

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

Present Mrs CM Young [Chairman]
AK Black [Vice-Chairman]
Mrs P Allen
Mrs PN Pitt
Mrs S Bott
Miss C Duffell
Mrs RA Heseltine [District Councillor]
DJ Billson [District & County Councillor]
AK James [District Councillor]
AA Bourke
S Bott
D Fereday [District Councillor]
D Heseltine

District Councillor R. Moreton
Parish Clerk - Tony Tappenden
Neighbourhood Police Unit: PCSO Tim Woodley
Members of the Public present: Two

158/10 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Mrs A. James.

159/10 **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

1) There were no matters raised by the members of the public.

160/10 **POLICE MATTERS**

(a) **Police Report**

Period covered 2 Feb to 3 March 2010

Beat Areas CF24 Mercia
CF25 Richmond
CF26 Central
CF27 Leasowe

| | CF24 | CF25 | CF26 | CF27 | Total | prev |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|
| Anti Social Behaviour | | 1 | 13 | | 14 | 14 |
| ASB vehicle | | 3 | 1 | | 4 | 6 |
| Criminal damage | | 5 | 5 | | 10 | 1 |
| Damage M vehicles | 1 | 2 | 2 | | 5 | 4 |
| Burglary dwelling | | | | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Burglary Other Bldg | | | | | | 0 |
| Theft of Vehicle | | | 2 | | 2 | 0 |
| Theft from M vehicle | | 2 | 4 | | 6 | 0 |
| Theft other | 1 | 1 | 3 | | 5 | 4 |
| Assault | 1 | | | | 1 | 0 |
| Robbery | | 1 | | | 1 | 3 |
| Sexual offences | | | | | | 0 |
| Drugs | | | | | | 1 |

Anti-Social Behaviour

Majority of calls for Asb are from the central area CF26 and range from youths loitering in footpaths behind homes causing nuisance, banging fences in Wye Close, Crowland Avenue and Anders Square occasionally attracting large numbers outside Sainsbury's. Perton Library – children causing nuisance and strangely, a Perton resident being taunted on his paper round by children in the age group 9 to 13yrs from the Tettenhall Wood area.

Teresa, Ashley and Tim are aware of these problems for their patrol strategy.

ASB Vehicles

Dippons Lane adjacent to Idonia Road, Penda Grove, Lingfield Grove i.e the footpath from Spenser towards Gainsborough continue to be problem locations between 1630 and 2100.

At 1555hrs on 19 February a black motorcycle with key barrel damage was recovered from the bushes on the footpath along Lingfield Grove by PCSO WILKES. A suspect has been identified and Police are in the process of identifying the machine.

Criminal Damage

Things got out of hand during the evening of Wednesday 3rd February after 'have a go' residents went after a group of 12 to 13 youths causing nuisance in Gainsborough Drive and Lowry Close, the night of the youth club.

The group who have not been identified are responsible for causing damage to two motor vehicles, the front door of a house and an assault on a local resident.

A number of patrols attended the locations

The Police appreciate vigilance by the public but do not advise tackling offenders themselves.

Damage Motor Vehicles

The night of 9th / 10th February saw a complete window removed from a Vauxhall Meriva in Sutherland Grove.

A youth from Albrighton has admitted damaging a Citroen parked in Gainsborough Drive on Sunday afternoon after being refused to play in a football game!

Burglary Dwelling

Only one offence to report this month. A daytime offence discovered at 1425hrs in Fallowfield (Leasowe Drive). Entry gained by smashing a conservatory window to steal a laptop and Sony PS3.

Theft of Vehicle

2 offences this month. A black Yamaha motorcycle 'x' reg was stolen from a car park in Coleridge Drive overnight 14th / 15th Feb.

At 0522hrs a dark blue Ford '54' plate was stolen off a drive in Cheshire Grove.

Theft from M Vehicle

Significant increase of 6 offences this month.

Overnight 9th / 10th February vehicle window smashed in Sutherland Grove to steal Sat Nav. The same night a window was smashed on a Vauxhall Corsa in Gainsborough Drive to steal a DVD player.

Overnight 23rd / 24th February — a Citroen Saxo had a drill hole around the drivers door lock. A Sat Nav was stolen from the glove box. A silver Peugeot on a '56' plate in Canterbury Drive had the drivers door lock 'popped' 2 briefcases, Tom Tom XL, cigarettes and sunglasses were stolen and from a car park in Livingstone Avenue a drivers door lock was attacked with a screwdriver, nothing stolen.

Overnight 1st / 2nd March a silver Citroen Saxo '51' plate had a hole made around the

passenger door lock on a dark secluded car park on Cosford Court. JVC radio/cd player stolen (repeat victim).

Theft Other

Overnight 27th / 28th February an ornamental Portland stone birdbath on a spiral Plinth was stolen from the front of a house in Idonia Road.

The item had been in situ for 8 yrs and disappeared following a visit to the house by an unknown scrap collector.

'Diaya' 127 aluminium trailer with green wooden doors size 4' x 3' secured by means of a large chain stolen Gainsborough Drive.

The remaining 3 offences refer to shoplifting at Sainsbury's, theft of a garden chair from the garden of a house in Coleridge Drive and the theft of jewellery from a house on Severn Drive where a visitor to the house is suspect.

Assault / Robbery

The assault arises from the incident 3rd February in Lowry Close and the Robbery report on 18/2/10 investigated by Chase CID has now been confirmed as being a false report by a Perton man in financial difficulties using the description of the offender circulated in the paper the week before.

Other items of interest

Sgt DAVIES the ASB co-ordinator is fast tracking Perton offenders in the 12 – 17yrs age group responsible for anti social behaviour through ' Operation Calm '

Operation Calm launched on 18th January builds on existing ASB polices but fast tracks people involved in anti social behaviour in perton through the process.

The anti-social behaviour suffered by visitors especially Anders Square, though low in terms of public safety, is of such a persistent nature that the impact on the community is enormous and many residents no longer enjoy visiting this central part of their community.

PC3537 Frank Hossack

PCSO Tim Woodley informed the members that he had obtained funding to cover twenty places at Codsall Aikido Club on Saturday starting in two weeks from Saturday just gone. There will be four one hour sessions for young people of minimum eight years and it is hoped that this will lead to many of them becoming regular session members.

Cllr Mrs C.Young asked Tim if he was aware of the Junior warden scheme since this appears later on the agenda and he explained that this is basically a citizenship programme for young people; It is run by the PCSOs in conjunction with the local housing associations and they meet at the library on Saturdays and includes visits to such places as the local fire station and Pendrell Hall.

Cllr Mrs P.Pitt said that she has received good feedback regarding these sessions and Cllr Mrs P.Allen said she has seen the group out and about with PCSO Ashley Tooth.

PCSO Tim Woodley left the meeting at this point.

(b) **Consultative Committee Meeting**

The members noted with interest the advance notification of this meeting which has, in past years, taken place without the prior knowledge of the Council.

RESOLVED that the Madeline Moore room be offered free of charge to accommodate this meeting and the Clerk will request detailed information from the police, preferably in the form of an A4 poster, in order that this event can be given maximum publicity via PPC notice boards and website.

161/10 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr Mrs P.Allen declared personal interest in cheque 103918 paid to Perton Playing Fields Association given her position as Trustee and also personal interest in respect to the grant request from Perton Carnival 2010.

162/10 **MINUTES**

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8th FEBRUARY, 2010

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th February 2010 be confirmed as a true record and the Chairman of the Council duly signed them.

163/10 **DRAFT MINUTES**

a) **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on 15th February 2010 be accepted for information.

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

164/10 **STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

a) **Perton Youth Club**

Cllr D.Billson said that the new Youth Service Manager for our area has been appointed and will start work on 1st April 2010. Our Manager is a lady previously at Connexions and will be based at Codsall. Meanwhile there is nothing else to report other than the Pavilion extension which is shortly up for a planning decision and meanwhile the existing Youth Club will remain open.

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

The Clerk explained that, as requested at the last meeting, he had written to Ofwat in support of any grant aid that may be requested by Severn Trent to replace the holding tank which is thought to be of insufficient capacity. However Ofwat has replied stating that they do not offer grants to water companies and these companies set their own priorities against pre set investment budgets. The decision that Severn Trent has to make is how many people benefit from a given amount of expenditure and if they can benefit more people by spending the same or less elsewhere then they may refuse to make the investment. At this point Ofwat can get involved to ensure that Severn Trent has properly followed the process.

c) **Quarrying – driving for a fair deal for Staffordshire**

It was noted that this correspondence includes a 'call for action' and it was agreed that members would respond as they see fit.

d) **Pothole Repairs**

The information was noted and the Clerk will report via 'Clarence' some pothole problems that exist at the junction of Richmond Drive (Peverill Road side) and The Parkway.

e) **Community Wellbeing Fund**

Cllr Mrs P.Allen expressed concern that whilst this new source of possible funding is welcomed she is aware that in other areas such as the Carers Association government funding is running out or being reallocated.

Cllr D.Billson said that this comes within the portfolio area of Cllr Matthew Ellis who is well aware that there are numerous 'funding pots' all aimed at the same thing with much overlap and duplication. The intent is to pool the funding streams to provide a 'one number solution' to deal with the whole issue. The Clerk said that the Civic Centre has numerous sessions that have a bias towards the elderly citizens and that SSDC has recently advised that they are considering setting up a Tai Chi session specifically for Senior Citizens.

f) **Community Paths Initiative**

It was suggested that we consider some form of walkers guide showing a number of circular walks which could be provided either as fold up maps or as display boards around The Parkway or both.

RESOLVED that a decision be postponed until next month and the Clerk will seek to identify the costs associated with the production of a Walkers Map which was introduced by Kinver Parish Council.

g) **County Councillor's Report**

Cllr D.Billson said that he has attended an all day Youth Conference at Yarnfield and there was lots of good ideas and literature.

He said he also attended another all day session at Yarnfield focusing on regeneration but this was very depressing as all the funding is being cut. He said it was very noticeable how many Central Government policies appear to be in direct conflict citing the example of one policy aimed at reducing travel whilst the schools policy has children continually on the move.

In respect to Council tax Cllr Billson reported precept increases as follows:

Fire & Rescue + 2.9%

Police + 2.8%

South Staffs Council + 3%

County Council 1.9% including £31M savings

Cllr Billson said that funding for transport had been cut by 40%-60% and therefore subsidised buses will be cut.

Cllr A.K.James said that he is concerned about the number of buses used by Codsall High, saying that there are many buses yet there is very poor usage.

Cllr Billson said that they are planning to get rid of many of the idle yellow buses and they are also looking at free transport for all.
Cllr S.Bott asked for an update in respect to the buses only lane, Cllr Billson responded saying that the intent is to install a camera with number plate recognition capability so that illegal users can be identified and prosecuted.
Additionally Cllr S.Bott commented on the distribution of the County Council leaflets which are glossy and expensive and will have a huge circulation. He said this type of service is unjustifiable and should be cut back and the website should be used to distribute such information.
Cllr Billson said in reply that the Audit Commission always states that we need more of this type of information not less.
Cllr A.K.James said that it is nothing more than propaganda and everybody is doing it.
Cllr A.Bourke agreed that the web is best for this type of thing but he had noticed an increase in the use of recycled eco-friendly paper for newsletters and a once a year distribution was enough.
Cllr Mrs P.Pitt said that there was the free paper as well which could be used to distribute information.

165/10 **SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

a) **Geese Peace Evaluation**

The members noted the correspondence and the following comments were made:

Cllr Mrs C.Young said that the list of stakeholders did not include Perton First School who have had significant geese related problems and have heard nothing.

Cllr D.Billson said there had been no 'area-wide' joined up efforts and this was important to deal effectively with the problems.

Cllr A.K.Black said all the action to date has been indirect and we need to tackle this issue with head on action via a cull.

Cllr A.K.James said there was also a problem at the lake at Wrottesley and elsewhere and we should have cooperative action between affected sites.

Cllr Mrs C.Young said that Perton Upper Lake island was critical in this issue as it is a principal site for egg laying. However the fence and barriers that was put up to keep the geese off were broken down within two months of being erected and have never since been replaced.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will reply to Howard Medicott providing the points listed above and request a statement detailing what to date has been done, by whom and at what cost in order that PPC can better understand the benefits against costs.

b) **District Councillors' Report**

Cllr A.K.James reported that an application had been made at Silver Poplars for tree felling and it was suspected that the site owner has used a resident to apply to fell protected trees and this will not be supported.

Cllr Mrs R.Heseltine said there was not much to report since the last Parish meeting. On March 16th she attended a Regulatory meeting at which one item regarded wind turbine installation, this was deferred to a later date when more information about certain aspects of the application could be obtained / investigated. A full Council meeting was held on February 23rd which she also attended.

Cllr D.Fereday said that he had attended the same meetings as Cllr Mrs Heseltine.

Cllr R.Moreton reported that he had attended a licensing training seminar on the new

music rules together with a V Festival hearing which was demanding that festival traffic management is improved.

Cllr D.Billson said that on 1st March he attended the launch of S.Staffs 'Pub of the Year' competition where votes can be registered by e-mail or text and there will be locality winners and an overall winner.

166/10 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Planning Applications received from South Staffordshire Council and reviewed by the Parish since the last Parish Council meeting on Monday 8th February, 2010.

| Application No. | Proposals |
|-----------------|--|
| 10/00059/FUL | Demolition of existing and erection of replacement dwelling - Beverley House, Pattingham Road, Perton, South Staffordshire WV6 7HD |

The Council raised no objections to the above proposals subject to confirmation of area not exceeding footprint size restrictions.

167/10 **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 8th February 2010

| | | | |
|----------|--------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 01/02/10 | DD | TV Licensing | 142.50 |
| 01/02/10 | STO | Kalidescope Limited | 47.00 |
| 03/02/10 | BACS | Wages Week 44 | 1135.67 |
| 09/02/10 | 103918 | Perton Playing Field Association | 2000.00 |
| 10/02/10 | BACS | Wages Week 45 | 1189.23 |
| 10/02/10 | BACS | Staffordshire CC Pension Fund | 1533.96 |
| 10/02/10 | BACS | Inland Revenue | 2523.07 |
| 11/02/10 | 103919 | Wright Locksmith Services | 99.88 |
| 17/02/10 | BACS | Wages Week 46 | 1142.67 |
| 19/02/10 | 103920 | MGD Solutions | 196.00 |
| 22/02/10 | 103921 | Mrs K.Hodson - Deposit Refund | 250.00 |
| 24/02/10 | DD | Unicom | 52.73 |
| 24/02/10 | BACS | Wages Week 47 Month 11 | 4114.32 |
| 25/02/10 | DD | Drinkmaster Ltd | 3.57 |
| 26/02/10 | DD | British Gas - Electricity | 403.36 |
| 26/02/10 | DD | British Gas - Gas | 1218.88 |
| 28/02/10 | DD | Veolia ES (UK) Limited | 114.12 |
| | | TOTAL | 16166.96 |

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

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

168/10 **CLERK'S REPORT – MARCH 2010**

Matters ongoing / resolved as at 8th March 2010

- South Staffordshire Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008-2011 available in Clerks office. Plan has been refreshed taking into account the results of the Strategic Assessment undertaken in 2009, looking at crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour for the year 2008-09
- Citizen of the Year nominations closed on 28th February 2010. No nominations received.
- Staffordshire Pension Fund: 2008/2009 Annual Report and accounts available in Clerks office.
- Staffordshire County Council Local Transport Plan News: Issue Number 1 available in Clerks Office or via www.staffordshire.gov.uk/ltp
- South Staffordshire Business Review: Issue Number 1 available in Clerks Office.
- Shropshire Local Development Framework: Core Strategy Final Plan Publication DVD and details available in Clerks office.
- Albert Loader Litter Warden has resigned since he has secured a full time job.
- Queens Diamond Jubilee posters and suggestions forms now complete and distributed. Also set up on Parish Council website to enable suggestion form download or e-mail response.
- Flicks in the Sticks arrangements now finalised for 2:00 pm on Monday 26th April 2010. 'Kinky Boots' posters distributed on PPC notice boards, Library, Corsers Court and displayed on Parish Council website. Wolverhampton Chronicle informed and Civic Centre groups consulted and advised.
- Children's Playground Spinner apparatus now satisfactorily replaced.
- Quotation request for electrical connection for Muga flood lighting sent to Central Networks on 22nd February 2010
- Letter sent to Ofwat on 22nd February enclosing latest 'Update Leaflet' in respect to Severn Drive flooding problems and stating that PPC are in support of Ofwat grant to provide a solution to these problems.
- Civic Centre Lakeside Hall floor cracks are now 'patched up' with grout filler.
- Audit Commission due date for returns this year will be 1st June.
- Submission of the Core Strategy for the Black Country and Brierley Hill Area Action Plan: See <http://blackcountrycorestrategy.dudley.gov.uk/> plus additional details in Clerks office.
- Travel Tokens distribution from Perton Civic Centre on 1st March (10:00 am to 2:30 pm) and 9th March (2:00 pm to 3:30 pm)
South Staffordshire Council Community newsletter Edition 2 Winter 2010 distributed at meeting.

169/10 **GRANT REQUEST**

a) **Perton Police (NPU) – Perton Junior Wardens**

RESOLVED that The Lakeside Hall be provided free of charge on Saturday 27th March from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm and Friday 9th April from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm for education session and awards presentation to Perton junior wardens.

- b) **Perton Carnival 2010**
RESOLVED that a grant of £246.00 be provided as requested to cover event insurance.

170/10 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) **Concessionary Travel Scheme**

The information was noted.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 12th April 2010 @ 7.00 pm

The meeting closed @ 8:25 pm

Chairman
12th April 2010