joggers to be vigilant. Only description of offender is male dark hair.

For any information, or questions to PC Duncan Lampitt, use voicemail:
 08453 303132
 Box No 04259

The Meeting was also attended by Inspector Pat Shannaghan who provided some useful statistical information that compared the criminal activity in Perton against the entire Wombourne Local Policing Unit (LPU).

	PERTON	PERCENTAGE	WOMBOURNE
All Recorded crime	402	16.45%	2443
Robbery	3	8.10%	37
Violence	25	7.35%	340
Theft from Motor Vehicle	15	7.65%	196
Theft of Motor	10	13.15%	76

Vehicle			
Burglary Other Building	11	4.45%	247
Criminal Damage	55	10.72	513
Burglary Dwelling	14	9.79	143
Nuisance & Disorder	192	11.71	1639
Incidents	736	8.5%	8657
Initial Arrests	117	47.95%	244

Inspector Shanaghan also provided answers to questions previously notified by mail.

1) Cost & Control of Community Support Officer

If Perton were to budget and pay for its own Community Support Officer then this Officer would remain under the control of the Police Force but would be dedicated 100% to the village. The cost is in the region of £25k per annum without funding but with funding (none currently available) the cost is reduced by 50% in year 1 and 25% in year 2. Inspector Shanaghan handed the Clerk a letter from Gerald O'Hara – Staffordshire Police Business Manager indicating that if further information was required then he could help in the future.

2) Use of Civic Centre as base

Two security issues exist, the first concerns the regulation associated with storing CS Gas the second relates to Computer Network access and is currently under investigation for a suitable resolution. Cllr Mrs P.Allen suggested that financial assistance for the provision of bicycles may be appropriate, Inspector Shannaghan agreed that funding is always helpful but the LPU currently has six bikes.

3) Future Plans

Discussing general issues Inspector Shanaghan stated that from 1st April 2006 Duncan Lampitt and Frank Hossack would be split up to provide better coverage, also from this date they would instigate public interviews via questionnaires to deal with the top issues in the neighbourhood and to return in three months to re-test opinion, he stated that in fact the young have a greater fear of crime than do the elder generations. Also Steve Poyser is investigating the possibility of the provision of an additional person at the CCTV monitoring centre at peak hours. Cllr Mrs P.Allen raised the issue of the playing fields being split over two LPUs. The Inspector stated that they had good co-operation between themselves and West Midlands areas but the biggest concern was the Off-Licences providing alcohol to the under age and ten out of ten were found to be doing so yet Trading Standards had yet to prosecute a single one.

196/06 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllrs A.K. James, Mrs. P. Allen, C.J. Bromley, Mrs. P.C. Bromley, Mrs. R. Heseltine, Mrs. P.N. Pitt, Mrs J.R.Williams all declared interest in the agenda item relating to Perton Playing Fields.

Cllr Mrs P.Allen declared non-pecuniary interest in cheque No 102988 and Cllr D.Billson declared non-pecuniary interest in cheque No 102980/1

197/06 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th February 2006 be confirmed as a true record and the Chairman of the Council duly signed them following a minor addendum to minute 184/06 reference Perton Carnival Committee indicating that Cllr Mrs J.R.Williams has also agreed to make a personal donation equal to one month Council allowance.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Management Meeting held on 16th January 2006 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 9th February 2006 be confirmed as a true record and the chairman of the Council duly signed them.

198/06 **BUS SHELTER MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Cllr Mrs P.N.Pitt had previously received a complaint from a resident regarding Shackleton Drive bus stop which is apparently very shabby. The litter warden has provided some digital photographs which were shown to the assembled meeting.

RESOLVED that the Clerk would make some initial appropriate enquiries from the District Council and possibly WMPTE to establish what alternatives are available for an ongoing maintenance programme.

199/06 **PARISH PLAN FUNDING**

The Clerk provided an update indicating that £1720 (50% of allowable grant) had previously been received from The Countryside Agency which is now defunct and the grant balance is now held by Warwickshire Rural Commission Council and would have been payable on completion of plan in Sept 2005. Since the Parish did not complete the plan in accordance with its agreed target date the Clerk has been discussing the issue with Gill Owen – Community Council of Staffordshire & Kay Wilson of WRCC to seek to avoid claw back of the initial payment. The issue of refunding initial 50% now seems to have passed and Clerk is trying to obtain second half of payment which must be claimed by end March 2006 or lost. We will need to justify initial spend of £1720 plus identify future proposed costs.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will continue negotiations with WRCC to bring to a satisfactory conclusion and to seek to identify the current status of the Plan questionnaire and report back as appropriate.

200/06 **HEALTH & SAFETY PROPOSAL 2006/7**

The Clerk informed the meeting that he had met with John Ellis with regard to the ongoing yearly arrangement in respect to the Civic Centre Health & Safety operations plan and directives and has negotiated 50% reduction on the John Ellis Associates contract for 'competent person' contracted solution.

RESOLVED that the Clerk accept the revised offer for 2006/07 and notify John Ellis accordingly.

201/06 **PERTON NURSERY PENSIONS – ACTUARIAL STRAIN**

The Clerk informed the meeting of financial demands placed upon the Parish Council by the County Council in respect to pension funding requirements in respect to the Nursery redundancies of Madeline Moore & P.Weatherington. Following the Finance Committee Meeting the Clerk has written to Janet Caizzo for further information and calculation details.

RESOLVED that Clerk should pursue the matter with the County Council as above via Finance Committee and report back to next meeting.

202/06 **PERTON PLACE MAGAZINE**

Cllr Mrs P. Allen raised the possibility of Perton Parish Council taking regular advertising pages in the Perton Place Ad Mag which is slowly building interest across the community. It was generally felt by the meeting that it would be beneficial to have a regular method of passing information and newsworthy messages to Parish households

RESOLVED that Clerk would identify and meet with the Proprietor of the book and ascertain advertising rates, distribution coverage, editing policy and all relevant details and report back on findings.

203/06 **PERTON PLAYING FIELDS**

Cllr A.K.James provided an update by informing the meeting that there is a current ongoing action to extend the leases of the playing fields in order to satisfy the conditions to obtain grants for necessary work to be carried out. The District are currently drafting a new lease for Perton Parish and sub-lease for Perton Playing Field and will advise when these documents are available for sign off by the Council Members and PPFA Trustees.

Cllr James further advised the meeting that previous complaints made at the public session by local residents concerning foul and abusive language at the playing fields had been dealt with by a letter from the PPFA to all team captains.

204/06 **PROPOSED PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2006/2007**

The proposed meeting dates as previously distributed was accepted with the exception of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 9th April 2007 and the Annual Parish meeting on 11th April 2007. These dates fall during the Easter Holiday period and were therefore amended to 2nd and 4th April respectively.

205/06 **AGENDA – ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 12th APRIL 2006**

The agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting was reviewed and accepted without alteration.

206/06 **SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS**

a) **Children's Activities – 'Sussed' Easter programme.**

The Clerk advised the meeting that the programme as appended to the Meeting Agenda had been altered since there were clashes with events previously diared in the meeting rooms. The Art Session on Tuesday 13th April had been retained but the two Active 8 Sports Sessions on 11th & 12th had been dropped and replaced by one session on Monday 10th April 10.00 – 12.00 and one additional Summer session.

b) **Councilors Reports**

Cllr A.K.James provided a brief update to the Silver Poplars issue where there has been violation of the tree preservation order. Additionally with regard to Playing Fields Drainage concerns and the question of capital grants this matter would be going to Scrutiny Committee at the end of March 2006. There is a debate as to whether or not this work should be classified as new works of repair of existing infra-structure.

Cllr D.J.Billson informed the meeting that the District Council would be objecting to the proposed Ambulance / PCT amalgamation.

RESOLVED that due to conflict with key dates above the next Management Committee Meeting would be moved from 30th March to Monday 3rd April 2006.

207/06 **STAFFS. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

a) **Anders Square Lighting** – The Clerk provided an update informing the meeting that whilst Steve Poyser had agreed to monitor Anders Square lighting concerns from the Codsall CCTV monitoring station, Neil Harvey from SSDC had also committed to get involved from a Health & Safety perspective. All public lights must by law conform to minimum British Standards levels. Therefore Neil will map and chart out lighting levels and ownership and drive issue forwards.

b) **Traffic Island Sponsorship** - The meeting considered the contracts received from David Wright and will now hold until the proposed sponsors can be contacted and sponsorship finance can be evaluated. Cllr Mrs P.Allen requested further assurances regarding Parish Council responsibilities.

c) **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would contact David Wright to seek confirmation that Kerbing maintenance and re-setting was excluded from the sponsorship responsibility and also to determine who carries the Public Liability Insurance.

d) Councilors Report

- 1) Cllr R.Marshall provided an update regarding speeding on the A454 and stated that neither fixed nor mobile cameras had recorded any offence. Discussion on this topic highlighted that the time of day was very relevant to this issue and that past fatalities indicate a bigger problem.
RESOLVED that Cllr R.Marshall would obtain time of day information regarding speed checks and request a site visit.
- 2) Regarding Trading Standards checks on Off-Licence sales to under age drinkers it was stated that ten checks had produced ten offences yet no prosecutions – this to be investigated.
- 3) The County Council has decided to remove the subsidy on the Hills 818 bus which in turn indicates lack of viability to the route.
- 4) It was stated that the Act to permit Gating of subways is now in force but no commencement date is yet provided – thought to be very near term.

208/06 **CORRESPONDENCE**

a) Mr Sizzle

The meeting considered a letter from SSSC Head of Environmental Health (Commercial) Services, Mr Ken Walker.

There are two camps on Perton, those that use the facility and those that object to it. It is felt that the major issue is when the vendor is trading near schools; there may be conflict with 'Safer' Route to School and possible consequences regarding any highways obstruction.

b) Featherstone & Brinsford Parish Council – Grey Bin Meeting

The meeting proposed for 8th March 2006 was cancelled due to lack of support.

209/06 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Clerk informed the meeting that since the last Parish Council meeting on 13th February 2006 the following proposals had been reviewed and returned to South Staffs. District Council.

	Application No.	Proposal	Date Returned
1	06/00136/FUL	Alterations and extensions Yew Tree Villa, Newport Road, Kingswood	28/02/06
2	06/00131/FUL	Two storey side extension 9 Stanley Court, Perton WV6 7TG	28/02/06
3	06/00162/FUL	Conservatory 11 Berkeley Close, Perton WV6 7RX	28/02/06
4	06/00166/FUL	Conservatory 12 Dunster Grove, Perton, WV6 7RU	07/03/06

5	06/00185/FUL	Conversion of existing garage to form new kitchen 2 Wrottesley Court, Holyhead Road, WV8 2HT	07/03/06
6	06/00186/LBC	Conversion of existing garage to form new kitchen 2 Wrottesley Court, Holyhead Road, WV8 2HT	07/03/06

RESOLVED that every endeavor should be made to ensure that whilst all plans should have a minimum of two sign-offs each should be seen by the appropriate 'owning' Councillor.

210/06 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

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

		£
D/D	British Gas - Electricity	625.53
102970	South Staffs DC	94.00
102971	Derek Walker	864.00
102972	Staffordshire County Council	19.28
102973	South Staffordshire Council	97.67
102974	Metal Fabrications	1809.50
102975	Robert Acton Product Development	92.83
102976	Edge Designs Ltd	235.00
102977	Audit Commission	1938.75
102978	McNaughton Graphical Papers Ltd	67.68
102979	Brisol Ltd	383.24
102980	Promarco Media Division Ltd	117.50
102981	Promarco Media Division Ltd	117.50
102982	Onyx Uk Ltd	115.15
102983	Onyx Uk Ltd	156.18
102984	Thyssen Krupp Elevator UK Ltd	160.31
102985	Drinkmaster	215.67
BACS	Wages week 46	1035.02
BACS	Inland Revenue	3098.69
BACS	Staffordshire County Pension Fund	516.84
D/D	South Staffordshire DC - Rates February	1302.00
102986	Post Office Ltd	244.23
102987	Ruth Guy	50.00
102988	Perton Carnival Committee	350.00
DD	Severn Trent	93.52
BACS	Wages Week 47	3555.39
DD	Unicom (Includes Cancelled Broadband)	133.23

102989	Mrs Pardoe		60.00
102990	Brisol Ltd		306.32
102991	Lockhart Catering Equipment		22.33
102992	Orion Media Marketing		44.06
102993	Brian Maw		185.00
102994	A C Design & Construction (UK)Ltd		414.19
102995	Iris Software		40.77
BACS	Wages Week 48		1193.44
102996	Mr T.Edgington		30.00
102997	Mr Neil Humphreys		50.00
102998	Mrs Allen		50.00
102999	SSDC		85.00
D/D	TV Licence		126.50
103000	Staffordshire CC		1055.90
103051	Mr Lukic	(Replaces 103008)	15.00
103052	Mr Mills	(Replaces 103007)	30.00
103053	Mr R.A..Sargeant	(Replaces 103006)	30.00
103054	Mr K.Dovey	(Replaces 103005)	60.00
103055	Mr M F Palmer	(Replaces 103004)	135.00
103056	M J Wall	(Replaces 103003)	30.00
103057	Mrs A E Cook	(Replaces 103002)	60.00
103058	Mrs Hazel Marlow	(Replaces 103001)	30.00
BACS	Wages Week 49		1024.13
BACS	Staffordshire County Pension Fund		918.77
BACS	Inland Revenue		3237.98
	TOTAL		26,723.10

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 10th April 2006 @ 7.00 pm

The meeting closed @ 9.45 pm

Cllr. Mrs. A. James
Chairman
10th April 2006