

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of  
PERTON PARISH COUNCIL  
held at the Perton Civic Centre on  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2011 @ 7:00pm**

Present A.A. Bourke [Chairman]  
Mrs C.Young  
Mrs P.N. Pitt  
Mrs P.Allen  
Miss C.Duffell  
D.Billson  
A.K.James  
A.K.Black

Tony Tappenden – Parish Clerk  
Members of the Public present : None  
Journalists: None

116/10 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were offered and accepted from Cllrs Mrs A.James, D.Fereday and N.P.Caine.

117/10 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

118/10 **PARISH PRECEPT 2011/12**

The Clerk provided an overview of the previously distributed outline budget for 2011/12 which shows the anticipated budget items that will be carried forward from the current year together with ring-fenced items that make up the total sum carried over. The outline budget, as prepared, indicates a zero increase over the current year.

The members scrutinised the 2011/12 outline budget and there was considerable debate regarding key services and various fiscal allocations and the budget was checked and discussed line by line.

Cllr Mrs P.Allen said that if possible the budget could be reduced by around £5k and proposed areas that may be pertinent to cut such as the grants allocation made by the Parish Council and the Queens Diamond Jubilee fund.

Cllr D.Billson said that our precept has been fixed at £200k for the last three years due to good financial management and if we were able to continue next year with no increase then, with inflation being as high as it is, this would be a reduction in real terms. He said that he felt it was not a good idea to reduce the grant allocation budget because with the new VAT increase this would put financial pressures on charitable organisations and clubs that are the typical grant seekers.

Cllr A.K.James said that we must also take note of the impact of the VAT increase insofar as it affects our own budget because, whilst we can generally claim back our VAT, there will be inflationary forces on many products and services that we use as an indirect cause of the VAT increase. Cllr James also made the point that our precept is generally lower than parishes of a similar size although it is not possible to make direct comparisons.

The Clerk pointed out that whilst a reduction of £5k would clearly be a positive thing if possible it would only benefit an average Band D property by three pence per week whilst the Parish Council could provide significant benefit to the whole community with this sum of money.

It was generally agreed that a substantial sum needs to be allocated to the building maintenance budget since many internal and external aspects of the Civic Centre require refurbishment, it was further agreed that this allocation be ring-fenced.

Following additional debate along similar lines Cllr Mrs P.Allen withdrew her proposal for a precept reduction and it was agreed that, given the continuing current financial situation, it was desirable that the overall budget should not be increased beyond the levels of 2010 / 11.

**2011-12 PPC Annual Budget**  
**Between 01/04/2011 and 31/03/2012**

<b>Group/category</b>	<b>Total Actual</b>
<b>Income</b>	
<b>START OF YEAR 'RING FENCED'</b>	<b>118000.00</b>
<b>START OF YEAR: BUDGET BROUGHT FORWARD</b>	<b>60000.00</b>
<b>Monthly Civic Centre Income</b>	<b>60000.00</b>
<b>Parish Precept</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Interest</b>	<b>240.00</b>
<b>Grants</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>60240.00</b>
<b>Total Income + Start of Year</b>	<b>238240.00</b>
<b>Expenses - Annual Costs</b>	
<b>Salaries &amp; Wages</b>	<b>107000.00</b>
<b>Inland Revenue - Tax &amp; NI</b>	<b>33000.00</b>
<b>Staffs County Pension Fund (4% Uplift)</b>	<b>21300.00</b>
<b>Actuarial Strain: Mrs Moore</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Actuarial Strain: Mrs Weatherington</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Chairmans Allowance</b>	<b>700.00</b>
<b>Internal &amp; External Audit</b>	<b>2000.00</b>
<b>Computers &amp; Software</b>	<b>1000.00</b>

Future Elections	4000.00	Ring Fenced
Telephone & Broadband	1040.00	
Came & Company: Aviva Insurance	5500.00	
Parish Grants	8000.00	
Christmas Decorations	2000.00	
Subscriptions: SPCA / SLCC / Others	1070.00	
Bus Shelters / Maintenance	5000.00	
John Ellis Health / Safety Consultancy	1000.00	
Music Festival & PPC Events	1000.00	
Perton Parish Plan	0.00	
Photocopier	1200.00	
Office Stationery & Postage	1250.00	
Electric	4500.00	
Gas	5000.00	
Severn Trent Metered Water	1400.00	
SSDC Non Domestic Rates	13000.00	
Refundable Deposits - Room Hire	4000.00	
Centre Boiler Maintenance & Servicing	1000.00	
Civic Centre Lift Maintenance	500.00	
Civic Centre Auto Front Door	500.00	
SGS Security Mtce	1000.00	
Electrical Test / Insp / Fire Alarm / Emergency Lighting	1000.00	
Civic Centre General Maintenance / Refurb	60000.00	Ring Fenced
Performing Rights Society	500.00	
Refuse Collection	1350.00	
Advertising: E&S / Perton Place	660.00	
Fire Extinguisher Maintenance	200.00	
Drink Machine Rentals / Supplies	800.00	
Contingency	5000.00	
Cleaning Products / Hygiene Services	2000.00	
PPC Civic Sunday	1500.00	
Web Site Support / Maintenance	540.00	
Staff Training	400.00	
SSDC Premises Licence Fee	200.00	
Civic Awards	500.00	
Kitchen Vent Deep Cleaning	275.00	
Protective Clothing & Litter Pick Items	250.00	
Queens Diamond Jubilee Fund	12000.00	Ring Fenced
SSDC Grounds Maintenance & Inspections	1200.00	
SSDC: Sussed Out & About	1500.00	
TV Licence	150.00	
Village Notice Boards & Signs	500.00	
Civic Centre CCTV Cameras	0.00	

Playground Maintenance / Upgrades & Insp	5000.00	
Street Lighting	0.00	
Additional Litter Collect / Parish Warden	0.00	
Telephone PBX Replacement	0.00	
PC Lan Network / Back-Up	0.00	
Refurb / Engrave Chain of Office	0.00	
Playing Fields Drainage Shortfall	0.00	
Perton Parish Operating Reserve	55000.00	Ring Fenced
Senior Citizens	1000.00	
Graffiti Cleaning	3200.00	
MUGA	5000.00	
Playground Renewal	0.00	
Youth Club Project	20000.00	Ring Fenced
Partnership Working	30000.00	Ring Fenced
Petty Cash	1200.00	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>437885.00</b>	
<b>Total Funds less Total Expenses = Shortfall</b>	<b>-199645.00</b>	<b>= Precept</b>

**RESOLVED** that , after a proposal which was seconded and by unanimous agreement following a show of hands, the budget for 2011/12 as shown above be accepted and that the precept for 2011/12 be set at £200,000.00, this being the same as the preceding year. This Precept means that the average Perton household at Council Tax Band D will be required to pay £54.64 annually or £1.05 per week, a 0% increase on 2010/11.

The meeting closed @ 7.35 pm

**Chairman**  
**14th February 2011**