

**Minutes of the Meeting of  
PERTON PARISH COUNCIL  
held at the Perton Civic Centre on  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2007 @ 7:00pm**

Present A.K.James [Chairman]  
Mrs. R. Heseltine [Vice Chairman]  
Mrs P.Allen  
Mrs. P.N. Pitt  
Mrs. P.C.Bromley  
C.J.Bromley  
A.A. Bourke  
R.J.Marshall  
Mrs J.R.Williams  
N.P.Caine

Members of the Public present : 7  
Journalist from Wolverhampton Chronicle – Katy Muench  
Neighbourhood Police – Unable to attend.

165/07 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were offered and accepted from Cllrs Mrs P.M.French, R.French, Mrs A.James, D.Billson and S.Bott.

166/07 **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

Charlene Duffell (Sandown Drive) and Michael Guest raised concerns regarding the recent accident over Christmas near the Bradshaws area when Perton was virtually cut off for several hours to those trying to get on to or off the village by road. They requested that under such circumstance the 'Buses Only' lane should be opened to alleviate the pressures caused by just two access roads to service a village population of nearly 12000.

Cllr A.A.Bourke suggested that if two accidents were to occur at the same time, one either side of the Perton access routes then the village would be completely isolated.

Cllr C.Bromley further suggested that it would be very beneficial to the area if the Bradshaws were to take action to improve the access junction at the farm shop.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk will write to Staffs CC to request an update to the original agreement to open the Bus lane under certain conditions and to establish the process to invoke this when appropriate.

It was reported by Carol Davis (Milton Court) that the Bus Shelter on Coleridge Drive is now a regular meeting place for unruly youths and she had recently reported incidents to the Police.

Vera Preston (Gleneagles Road) complained about the state of the paths and the general muddy conditions around the lake which had recently caused her to fall. When walking from the area of St Andrews Drive into Perton centre it is impossible

to find a mud free route.

Cllr A.K.James advised that this topic had been raised recently and that South Staffs Council had been advised and we were awaiting feedback from them regarding what action will be taken and when.

The Clerk was further able to advise that Staffs CC were to provide a tarmac path from the new St Andrews Pelican crossing area into Perton centre as part of the 'Safer Routes to School' programme however this work cannot begin until after S.Staffs Council have completed their lake dredging project and no date is currently available for this.

167/07 **POLICE MATTERS**

**POLICE REPORT**

Reported Crime Figs- Police Report 11/12/2006 to 07/01/2007

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Rowdy / ASB behaviour.....	26 #1
ASB Vehicles.....	0 #1
Criminal Damage.....	7 #1
Burglary dwelling.....	1 #2
Burglary other building.....	5 #2
TWOC/ take vehicle.....	1 #3
Theft of M/V.....	0
Theft from M/V.....	0
Damage to M/V.....	0
Theft Other.....	1
Assaults.....	0
Robbery.....	0
Sex Offence.....	0

1. Rowdy and anti-social behaviour/ Criminal damage figs are lower this month, which is excellent as this period included the Christmas & New Years festivities. Continuing on a plus, the ASB of vehicles has reduced. This may have resulted from one vehicle being seized for ASB recently. The hot spot areas are Anders Sq, Browning Grove, Spenser Ave, Vanburgh Ct, and the green area Pugin Close.
2. There was one reported burglary dwelling. However, there were 5 'burglary other' reports. 4 of which occurred one night where offenders entered garden sheds and garages, stealing property during the early hours. Parishioners are reminded to make sure shed and garages are secured, and items are not left in view to the opportunist thief. On a negative point the Youth Club at Perton Middle School was broken into again. This may result in the permanent loss of this facility. Any persons with information into these crimes should come forward.
3. There was a vehicle taken without consent where 5 youths were arrested. This has been previously reported in local news.
4. Pleasingly, there were no Robberies, Thefts of or from motor vehicles, and it appears too cold for anyone to expose themselves.

5. Also, Perton's Neighbourhood police team has now doubled, with the introduction of PCSO's Teresa Wilkes and Rachel Street. Information can be left on our voicemails on 08453 303132. (04259 PC Lampitt) (03537 PC Hossack)(08861 PCSO Wilkes)(08862 PCSO Street).

Cllr A.A.Bourke raised an issue on behalf of a resident in Livingstone Avenue where the fence panels that back on to the footpath are subject to regular damage. Staffs CC are responsible for the footpath access.

Cllr C.Bromley advised of similar issues with a resident in Richmond Drive.

Cllr N.P.Caine commented that several of the footpaths around Perton remain un-adopted.

PC 4259 Lampitt/ PC 3537 Hossack can be contacted for any enquiries or information on voicemail 08453 3031232 (04259 PC Lampitt) (03537 PC Hossack)

168/07 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllrs Mrs R.Heseltine, Mrs P.N.Pitt, Mrs P.C.Bromley, Mrs J.R.Williams, A.K.James and C.J.Bromley all declared personal interest in the agenda item concerning Perton Playing Fields Association. Cllr Mrs P.Allen declared personal and prejudicial interest in the same item as a PPFA Trustee; she further declared a personal interest in the outline proposal submitted by John Wilson in respect to Big Lottery funding. Cllr N.P.Caine declared personal interest in cheque number 103271 to NRG Group UK Ltd.

169/07 **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the draft minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2006 be confirmed as a true record and the Chairman of the Council duly signed them.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 5th December 2006 together with the Income Statement from April to December 2006 be confirmed as a true record and the Council accepted them.

170/07 **EXTERNAL AUDIT – YEAR ENDING 31/3/2006 – AUDITORS REPORT**

**RESOLVED** to accept the auditors report for year ending 31/3/2006 with a commendation to the Clerks Office for the efforts made to improve the audit process.

171/07 **PARISH PLAN – INITIAL REPORT**

The initial report was distributed by the Clerk at the meeting. Due to the volume of information it was agreed that time is required to fully consider the report findings.

**RESOLVED** to review the document over the next few weeks and to convene a special Council meeting on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2007 @ 7.00 pm to determine next actions.

172/07 **PERTON PLAYING FIELDS – UNDERWRITING OF GRANT – CLLR A.K.JAMES**

Cllrs A.K.James and Mrs P.Allen left the meeting room for the duration of this discussion and Cllr Mrs R.Heseltine took the Chair.

Discussions on this item were primarily concerned with the likelihood of the PPFA having to call on the Parish Council to provide the shortfall in funding in the event that the Football Foundation were unable to do so.

The Clerk advised that if the Council were to underwrite the possible £20k shortfall then this sum must be included in the 2007/08 budget. He further advised that, as per the facts recorded in the letter provided by Keith James, the two grant allocations could prove to be mutually exclusive. This comes about since the terms from the Staffordshire Environmental Trust dictate that the work must commence within six months of the contractual offer whilst the Football Foundation, who will hopefully fund the balance, state that due to demand they may be unable to make a decision for six months but if work starts prior to their decision then the PPFA will be excluded from the funding process.

Cllr R.Marshall stated that since the Capital Grants and Loans overturned the original agreement then technically this is a source of funding for the Playing Fields.

Cllr A.A.Bourke reiterated his disappointment with the lack of fiscal support coming to Perton from South Staffs Council.

**RESOLVED** that, following a unanimous vote in favour, the Council will include the sum of £20k to underwrite the possible shortfall in funding for the drainage project.

173/07 **BIG LOTTERY FUND – COMMUNITY BUILDINGS PROGRAMME**

The meeting considered the quotation for consultancy services submitted by John Wilson of 'Charity Support Services'.

Cllr Mrs P.Allen stated that an extension to the Civic Centre would be worthwhile if it embodied some form of meeting place / drop in centre for local youths.

However it was generally felt that there was no specific plan in place regarding how the centre could or should evolve and early examination of the feedback from the Parish Plan showed no apparent desire for such expansion although various other projects are in great demand. Additionally the estimated consultancy costs in the region of £7k would not guarantee success in the Big Lottery funding and success itself would only take us through to the second phase of application.

**RESOLVED** not to proceed with an application at this time and to defer the matter to the new Council who may wish to seek alternative funding for a building extension project at some time in the future.

174/07 **PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS – CLLR N.P.CAINE**

Cllr N.P.Caine stated that his original letter to Staffs CC had been lost. He asked the Councillors to state at the next meeting as to where they would like to see additional crossings.

Cllr Mrs R.Heseltine stated that since Staffs CC had completed work at the new pelican crossing at St Andrews / Parkway this was now causing problems and confusion since traffic was now controlled jointly by the chicane and by the new lights. She suggested that the chicane be removed in order that traffic control is left to the lights only.

**RESOLVED** that Cllrs send written requests to the Clerks office before the next meeting date detailing their requirements for new pedestrian crossings.

175/07 **PERTON WALKERS MAP – SIZE & QUANTITY**

**RESOLVED** that the Council will order a quantity of 5000 walkers maps at size A4 on 170gsm gloss art paper (Clerks office will determine fold at either DL or A5) at a total cost of £1100.00 plus carriage at cost. Cllr R.J.Marshall will check out the possibility of maps being made available at Perton Library for a nominal fee.

176/07 **PLAY AREA – CLLR A.BOURKE**

**RESOLVED** that the play area equipment be assessed in order to further discuss at the next meeting.

177/07 **SOUTH STAFFS DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**A) MUGA Update**

Cllr A.K.James advised that Katie White at SSDC was currently evaluating the Play Strategy funding and that PPC have now made an application for a share of this. Cllr R.J.Marshall suggested that there may be an adjudication meeting towards the end of the January 2007 and was able to confirm that another application for funding was in progress via the County Council.

**B) South Staffordshire Local Development Framework – Adopted Statement of Community Involvement**

This information was noted.

**C) Councillors Report**

Cllr C.J.Bromley had no report to offer at this time.

Cllr N.P.Caine advised that a new street light had been provided at the zebra crossing and Peverill Road. He also requested that additional street lighting should be considered for other Perton locations. With regard to crushed brick paths he was able to state that the current cost is in the region of £53 per metre.

Cllr Mrs P.C.Bromley had no report to offer at this time.

Cllr A.K.James reported that the deadline for tree replanting had been missed at Kingswood Mobile Homes site. Additionally both he and Cllr D.Billson had met with a representative from Staffs CC to discuss the accident levels at the junction of the A41/A464.

Cllr R.J.Marshall stated that he was hoping to show the above mentioned Kingswood fork road junction to David Wright (Staffs CC Highways Office). Additionally he reported that the Inter Parish Games would be starting again soon and that Penkrigde Leisure Centre now has 'Quest' status.

178/07 **STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**A) Changes to Bus Services**

The amendment details distributed were noted.

**B) Library Peace Garden**

Cllr P.Allen said that she believed that the area suggested for a Peace Garden would be better set aside for the provision of a computer / Internet Café and that a £1500 LMIS grant to the library should be utilised for this purpose.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk write to the Library service to highlight this need.

**C) County Councillors' Report**

Cllr R.J.Marshall reported that with regard to the current job evaluation programme overall the Councils costs would rise, however within Education non teachers would lose out as would Library assistants. Typically the poorest paid would be hardest hit. He again stated that County finance is a major issue. Cllr Marshall also informed the meeting that Staffordshire Police Authority were holding a key consultation meeting at the District Council Offices at 6.30 pm on 16<sup>th</sup> January and he requested that Councillors seek to keep this date available in their diaries.

Cllr N.P.Caine stated that there is a continuing issue at Jenny Walkers Lane traffic lights where traffic turning right to Pattingham was blocking traffic going straight onwards. He requested that consideration be given to implement changes at this junction.

179/07 **CORRESPONDENCE**

**A) Bradshaws Farm Shop**

It was noted that the revised plans for this project had been turned down by the planning authority. This matter will be reconsidered in the event that new proposals are submitted.

180/07 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Planning Applications received from South Staffordshire Council and reviewed by the Parish since the last Parish Council meeting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2006.**

Application No.	Proposals	Date Returned
06/01284/FUL	Double Extension <b>16 Wykeham Grove, Perton, WV6 7TP</b>	03/01/07
06/01324/FUL	Side extension and chimney <b>1 Formby Avenue, Perton, WV6 7YU</b>	21/12/06
06/01336/FUL	Conservatory <b>9 The Cartway, Perton, WV6 7TZ</b>	21/12/06

06/01342/FUL	Conservatory <b>27 Turnham Green, Perton, WV6 7TA</b>	03/01/07
06/01352/CCD SS.06/26	To replace 1.0m high fencing at the boundary with Tinacre Hill Road with 2.0 m high contour vertical bar fencing, powder coated black, chain link and wooden panel fencing replaced with 2.0m high triton mesh powder coated green at <b>Wightwick Hall School, Tinacre Hill</b>	03/01/07
06/01358/FUL	Two storey side extension <b>28 Ennerdale Drive, Perton, WV6 7PF</b>	03/01/07
06/01369/FUL	Bedroom and play room extension <b>1 Harald Close, Perton, WV6 7NJ</b>	03/01/07

The Council raised no objections to the above applications.

06/01350/FUL	Single storey rear and side extension and first floor rear extension <b>32 Wren Avenue, Perton, WV6 7TS</b>	03/01/07
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The Council objected to the above application on the grounds of the minimum distance from the extension to their neighbour's principal window is 12m, which should be 14m due to the fact that the extension has a window in it and will result in loss of privacy. Please refer to the Regulatory Committee.

#### 181/07 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The Clerk reported that the following accounts duly authorized by designated Member signatories had been paid:

			£
05/12/06	BACS	Wages Week 36	1167.51
06/12/06	103266	Mrs Evans - Deposit Refund	50.00
12/12/06	BACS	Wages Week 37	1180.50
12/12/06	BACS	Inland Revenue	2687.23
12/12/06	BACS	Staffordshire County Pension Fund	1257.56
13/12/06	103267	S.G.S. Systems Limited	1151.50
13/12/06	103268	Nobisco Ltd	70.27
13/12/06	103269	Veolia ES Onyx Limited	111.30
13/12/06	103270	F1 Metal Fabrications Ltd	129.25
13/12/06	103271	NRG Group UK Ltd	259.92
13/12/06	103272	DMH Solutions Ltd	91.87
13/12/06	103273	Jill Bassett	200.00
13/12/06	103274	Butler	100.00
13/12/06	103275	Mrs N.H.Guest	50.00
13/12/06	103276	Anne-Marie Jennings	50.00
13/12/06	103277	Bishop	50.00

13/12/06	103278	J.Davies	50.00
18/12/06	103279	Perton Place	55.00
18/12/06	103280	Staffordshire Pension Fund	309.96
18/12/06	103281	Mr Slawinski - Event Deposit Refund	50.00
18/12/06	103282	Stardust Dance Academy - Deposit Refund	150.00
18/12/06	103283	Nobisco Ltd	30.43
18/12/06	103284	The Society of Local Council Clerks	190.00
19/12/06	103285	R.J.Dickens (New Years Eve Disco)	400.00
20/12/06	BACS	Wages Week 38 & 39	4438.30
22/12/06	103286	Brisol Ltd	100.79
22/12/06	103287	Progressive Safety Footwear & Clothing Ltd	35.19
22/12/06	103288	IRIS Business Software Limited	180.95
27/12/06	DD	BT	105.71
28/12/07	DD	British Gas - Electricity	523.30
28/12/07	DD	British Gas - Gas	626.76
28/12/07	DD	Unicom	65.35
01/01/07	DD	SSSDC Non -Domestic Rates	1169.00
01/01/07	STO	Kalidescope Limited	47.00
02/01/07	BACS	Wages Balance Week 39 & Week 40	1429.31
04/01/07	103289	OCS Group UK Limited t/a Cannon	19.25
04/01/07	103290	Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation	719.11
		<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>19302.32</b>

### **DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2007 @ 7.00 pm

The Council thanked the Clerk for having successfully completed one year in post. The meeting closed @ 9.00 pm

**Cllr. A.K.James**  
**Chairman**  
**12th February 2007**