

**Minutes of the Meeting of**  
**PERTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**held at the Perton Civic Centre on**  
**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2011 @ 7:00pm**

Present R Moreton [Chairman]  
Mrs CM Young  
Mrs PN Pitt  
Mrs R Heseltine  
Mrs L. Turner  
DJ Billson  
AK James  
AA Bourke  
C Evans

Parish Clerk - Tony Tappenden  
Members of the Public present: 13  
Neighbourhood Police Team: PC Duncan Lampitt & Sgt Paul Cook

80/12 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Mrs P Allen, Mrs A James, NP Caine, P Adams & DM Fereday.

81/12 **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

Mr O'Leary informed the meeting that, in consideration of recent issues with bus routings, there will be a Travel Review meeting in the Council Chamber at Wolverhampton Civic Centre on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October starting at 7.00 pm and the public are welcome.

Mrs Capstick said she was concerned regarding numerous rumours she had heard concerning planning approval for Sainsbury's that will mean the closure of the shop units opposite. She said she was particular concerned about what will happen to the Post Office and how difficult it would be for Perton residents if they had to live without one. Cllr DJ Billson replied saying that there are no plans submitted and whilst he had heard similar rumours it was impossible to comment until we knew the details of any plans as and when submitted. Should plans be received then this information can be added to the Council website.

82/12 **POLICE MATTERS**

**A Police Report**

Perton Parish Council Police report meeting 10th October 2011  
Period covered 06/09/2011 – 01/10/2011.

Beat areas FX31 Mercia  
FX32 Richmond  
FX33 Leasowe  
FX34 Central

	FX31	FX32	FX33	FX34	Totals
Anti Social Behaviour	0	0	2	6	8 (-22)
ASB vehicle	1	0	0	0	1 (-12)
Criminal Damage	1	1	2	1	5 (+2)

Damage M Vehicles	1	1	0	1	3 (-)
Burglary Dwelling	1	0	0	0	1 (-)
Burglary Other Bldg	0	0	0	0	0 (-3)
Theft M Vehicle	0	0	0	0	0 (-)
Theft from M Vehicle	1	0	1	2	4 (+3)
Theft other	0	0	0	2	2 (-8)
Assault	1	0	0	0	1 (-)
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0 (-)
Drugs	0	0	0	0	0 (-1)

### **ASB**

This months anti social behaviour figures for both nuisance youths and nuisance motor vehicles has dropped significantly. This may be due to the school holidays being over and that a mini 'moto' bike has been seized. The hot spot for nuisance youths was the alleyway near to the library. Police attention will be given to this area to reduce such incidents.

### **Burglary**

Only one reported burglary for this period, which again is good. On this occasion offenders entered an insecure garaged attached to a dwelling. They stole property including a remote controlled helicopter. Again there were no burglaries where cars were stolen with their keys.

### **Vehicle Crime**

A new trend of theft from motor vehicles was noticed during this period. 3 reports of theft from commercial vehicles that had lead or copper piping in the roof containers. Unfortunately 3 vehicles were mindlessly damaged. One rear window was smashed. Another car was scratched and another had its wing mirror damaged.

### **Violent Crime**

Again no street robberies. The only assault was between two youths who knew each other and no formal complaints were made.

### **Other**

The reported thefts also dropped. This may be due to a persistent shoplifter was arrested and admitted 10 offences around the area. He was not local and he now faces court in early October. There were 13 fixed penalty tickets issued. This is low; possibly due to annual leave and that on several checks no offences were disclosed.

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

**Or email [duncan.lampitt@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:duncan.lampitt@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk)**

Cllr AA Bourke said that in respect to misuse of the buses only lane he was aware of a number of business vehicles such as taxis and local stores illegally accessing the lane and asked if the police could send letters to the offending companies. PC Lampitt responded saying that he did not think letters would be effective because it would be very difficult to get the details to the actual drivers concerned and he said that the main problem is that Satnav devices are leading commercial drivers to the area and they would continue to monitor misuse of the lane.

Cllr RE Moreton said that he had been given an unofficial statement from a parent whose son had been mugged in the Dippons Lane area last Wednesday but was not keen to make an official report. PC Lampitt said that obviously the figures would not show an incident such as this if it is not reported and he asked Cllr Moreton to please try and persuade the person concerned to make an official report. Sergeant Cook asked Cllr Moreton if this was an evening incident and Cllr Moreton said he thought that it was.

There were no further questions and Cllr Moreton asked the members of the public if they had any comments or queries but there were none.

83/12 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr AK James declared personal and prejudicial interest in cheque 104161 paid to Down to Earth Grounds Maintenance Ltd.

84/12 **MINUTES**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2011**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th September 2011 be confirmed as a true record and the Chairman of the Council duly signed them.

Cllr Mrs CM Young said that she was not happy with the Chairman's comments contained within the minutes which stated he was the second longest serving Councillor in Perton and she said that both herself and Keith James had considerably longer service. The Clerk said that he would not change the minutes as the statement was indeed made by the Chairman but he would ensure that the current minutes included the comments from Cllr Mrs Young.

85/12 **DRAFT MINUTES**

a) **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Queens Diamond Jubilee Committee Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2011 be accepted for information.

Cllr AK James said that not all Committee Members attended the last meeting and the next meeting is on the 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2011 and he urged that all Committee Members attend as urgent decisions need to be taken soon. Cllr DJ Billson said that he now has information regarding the County Youth Orchestra which he will provide at the next meeting.

b) **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011 together with the income statement for September be accepted for information.

86/12 **STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

a) **Road Works, Coleridge Drive**

It was noted that the works, brought about due to a burst water main, are now complete.

b) **County Councillors Report**

Cllr D.Billson reported that:

- He has attended several Fire Authority meetings.
- At the Planning meeting there were two planning issues: At the waste disposal site near the Toll Road/Cannock there is a legal issue following the contractor's offer which was seen as potential bribery therefore the application was refused but there is likely to be an appeal.

- Via Service Challenge there is likely to be yet more cuts.
- There is a planning event for Parish Councillors next week and he urged as many to go as possible as there is some new information to impart.
- Regarding Rural Transport the County will fund a pilot to make better use of vehicles: Social Service vehicles are used to take people to day centre's and then sit idle all day till the day visitors are ready to be returned home. From 1<sup>st</sup> April these vehicles will be better utilised.
- i54 site: funds have been granted from Central Government following considerable work by Andy Johnson, Dave Billson and Gavin Williamson MP. The 700 jobs that will be created at the Jaguar Engines plant are also likely to produce a further 2,000+ jobs through spin-off industries. Three local universities will also join together and utilise the i54 site for test laboratories.
- Following a meeting with Ancer Spa there are still Oak trees to be felled along the A41 by way of revenue generation and the plans to implement a natural burial site are likely to go ahead if there are no environmental issues and they are currently talking to a specialist company in Leicester that have already implemented this type of site. Burials utilise wicker coffins and have no memorial stones just a plaque on a small cross and a tree planted in each burial plot, and when the tree reaches sufficient size the plaque is moved to the tree. It is envisaged that the site could be up to 5 acres in total.

Cllr AK James said that he would like to know more at some stage regarding the natural burial site plans and said that the environmental agency needs to be brought in early and given full information because there are known issues regarding the local water table. He said that similar sites at Wergs Hall and Billy Wilson's cannot be used for exactly this reason. Cllr DJ Billson responded saying that when an application is made they must include an environmental agency statement but he said we do need to keep an eye on this because Ancer Spa are driven by the needs of the Wrottesley Estate but, nonetheless, have to follow planning laws and environmental issues.

Cllr AA Bourke asked if there was any update to the Youth Club situation to which Cllr Billson said there was no new information and Cllr Bourke also asked, in respect to Ancer Spa, if there was any new information regarding the proposed housing development. Cllr Billson said that the local plan is out for consultation and with this comes a "call for sites" which determines possible future building sites. However, only a very small percentage of applications are likely to be successful and currently no specific site has yet been considered. He said that Ancer Spa will have similar applications over the county.

Cllr Mrs P Pitt advised that the planning training that Cllr Billson referred to actually took place last week and Cllr Billson said that he knew that it was very current and also advised the Members that there has been a lot of information in the media recently regarding planning and the views of local community groups, he said the information given is only partially true because it only relates to planning matters that fall within the District Plan and that a Parish Council will always override a community group.

**SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**a) **Scrap Collectors**

The information was noted.

b) **Summer SUSSED Out & About 2012**

The information was noted. **RESOLVED** that the Clerk will inform the District Council that we intend to make budget provision for next year and also ask to be kept informed as their plans develop.

c) **District Councillors Report**

Cllr Mrs R Heseltine said that her working month had been reduced due to holidays. She attended the Council Regulatory meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> September and the Health Scrutiny meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2011. Additionally, she participated in the Gavin Williamson MP petition for safer Schools Transport on the 8<sup>th</sup> October and was pleased to report that 300 signatures were collected in just three hours.

Cllr RE Moreton said that he had also participated in the petition event and in the near future a march will be organised to bring home the details of the issue. He added that the petition will be made available for signature at Perton Civic Centre.

Cllr Mrs P Pitt said that she was aware that in the past certain families have approached the County Council independently to state that the walking route is unsafe and had subsequently been awarded free travel for their children, thus she said precedence had historically been set. Additionally, she informed the meeting that it was not necessary to be a Perton resident in order to sign the Petition.

Cllr AK James reported that he has been in discussions with the SSDC enforcement officer John Littleton regarding the ongoing and increasing issue of dog fouling on the Playing Fields where the pitches themselves are often badly fouled. He said the issue is twofold because many people from outside of Perton bring their dogs to the Playing Fields because they are prohibited from parks in Wolverhampton and additionally the enforcement officer is not allowed to act covertly and thus it becomes very difficult to apprehend offenders as they are pre-warned by the enforcement officers high visibility jacket. However, he will let us have some signs to display and hopefully this will help as it is noticeable that fewer children are now playing on the fields presumably because of this problem. Cllr AA Bourke said that this matter needs Police attention to focus on the key persistent offenders.

Cllr AA Bourke queried the current position of South Staffs Council in respect to recent publicity concerning fortnightly bin collections and the possibility of reverting back to weekly collections following the recent announcements from Central Government. He said that in tonight's Express & Star it states that the District Council do not intend to revert and asked what the current position is on this matter. Cllr DJ Billson replied that there had been considerable media coverage regarding the recent announcement about Central Government Funding but the reality is that Central Government are offering a five year scheme which is only funded centrally for the first three years. Cllr Billson said this would impact the cost to local taxpayers who they believe do not want to pay extra to revert to weekly collections which will have a considerable cost impact much of which will not be covered by the central subsidy. Additionally, he said we already have weekly collections that simply rotate according to the type of refuse

being collected and there are no plans to change. Cllr Mrs P Pitt said that Wolverhampton Council is collecting food waste in separate containers and asked if this would be introduced in our area. Cllr Billson said that this type of waste is converted into certain types of fertiliser and requires an 'anabolic digester' but the results are not good. He said that Lichfield and South Staffordshire are two of the best authorities in the country for waste management and he said the authorities would rather budget to stop people losing their jobs rather than revert to a service that is not necessary, adding that South Staffordshire as a rural area in population ratio compared to a city authority such as Wolverhampton which has a big effect on what does and does not work. Cllr Mrs CM Young said she would not collect food waste under any circumstances and that it does no good. Cllr Mrs RA Heseltine said that food collections in Wolverhampton are very unpopular and very little is actually put out with many people using the containers for other things. She also said that a big difference is that there are a huge number of bags and bins in the street and that in our area the rate of vermin has not increased and this is because we do the job properly and do not have plastic bags at the roadside. Cllr DJ Billson agreed with the remarks saying that Town and City Councils often do not use proper plastic bins but instead use plastic bags and these are the cause of very many problems.

88/12 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Planning Applications received from South Staffordshire Council and reviewed by the Parish since the last Parish Council meeting on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2011.**

Application No.	Proposals
11/00733/COM	Installation of 4 No. kiosks and associated works - <b>Severn Trent Water Authority, Bridgnorth Road, Trescott, Wolverhampton WV6 7ET</b>

The Council raised no objections to the above proposals.

11/00643/FUL	Replacement detached garage and store - <b>2 Long Lake Cottages, Dippons Lane, Perton, Wolverhampton WV6 7LQ</b>
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The Council raised no objections to the above proposals subject to the removal of existing garage and not for commercial use.

11/00706/FUL	Two-storey extension to existing cottage. Patio area to frontage. Replacement of all windows in hardwood. Re-cladding of existing dormers in render to match existing - <b>East Trescott Cottage, Bridgnorth Road, Trescott, Wolverhampton WV6 7EW</b>
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The Council raised no objections to the above proposals subject to green belt limitations.

**DECISIONS** - The following decisions received from South Staffordshire Council:

Application No.	Proposals	Decision
11/00502/FUL	Two storey side extension - <b>6 Lowry Close, Perton</b>	<b>Grant of Planning Permission</b>
11/00529/FUL	Single-storey side extension - <b>9 Ayrton Close, Perton</b>	
11/00532/FUL	Two-storey side extension with single storey front extension - <b>12 Shackleton Drive, Perton</b>	
11/00569/FUL	First floor side extension, detached double garage and conversion of existing garage - <b>41 Lytham Road, Perton</b>	
11/00577/FUL	Bedroom and shower room extension - <b>7 Paxton Avenue, Perton</b>	
11/00598/FUL	Single-storey side extension - <b>2 Barley Croft, Perton</b>	
11/00550/FUL	Conservatory in rear garden - <b>7 Cocton Close, Perton</b>	<b>Refused</b>

89/12 **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 12th September 2011**

01/09/11	STO	Kalidescope Limited	48.00
01/09/11	DD	SSDC Non -Domestic Rates	1288.00
01/09/11	104161	Down to Earth Grounds Maintenance Ltd	102.00
05/09/11	104162	Audit Commission	1050.00
06/09/11	104163	A.C.Contracts (Codsall) Ltd	6000.00
07/09/11	BACS	Wages Week 23	1162.01
07/09/11	104164	South Staffordshire District Council	180.00
07/09/11	BACS	Staffordshire CC Pension Fund	1662.70
08/09/11	104165	Promarco Promotions Limited	354.00
12/09/11	104166	MGD Solutions	196.00
12/09/11	104167	South Staffordshire District Council	1024.00
14/09/11	BACS	Inland Revenue	2363.92
14/09/11	BACS	Wages Week 24	1215.00
14/09/11	104168	Perton Playing Fields Association	2000.00
14/09/11	104169	Perton & Codsall Utd FC	250.00
15/09/11	104170	S.G.S. Systems Limited	558.00
16/09/11	104171	Drinkmaster Ltd	61.78
21/09/11	BACS	Wages Week 25	1180.38
22/09/11	104172	Allen Pavitt Contracts Ltd	5205.42
23/09/11	DD	Unicom	54.17
26/09/11	104173	ESPO	101.55
28/09/11	DD	British Gas - Gas	46.25
28/09/11	DD	British Gas - Electric	282.54

28/09/11	DD	Veolia ES (UK) Limited	92.35
28/09/11	DD	Veolia ES (UK) Limited	23.84
28/09/11	DD	BT Business Broadband	45.00
28/09/11	BACS	Wages Week 26 / Month 6	4250.56
29/09/11	104174	A.C. Contracts (Codsall) Ltd	4395.00
29/09/11	104175	John Ellis Associates Limited	300.00

**TOTALS** **35492.47**

**b) Budget-to-date 2011/2012**

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

90/12 **CLERK'S REPORT – OCTOBER 2011**

**Matters ongoing / resolved as at 10<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

- MP Gavin Williamson to meet with Jack Kelly and James Mathieson of National Express on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2011 to review Perton bus issues.
- Staffs CC has requested view of PPC in respect to re-siting of existing bus shelters to line up with route revision of service 10.
- South Staffordshire Council Core Strategy documents have been published on the Council website and can be viewed at [www.sstaffs.go.uk/corestrategy](http://www.sstaffs.go.uk/corestrategy) Hardcopies of the documentation are available in the Clerk's office for public inspection.
- SSDC ConsulteeAccess. The IDOX Public Access for Consultees website has been designed to provide an efficient and easy-to-use process for members of the public to search for and track applications in a variety of sectors. If required we can set up a list of users with access to our preferred consultee group. User guidance notes are available in the Clerk's office.
- The Government has published its initial proposals for the 2013 review of its parliamentary constituencies. There is no planned change for the South Staffordshire Constituency – a map can be printed from the link below showing Wards within the Constituency.  
<http://consultation.boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/whats-proposed/west-midlands/staffordshire-and-stoke-on-trent/>
- **Reminder:** Free Home to School Petition campaign kick-off with MP Gavin Williamson outside Civic Centre at 9.00 am on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October.
- Civic Centre room hire Terms & Conditions have now been modified and bought in to use to reflect the new rules pertaining to care of the new Lakeside Hall floor as agreed by PPC Management Committee.
- Following request to SSDC Landscape Div arising from September meeting the meadow grass area by Lower Lake opposite Pear & Partridge has been cut along with other areas of meadow grass around Perton; Due to bad weather last autumn this will be the first cut in two years.
- The Terry Harding memorial bench has now been installed at the Lower Lake. I have received a letter from Majorie Harding and daughters in appreciation of PPCs financial contribution and the siting of the bench in 'such an appropriate position'.
- **NB:** Helen Minchen of Bromford Housing has moved the residents meeting date. It will now be Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2011 in Civic Centre Boardroom between 7.00 pm and 9.00 pm **not** Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September. PPC Councillors are welcome.
- Flicks in the Sticks – Perton Movie Magic dates & films as follows:
  - i) Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2011 2:00 pm: **Toast** (The early life of Chef Nigel Slater born in Wolverhampton – 96mins)

- ii) Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2011 2:00 pm: **Grow your Own** (Warm-hearted British Comedy – 101 mins)
- iii) Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2012 2:00 pm: **Jane Eyre** (2011 brand new release of classic starring Judi Dench – 120 mins)
- 110 Aluminium Chairs (10 with arms) have been delivered and put into general use.
- Lakeside Hall floor: Issues and solutions identified and will be rectified in due course.
- Chairman's Civic Sunday: Expressions of gratitude received from The Church at Perton, Marjorie Harding and Sue Genge.
- Received 2<sup>nd</sup> payment of Precept from SSDC (£100k)
- SSCVA Annual Report 2010-11 available in Clerks office together with dates & locations for Community Voice Forums to be held in November.

Cllr AA Bourke commented on the first two items of the report saying that he attended the meeting with Gavin Williamson MP and Dave Billson concerning the service 10 route changes and it had been reported that the re-routing is generating something like an additional 50 passengers from Perton and therefore the route is not likely to revert. He said the Arriva service has now apparently improved and utilises the shelters in their existing positions, therefore, we do not want to move any of the existing shelters but new shelters may well be required to service the new route on the opposite side of the Parkway. He added that the issue regarding payment has been resolved stating that drivers will be instructed to collect just one fare for passengers going into town rather than the possible two, into Sainsbury's and out again. Cllr DJ Billson said that hopefully it will be County Council via Charles Souter that will pay in respect of the shelters but agreed that the existing shelters should be retained and new shelters requested for the new route. Cllr Mrs P Pitt said that we also need a new bus stop near or on Gainsborough Drive at the junction with the Parkway by the zebra crossing and a similar stop on the reverse side. **RESOLVED** that the Clerk will respond to Rhonda Gallimore stating that all existing shelters should be retained but new provision would be welcome for the new route if it is retained and also request the provision of the additional bus stops.

91/12 **PPC WEBSITE VOTING / PETITION OPTIONS - QUOTATION**

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk will accept the proposal to add the voting and petition options to our website at a total cost of £95.00.

92/12 **CIVIC SUNDAY – REVIEW OF COSTS AND FUTURE EVENTS – CLLR AA BOURKE**

Cllr AA Bourke said that at recent meetings Civic Sunday had been positioned as the Chairman's 'right' and questioned whether this was in fact the case and stated that it should reflect the overall will of the Council and a costed budget for the event should be presented to the Council in advance for approval. Cllr DJ Billson responded stating that the budget for this and other aspects of Council business was agreed at the start of the year and therefore the principle of the event was agreed at that time. He added that the Codsall people had said it was a very good event and he personally felt it was a good opportunity for the Chairman and the Council to thank public groups. Cllr AA Bourke responded saying that whilst the money was agreed in the budget he felt that this was a buffer sum and the event budget should still be discussed and agreed. Cllr C Evans said that he was one of the few Parish Councillors to attend Civic Sunday and said that the event was very well received and felt it was a good opportunity to say thank-you to many local groups. Cllr Mrs CM Young said that the Civic Sunday was traditional and at one time was always done on a regular basis as a thank-you to public groups but she said that guidelines are required as to who is invited but had no objections to the Church Service and a properly managed event. Cllr Mrs P Pitt said she felt the Church Service is fine but any additional money is better offered as donations. The Clerk provide an explanation of the costing statements that had been distributed with the agenda and said that since that sheet was prepared he had obtained a further reduction of £78.80 from

Plyvine Catering but added that he felt Plyvine had a bad deal since they committed to the event with two staff members and took only £35.50 over the counter, of which £5.18 was returned to the Parish Council by way of commission. In respect to the invoice from Robins Nest Catering this was agreed and signed off.

93/12 **CORRESPONDENCE**

a) **Gavin Williamson MP**

The information was noted

b) **Boundary Commission – Review of Parliamentary Constituencies**

The information was noted. **RESOLVED** that the Clerk will write to the Boundary Commission for England stating that Perton Parish Council fully supports the status quo for South Staffordshire as listed in the initial proposal.

c) **The Church At Perton**

The information was noted

94/12 **REQUEST FOR GRANT**

a) **Perton Library**

Cllr DJ Billson said that in this instance rather than utilise Perton Parish Council grant funds he will use his County Council Community Fund to support this event.

**DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011 @ 7.00 pm

The meeting closed @ 8.15 pm

**Chairman**

**14<sup>th</sup> November 2011**