

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of
PERTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Perton Civic Centre on
Monday 14th May 2007 @ 7:00pm**

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

Parish Clerk – Tony Tappenden
Members of the Public present : Four
Journalist from Wolverhampton Chronicle – Katy Muench

01/08 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were offered and accepted from A.K.James

02/08 **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

Mr Pinfold of Richmond Drive raised concerns regarding overgrown trees between the properties on Richmond Drive and the playing fields. Due to their overgrown state they now block out light and he requested that they be cut back if possible. **RESOLVED** that Cllr D.Billson would take ownership of this issue and seek to get the appropriate authority to provide the pruning as required.

03/08 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED that Cllr Mrs R.Heseltine be elected Chairman for the year 2007 / 08.

04/08 **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Cllr Mrs R.Heseltine signed the declaration of office and then took the chair.

05/08 **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

A secret ballot was requested following proposed and seconded invites to both Cllrs Mrs C.Young and A.A.Bourke. The ballot produced 7 votes for Cllr Mrs.C.Young and 6 votes for A.A.Bourke plus one abstention. **RESOLVED** Cllr Mrs C.Young be elected Vice-Chairman for the year 2007 / 08.

POLICE MATTERS

Reported Crime Figs- Perton- 02/04/07- 14/05/07

Activity	Incidents	Notes
Rowdy / ASB behaviour	25	#1
ASB Vehicles	1	
Criminal Damage	3	#2
Damage to M/V	2	#2
Burglary dwelling	1	
Burglary other building	1	#3
TWOC/ take vehicle	0	
Attempt/Theft of M/V	1	
Theft from M/V	1	
Theft Other	3	#4
Shop theft	4	
Assaults	2	#5
Robbery	0	
Sex Offences	3	#6
Drugs	2	#7

1. There were an average amount of Rowdy and Anti-Social Behaviour reports for this period. Hot spot areas include the schools, Gainsboro' Drive, Jedburgh Ave and Anders Sq areas. Football in Anders Square continues to be a source of ASB. Several Section 30 warnings have been issued, and so far all have been complied with.
2. The problem of mindless damage has not gone away but was lower this month.
3. Two juveniles have been dealt with for burglary at Perton Library.
4. The theft other incidents relate to theft of lead flashing from the schools. This type of offence is occurring in the nearby Wolverhampton areas and enquiries are ongoing.
5. There were two separate assaults where the offenders were arrested.
6. There were 3 sex offences and the offender has been arrested and remanded in custody.
7. Two youths received street cautions for possessing cannabis.

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

The Members discussed the current Policing situation on Perton.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will write to Inspector Pat Shanaghan to give visibility to the fact that whilst we now have two dedicated PCSOs we rarely see either PC Frank Hossack / Rachel Street at Perton thus our overall level of Policing is now

reduced at a time when Section 30 needs enforcing. Also once the PCSOs take occupation at the Civic Centre they should consider a Record of Attendance and any Health & Safety implications.

Cllr N.P.Caine stated that following the recent sex offences on Perton the area at Dippons Lane needs some work.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will write to SSDC requesting the hedges on Dippons Lane should be cut back and replaced with post and rail fences and consideration be given to improvements to the street lighting in this area.

07/08 **ACCEPTANCE OF REVISED CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS**

RESOLVED that with immediate effect Perton Parish Council will adopt the new 'Local Authorities Model Code of Conduct Order 2007'. The Clerk will issue the appropriate notification details to the Standards Board and South Staffs Council.

08/08 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

N.P.Caine declared personal and prejudicial interest in cheque No 103341 paid to NRG Group UK Ltd.

Cllr Mrs P.Allen and all other members of the Perton Playing Fields Association declared personal interest in all matters relating to PPFA.

09/08 **ELECTION OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED that:

- (a) The Management Committee comprise of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, D.J.Billson, A.A.Bourke, S.Bott, D.Fereday & Mrs A.James.
- (b) The named substitutes be Mrs P.N.Pitt and A.Black.

10/08 **ELECTION OF PLANNING COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED that:

- a) The Planning Committee comprise of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Mrs P.Allen, D.J.Billson, A.K.James, A.Black and N.P.Caine.
- b) In respect to implementing a revised process in order to deliver a 'Parish Council' view per application the Parish Clerk will speak with other Parish Clerks to determine accepted best practice and report back to next meeting.

11/08 **ELECTION OF FINANCE COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED that the Finance Committee comprise of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, A.A.Bourke, A.K.James and D.Heseltine.

12/08 **ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO SIGN CHEQUES**

RESOLVED that the following members be authorised to sign cheques: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, A.A.Bourke, DJ Billson, A.K.James and Mrs A.James.

13/08 **ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES**

(a) Perton Playing Fields Association

RESOLVED that the Councils' representatives be Mrs R.Heseltine, A.K.James, Mrs P.N.Pitt, Mrs S.Bott, Miss C.Duffell, D.Fereday, S.Bott and A.Black.

(b) County Council – Transport

RESOLVED that the Councils' representative be A.K.James

(c) County Council – Youth

RESOLVED that the Councils' representatives be D.J.Billson

14/08 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd April 2007 be confirmed as a true record and the Chairman of the Council duly signed them.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 4th April 2007 be confirmed as a true record and the Chairman of the Council duly signed them.

Cllr Mrs P.Allen on behalf of PPC extended thanks to Cllr A.K.James (in his absence) for a most successful and productive year as PPC Chairman during 2006/07.

RESOLVED that the draft minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on 30 April be accepted for information pending formal acceptance at the next Management Committee meeting.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 27th March 2007 be confirmed as a true record following previous acceptance and sign-off by the Finance Committee.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 2nd May 2007 be accepted for information pending formal acceptance at the next Finance Committee meeting.

15/08 **CLERKS REPORT – MAY 2007**

Matters ongoing / resolved as at 14th May 2007

- New Drain Request – Sandown Drive. Agreed by Staffs CC Highways Division – Awaiting completion on 2007 / 2008 budget. Delayed due to sickness within division. (David Wright)
- Landscaping @ Livingstone Avenue – Staffs CC (David Wright) now has quotation from SSDC and is likely to proceed shortly.
- Subways Repainting – Anticipate completion by time of Council meeting.
- St Andrews Drive Chicane – See correspondence under Staffs County

Council Section

- Clear up of Dippons Lane at the rear of Mercia Drive. Work completed on 4th April 2007 (S.Poyser) and will be re-scheduled at four weekly intervals.
- Invitation to Chairman and guest to Codsall Parish Civic Sunday on 10th June 2007. Chairman unavailable, invite passed to Vice-Chairman.
- Invite to First Staffs CC / SPCA Local Councils Conference at Stafford on 29th June 2007. – Passed to Chairman.
- Promoting Perton in South Staffordshire Visitor Guide.
- SSDC Children & Young Peoples Conference Friday 6th July 2007– D.Billson likely to attend.
- Receipt / Thank you from Codsall Community Arts Festival Staffs CC Minerals & Waste Issues / Options Core Strategy available from www.staffordshire.gov.uk
- Postwatch – Framework for Post Office Closures. E-Mail details provided to Postwatch for updates.
- Playground Sponsorship Requests:
 - Sainsburys plc – Refused
 - Marstons Brewery – Refused
 - Bromford Housing – Support pledged verbally - £tba
 - SSHA – Responded to ‘Application for Sponsorship’.

16/08 **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2007/2008**

RESOLVED that the meeting dates as distributed be accepted.

17/08 **PARISH PLAN REPORT**

RESOLVED that the plan will be reviewed at a special meeting of the Parish Council to be held at 7.00 pm on Monday 21st May 2007. Invitations will also be extended to the external members of the Parish Plan Committee.

18/08 **GARDENS – Cllr D.Billson**

Cllr D.Billson requested that the Members give consideration and support to the introduction of an ‘Annual Perton Garden’ competition. This will be reviewed again at the next meeting.

19/08 **INSURANCE RENEWAL 2007 / 2008**

The Clerk outlined the recent issues experienced with the quotation provided by, NALC Approved, Allianz Cornhill. The original quote offered was £6949.00 but the Clerk had managed to secure discounts of £497.88 and was also still in discussions regarding the level of premium associated with Councillors Fidelity Guarantee.

RESOLVED that the Clerk proceed with the renewal of the policy at a maximum cost of £6451.12 for the year commencing 1st June 2007 pending the outcome of negotiations for additional discounts. The Clerk to investigate alternative insurers / costs for the following year.

20/08 **PARK HOME RESIDENTS – SILVER POPLARS**

The correspondence on this topic from Sir Patrick Cormack MP was noted.

21/08 **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS**

- A) **RESOLVED** to renew the Annual subscription to Staffordshire Parish Councils Association – SPCA at a total cost of £653.00.
- B) **RESOLVED** to renew the Annual subscription to the ‘Community Council of Staffordshire’ at a total cost of £20.00.

22/08 **APPLICATION FOR FUNDING**

(a) **County Air Ambulance:**

RESOLVED to provide a donation of £200.00. The tickets for this years ‘New Years Eve’ Disco will be endorsed to show support for this charity.

(b) **Campaign to Protect Rural England:**

RESOLVED to provide a donation of £100.00.

(c) **FC Perton:**

RESOLVED that FC Perton be allowed ‘Free of Charge’ use of ‘The Bar’ as a meeting room to carry out FA First Aid Training course for up to three hours on each of 12th July, 19th July and 21st July. The additional required date of 14th July cannot be allowed since a wedding party has pre-booked at this time. FC Perton will be advised by the Clerk to pursue the Pavilion as an alternative venue on this date.

23/08 **SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

(a) **MUGA:**

RESOLVED that, due to the numerous points outstanding and the complexity of this project, the five Perton District Councillors will arrange to meet with Barbara Juniper of South Staffordshire Council in order to resolve the outstanding issues and seek clarity regarding the best way forward. They will report back at the next meeting.

(b) **Parish / District Liaison Group Consultation:**

RESOLVED that the Chairman will complete and return the questionnaire.

(c) **Assessment of Air Quality:**

This information was noted.

(d) **Councillors Report:**

Cllr D.J.Billson advised that his responsibilities now included Strategic Services.

Due to the Elections there were no other reports.
STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

(a) **Perton School Buses – Charging & Policy:**

Cllr R.J.Marshall stated that:

- a) there was now a good chance that by September 2008 a 'By Term' payment plan would be in place.
- b) Over 16 had a special rate in order to encourage them to stay at school but even this rate had increased from £190 to £240.
- c) Adrian Hunt / Charles Souter from the Education Office would be attending a meeting in the near future to discuss.

(b) **Parkway / St Andrews Drive Chicane & Toucan Crossing:**

The members noted and discussed the comments in the letter from Wayne Mortiboys.

RESOLVED that the Clerk write again in response to this letter to invite them to come back to Perton and check this junction since as we all live here we know the issues and know there is a problem.

(c) **Changes to Bus Services:**

The information provided was noted.

(d) **County Councillors Report:**

Cllr R.J.Marshall informed the Members that with regard to Care Home closures the time table for consultation was now in place. For example on Wednesday 23rd May 2007 for Bilbrook House there would be a consultation at the home and at the same time a Union meeting with the home employees. July 31st will be the closing date for the return of all gathered information. Additionally there will be an 'Appeal' against the previous 'Appeal of Injunction'.

Cllr S.Bott queried whether Codsall Day Centre and Respite Homes were affected by the closure programme. Cllr R.J.Marshall stated that the original plan had always been to close all Council run facilities and replace with Private Sector alternatives.

He also advised that in respect to a previously raised issue regarding support for disabled people visiting Waste Sites this support should be available and the matter is under review.

Cllr Mrs P.Allen raised concerns regarding the closure of the Youth Club for refurbishment and the ongoing issue regarding occupation of the Library.

Cllr R.J.Marshall advised that the refurbishment was not complete and no firm date for completion could be given.

RESOLVED that the Clerk write to Richard Coggins advising that we want our LMIS money back and to invite Jim Brady to the next Council Meeting

Cllr A.A.Bourke raised an issue concerning new street lighting that had been provided in Fallowfield and that residents were complaining that they were now too bright. Cllr R.J.Marshall was able to advise that to proceed they would need to conduct a full road consultation.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

a) **Applications considered since the last Parish Council Meeting**
Planning Applications received from South Staffordshire Council and reviewed by the Parish since the last Parish Council meeting on Monday 2 April 2007.

Application No.	Proposals
07/00276/FUL	Single storey rear extension - 19 Franklyn Close, Perton, South Staffordshire
07/00348/FUL	First floor side extension - 23 Brunel Grove, Perton, South Staffordshire WV6 7YD
07/00369/FUL	Kitchen extension and garage - 1 Thirlmere Grove, Perton, South Staffordshire WV6 7PG
07/00442/FUL	Two storey side extension and dormers added to garage roof Kynance, Pattingham Road, Perton, Wolverhampton

The Council raised no objections to the above proposals.

07/00295/FUL	Detached triple garage - Hollies Farm, Hollies Lane, Pattingham, South Staffordshire
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The Council raised no objections to the above application subject to:

1. the garages only being used in connection with the house
2. a reduction in the height of the ridge line which is too high

06/01395/COU	Conversion of existing stables to form four dwellings - The Bradshaws, Holyhead Road, Codsall, South Staffs
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The Council raised no objections to the above application subject to clarification that the stables qualify and that no trees are removed.

07/00331/FUL	Erection of dog boarding kennels following the demolition of agricultural buildings and stable - Symond Syde, Holyhead Road, Kingswood, South Staffordshire. WV7 3AP
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The Council objected to the above application on the grounds that:

1. The closeness to residential properties is a major problem
2. The Planning Officer's report (2.3) states that the (PPG2) greenbelt must be protected.

07/00335/FUL	Replacement of flat roof with pitched roof and single storey rear extension - Cherringham, Bridgnorth Road, Trescott, Wolverhampton WV6 7ET
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The Council raised no objections to the above application subject to size limitations.

07/00395/FUL	6 ft fence - 55 St Andrews Drive, Perton, South Staffordshire WV6 7YL
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The Council objected to the above application on the grounds that extending

the 6 ft fence boundary to the hatched area would destroy the open aspect of the street scene.

07/00418/FUL	(re-submission of 07/00129/FUL) Two storey rear extension comprising lounge and bedrooms 43 Idonia Road, Perton, Wolverhampton WV6 7NQ
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The Council raised no objections to the above application subject to no objections from their neighbours and the size of the development.

Proposals withdrawn:

07/00314/FUL	Replace rear fence and increase height by 61cm Bodiam Court, Perton, Wolverhampton WV6 7UX
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b) **Process**

This item was covered earlier in the meeting during the selection of the Planning Committee.

26/08

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

			£
27/03/07	DD	Unicom	60.02
27/03/07	BACS	Wages Week 52	1001.21
27/03/07	103338	Location Maps Ltd	1140.00
28/03/07	DD	BT	105.71
28/03/07	DD	British Gas - Electricity	480.27
28/03/07	DD	British Gas - Gas	849.35
29/03/07	103339	Post Office Ltd	115.51
29/03/07	103340	Down to Earth Grounds Maintenance Ltd	94.00
29/03/07	103341	NRG Group UK Ltd	230.72
29/03/07	103342	PJB (Midlands) Ltd	237.35
02/04/07	STO	Kalidescope Limited	47.00
02/04/07	DD	SSDC Non -Domestic Rates	1197.00
03/04/07	BACS	Wages Week 1 & Week 2 advance	2007.97
03/04/07	BACS	Inland Revenue	2605.41
03/04/07	BACS	Staffordshire CC Pension Fund	1263.83
05/04/07		Bank Fee	8.00
05/04/07	103343	Mr P.Drakeley - Deposit Refund	150.00
05/04/07	103344	OCS Group UK Limited t/a Cannon	30.56
05/04/07	103345	John Ellis Associates Limited	293.75
13/04/07	103346	Perton Carnival	350.00
13/04/07	103347	Brisol Limited	119.59
13/04/07	103348	Perton Place	55.00
13/04/07	103349	Veolia ES (UK) Limited	88.99
13/04/07	103350	Robert Acton Product Developments	16.45

13/04/07	DD	Drinkmaster Ltd	167.72
17/04/07	DD	Severn Trent	125.06
18/04/07	BACS	Wages Week 3	974.72
24/04/07	DD	Unicom	60.09
25/04/07	103351	BHX Leisure	250.00
25/04/07	BACS	Wages Week 4	3612.95
28/04/07	DD	British Gas - Electricity	521.05
28/04/07	DD	British Gas - Gas	615.27
TOTALS			18874.55

Cllr N.P.Caine queried cheques 103342 and 103351 and the bank fee associated with the end of year statement , the Clerk was able to provide satisfactory explanation regarding these expenses.

b) 2007/2008 Budget-to-date

The Clerk provided a brief explanation of the budget figures which were noted.

c) Internet Deposit Account

RESOLVED that PPC would endorse the decision of the Finance Committee to proceed with the opening of an Internet Deposit Account following the closure of Portman Building Society. This will offer additional convenience but more importantly a better rate of interest.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 11th June 2007 @ 7.00 pm

The meeting closed @ 9.37 pm

Chairman
11th June 2007