

**Minutes of the Meeting of
PERTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Perton Civic Centre on
Monday 6th April 2009 @ 7:00pm**

Present: Mrs C M Young [Chairman]
Mrs P Allen
Mrs PN Pitt
Mrs R Heseltine
Mrs A James
Mrs S Bott
Miss C Duffell
DJ Billson
AK Black
SK Bott
NP Caine
D.Fereday
D.Heseltine

Also Present: County Councillor - RJ Marshall
District Councillor - R Moreton
SSHA Neighborhood Involvement Officer– Becky Raven-Smith
SSHA Perton Neighbourhood Manager – Helen Wallett
Parish Clerk – Tony Tappenden
Members of the Public present : 2

187/09 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence was received and accepted from Cllrs AA Bourke and AK James.

188/09 **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

- 1) Lesley Reese of Ennerdale Drive raised several issues:
 - a) The upper lake floating reed beds and the fencing on the island are in need of repair and / or replacement.
 - b) The geese problem as reported in local press and the ongoing solution seems to be having a negative effect in scaring away the ducks but not the geese.
 - c) Litter and broken glass appear to be worsening problems.

Cllr AK Black said that there was an arranged litter pick at 10.00 am every second Saturday and Lesley expressed an interest in joining this. Cllr Mrs S.Bott said that despite the early effectiveness of the alcohol ban she now feared that matters were deteriorating and there is much evidence at the playing fields near Beverston Road of littering from bottles and cans. It was generally noted that the Parish Council has a litter warden on the rounds seven days a week and the District Council also has regular litter clearance. Cllr Mrs P.Allen said that if possible the PCSOs should have a campaign to issue spot fines to litterers.

Cllr D.Billson said that the first two points were both current topics being dealt with by Howard Medicott at SSDC and that he would arrange for Howard to contact Lesley Reese by phone.

- 2) Cllr Mrs P.Pitt raised an issue on behalf of Mrs Cox who has requested that consideration be given to the provision of a zebra crossing at The Parkway in the vicinity of Edgehill Drive.

It was pointed out that Staffs CC has provided subways in preference to road crossings and there is a subway near the required area at Cheriton Grove. Cllr Pitt agreed to take this information back to Mrs Cox.

- 3) Neighborhood Involvement Officer, Becky Raven-Smith and Neighbourhood Manager for Perton, Helen Wallett, both from South Staffordshire Housing Association gave a brief introduction of themselves and their organisation insofar as it affects Perton.

189/09 **POLICE MATTERS**

a) **Police Report**

Reported Priority Crime Figures – 4/3/09 - 31/3/09

Beat areas CF24 Mercia, CF25 Richmond, CF26 Central & CF27 Leasowe

ASB behaviour	22
ASB vehicle related	1
Criminal Damage	2
Damage to M Vehicles	4
Burglary dwelling inc attempts	3
Burglary other buildings	0
Theft M Vehicles inc attempts	0
Theft from M Vehicles	0
Theft other	3
Assault	4
Robbery	0

ASB lower than the 34 incidents reported last time.

20 of the reports for this period take place in the central area around Sainsburys (5), Anders Square (6), and Spenser Avenue (3).

Operation Matrix successful on Friday 20th March with high visibility and plain clothes operations.

20yr local man was arrested in Jedburgh Avenue for possession of cannabis and cocaine with intent to supply.

2 other arrests in Spenser Avenue for possession of cannabis.

One complaint received from a resident on St Andrews Drive about loud music from a vehicle where the driver has been advised.

Some repeat egg throwing continues towards a property on Hawksmoor Drive and there is one incident on Leasowe Drive of youths letting off fireworks inside a bin.

Criminal Damage - 2 reports relate to air pellet damage to a window in Meon Grove and damage to the roof of Sandown 1st School by local children climbing the scaffolding.

Damage to Vehicles - 4 reports. A 19yr old drunken man was arrested on Sunday night 29th March 09 for throwing a wheelie bin at two parked vehicles in Edward Road He has been charged with damage and a minor assault. 2 other vehicles were damaged in unrelated incidents in St Andrews Drive and Franklyn Close.

3 Burglary Dwellings to report – Crowland Avenue (off Canterbury) between 1445 – 1740hrs 20th March, rear kitchen window forced, jewellery stolen, partial footprint at the scene.

Offence in Severn Drive between midnight and 0600hrs 23rd March. Rear kitchen

window forced.

Itchen Grove between midnight and 0830hrs 28th March, rear kitchen window forced. Flat screen tv abandoned.

A 16yr old Pattingham boy has been arrested in connection with 2 of the assaults which took place at Perton Youth club where the victims were burnt with a cigarette lighter. The 3rd unrelated incident relates to a minor incident involving a pupil walking home from Perton Middle School.

The Garden Village bikers event 1st meeting on Friday 27th March 2009 passed without incident.

Gatso enforcement is up and running. Camera safety partnerships will also be utilised at locations between the Gatso cameras on the A454 with the evenings drawing out.

Police have requested that the Exit gate off the site is kept closed for the duration of these meetings in the interests of road safety on a fast bend.

PC3537 Frank Hossack
31st March 2009

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).

b) **Police Activity Day**

Following general discussion it was clear that the Parish Council sees some merit in this event and is happy to support it in principle. However they expressed some concern that the costs would be high and that the Awards for All grants could be slow to deliver if at all.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will write to PCSO Ashley Tooth to advise support in principle plus use of PPC logo but to state that PPC cannot support financially or underwrite the event. They will however offer free use of Civic Centre rooms subject to assurances.

190/09 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr Mrs A James declared personal and prejudicial interest in cheque 103748 paid to Perton Pet & Gardens and Cllr NP Caine personal and prejudicial interest in cheque 103750 paid to A.C.Design & Construction (UK) Ltd.

191/09 **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9th March, 2009**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th March 2009 be confirmed as a true record and the Chairman of the Council duly signed them.

192/09 **DRAFT MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the draft minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on 30th March 2009 be accepted for information.

a) **Speed Indicator Devices – Parkway Location**

Various locations were offered as potential sites for the SIDs. This matter will be finalized with Mark Keeling from the Highways Office at a site location meeting on 7th April.

b) **County Councillor’s Report**

County Council Report for Perton Parish Council – April 2009

There has been some progress with the speed indicator devices (SIDs). Mark Keeling from the County Highways is meeting me on Tuesday 7th to try and decide where the best place(s) would be to position them. Please can this be an agenda item so we can have a clear view on this point.

On the subject of Yellow Buses, it was confirmed at the full County meeting on the 19th of March that the drivers are paid on an hourly rate and are therefore paid even if they sit with their bus for hours at a time. This does need to change as soon as possible to try and get better value for money – probably soon after June 4th....

There is a meeting of the Corporate Policy Scrutiny and Performance Committee on Monday 6th of April. One item has been called in which is the decision to “give away” a building which cost 3.0 million for £1.00.....!

In fairness, it is not quite as bad a decision as it sounds, but the decision certainly needs to be explained in detail. I will explain the outcome at our meeting.

At this same meeting, we will be looking at all of the county’s performance indicators. There are more than a hundred(!) so I will report the Highlights and the ones that give most concern at our meeting.

After a very long road, the Kinver BMX track was opened on Friday 27th March. With a little bit of luck, there could be one built at Bilbrook on the Twentyman Playing Fields, but it does require that a consultation with the houses most likely to be affected goes positively – which is not certain. This would certainly be a shame for all parishes that are nearby (including Perton!) if it were to be blocked – especially as the funding has been secured. MDATM.

Finally, a bit of District Council information: In spite of the adverse financial climate, the membership at the four leisure centres at the end of February is actually UP by 11.2% as compared to February 08. I think this really is an achievement in the current circumstances.

Another piece of information is that the refurbishment of the Swimming pool at Codsall will start in June. This will take about ten weeks and will therefore not be ready until late August. This is obviously a pity, but the reason for the delay in starting is because we did apply for a government grant to put towards the refurbishment. This was from one of the “pots” that came with the Free Swimming Initiative” and although South Staffs was successful with its bids for over 60’s and under 16’s, it was not successful with the Capital pot. The point is that to be in with a chance of getting some of this pot, it was a condition that the project had not been started. To compound this late start, when we knew that our bid had not been successful, the School were not willing to let the project start until late into the Summer Term. MDATM if needed.

Robert J Marshall

Cllr R J Marshall provided some additional detail concerning the disposal of a £3 million building for £1 and said that the matter had been referred back for more checks. He also said that Question time on 1st April had been a success and covered a wide variety of topics.

Cllr S.K.Bott asked about the May elections and it was confirmed that the date had been altered to June to coincide with the Euro elections and thereby reduce costs.

Cllr Mrs P.Pitt asked why the Codsall swimming pool was to be refurbished in the summer when needed most and Cllr Marshall explained that this was due to a gamble that failed in terms of seeking government grant.

Cllr Marshall also provided a new number for CLARENCE in respect to urgent needs which is 08700-555500 and in closing advised the Members that a Community gang will be available on Perton for five days to replace signs and similar activities if anyone was aware of local needs of this sort. Cllr A.Black said that Benson Close was one of several areas where pavements had recently been sprayed with a tar coating but the work was poor and weeds were not removed and are already breaking through. Cllr Marshall said he would report this.

194/09 **SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

a) **Parish / District Council Liaison Group Meeting: Request for Topics**

It was agreed that anyone with a suggested list of topics would e-mail direct to David Coghill.

b) **Road Naming – Residential Development at Cranmoor Lodge Farm**

RESOLVED that the Clerk will notify SSDC that the PPC preference is to name the development 'Cranmoor' and exclude references to Village.

c) **District Councillors Report**

Cllr D.Fereday said that he had attended the meeting regarding Village Design and also the planning changes meeting plus two planning meetings.

Cllr Mrs. R.Heseltine said that she also attended the planning meeting plus the locality meeting.

Cllr R.Moreton reported a very good weekend in respect to the Parish games and that Perton was currently leading the table.

Strategic Services Report April 2009.

The interviews for the Chief Executive have taken place where a short list of five was drawn up from the 28 applicants. After a full day of extensive interviewing Mr Steve Winterflood the present Deputy Chief Executive was offered the post. This is to be ratified at the full council meeting on 7th April 2009.

My name has been put forward for the post of Vice Chair of the Community and Learning Partnership which hopefully will help Perton and Pattingham receive more of the funding available.

I have had a meeting with Mr Ron Freeman who is responsible for the Army Cadets. We have had preliminary discussions about possible funding in return for joint use of the Youth Club. Talks ongoing.

I have attended a Partnership and Strategic Services Scrutiny Panel Meeting where after questioning it was agreed that the Village Design Guide will go out for consultation.

I have been to the opening of the Sytch Lane Cemetery at Wombourn.

I have accompanied Sir Patrick Cormack on a tour of the youth facilities at Perton.

I have attended Warwick University for the second module of the leaders course.

I have attended a Worklessness Seminar at Birmingham University.

I took part in the Parish Games on Sunday 29th in what was a very successful day for Perton. Thanks to Roy Moreton.

I also managed four days holiday.

195/09 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Planning Applications received from South Staffordshire Council and reviewed by the Parish since the last Parish Council meeting on Monday 9th March, 2009.

Application No.	Proposals
09/00104/FUL	First floor side extension and pitched roof over existing kitchen - 8 Elmley Grove, Perton
09/00116/FUL	Two storey side and single storey rear extension - 4 Clover Dale, Perton

The Council raised no objections to the above proposals.

Application No.	Proposals
09/00021/FUL	Conversion of redundant building one to dwelling (amendment to 05/00454/FUL) Cranmoor Lodge Farm, Wrottesley Park Road, Perton WV6 7HL
09/00172/FUL	Erection of replacement dwelling Long Ridge, Pattingham Road, Perton, WV6 7HD

The Council raised no objections to the above proposals subject to usual green belt restrictions.

09/00150/COU	Change of use of building 'A' from C3 (residential use) to B1(a) office use and associated use of existing building for storage of vehicles, plant and equipment The Bradshaws, Holyhead Road, Codsall. WV8 2HT
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The Council raised objections to the above proposals on the grounds that:

- there would be a reduction in housing
- the change of use could lead to an industrial and commercial site
- concerns for local residents with increased volume of traffic

DECISIONS - The following decisions received from South Staffordshire Council:

Application No.	Proposals	Decision
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08/01158/FUL 08/01228/FUL 09/00003/FUL	Single-storey rear extension - 7 Gainsborough Drive Replacement dwelling - Amber Verde, Pattingham Road Two-storey side extension - 21 Raglan Avenue	Grant of Planning Permission
09/00020/FUL	Two storey side and rear extension - 9 Foster Green, Perton	Proposals withdrawn

196/09 **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 9th March 2009

02/03/09	STO	Kalidescope Limited	47.00
02/03/09	DD	Veolia ES (UK) Limited	123.05
03/03/09	103748	Perton Pet & Garden	35.00
03/03/09	103749	Drinkmaster Ltd	51.37
04/03/09	BACS	Wages Week 48	1129.73
04/03/09	103750	A.C. Design and Construction (UK) Ltd	540.05
05/03/09	103751	ThyssenKrupp Elevator UK Limited	172.91
10/03/09	BACS	Inland Revenue	2388.53
11/03/09	BACS	Wages Week 49	1152.75
12/03/09	BACS	Staffordshire CC Pension Fund	1357.74
18/03/09	BACS	Wages Week 50	1241.57
24/03/09	103752	Brisol Limited	152.59
25/03/09	DD	Unicom	56.73
25/03/09	BACS	Wages Week 51 / Month 12	4428.82
25/03/09	DD	Drinkmaster Ltd	44.70
26/03/09	DD	BT Business Broadband	68.27
26/03/09	103753	MGD Solutions	196.00
26/03/09	103754	Edge Designs Ltd	299.00
27/03/09	DD	Veolia ES (UK) Limited	100.74
27/03/09	103755	Perton Playing Field Association	2000.00
28/03/09	DD	British Gas - Gas	917.08
28/03/09	DD	British Gas - Electricity	425.82
30/03/09	103756	N.Davies	50.00
30/03/09	103757	Post Office Limited	159.22
31/03/09	103758	W.G.Barrass Ltd - Newport Engravers	45.00
31/03/09	BACS	Wages Week 52	1124.07
		TOTALS	18307.74

Cllr N.P.Caine queried cheques 103754, 103756 and 103758. The Clerk was able to provide satisfactory explanation regarding these expenses.

b) **Budget-to-date 2008/2009**

The budget report circulated with the agenda was noted.

Matters ongoing / resolved as at 6th April 2009

- South Staffordshire Local Development Framework Core Strategy – Supplementary Planning Documents to be issued first of which is Draft Village Design Document and Green Belt and Open Countryside Policy SPDs for consultation by 11th May. Strategy documents (paper / electronic copies) are available for inspection in the Clerks office together with response sheets or via online consultation facility at:
<http://sstaffs-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal>
- Chased up Mark Cooper at Sainsburys concerning Lighting and Pigeon issues:
 - Anders Sq is subjected to six monthly clean up in respect to pigeons and area around 'Little Acorns' was given special clean in last week or two. Sainsburys would like to remove the canopy since it is felt that this causes more problems than it solves but there are planning issues associated with this. Head Office is seeking a permanent solution to this problem and Mark will advise us when things move forward.
 - Lighting issues are now resolved, their contractor has found and repaired a cable fault and the light near the petrol forecourt is now working. All other areas checked and they believe all now ok. Happy to help if any future problems are reported.
- Passed on positive feedback to Staffs CC Highways in respect to the fact that we are being considered for SID, very positive response back.
- Staffs CC: Applications for final year of playbuilder funding are now available – Contact is Renee Hardman, Playbuilder Project Manager on 01785-278709 or Renee.hardman@staffordshire.gov.uk
- South Staffordshire Community Partnership - Strategic Risk Assessment 08/09: The feedback from the last Parish Meeting was passed on to Maggie Quinn.
- Brierley Hill Area Action Plan Policy Development Update Consultation: 13th March to 10th April via – <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/environment--planning/planning/local-development-framework/bhill-aap>
- Update on the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Joint Waste Core Strategy available from Clerks office.
- South Staffordshire Council will be implementing civil parking enforcement with effect from Monday 23rd March 2009.
- Wolverhampton Airport Action Group – February 2009 newsletter in Clerks office.
- Final pay award settled after arbitration at additional 0.3%. Paid in March 2009 to keep to current fiscal year.
- SPCA March 2009 Newsletter distributed at meeting.

Following some discussion regarding lighting and pigeons around the Sainsburys owned area it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would advise Sainsburys that the canopy was originally provided in part due to pigeon issues. Additionally Cllr N.P.Caine will chase Neil Harvey from SSDC regarding his promised lighting analysis report.

198/09 **OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE 'MADELINE MOORE ROOM' AND PARK BENCH MEMORIAL**

The Clerk advised the Members that he had spoken to Michael Moore on this matter regarding details of the opening.

RESOLVED that the official opening will take place at 8.30 pm and will be the closing agenda item on the night of the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 27th April 2009. The opening will include a 'blessing' of the room which will be conducted by lay preacher Cllr A.K.Black. It was also agreed that the proposal for the memorial park bench made by Phil Pritchard is to be accepted.

199/09 **COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF STAFFORDSHIRE – MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2009/10**

RESOLVED to renew the membership at a cost of £20.00

200/09 **STAFFORDSHIRE PARISH COUNCILS' ASSOCIATION – MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION 2009/10**

RESOLVED to renew the membership at a cost of £698.00 although the Clerk will investigate the 'cost base' for this and report back next month.

201/09 **REQUEST FOR GRANT**

- (a) **Campaign to Protect Rural England**
RESOLVED that a grant of £100 be provided.

202/09 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) **Shale Paths – Copy of letter sent to South Staffordshire Council**

After brief discussion it was agreed that as this letter was sent to SSDC Chief Executive it was not appropriate for a District Councillor to respond.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 11th May 2009 @ 7.00 pm

The meeting closed @ 8.15 pm

Chairman
11th May 2009