

**Minutes of the Meeting of  
PERTON PARISH COUNCIL  
held at the Perton Civic Centre on  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2010 @ 7:00pm**

Present D.Fereday [Chairman]  
AA Bourke [Vice-Chairman]  
Mrs C.M Young  
Mrs P Allen  
Mrs S Bott  
Miss C Duffell  
DJ Billson  
AK Black  
S Bott

District Councillor - R Moreton  
Parish Clerk - Tony Tappenden  
Members of the Public present: 5

25/11 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Mrs R Heseltine, Mrs A James, Mrs PN Pitt, D Heseltine and AK James.

26/11 **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

a) **Members of the Public**

A resident from Reynolds Grove informed the Members that she was having continued problems with children, some from her street others from elsewhere, playing ball games in the street and doing damage to gardens and property in the process. **RESOLVED** that Cllr D.Billson who has Ward responsibility will visit the parishioner to obtain more information to see if a solution can be found.

b) **Letter of complaint regarding Pear & Partridge from anonymous source.**

*The Clerk distributed to all Members present a second letter regarding this matter received from a named resident in Stephenson Drive.*

The Members considered the anonymous letter of complaint and it was noted that this covered not only perceived 'noise pollution' at The Pear & Partridge but similar issues with scrap collectors and bird scarers at local farms. The matter was mitigated by a second letter which was very supportive of the pub management and staff who, it stated, are very helpful and do all they can to be a community pub that gets involved in local good causes and makes an effort to be considerate towards local residents.

Samantha Wilkes, the licensee at The Pear & Partridge was in attendance at the meeting and was invited to comment. She said that she does everything in her power to operate a friendly family pub that is trouble free and not a source of nuisance, adding that the pub has community values and works in many ways to support the community. She said that she has a 1:00 o'clock license but does not stay open that late and gates are locked a half hour after closing. She said that a known problem that she has no control over is that late taxis do use the location as a drop off point when coming to Perton since considerable additional charges are made by taxi drivers

coming further in to Perton, but this has nothing to do with the pub.

Cllr D.Billson said that this issue is not within the jurisdiction of the Parish Council since both issues with noise and matters relating to licensing both sit with the District Council at Codsall who have the people and powers to deal with such things.

Cllr AK Black said that he was concerned about the issues concerning taxi drivers but Samantha had raised this herself.

Cllr A.Bourke asked Samantha if she was familiar with the 'Don't Let Your Team Down' initiative which is part of the Council led Pub Watch programme and Samantha said that she is involved in Pub Watch and this initiative is related to the World Cup and they have all the appropriate information and support material. She added that the smoking area is not widely used and people tend to smoke just outside the main door.

Cllr Mrs P.Allen said that generally the issues reported relate to anti-social behaviour and as such are police matters but in any case we cannot action anonymous letters since we are unable to respond to the originator and cannot be sure if the originator is genuine.

District Councillor R.Moreton, a member of SSDC Licensing, said he would speak to David Pattinson to request that he speaks with the taxi companies to ensure that they are made aware of the issues associated with using the pub as a drop off point.

Cllr S.Bott said that the point raised regarding the noise created by the scrap collectors was very valid and that this is now an everyday issue affecting all of Perton although the bird scarers are a normal part of rural life. He said that there is a process in place to deal with such matters and therefore anyone with a complaint should follow the process via the Environmental office at South Staffs Council.

Cllr Billson said that the Environmental office are already aware of and involved with the scrap collector problem which is a current enforcement issue but in the event of further occurrences the vehicle number should be noted and reported.

Cllr Mrs C.Young reinforced the point that we have no jurisdiction over these matters and stressed that anonymous complaints do nobody any favours as we cannot be sure of the integrity of such complaints. She asked Samantha if cars were ever locked inside the car park and Samantha said this was the case if somebody had too much to drink and left the car overnight but steps had been taken with the placement of bollards to ensure that cars could not be taken around the gate prematurely.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk will forward both the letters to South Staffordshire Council Environmental Team with a note stating the discussions that had taken place.

27/11 **CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE – DEFERRED FROM ANNUAL MEETING**

Cllr D.Fereday read and then signed the Declaration of Office.

28/11 **ELECTION OF FINANCE COMMITTEE – DEFERRED FROM ANNUAL MEETING**

Cllr AK Black suggested that in the interest of ensuring that future meetings are quorate it would be a good idea to increase the committee membership from five to six persons which would maintain the quorum at three.

The Clerk said that the five existing members had all indicated a preference to stay on the committee but that Standing Order 42 states that The Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio shall be voting members of every committee so this would mean a committee of seven requiring a quorum of four. He further explained that Standing Order 47 can be used to order a committee quorum at a level other than one-half its members if preferred.

**RESOLVED** that the Finance Committee comprise of Cllr Mrs C.Young, Mrs P.Allen, A.K.Black, D.Heseltine, AK James, D.Fereday and A.Bourke. Additionally the quorum is to be set at three persons.

29/11 **ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO SIGN CHEQUES – DEFERRED FROM ANNUAL MEETING**

The Clerk advised that the Standing Orders require six signatories but does not specify that this number should include the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

**RESOLVED** that the following members be authorised to sign cheques: Mrs C.Young, AK Black, DJ.Billson, Mrs RA.Heseltine, Mrs AM.James and AK.James.

30/11 **POLICE MATTERS**

a) **Police Report**

Perton Parish Council Police report meeting 14th June 2010  
 Period covered 03/05/2010 to 06/06/2010.

Beat areas CF24 Mercia  
 CF25 Richmond  
 CF26 Central  
 CF27 Leasowe

	Cf24	Cf25	Cf26	Cf27	Totals
Anti Social Behaviour	0	3	13	5	21(+9)
ASB vehicle	3	0	0	0	3(+1)
Criminal Damage	0	0	0	0	0(-2)
Damage M Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0(-2)
Burglary Dwelling	1	2	3	2	8(-4)
Burglary Other Bldg	0	0	0	0	0(-)
Theft M Vehicle	0	0	3	0	3(+2)
Theft from M Vehicle	1	0	1	0	3(-1)
Theft other	0	1	4	0	5(-2)
Assault	0	0	1	0	1(-1)
Robbery	0	1	0	0	1(+1)
Sexual Offences	0	0	0	0	0(-)
Drugs	0	1	0	0	1(+1)

**ASB**

The new hot spot for anti social behaviour is Hamble Grove. Many of the increase of 9 incidents relate to young children playing football on a small green area there. Another motor cycle was seized and parties were dealt with for traffic related matters during this period.

**Burglary Dwelling**

The burglary dwellings were high again. Two were attempts but we had another where the keys and vehicle were stolen during the night. There is an ongoing operation in place with Staffs and W Mids police to tackle this issue.

**Vehicle Crime**

2 of the 3 reported stolen vehicles ended with arrests. A female was arrested where the car had been stolen from a house party. A male was arrested in the vehicle where the keys were left it on the drive during the day. This is believed related to scrap collectors.

**Violent Crime**

The one assault was a minor incident amongst friends at a party. Unfortunately another robbery occurred along Dippons Lane. Offenders believed to have traveled to Perton from other areas.

### **Other**

Again we had several reports of stolen bicycles. Offenders are prepared to go to the rear gardens, either overnight or during daylight. Without trying to stereotype the price of scrap has risen and Perton is in the good scrap mans' guide. Nothing should be left about that could be mistaken for scrap.

Any information please contact Perton's Neighbourhood Team via voicemail 0300 123 2345 - PC Duncan Lampitt (04259), PC Frank Hossack (03537), PCSO Teresa Wilkes (08861), PCSO Ashley Tooth (016722).

*The Clerk distributed a letter from Inspector Andy Chapman regarding the next Police Authority Consultative Committee Meeting which will be a 'Partner and Communities Together' (PACT) meeting at Kinver on 15<sup>th</sup> July.*

Cllr A.Bourke said that he has noticed that many of the figures appear to be rising and it was particularly worrying that the burglary figure is up considerably on last year and four up on last month though the report indicates that the number is four down.

Cllr D.Billson said this could be coincident with the recent release of prisoners that may be re-offending.

Cllr S.Bott observed that the figures for anti-social behaviour also appear to be rising considerably despite a special focus on this area though it was noted that some of this is young children with footballs.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk will correspond with the NPU to inform them that the stats are incorrect and to flag concerns about the increasing numbers of incidents, particularly in respect to burglary.

### 31/11 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### 32/11 **MINUTES**

#### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2010**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10th May 2010 be confirmed as a true record and the Chairman of the Council duly signed them.

### 33/11 **DRAFT MINUTES**

a) **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting postponed from 8<sup>th</sup> June and held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2010 together with income statement for May be accepted for information.

### 34/11 **STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

#### a) **Perton Youth Club**

Cllr D.Billson said there had been little change but the club would remain open and the reviews remain ongoing. He said that he had now met with Lesley Baird, the County Councils new Young Peoples Service District Manager for South Staffordshire and that he will invite her to attend the next Parish Council meeting.

b) **Flooding – Severn Drive**

Cllr D.Billson said that he was pleased to report that a Public Meeting for those affected by the Severn Drive flooding issues will take place in the Civic Centre Madeline Moore Room starting at 7:00 pm on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June. In attendance will be representatives from Staffordshire County Council Highways, South Staffordshire Council, Severn Trent Water and South Staffordshire Housing Association.

c) **County Councillors Report**

Cllr DJ Billson reported that:

- Lesley Baird is now installed as Young Peoples Service District Manager for South Staffs
- He participated in a meeting at Wombourne regarding Gypsies where in excess of 300 people attended. Petitions have been started that call for Gypsies to have the same rights as everyone else rather than the current position which favours them over other citizens particularly regarding the matter of planning consent. Cllr Billson said that recently it has been revealed that twenty one applications from Gypsies that had been refused planning permission had subsequently been allowed on appeal and there have been more cases since. New S.Staffs MP Gavin Williamson is supporting the petition and will try to get central government to change the rules. He added that Codsall Parish Council has recently received a letter from the Gypsy Council indicating that they are considering the purchase of land along the A41 bordering Perton PC. Cllr Billson said that whilst Councillors are not allowed to sign the petition he can make it available to anyone who wants access to it.
- He sits on the Fire Authority and is Vice Chairman of the Equality and Diversity Group. He said that there was a request from the group to deliver a twenty minute presentation to the Council and the Members agreed that this would be useful.

Cllr S.Bott asked if the CCTV has yet been installed at Perton Buses Only lane and Cllr Billson said to his knowledge it had not yet been fitted but it was now overdue.

Cllr Miss C.Duffell asked if Cllr Billson was aware of the recent reports in the Express & Star concerning bus usage but no additional information was available so Cllr Billson said he had no knowledge as to what this may refer to. However he said that a grant had been received to enable better consultation with residents concerning bus services.

Cllr Mrs P.Allen asked Cllr Billson what his attitude is regarding the subsidised bussing to school of catholic pupils. Cllr Billson said that he was shocked to see preferential treatment in this way adding that in respect to any parent opting to send their child to any form of faith school this was personal choice and should not open the door for subsidy.

35/11

**SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

a) **District Councillors Report**

Cllr R.Moreton reported that there are three events remaining in the Inter Parish Games and at this time we have a slender lead of just two points.

There were no further reports.

36/11 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Planning Applications received from South Staffordshire Council and reviewed by the Parish since the last Parish Council meeting on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2010.

Application No.	Proposals
10/00168/FUL	First-floor bedroom extension over garage - 17 Brunel Grove, Perton WV6 7YD
10/00295/FUL	Rear conservatory - 7 Fowler Close, Perton WV6 7YQ
10/00327/FUL	First floor extensions over existing garage - 15 Rockingham Drive, Perton WV6 7SJ
10/00370/FUL	Two storey side extension - 7 Corfe Close, Perton WV6 7RT

The Council raised no objections to the above proposals.

Application No.	Proposals	Decision
10/00260/FUL	Erection of front porch (retrospective) -15 Hopton Close	Granted

37/11 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

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

**List of Payments since last reviewed at the meeting of the Council on 10th May 2010**

04/05/10	STO	Kalidescope Limited	47.00
04/05/10	DD	SSDC Non -Domestic Rates	1242.00
04/05/10	103950	Mr Derek Walker - Internal Audit	260.00
05/05/10	BACS	Wages Week 5	1208.04
05/05/10	103951	MGD Solutions	780.00
05/05/10	103952	Arts Alive	293.75
07/05/10	103953	Perton Place	55.00
07/05/10	103954	Thomas Telford School - Deposit Refund	200.00
07/05/10	103955	Mr J.Birkett - Deposit Refund	200.00
10/05/10	103956	James Mcnaughton Group Ltd	97.76
10/05/10	103957	Computacenter (UK) Limited	105.43
12/05/10	BACS	Inland Revenue	2292.59
12/05/10	BACS	Staffordshire CC Pension Fund	1593.35
12/05/10	BACS	Wages Week 6	1171.02
19/05/10	BACS	Wages Week 7	1173.41

21/05/10	103958	Drinkmaster Ltd	51.75
21/05/10	103959	Brisol Ltd	160.35
21/05/10	103960	Mr J.White - Deposit Refund	150.00
26/05/10	BACS	Wages Week 8 & Month 2	4436.51
27/05/10	103961	Quality Office Supplies Ltd	50.09
27/05/10	103962	MGD Solutions	196.00
27/05/10	103963	Broker Network Ltd (Came & Company)	4998.19
27/05/10	103964	South Staffordshire District Council	147.54
27/05/10	DD	Unicom	48.68
28/05/10	DD	British Gas - Electricity	299.80
28/05/10	DD	British Gas - Gas	334.30
28/05/10	DD	Veolia ES (UK) Limited	134.61
		<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>21727.17</b>

**b) Budget-to-date 2010/2011**

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

**38/11 CLERK'S REPORT – JUNE 2010**

Matters ongoing / resolved as at 14<sup>th</sup> June 2010

- Adjustments to Asset Register are now complete and aligned to insurance renewal revised quotation which required small premium increase which was waived by Came & Co. Insurance has now been moved from AON to Aviva (via Came & Co) on the basis of a 3 year long term agreement commencing 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010 at a starting premium of £4998.19 with improved cover saving in excess of £1800.00 per annum.
- SMP Ltd has now replaced full bearing assembly on the Playground Momentum Roundabout with a new heavy gauge sealed unit which is maintenance free. Out of warranty but parts and labour were provided at no charge.
- Civic Centre Ladies WCs now all reattached to floor following corrosion of screws causing units to become unstable.
- Audit Commission: Full submission of PPC Annual Return and Annual Governance statement for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 sent on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2010 in advance of deadline date of 9<sup>th</sup> June 2010.
- Steve Greenway of SRG has repaired flat roof leaking skylight and surface damage which caused puddles in Terry Harding Room corridor during rain showers. Also carried out repairs to deteriorating lead flashing and pointing in same area which was agreed in January 2008 (Management Minute 42/08) but held pending possible building work over flat roof.
- Re-negotiated BT Broadband contract for two years: Significant speed increase and rental reduced from £19.79 pcm to £12.50 pcm.
- Ian Glynne - weekend litter warden has resigned to take up full time employment elsewhere within his trade. Vacancy advertised.
- A vacancy exists for a Local Authority Governor at Perton First School.
- Perton & Codsall Utd FC Update: 'The club has picked up a fair play award sponsored by Birmingham City FC and numerous team of the month awards. A few trophies have also come our way as a bonus for winning leagues and cups. Please mention our efforts at the next meeting; we have to hope that our friends in the community have deep pockets to keep us going'.
- Complaint received from parishioner stating that playground self closing gate (pub side) is too heavy and springy and has caused her to bruise her heel as a 'helpful' third party held

the gate open for her and then let it go. Checked out performance and it does feel very tense – additionally gate on opposite side is now permanently open as self closing mechanism has been damaged. SMP contacted on 7<sup>th</sup> June.

- British Gas four year contract for Gas is due for renewal in October 2010 and British Gas three year contract for Electricity is due for renewal in January 2011. 90 days notice is required on both so will commence immediate trawl of the market for best options and present to Management Committee.

The Clerk informed the Members that in respect to the playground self closing gates, he has now been informed that these gates will be replaced by the manufacturer (Record) free of charge despite the fact they are now out of warranty.

Cllr A.K.Black said that he felt he had the right background to add some value as a Governor to Perton First School and it was **RESOLVED** that he be nominated to fill the current vacancy.

39/11 **CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**RESOLVED** that the Citizen of the Year award programme will be retained utilising the same format as last year.

**DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010 @ 7.00 pm

The meeting closed @ 7.55 pm

**Chairman**  
**12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**