

**Minutes of the Meeting of
PERTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Perton Civic Centre on
Monday 8th February 2010 @ 7:00pm**

Present Mrs CM Young [Chairman]
AK Black [Vice-Chairman]
Mrs P Allen
Mrs PN Pitt
Mrs A.James
Miss C Duffell
Mrs RA Heseltine [District Councillor]
DJ Billson [District & County Councillor]
AK James [District Councillor]
N.P.Caine
AA Bourke

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

139/10 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Mrs S Bott, S Bott, D Fereday, D Heseltine and Neighbourhood Police Unit.

140/10 **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

- 1) A member of public said that she had attended the recent pantomime at Perton Civic Centre and praised the production stating that it was wonderful to have this show at Perton again and it is a very good thing for the community in general. This sentiment was agreed by all with a reminder that tickets are on sale already for next year's production and that some performances are already sold out due to the great popularity of the event.

141/10 **POLICE MATTERS**

Police Report

Perton Parish Council Police report meeting 8th February 2010
Period covered 02/01/2010 to 01/02/2010.

Beat areas CF24 Mercia
CF25 Richmond
CF26 Central
CF27 Leasowe

	Cf24	Cf25	Cf26	Cf27	Totals
Anti Social Behaviour	0	3	10	1	14(+1)
ASB vehicle	3	3	0	0	6(+5)
Criminal Damage	1	0	0	0	1(-4)
Damage M Vehicles	0	0	4	0	4(+3)
Burglary Dwelling	0	2	1	2	5 (+3)
Burglary Other Bldg	0	0	0	0	0(-)

Theft M Vehicle	0	0	0	0	0(-1)
Theft from M Vehicle	0	0	0	0	0(-1)
Theft other	0	0	2	2	4(-2)
Assault	0	0	0	0	0(-2)
Robbery	1	1	1	0	0(-)
Sexual Offences	0	0	0	0	3(+2)
Drugs	1	0	0	0	1(+1)

ASB

The reports of anti social behaviour were not too high this month when you consider several were about snowballing again. The central area being the hot spots, which include Ander Square and Spenser Avenue.

ASB vehicles

There were a higher number than usual reports of nuisance mini motorbikes. However after a mini operation by the neighbourhood team, one youth was stopped and received a section 59 warning. Should he or other using that mini moto re offence, the bike can be seized.

Criminal Damage

The reports of mindless damage dropped for this period. Only the one report of damage to a fence panel.

Burglary Dwelling

The burglary dwellings were up for this period. Intelligence has been received re possible persons responsible. Both the neighbourhood and response teams are actively seeking them. The offenders are targeting homes whilst occupiers are at work or away. I would recommend lighting timer switches being used for homes left unattended while it is still dark in the early evenings. Pleasingly there were no burglary other buildings reported again.

Vehicle Crime

There were no thefts of or from motor vehicles this time. However persons were seen acting suspicious around a vehicle on one of the communal car parks again. They did not take a vehicle due to the vigilance of a neighbour. The good news is these men are now helping the police with their enquiries. The bad news is that four cars were damaged. Two vehicles were damaged where the offender has forced entry to look for items such as sat navs etc, and another two where, inexplicably, their rear windscreens have been smashed.

Violent Crime

The pluses are that there were no reported assaults. The downside is that there were 3 robberies. One was of a bag snatch type in broad daylight, at Mercia Drive. The other two were the street robbery of mobile phones late in the evenings. One of which was well reported in the local press. Enquiries are on going and any information should be forwarded to Chase CID department on 0300 123 4455.

Other

The drugs offence was one of three youths being arrested following their search where cannabis was found.

Any information please contact Pertons Neighbourhood Team via voicemail 0300 123 2345 - PC Duncan Lampitt (04259), PC Frank Hossack (03537), PCSO Teresa Wilkes (08861), PCSO Ashley Tooth (016722) and PCSO Woodley (016748).

Cllr A.Black advised that he had recently been informed by a neighbour in Darwin Court that the area around upper lake has improved considerably over the years particularly since the relocation of the bench that had previously attracted rowdy visitors to the area.

Cllr Miss C.Duffell spoke on behalf of a recent victim of a mugging in Dippons Lane saying that there was a request and need for improved lighting in the area.

Cllr N.Caine responded saying that over recent years the original very poor lighting had been greatly improved but more needs to be done. He said that a letter of support on this matter from Insp Andy Chapman has been passed to South Staffs Council who is unique in the area insofar as they have a separate dedicated budget for street lighting and usually are able to install approximately fifteen new lights per year.

Cllr D.Billson advised the members of a serious incident not on the police report which occurred on the corner of Lowery Close where a gang of youths armed with baseball bats smashed a house door and then attacked a vehicle that had just driven in to the area using a golf club to smash the car windscreen. He said that Insp A.Chapman is dealing with this matter and it is believed that the gang members were from a location other than Perton. Cllr Miss C.Duffell said there had been another local householder reporting a wall being knocked down but it is not currently known if this was a separate incident on a different night.

Cllr A.Bourke said that the Dippons Lane area can be quite frightening at night and it may be an idea to have a site meeting to review the problems and Cllr Mrs P.Allen said that the bushes and hedges in the area need considerable pruning as they provide cover for miscreants in the area and also conceal much of the street lighting that is present.

Cllr Mrs C.Young said that the worst part of the lane is that between the Middle School and The Bird in Hand pub. Cllr D.Billson said that the section between the two Gainsborough Drives has an issue of ownership since it has not been adopted but that the District Council Solicitor has written to the builders, thought to be Wimpey, in order to seek a resolution to this matter.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will write to Wayne Mortiboys to request that the County Council Highways Gang be focused on to the area detailed above. The Clerk will also contact Wolverhampton Chronicle to request that they publish a public caution announcement to Perton parishioners warning of the vulnerabilities associated with using mobile phones in public places and to also include the advice in the police report in respect to using timers to switch on unoccupied house lighting following a rise in the number of burglaries.

142/10 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr A.Bourke declared personal interest in agenda item 19 concerning Perton Village Nursery and Cllr Mrs P.Allen declared personal interest in agenda item 18 regarding Perton Playing Fields Association given her position as Trustee.

143/10 **MINUTES**

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11th JANUARY, 2010

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

144/10 **MINUTES**

MINUTES OF THE PRECEPT MEETING HELD ON 6th JANUARY, 2010

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Precept meeting held on 6th January 2010 be confirmed as a true record and the Chairman of the Council duly signed them.

145/10 **DRAFT MINUTES**

- a) **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 2nd February 2010 together with income statement for January be accepted for information.

146/10 **STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

a) **Perton Youth Club**

Cllr D.Billson informed the meeting that the Unite union has lodged a collective grievance process in regard to the pending reorganisation of the youth service but it is hoped that this will be resolved by the end of March. The reorganisation which will bring together the Youth Service, Youth Offending Service, Teenage Pregnancy Service and Connexions Staffordshire will offer a one stop Staffordshire Young Peoples Service with each district having a full time Youth Manager, ours being based at Codsall.

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

The District Council are providing an updated letter to affected homeowners stating that Severn Trent are investigating the efficiency of the holding tank and applying to Ofwat for cash in the event that the tank requires an upgrade.

RESOLVED that Cllr D.Billson will provide a copy of this letter to the Clerk who will then write to Ofwat stating PPCs support for an early resolution to this problem.

c) **Divisional Highway Programme**

The information leaflet was distributed and the contents noted. Cllr D.Billson said that the immediate focus was to repair the numerous pot holes resulting from the recent bad weather.

d) **Winter Gritting**

The correspondence from David Wilson was noted. Cllr Billson said that Staffs CC had better performance than most Counties but Central Government had purloined their salt stocks.

e) **Neighbourhood Highway Teams**

The letter from Group Manager – Community Highways Liaison was noted.

Cllr Mrs A.James said that she had received numerous complaints stating that Staffs CC had apparently gritted Sainsburys Car Park during the freezing weather whilst other 'significant needs' areas such as Corsers Court and the Doctors Surgeries were ignored. Cllr D.Billson said he would look into this and report back.

f) **County Councillor's Report**

The Cllrs report was covered by the items above.

a) **Parish / District Council Liaison Group**

The information was noted.

b) **District Councillors' Report**

Cllr A.K.James said that, in respect to Planning matters, flagging a recent application in Elmley Grove as an example, refusals were often granted on appeal. He said that residents of Perton requiring extensions should contact their local Councillor for support as decisions from South Staffordshire Council tend to be very inconsistent.

Cllr D.Billson said that the application in Elmley Grove, offered as an example, was different to normal since the house was owned by an individual that works in the Planning Dept at Wolverhampton City Council and would therefore know the system better than most, but the extension was an example of over development and 'out of synch' with the rest of the street.

Cllr Mrs R.Heseltine reported as follows:

Since the last Parish Council meeting I have dealt with several residents and their concerns - mainly with regards to the delayed waste collections due to the bad weather. I am pleased to say that these were resolved satisfactorily.

I have also attended 2 Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings, a Regulatory meeting and a meeting of the Community and Environmental Scrutiny Panel. On Tuesday February 2nd I attended another Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting re: the Police Authority Review. This was very interesting and gave us the opportunity to meet the new Chief Constable - Michael Cunningham - and to express and /or discuss any concerns/issues which we might have with him and his team. This meeting was then later followed by a training session on renewable energy and climate change implications.

Cllr Mrs P.Allen said that in reference to waste collections people did not know what to do as some collections were missed but then covered on alternate days and others were missed and not covered until the next normal cycle with rubbish being out for days in some cases. She said better use should be made of the Council website to inform people about service changes.

Cllr R.Moreton said that his activity was broadly the same as Cllr Mrs R.Heseltine.

Cllr D.Billson said, referring to policing matters, that some thirty PCSOs were County Council funded for an 18 month period by way of experiment but there would be no new funding. However, he said, it should be noted that if this headcount is lost by the police, who say it is the responsibility of others to provide, it is in fact their choice since their own budget is £2M under spent and thus could fund the lost PCSOs.

148/10 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Planning Applications received from South Staffordshire Council and reviewed by the Parish since the last Parish Council meeting on Monday 11th January, 2010.

Application No.	Proposals
09/00081/FUL	Extensions and alterations Ashton House, Pattingham Road, Perton WV6 7HD
10/00008/VAR	Variation of condition three of permission 08/01158/FUL to permit amendment to height of approved extension 7 Gainsborough Drive, Perton WV6 7NR

The Council raised no objections to the above proposals.

09/00906/FUL	Single storey garage and utility extension - 22 Gleneagles Road, Perton
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The Council raised no objections to the above proposals but raised concerns regarding the close proximity of the extension to the neighbouring property.

DECISIONS - The following decisions received from South Staffordshire Council:

Application No.	Proposals	Decision
09/00814/FUL	First-floor extension over existing garage - 19 The Wheatlands, Perton	Grant of Planning Permission
09/00885/FUL	Two storey side extension - 7 Corfe Close	Refusal

PLANNING INSPECTORATE DECISION:

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

APP/C3430/ A/09/2111564	09/00104/FUL First floor side extension and pitched roof over existing kitchen - 8 Elmley Grove, Perton	Planning Inspectorate 19/08/09
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149/10 **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 11th January 2010

04/01/10	DD	SSDC Non -Domestic Rates	1310.00
04/01/10	STO	Kalidescope Limited	47.00
04/01/10	103900	RHF Heating Co Ltd	864.65
04/01/10	103901	Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation	54.86
04/01/10	103902	MGD Solutions	196.00
04/01/10	103903	Nobisco Limited	35.28
06/01/10	103904	The Society of Local Council Clerks	234.00
06/01/10	BACS	Wages Week 40	1327.82
07/01/10	103905	John Ellis Associates Limited	293.75
11/01/10	103906	N.Secker - Deposit Refund	50.00
11/01/10	103907	Mrs S.Gough - Deposit Refund	150.00
11/01/10	103908	OCS Group UK Limited t/a Cannon	34.83
13/01/10	BACS	Wages Week 41	1240.76
13/01/10	BACS	Staffordshire CC Pension Fund	1533.96
13/01/10	BACS	Inland Revenue	2384.56
14/01/10	103909	IRIS Business Software Ltd	211.50
15/01/10	103910	Goodwin & Price Ltd	1997.50
15/01/10	103911	Drinkmaster Ltd	56.20
20/01/10	BACS	Wages Week 42 Month 10 Part	4164.09
25/01/10	DD	Unicom	52.01
25/01/10	DD	Drinkmaster Ltd	164.15
27/01/10	BACS	Wages Week 43	1308.58
27/01/10	103912	SMP Playgrounds Ltd	115.15
28/01/10	103913	Post Office Limited	227.66
28/01/10	103914	ESPO	171.37
28/01/10	DD	British Gas - Electricity	447.68
28/01/10	DD	British Gas - Gas	780.46
28/01/10	DD	Veolia ES (UK) Limited	136.74
29/01/10	103915	MGD Solutions	196.00
29/01/10	103916	RHF Heating Co Ltd	333.99
29/01/10	103917	A.C.Design and Construction (UK) Ltd	954.10
29/01/10	103917	A.C.Design and Construction (UK) Ltd	1601.52
29/01/10	103917	A.C.Design and Construction (UK) Ltd	164.50
		TOTALS	22840.67

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

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

150/10 **PROPOSED MEETING DATES 2010 / 2011**

The dates were noted and agreed.

151/10 **CLERK'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2010**

Matters ongoing / resolved as at 8th February 2010

- SSDC Andy Cousins informed of numerous complaints regarding access and 'wheel rut' damage caused by Enterprise contractors doing pruning work.
- SSDC Local Development Framework Core Strategy Policy Choices Consultation Document – Policy Choices Consultation from 25th January to 22nd March. Documentation, details and feedback forms available from Clerks office.
- Reminder – Closing date for Citizen of the Year Awards is 28th February 2010 – No nominations received to date.
- Staffordshire Highways explanatory leaflet distributed at meeting (Covering letter from Mike Maryon included on main agenda)
- SSDC (Phil Hardy) Review of the Electoral Year 2009 available in Clerks Office.
- SSDC (Phil Hardy) Review of Concessionary Travel Services 2009 available in Clerks Office.
- SSDC (Phil Hardy) Review of Civil Contingencies 2009 available in Clerks Office.
- Perton First School – Vacancy exists for a Governor
- Wolverhampton City Council is seeking comments on draft planning documents in regard to Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) and Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD. Details in Clerks Office.
- Civic Centre Caretaker Hugh Rossington to be absent on sick leave for extended period from 26th February as a result of second phase of required surgery.
- £182.65 received from Perton Village Nursery in respect to 50% contribution towards Madeline Moore memorial plaques and dedicated playground bench seat.

152/10 **SUPPORTING SENIOR CITIZENS**

RESOLVED that the Clerk will seek to arrange a film showing via 'Flicks in the Sticks' in Spring time. The Clerk will liaise with Friendship Club and Whist group to determine best time and date which is likely to be a weekday afternoon rather than evening. Cost via South Staffs Council is £250.00 per film per night. Tickets will be provided FOC to Senior Citizens and a charge made to others wishing to attend.

153/10 **QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE 2012**

A number of possibilities were discussed in respect to celebrating this key event which falls in the same year as the London Olympics, including street parties, children's fun day and adult evening, barbecue with Laser lights and fireworks being a few of the ideas. However it was generally felt that public opinion should be sought prior to any decision being made.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will locate a suggestion box in Perton Civic Centre to invite ideas from Perton parishioners as to how this event should be celebrated. We will utilise our notice boards, school notice boards, PPC website, Wolverhampton Chronicle, Perton Place Ad Mag and local shops to publicise the request for suggestions.

154/10 **MUGA FLOODLIGHTING – BUDGETARY QUOTATION**

RESOLVED that the Clerk will obtain a quotation from the electrical supply company to ascertain costs for the connection of supply feed to the lighting contractor's switchgear in order that full project costs can be determined.

155/10 **REQUEST FOR CONCESSIONARY ROOM HIRE**

- a) **Disco and fundraising event in Memory of Debbie Patterson**
RESOLVED that this event be approved for Concessionary Room Hire rate and that funds raised be used as requested: a charitable donation and a plaque memorial, location to be decided, probably in Perton playground or PVN grounds extension.

156/10 **GRANT REQUEST**

- a) **Perton Playing Fields Association**
RESOLVED that the second half grant of £2000.00 be provided.

157/10 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) **Perton Village Nursery – Physical Improvement**
RESOLVED that this granted improvement programme be approved in principle but handed over to PPC Management Committee to determine and agree the details of works, timing and ownership.
- b) **South Staffordshire NHS PCT – Health NET**
The helpline information was noted.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 8th March 2010 @ 7.00 pm

The meeting closed @ 8.15 pm

Chairman
8th March 2010