

**Minutes of the Meeting of
PERTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Perton Civic Centre on
Monday 14th September 2009 @ 7:00pm**

Present Mrs CM Young [Chairman]
AK Black [Vice Chairman]
Mrs RA Heseltine
Mrs P Allen
Mrs PN Pitt
Mrs A James
Miss C Duffell
DJ Billson [District & County Councillor]
AK James
AA Bourke
D Fereday
S Bott

Wombourne NPU: Insp A.Chapman
Wombourne NPU: Sgt P.Davies
Express & Star Reporter – Rita Maman
Parish Clerk - Tony Tappenden
Members of the Public present: Six

55/10 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Mrs S Bott, D Heseltine, N.P.Caine and District Councillor R Moreton

56/10 **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

- 1) Mr T.Harding opened the session with a complaint about the location of the speed indication device (SID) on The Parkway close to Offa's Drive stating that this location was pointless and a waste of public money. He said that the most important location was on the bend on the opposite carriageway as some motorists speed away from Sainsburys catching pedestrians unaware as they cross on the blind corner. He further stated that he not seen any application of drivers car brake lights resulting from triggering the speed indication device which also registers a top speed of 46 mph even though it is obvious on occasions that some vehicles are travelling faster than this. He also said that the speed device was originally installed in tree branches, was out of action days after it was installed and then after a short while removed altogether. He said that in any case it should be a flashing sign as used near the Council offices at Codsall, plus a speed hump should be provided before there is an accident.
Cllr Mrs P.Allen responded stating that she and the Clerk had accompanied Mark Keeling from Staffs County Council and the SID locations were based on meeting County Council criteria together with feedback from the public and personal knowledge. She said that it was a known fact that many motorists come on to Perton passing the Pear & Partridge, negotiate the roundabout at Stephenson Drive and then accelerate hard towards Sainsburys and Perton centre and this was particularly dangerous if there was a bus at the stop just passed Offa's Drive. The second sign was installed on The Parkway near to Severn Drive at a location that has a long downhill straight that leads to the South East roundabout near Hawksmoor Drive which is again a known area for speeding and there are often school buses in this vicinity.
The Clerk advised that there had been a long period of discussion with the County

Council to obtain some form of control signage since Parish Councils are not permitted to place their own signs on the highways. He said that the permanent display signs, such as the one at Codsall that display the speed limit to motorists that are driving to fast are called Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) and these will only be provided on fixed criteria based on accident data and nowhere on Perton qualifies. The Speed Indicator Devices are provided on a time share rota basis and each location gets the SIDs about four times a year for 2 to 3 weeks at a time as it is known that after a brief period of time they lose effectiveness. The Clerk added that before the installation was carried out the introduction of these signs was advertised in Perton Place magazine and we received a few calls from parishioners advising preferred locations which in every case was close to where the individuals live which indicates that there are speed issues all around The Parkway. Additionally the sign when installed was sited by the installer team some thirty yards in front of the kerb marking placed by Mark Keeling for reasons unknown and the County Council representative was very embarrassed to find that it was hidden by tree branches and quickly took personal action to prune the branches, shortly afterwards the battery failed and was replaced within a few days and soon thereafter our time slot expired, we should see the signs reappear fairly soon for our next time share cycle.

- 2) Suzanne Cash of St Andrews Drive raised serious concerns regarding the increasing levels of anti-social behaviour now prevalent on Perton and said that she had come to live in the village some three years ago and was very disappointed at the apparent escalation in problems. She said that she had recently been a direct victim having a 'For Sale' board thrown through her window at night but was just as concerned about issues in Perton centre where her children will not now walk due to threatening problems they have encountered from young men and women. She said that despite good schools and a generally good location Perton was suffering greatly at the hands of a number of youths who drink, cause damage and act in very anti-social ways. She said much more needs to be done and that as a community we want and should get a much greater police presence.

Insp Andy Chapman who was present at the meeting to respond to previous complaints made by Perton Parish Council regarding policing on Perton said that he was aware of the specific problem experienced by Suzanne and would speak privately with her after the session. However he said that generally there is a broad responsibility for dealing with the problems outlined and that each of us has a responsibility and should support the partnership between the police and local authorities and various other bodies to deal with these issues. He said that there are two anti-social orders relating to Perton individuals and many of the issues are caused by outsiders coming on to Perton. He said that the partnership included youth workers, PCSOs and Community Assurance Teams and although resources are finite he was able to assure us that very good things are going on.

Suzanne said that despite these assurances the centre of Perton together with paths into the centre and by the Muga was often populated with groups of rowdy boys drinking and bringing down the tone of the neighbourhood.

Insp Chapman said that the police had good relationships with local stores selling alcohol and said that the source of the alcohol was from outside the area and also sometimes from people's own homes.

Cllr Miss C.Duffell said that local shops are vigilant but that adults buy drink for the youths and there needs to be more deterrents.

Cllr Mrs A.James said that the PCSOs were good in the centre and did confiscate alcohol from young people.

Cllr A.Bourke said that he was generally very supportive of the police and PCSOs and saw a lot of them as he has a business in central Perton but many people want to come to Perton and not be bothered by issues at the Muga and youth shelter and these

problems have worsened in the last six years.

A member of public asked if anybody had ever been caught buying and distributing alcohol to youngsters to which Insp Chapman said yes this was an offence.

Cllr D.Billson asked if when youngsters have alcohol confiscated by the police why they are not then prosecuted and Insp Chapman said that would be an unusual course of action. Cllr Billson said much of the problems arise due to lack of prosecutions for a variety of anti-social offences that invariably go unpunished. Insp Chapman responded saying that the criminal justice system is a slow beast but that it was generally a bad thing to criminalise teenagers for the sake of it.

Cllr D.Fereday said that he had been personally approached by youths asking him to purchase beer and cigarettes and the situation is considerably worse on Friday and Saturday evenings. Insp Chapman said that he recognised that more resources were required at certain times but that unfortunately was the same case everywhere else and his resources are not infinite.

57/10 **POLICE MATTERS**

a) **Police Report**

Reported Crime Figs- Perton- 13/07/09 - 04/09/09 (10 weeks)

Rowdy / ASB behaviour...	49
ASB Vehicles...	2
Criminal Damage...	6
Damage to M/V...	2
Attempt / Burglary dwelling...	3
Burglary other building...	1
Attempt / Theft of M/V...	0
Theft from M/V...	2
Theft Other...	8
Assaults...	3
Robbery...	0

1. The nuisance calls for this period appear high, but when you consider that it's a 10 week period, which included the whole of the school summer holiday it is understandable. Over the 7 weeks off, the local youths have caused nuisance all over the village. The main hotspots were around Sainsburys, Anders Sq. As a result 2 youths are now on ABC contracts and banned from the store. Other incidents included noise, litter and small fires on the playing fields. On one occasion, up to 15 drunken underage boys and girls were removed from the top field. They were camping causing noise and litter issues whilst singing around their camp fire. Any youths now found acting in an anti social manner face their parents being notified and if repeat offenders the ABC contract. On a positive note PCSO's Tooth and Wilkes, in conjunction with SSDC ran Perton Fun day in the park area. This was well supported and was a real success.
2. As for the priority crime. There were 3 reported burglaries. One involved the theft of the car, and another involved the theft of a handbag from an insecure house. The burglary other building was a shed where the bike was stolen. There were 2 reports of damage to vehicles, and 6 reports of mindless damage, one included a for sale sign being thrown through a window. There were no reports of theft of vehicles but 2 reports of theft from vehicles, one of which included the taking of the number plates.

3. There were 3 reported assaults, two of which were of a minor a nature. However one involved a couple of youths walking home late at night and being assaulted. It is believed the offenders were from off the village and may well have been looking for locals for retribution. This is yet to be confirmed as enquiries are still ongoing.
4. There were several reports of theft for this period. The majority being shop thefts again. However there was one report of a bike being stolen and one of an old washing machine being taken from the front of a house. I would remind everyone that Perton is in the good 'scrap-mans' guide so nothing should be left around.

Any information please contact Perton's Neighbourhood Team via voicemail 08453 303132 - PC Duncan Lampitt (04259), PC Frank Hossack (03537), PCSO Teresa Wilkes (08861), PCSO Rachel Street (08862) and PCSO Ashley Tooth (016722).

Commenting on the report Insp A.Chapman said that there had been an issue recently in Dippons Lane but such incidents are few and far between and invariably involve youngsters targeting their own age groups for cash or mobile phones. Most of Perton issues tend to be 'anti-social' problems although around the area in May / June there had been a spate of burglaries which has now all but stopped. Aside from the anti-social problems all other issues remain low and are opportunists. He said that generally business crime is down by 30% but with Perton having Sainsburys we still have the highest count in the area.

Cllr Mrs A.James asked if the report was comprehensive as she was aware of incidents that have never appeared on a report, stating that she was aware of a gun being produced and used at a party in the early hours one morning. Insp Chapman said that the report would normally cover all items but could only include information where the matter had been reported to the police and occasionally an item may be left out where any form of publicity could hamper an investigation.

Chairman Mrs C.Young said that the Parish Council very much liked to have police presence at the monthly meeting to explain matters arising from the report and to respond to any issues arising during the meetings.

Insp A.Chapman said that he could not and would not promise to have an officer in attendance but will make every effort to have a PCSO come along or PC Lampitt subject to duty rotas. However he did say that PCSOs do not feel able to answer all matters arising and said that when in attendance the Council Members should recognise this and ensure they were not too demanding and the PCSOs would act as go between for matters that they could not personally deal with.

Cllr.S.Bott said that it was important for the Council to have confidence in local policing and this comes, in part, from being able to communicate as a group.

b) **Policing Issues**

Insp A.Chapman said he was concerned about the issues that had required letters to be sent back and forth and felt that much of the problem was in respect to communication and therefore his proposal was to offer PPC a two way access to the Neighbourhood Watch OWL system which has not been done before in Staffordshire and would be an excellent way to provide communication links to and from Councilors stating that good intelligence leads to better deployment of resources. He said that it would be necessary for each Cllr to sign a Data Protection Form in order to be added to the database.

Cllr Mrs P.Pitt said this sounded like a good idea and that she sees PCSOs often and gets good feedback; she said that police surgeries were also a good idea.

Cllr Mrs P.Allen said that PPC are always keen to try new something new and a more direct link may be useful. She pointed out that a lot of young people are blameless and that she had received great feedback regarding the fun day. She said the issue is partly

about communication so why not have a try with the new system.
Cllr D.Billson said that he would prefer to see the PCs outside policing Perton rather than stuck in meetings and use of the OWL system will hopefully support this.

RESOLVED that PPC will elect as a group to trial the OWL system for improved two way communication and the Data Protection forms will be managed via the Clerks office.

In summary Insp A.Chapman said that many things were ongoing to improve matters at Perton; Ashley is setting up a fishing Club for youngsters, Theresa is aiding junior fire fighters and the fun day had been excellent. Also Richard Coggins from the Youth Service has a long term commitment to Perton. There will again be Christmas parties for the elderly together with inter-generational groups and the PCSOs will be having street meetings whilst Pub Watch will cover Perton together with Codsall, Bilbrook and Pattingham. He added that the long term consideration for the Bus Lane had come up at the JOG and it has been agreed that a camera will be set up to aid enforcement against drivers making unlawful access. He closed stating that in respect to anti-social behaviour it has been suggested that the Youth Shelter should be considered, subject to budget availability, for refurbishment or replacement.

c) **Perton Fun Day Report**

The information was noted and several of the members said that the day appeared to have been a great success and was very well attended.

58/10 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr Mrs P.Allen declared personal and prejudicial interest in cheque 103822 in respect to The Church at Perton due to her role on the Church Council.

Cllr A.K.James declared personal and prejudicial interest in cheque 103820 in respect to Down to Earth Grounds Maintenance Ltd.

59/10 **MINUTES**

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13th JULY, 2009

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th July 2009 be confirmed as a true record and the Chairman of the Council duly signed them.

60/10 **DRAFT MINUTES**

(a) RESOLVED that the minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on 7th September 2009 be accepted for information.

(b) RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 8th September 2009 together with income statement for July & August be accepted for information.

61/10 **STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

a) **Youth Service Asset Management Plan**

The correspondence was noted and Cllr D.Billson was able to confirm that all Youth Club closures were on hold until year end whilst budgets were assessed and pending a complete review of the system.

b) **Flooding – Severn Drive / Itchen Grove**

Cllr D.Billson advised that a meeting will take place on Wednesday 16th September (not 17th as stated in correspondence) at 2.00pm at Codsall and will be attended by all key groups, additionally he said that he was aware that some drains in Churnet Grove had been found to be blocked. A public meeting will take place as soon as possible once the problem and resolution has been identified.

c) **County Councillor's Report**

Since being elected into office in June the new cabinet have invested an extra £30,000,000 into roads.

A full investigation is being carried out into the closure of youth clubs. This will include funding and need in the various parts of the county.

I have been elected to serve on the following committees, Fire Authority Scrutiny and Performance, Fire Authority Human Resources, Planning and Corporate Parenting. (Children's Homes)

Cllr Mrs P.Pitt asked if any progress had been made in respect to school bussing fee collection to which Cllr Billson said that Fiona Cauldwell from County Council has stated that the whole system is being re-appraised but currently it was a fact that sixth form students do have a reduced rate with 16 – 19 years old paying £296 per annum but 4 – 16 years old pay £390. Additionally Standing Order payments are available to older students but not the younger children but this is under review.

Cllr A.Bourke asked if the County Council were possibly looking at free travel for all Perton children but Cllr Billson said that this was not possible since the boundary determining free travel was a matter of national law.

Cllr Billson was also able to confirm that in respect to the property on Richmond Drive that is subject to a 'tidy up' order a summons has now been issued.

From the last meeting there had been a concern raised regarding the 880 bus service to Stafford and Cllr Billson said that the new company operating this route had purchased the buses from A to Z the previous franchise operator, but these buses had caused many problems so have now been taken out of service.

Cllr A.Black confirmed that he had recently used the 880 service to Penkridge which had been on time, was reasonably well driven and there had been no issues.

62/10 **SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

a) **Perton Youth Club**

Cllr Billson advised that the planning application had some technical issues and so as not to lose money the application had been withdrawn and then re-submitted last week with a comprehensive letter prepared by the Clerk addressing the known issues.

Additionally Cllr Billson said that we have now received conditional Building Regulation Approval plus he has received confirmation of a £50k Youth Bank grant towards the project which is also conditional. He said that should the County Council reverse the previous decision to close the youth club it is still a fact that the existing building is in very poor condition and it would be a good idea to continue with the Pavilion extension to accommodate the club.

Cllr Mrs P.Allen agreed saying that we should build the extension and then charge out for its usage.

b) **Parish / District Liaison Group Meeting – 16th September**

It was agreed that as a minimum the Chairman and Vice Chairman would attend this meeting.

c) **South Staffs Local Strategic Partnership – Elders Group Event**

It was agreed that as a minimum the Chairman and Vice Chairman would attend this meeting.

d) **South Staffs Local Strategic Partnership – Locality Member Forums**

The information was noted.

e) **District Councillors Report**

Cllr A.K.James said that he had been dealing with some issues at Kingswood specifically at Southfork:

- Site licences and planning licence were not being adhered to.
- Prevented burning of redundant mobile homes.
- Siting of additional houses on private land without permission.

Cllr D.Freday reported that he had become involved in a local issue concerning anti-social behaviour and was following up with police and housing association. He also said that in the absence of District Cllr R.Moreton he was pleased to advise that Perton had achieved first place in the inter-Parish Games and the award presentation would take place at Perton some time in November.

It was suggested that PPC should seek some profile on this and the Clerk will check with Victoria Lacey at SSDC to see where we stand on this in respect to press release and posters etc.

Cllr Mrs R.Heseltine said that she had attended several meetings including training and regulatory and two community environmental meetings regarding pest control and has the opportunity to go out with the pest control officer to witness first hand the challenges involved in this role.

District Report Strategic Services September

I have had several meetings investigating rural transport issues. These will culminate in a Rural Transport Conference on 28th October 2009.

There has been a seminar on Phase Three of the Spatial Strategy dealing with Gypsies.

He added that at the scrutiny meeting last Thursday this matter had not been agreed and they are seeking an interim policy to expand existing sites and build only along the A5 corridor but there were many objections, another option would be non green field sites but there will be follow up meetings.

63/10 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Planning Applications received from South Staffordshire Council and reviewed by the Parish since the last Parish Council meeting on Monday 13th July, 2009.

Application No.	Proposals
09/00439/FUL	Two storey side extension 17 Athelstan Grove, Perton, South Staffordshire WV6 7NL
SS.09/06 09/00485/CCD	Small extension to the existing community room, to toilet and a kitchenette with access from the internal space to an enclosed and secure play area Perton Library, Severn Drive, Perton, South Staffs. WV6 7QU
09/00510/FUL	Two storey side extension 9 Cornovian Close, Perton, South Staffordshire WV6 7NU
09/00517/FUL	Single storey rear extension, pitch roof to side and canopy to front 2 Harald Close, Perton, South Staffordshire WV6 7NJ
09/00575/FUL	Rear single storey extension 41 Jedburgh Avenue, Perton WV6 7XR
09/00582/COU	Change of use to café (A3) Party Time, 29 Anders Square, Perton WV6 7QH

The Council raised no objections to the above proposals.

09/00479/FUL	Single storey extension to side and rear 47 Melrose Drive, Perton, South Staffordshire WV6 7XH
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The Council raised no objections to the above application subject to size.

09/00545/FUL	Replacement Garage Amber Verde, Pattingham Road, Perton WV6 7HD
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The Council raised no objections to the above proposals subject to the removal of the existing garage.

09/00460/FUL	Kitchen extension East Trescott House, Bridgnorth Road, Trescott WV6 7EU
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The Council raised no objections to the above proposals subject to the 30% increase limitations.

09/00568/FUL 09/00569/LBC	Conversion of garage into gymnasium Trinity Cottage, Jenny Wakers Lane, Trescott, South Staffordshire WV6 7HB
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The Council raised no objections to the above proposals subject to planning guidelines being implemented on conservation.

DECISIONS - The following decisions received from South Staffordshire Council:

Application No.	Proposals	Decision
09/00325/FUL 09/00275/FUL 09/00272/FUL 09/00262/FUL 09/00433/ADV 09/00485/CCD SS.09/06 09/00439/FUL	Conservatory to rear - 12 Biggin Close, Perton Ground and first floor extensions and entrance gates - 1 Heimat, Holyhead Road, Kingswood Two storey side extension - 32 Leasowe Drive, Perton Two storey extension - 51 Hawkesmoor Drive, Perton 2 off internally illuminated folded aluminium fascia - 2/3 Anders Square, Perton Small extension to the existing community room to toilet and kitchenette with access from the internal space to an enclosed and secure play area - Perton Library, Severn Drive, Perton WV6 7QU Two storey side extension - 17 Athelstan Grove, Perton	Grant of Planning Permission
09/00334/FUL	Double extension and side extension - 2 Kingswear Avenue, Perton	Refusal of Planning Permission

PLANNING INSPECTORATE DECISION:

Appeal dismissed - Full report available in the Clerk's office.

APP/C3430/ A/09/2102125	Two storey rear extension - 33 Beverston Road, Perton	Planning Inspectorate 19/08/09
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64/10 **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 13th July 2009

01/07/09	DD	SSDC Non -Domestic Rates	1310.00
01/07/09	STO	Kalidescope Limited	47.00
01/07/09	BACS	Wages Week 13	1204.42
01/07/09	103810	South Staffordshire District Council	473.80
03/07/09	103811	John Ellis Associates Limited	287.50
03/07/09	DD	Severn Trent Water	284.57
06/07/09	103812	MGD Solutions	765.00
08/07/09	BACS	Wages Week 14	1141.10
07/06/09	103813	Ricoh UK Ltd	222.31

07/06/09	103814	Besam Limited	225.40
09/07/09	103815	OCS Group UK Limited t/a Cannon	34.09
13/07/09	103816	Brisol Limited	244.25
15/07/09	BACS	Wages Week 15	1105.95
15/07/09	BACS	Inland Revenue	2657.97
15/07/09	BACS	Staffordshire CC Pension Fund	1696.36
20/07/09	103817	South Staffordshire District Council	88.16
21/07/09	103818	Perton & Codsall Utd. F.C.	250.00
22/07/09	BACS	Wages Week 16 & Month 4	4581.85
24/07/09	DD	Unicom	58.20
27/07/09	DD	Drinkmaster Ltd	124.34
27/07/09	103819	Wolverhampton Musical Comedy Company	250.00
28/07/09	DD	British Gas - Electricity	389.57
28/07/09	DD	British Gas - Gas	70.48
28/07/09	DD	Veolia ES (UK) Limited	136.74
29/07/09	103820	Down to Earth Grounds Maintenance Ltd	92.00
29/07/09	BACS	Wages Week 17	1193.97
01/08/09	DD	SSDC Non -Domestic Rates	1310.00
01/08/09	STO	Kalidescope Limited	47.00
03/08/09	103821	S.G.S. Systems Ltd	1212.10
03/08/09	103822	The Church at Perton	100.00
03/08/09	103823	Nobisco Limited	72.91
03/08/09	103824	Christine Rogers t/a C&M Carpet Solutions	150.00
04/08/09	103825	IRIS Business Software Ltd	78.20
05/08/09	BACS	Wages Week 18	960.17
07/08/09	103826	Besam Limited	112.13
07/08/09	103827	S.G.S. Systems Ltd	126.50
12/08/09	BACS	Wages Week 19	1067.77
12/08/09	BACS	Inland Revenue	2391.28
12/08/09	BACS	Staffordshire CC Pension Fund	1480.22
12/08/09	103828	South Staffordshire District Council	436.21
13/08/09	103829	Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation	84.84
19/08/09	BACS	Wages Week 20 / Month 5	4048.49
24/08/09	DD	Unicom	60.31
26/08/09	BACS	Wages Week 21	1327.73
28/08/09	DD	Veolia ES (UK) Limited	111.69
28/08/09	DD	British Gas - Electricity	242.13
		TOTALS	34354.71

b) **Budget-to-date 2009/2010**

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

65/10 **CLERK'S REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2009**

Matters ongoing / resolved as at 14th September 2009

- Claim of £3186.00 in respect to final Lottery grant for Muga received from SSDC on 4/9/09.
- Pavilion Extension Project:
 - Conditional Building Regulation Approval received on 18th August
 - Planning approval re-applied for w/c 7th Sept 2009 including letter of 'special circumstances' in respect to Green Belt issues.
- Letter of thanks from Perton & Codsall Utd in respect to PPC grant of £250.00
- HMRC remittance of £1865.95 received on 19th August by way of VAT refund up to 31st July 2009.
- Litter Warden recruitment and shift re-alignment now complete:
 - Monday to Thursday inc (Total of 14 hours) Dave Lloyd
 - Fridays to Sundays inc (Total of 10 hours) Bert Loader
- Summer Project Progress (See Management Committee Minutes for details):
 - Stage Electrical work – Near Completion
 - Nursery Office / Toilets damp issue - Completed
 - New Intruder Alarm from SGS Ltd - Completed
- Minor 'warranty' repairs and replacements for Perton playground apparatus scheduled with SMP Ltd
- Copy of South Staffordshire Council Tourism News (Summer 2009) received in July – Clerks office.
- Staffs CC Community Gang on Perton from 29th September for 5 days.
- South Staffs Council – Gambling Act 2005 – Statement of Principles – Draft copy of the revised proposals available in Clerks office and available for comments up to 9th October.
- Community Council of Staffordshire – AGM at 7.30 pm on 24th September at Gnosall Memorial Hall – details with Clerk.
- SSCVA AGM at 7.30 pm on 24th September at Trinity Methodist Church, Codsall. Details together with Annual Report and Financial Statements available from Clerk.
- SPCA September 2009 Newsletter distributed at meeting, Annual Report and Accounts available in Clerks Office.
- SPCA seeking nominations to fill 15 vacancies on their Executive Committee to serve up to the 2011 AGM also seeking nominations for elected senior officers of the Executive. Details with Clerk.

66/10 **ALLOTMENTS**

Aside from the three requests attached with the agenda Cllr A.K.Black said that he had two additional letters requesting allotments on Perton so we are close to having to deal with the matter. The Clerk explained that the six parishioner 'petition' was not the issue here since some time ago Perton Parish Council had recognised the demand for allotments on Perton and was seeking to provide facilities but in this instance the Parish Council does not own land and attempts to find land via South Staffs Council has so far not been successful.

Cllr Black said that 'Wild about Perton' had identified a possible plot by 'Dippons' but investigation at the site showed problems regarding access and a second identified site was unsuitable due to large numbers of trees causing poor light and affecting growing conditions. Cllr Mrs P.Allen said that this matter had been pursued some time ago and there were huge costs involved and Cllr D.Billson said that allotments often were targets for theft and vandalism and there would be additional significant costs if any site were fenced off.

RESOLVED that, pending ongoing land searches, the Clerk will write to those requesting allotments to see if they would be interested in forming a committee to promote their own

cause, help find a suitable site and determine ongoing direction once the site is identified.

67/10 **CORRESPONDENCE**

a) **Dog Fouling and Parking on Footpaths**

Following discussion it was generally noted that this location is no better or worse than other Perton areas other than being lakeside where there is a problem principally caused by wild geese. Designated dog walks are not seen as desirable or indeed operable but the district council has a policy of providing dog bins and notices. Specific instances require reporting to the police or South Staffs Council but the Parish Council has no jurisdiction in this area.

Cllr A.K. James said that a successful prosecution has occurred in this area but it is very difficult to pursue but nonetheless parishioners should not see the Parish Council as a police force in these matters.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will write to the gentleman concerned and explain the current situation and his best course of action in respect to future concerns.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 12th October 2009 @ 7.00 pm
The meeting closed @ 9.15 pm

Chairman
12th October 2009