

Minutes of the Meeting of
PERTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Perton Civic Centre on
Monday 10th October, 2016 at 7:00pm

Present PE Davis (Chairman)
Mrs R Heseltine (Vice-Chairman)
Mrs P Allen
Naomi Caine
Mrs G Davis
Mrs L Turner
AA Bourke
N Caine
C Evans
M Francis
D Glynn
AK James
R Moreton
RR Simonds

Also present: 2 PCSO's, Gary Withington (SSDC)
Parish Clerk - Becky Hodgetts
Members of the Public - Six

70/17 **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

Parking on footpaths is a big problem around the village, especially Leasowe Drive, Lytham Road and St Andrews Drive.

The PCSO'S present confirmed that they do not have the any powers to deal with parking issues but will always speak to residents and give advice.

The rent for the fishing club has been paid for the next 12 months at a cost of £800, but the lake is not in a fit state to be fished, therefore no licenses have been issued.

District Council have been quoted approximately £40,000 to de-silt the bottom lake but independent quotes from Environmental Agency approved companies have come in at between £9,000 - £11,000.

Grants are difficult to obtain as it is maintenance that should be carried out every 10-15 years. District Council have agreed to look at grant applications with members of the fishing club.

Gary Withington agreed to look at waiving the rent and will re visit the lease with the legal team.

The general public are frustrated with the weed growth in both lakes.

The fishing license covers both lakes.

River Penk Environmental Improvements.

Presentation from Wild About Perton - Keith Elder and Groundworks Operations Manager Stephen Cook

The quality of the water in the River Penk is being monitored and it is generally healthy.

A 4 - 5 month proposal from the Environmental Agency and Wild Trout Trust will survey the whole of the River Penk and suggest ways on how to improve it.

Groundworks are an environmental charity and encourage people to get involved in their local rivers.

They will be planting on the outside of the water and will involve the local schools and the community probably from February.

If members would like further information they could walk the Wild about Perton Route.

Meeting commenced 7.24pm

2 members of the public left the meeting

The chairman imposed Standing Orders

71/17 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies received

72/17 **POLICE MATTERS**

- a)
 - PCSO Price informed the council that there are no major crime trends to report. A couple of suspect vehicles have been reported on social media. There is currently more adult ASB than youth ASB
 - The statistics on the website is out of date, but it does provide a better breakdown than a DOMS report. Councillors to raise this at the next Police Accountability Forum.

7.34pm *Councillor R Simonds arrived*

- Smart Alerts are good for up to date information.

73/17 **DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS**

Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interest received from the following:

78/17b Cheques 104932 and 104942
Cllr Mrs P Allen

78/17b Cheque 104936, grant to Perton Playing Fields Association
Cllr Mrs PA Allen, Mrs R Heseltine, Naomi Caine, Mrs G Davis, Mrs L Turner, PE Davis, C Evans, MD Francis, RE Moreton

78/17(i) Cllr Mrs P Allen

89/17 Cllrs Mrs G Davis, Mrs R Heseltine, P Davis, C Evans

95/17 Cllr R E Moreton

74/17 **REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

None received

75/17 **SSDC GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

Mr Gary Withington Environmental Services Manager at South Staffordshire Council agreed to answer any grounds maintenance issues if he could. The main issues were overgrown footpaths which do not appear to be on a regular maintenance program. Communication with the department is very poor and very frustrating. All queries to be sent directly to Mr Withington, as a two tier system responsibility is sometimes blurred. It was suggested that SSDC could keep SCC informed of areas that require attention and also keeping parishes informed.

The brook between the two lakes has been cleared but not properly, it still smells and collects rubbish.

It was suggested that Dippons could be a great area to look at community involvement. Mr Withington will respond to all the matters raised regarding maintenance and agrees that communication is 'key'

7.58pm *Mr G Withington and 2 members of the public left the meeting.*

76/17 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th September, 2016, having previously been distributed, were confirmed as a true and correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.

77/17 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the draft minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on 21st September, 2016 were accepted for information

78/17 **FINANCE**

- a) **RESOLVED** that the draft minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 4th October, 2016 together with the income statement for September 2016 were accepted for information.

b) **Accounts for Payment**
List of Payments since last reviewed at the meeting of the Council on 6th September 2016

<u>September</u>			£
01/09/16	DD	SSDC Non -Domestic Rates	1479.00
01/09/16	BACS	Halls SMS	47.49
01/09/16	STO	Kalidescope Limited	48.00
02/09/16	BACS	Wages Week 22	1294.40
06/09/16	104932	D.P.Allen	90.00
06/09/16	BACS	Wages Week 23	1294.00
12/09/16	104933	South Staffordshire Council	180.00
13/09/16	104934	South Staffs Work Clubs - grant	500.00
13/09/16	104935	South Staffs First Responders - grant	100.00
13/09/16	104936	Perton Playing Fields Association - grant	700.00
16/09/16	BACS	Inland Revenue	2218.86
16/09/16	BACS	Staffordshire CC Pension Fund	2137.52
16/09/16	BACS	Wages Week 24	1380.62
17/09/16	DD	BT One Bill (Broadband & Telephony)	112.59
19/09/16	DD	Npower Electricity	177.58
19/09/16	104937	Mrs Wylde- refund deposit	150.00
21/09/16	DD	Npower Gas	71.13
21/09/16	104938	Lighthouse Photography	74.40
22/09/16	104939	Came & Company	3705.00
23/09/16	BACS	Wages week 25	1549.70
27/09/16	Bank Chg	Co-Op Auto Cheque Encashment Fee	1.50
27/09/16	104941	MGD Solutions	196.00
27/09/16	BACS	PRS for Music	1186.12
29/09/16	DD	Veolia ES (UK) Limited	140.28
29/09/16	104942	D P Allen	50.00
30/09/16	BACS	Wages Week 26 / Month 6 - Centre & Parish	3532.16
30/09/16	BACS	Members allowance Month 6	1136.15
30/09/16	104943	R Poole (replacement cheque see 104917)	150.00
30/09/16	104944	Down to Earth Grounds Maintenance Ltd	108.00
		Monthly Total	23810.50

c) **Budget-to-date 2016/2017**

The information was noted.

d) **External Audit Report**

There were no matters to report

e) **Applications for Concessionary Room Hire**

8.03pm *Cllr Mrs P Allen left the room*

(i) **The Church at Perton**

An application for reduced hire cost for the Pearl of Africa Choir was discussed.

Resolved to approve the concessionary rate for this event.

Cllr Mrs P Allen re-entered the room

(ii) **Perton Christmas Fair**

An application for reduced hire cost was discussed. **Resolved** to allow free use of the centre for this year only.

79/17 STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

a) Report from County Councillor AK James (previously distributed)
Member for the Perton Division of Staffordshire County Council

Since the last report we have been visited by the Staffordshire Neighbourhood Highways Team to undertake clearance of the overgrowth of weeds and grass along the footpath of the A41 between the border with Wolverhampton and the traffic lights at Wrottesley Park Road. This work was not finished as the Highways Manager contacted me to explain that they were unable to complete in the 2 day allocation set aside for this work. I have written to the Cabinet member for Highways and Transport at Stafford with a photograph of the state this path has been left to complain that this situation is unacceptable as 50% of the footpath cannot be swept and will accumulate litter.

As a result of meetings held with Staffordshire Council for Voluntary Services. Efforts to establish a way forward in creating a youth facility is moving forward. An arranged date has been booked for 12th October. The plan is to bring together all interested parties for a discussion on making a sustainable organisation that could provide the sort of place that young people would want to see in Perton.

A Communication from the Boundary Commission has been received by the County Council in connection with a Review of County Boundaries throughout the country that will be the subject of an enquiry for Staffordshire County Councillors at the County Buildings in Martin Street on 14th and 15th of November 2016.

Additional comments;

No reply has been received from the Cabinet minister regarding the A41.

No official notification has been received regarding the Boundary review but it is thought it will not affect Staffordshire.

Removal of the pavement weeds in Heath House Lane has made the surface dangerous. Hopefully the drainage issue on the bend has been addressed.

Clerk was asked to write to the owner of Bradshaws asking for the overhanging trees to be cut back along the A41 from the Golf Club to the County Boundary.

Flooding on the Pattingham Road could be due to the farm land is higher than the road and some of the hedging has been removed. Highways are looking at the situation.

80/17 SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

a) Report from District Councillors
Written report from Keith James (previously distributed)
Member for Perton Dippons Ward of South Staffordshire District Council

The Your Council Challenge Panel met on the 6th September to set out the issues that may be relevant to revise or amend after consideration. There were discussions on the workings of Village Agents that was brought to the attention of the Panel, A report will be presented during the year. Other organizations including the local Citizens Advice Bureau funding by South Staffordshire Council amongst topics being looked at by Councillors.

At the Overview and Scrutiny Committee the Deputy Chief Executive, David Heywood brought forward plans for the future administration of the District Council including arrangements to work in cooperation with County Council projects where possible and alterations being considered to the roles of officers in various departments of the District Council.

The District Deal was rolled out last month covering such matters as the promotion of economic growth to encourage new and existing businesses to invest in technology and skilled workforces. These aims are linked to other organizations in Staffordshire where there are opportunities to use each others facilities to bring sustainable results for local communities. There are Health and Well Being Priorities to keep people healthy and fit through services such as leisure activities in the District plans.

Written report from Rita Heseltine

Member for Perton Lakeside Ward of South Staffordshire District Council

Since the last Parish Council meeting I have attended the following:

15.09.2016 Member Briefing: Emergency Planning and Business Continuity, One Public Estate, The Good Life South Staffordshire Energy.

The first session covered general flooding response, flood risk management and Civil Contingencies . We were informed of the ongoing training and multi-agency exercises to deal with varied scenarios. We also visited a mobile incident hub/"nerve centre" which would be called into service should some major incident occur. Interesting and informative. One Public Estate focuses on creating economic growth, regeneration, jobs and housing.

The third session - South Staffordshire Community Energy Bill Switch Support Scheme helps to promote the ease of switching suppliers. An excellent initiative as many people , for various reasons, do not switch companies and so miss out on saving money. Face to face and home visits can be arranged, step by step guidance and assistance is given and will begin the process again approx. 11months later to ensure best deals obtained. I must admit that I was rather sceptical that Gerard Fletcher would be able to save me anything at all as our bills have always been very reasonable. However, not only has he saved me 34% but started the process from beginning to end for me. The scheme is also available for businesses. Please ask if you would like any more information.

20.09.2016 Level 1 Children and Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Training. This covered a whole raft of principles, learning outcomes, legislation/policy/guidance and responsibilities. Interesting and necessary. We have been given contact numbers but remember -* if a child or vulnerable adult is in immediate danger or in need of medical attention or if a crime has been committed contact the police immediately on 999*. The mantra we were given is this: BELIEVE THAT ABUSE HAPPENS.....RECOGNISE IT, REPORT IT, STOP IT!

22.09.2016 Standards and Resources Committee

27.09.2016 Overview and Scrutiny Committee. There was an update on the work and subsequent work programmes of the 3 Challenge Panels- Your Place, Your Council and Your Community.

29.09.2016 Member Briefing: Treasury Management.

Parish Chairman Philip Davis and I have also undergone relevant training for stencilling warning signs regarding fines for those irresponsible /lazy people who do not clean up after their dogs. If you are aware of specific areas where there is a problem please let us know.

Cllr Heseltine informed the members that the stencil spraying had received no negative complaints, and if anyone knows of 'hotspots' please let her know and spraying can be looked at in the area.

81/17 CLERK'S REPORT

Matters ongoing / resolved as at 4th October, 2016

Email Distribution

- 06/09/16 Police & Crime Commissioner - experts required for Ethics, Transparency and Audit Panel
- 08/09/16 SPCA weekly news bulletin 8th September 2016
- 12/09/16 SCC Pothole Repairs update - 12th September 2016
- 14/09/16 Update from Cllr Allen regarding School Crossing Patrols
- 15/09/16 Residents complaint regarding proposed youth club leader

- 20/09/16 SPCA weekly news bulletin 15th September 2016
- 20/09/16 SCC Pothole Repairs update - 19th September 2016
- 20/09/16 Healthwatch Staffordshire Public Board Meeting
- 22/09/16 SPCA weekly news bulletin 22nd September 2016
- 26/09/16 Healthwatch South Staffs District Network Meeting - 5th October 10.30 to 12.00
- 28/09/16 SCC Pothole Repairs update - 26th September 2016
- 28/09/16 Neighbourhood Watch: ****Distraction Thefts - Safety Advice****
- 29/09/16 SPCA weekly news bulletin - 29th September 2016
- 03/10/16 SCC School Crossing Patrol response
- 03/10/16 Notes from meeting held on 27th September 2016 to discuss proposed new youth club
- 03/10/16 Wolverhampton City Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) - adoption
- 03/10/16 SCC Pothole Repairs update - 3rd October 2016

Other Matters

- River Penk - the selfsetters have been removed, what remains is the vegetation and this serves as ecological value to the area/water, removing this would have a negative impact on the wildlife so it is recommended that these remain and SCC will monitor in the future. Contractors will be asked to remove the logs.
- Trees on Parkway adjacent to Egelwin Close - re-pollarding of 4 trees arranged by District Council. Also clearing of vegetation and ivy to fence line.
- Grass verge Wrottesley Park Road appears to be part of the highway verge (SCC). Parking is allowed as there are no parking restrictions (i.e. yellow lines).
- Chicane update - In terms of any refund the contract is not set up like that and the actual funding came from Cllr Keith James Divisional Highway Program which is a pot of funding available to all County Councillors for community projects. The cost of this particular scheme was minimal with the majority of the costs going towards adjusting the legal order.
- Reported by PPC - Flooding on Pattingham Road reference: **4059288**
- Freedom of Information request sent to NHS South Staffordshire Breast Screening Service regarding the missed appointments for Perton. Following further information received, the same information has been requested from local surgeries. No response to date.
- Reported by PPC - Street light out Gainsborough Drive car park reference: **MREP-44851-3800**

The Clerk pointed out the importance of responding to the survey on possible Capping of Parish Council Precept. All comments to be collated and forwarded by the clerk.

82/17 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Planning Applications received from South Staffordshire Council and reviewed by the Parish Council Planning Committee since the last Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12th September 2016.

Application No.	Proposals
16/00644/FUL	Single storey rear extension - 12 Moor Park, Perton WV6 7YP
16/00533/FUL	Single storey side extension and new roof canopy across frontage - 11 Hepworth Close, Perton. WV6 7NT
16/00652/FUL	First floor extension to provide bedroom and washing facilities for a disabled person - 11 Cornmill Grove, Perton, WV6 7XU
16/00605/FUL	The swap out and relocation of the existing 14.7m high phase 4 monopole for a 15.0m high phase 5 monopole, removal of 1 no. equipment cabinet, installation of 2 no. equipment cabinets and associated development thereto - Hutchinson 3G UK Limited communication Station, Wrottesley Park Road, Perton
16/00690/FUL	First Floor extension over existing garage and play room, comprising new bedroom and bathroom - 65 Richmond Drive, Perton, WV6 7RP

Perton Parish Council raised no objections to the above proposals.

16/00598/COU	Renewal of original planning consent for the selling of flowers in Anders Square, Perton - - Land at Anders Square, Perton
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Perton Parish Council raised no objections in principle on the proposals but would point out that Sainsbury's are the owners of the freehold for the area identified on the site plan. It was also viewed that this area had sufficient flower and plant outlets.

16/00650/VAR App Ref no. 16/00431/FUL - Decision granted 29/06/16	Condition No. 2 - removal: To provide for a modified layout, refer to the up-to-date layout drawing - Land adjacent 17 Kingswood Park Homes, Holyhead Road, Kingswood
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Perton Parish Council raised no objections subject to the modified site layout not causing neighbour's vicinity encroachment

DECISIONS - The following decisions received from South Staffordshire Council:

Application No.	Proposals	Decision
16/00533/FUL 16/00598/COU 16/00605/FUL 16/00650/VAR))) All as above proposals)	GRANTED
16/00430/FUL	Re-development to provide 1no. 3 bedroom dormer bungalow - Barn adjacent Yew Tree Villa, Newport Road, Kingswood	REFUSED

83/17 **YOUTH STRATEGY: UPDATE**

- a) Update noted.
- b) **Resolved** Cllrs R Simonds and P Davis to represent the Parish Council as members of the Perton Youth Club Committee.
- c) **Resolved** Councillors in full support to receive and hold the £13,000 from County Council once it has been agreed that it can be released.

84/17 **UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE**

Retired and semi-retired people come together and learn, not for qualifications but to experience new opportunities. Cllr Mrs R Heseltine gave an over view of activities held at the Kinver U3a. Cllr Mrs P Allen commented that there was also an active branch in Wolverhampton.

85/17 **POLICY - PUBLICATION PARTICIPATION AT MEETINGS**

Resolved that the policy be adopted with the inclusion of the wording 'unless directed otherwise by the chairman'.

86/17 **DELEGATION OF CENTRE STAFF PERSONNEL ISSUES**

Resolved that all centre staff personnel issues be delegated to the Management Committee. Parish Clerk and Assistant Parish Clerk will continue to be managed by full council

87/17 **SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL UPDATE**

The crossing warden at Richmond Drive has withdrawn her appeal. **Resolved** clerk to contact the County Council to complain that interested parties such as schools or Parish Councillors were not allowed to be involved in this matter to support the crossing patrols and also fundamental safety issues have been ignored. There is some

apprehension that the review scheduled for the Spring will highlight more cuts.

- 88/17 **STAFFORDSHIRE PARISH COUNCIL ASSOCIATION - AGM NOMINATIONS**
No nominations or motions for AGM received. Cllr N Caine to continue as an executive member.
- 89/17 **PERTON VILLAGE SHOW**
The Chairman thanked the council for their support, without the help of the council it would not have been financially viable. The committee are proposing to run the show again in 2017 with the proceeds from this year.
- 9.03pm *Cllrs Mrs G Davis, Mrs R Heseltine, P Davis and C Evans left the room*
Cllr R Moreton took the chair
The event was very well attended and the council wanted to give their thanks to the committee for a very successful event, it created a 'buzz to the centre'. It is a lot of hard work for a small group of people. **Resolved** Parish Council to support the working group for 2017.
- 9.06pm *Cllrs Mrs G Davis, Mrs R Heseltine, P Davis and C Evans re-entered the room*
Cllr P Davis re-took the chair
Mrs Sally Beard was thanked for her contribution to the show.
- 90/17 **SAINSBURY'S CAR PARK - LIGHTING ISSUES**
Concern was raised over the lack of lighting on the car parks at night when the store is open. It is particularly dark around the loading bay area and groups of youths congregate there which can be intimidating. **Resolved** Clerk to arrange a meeting with the manager of Sainsbury's.
Poor lighting in Anders Square by the church was raised, **Resolved** Clerk to contact District Council to request that they upgrade their lighting.
- 91/17 **RELOCATING LITTER & DOG WASTE BIN**
Cllr N Caine informed the council that the reinstatement of a litter and dog waste bin in the Conway Road area was due to be completed within 7 days.
It was also noted that a bin is required at the stile entrance of Stokesay Avenue. **Resolved** Clerk to contact District Council
- 92/17 **SUMMER SUSSED 'OUT & ABOUT' REPORT**
The cost of running SUSSED sessions is a lot of money when taking into account the limited number of families that attend. The scheme was accessed by 138 children with the Parish Council subsidizing each child by £4.95.
- 93/17 **FEEDING BIRDS EDUCATIONAL SIGN**
Geese with Angel Wing appear to be on the increase, this is caused primarily by feeding white bread. The installation of an educational board was suggested. **Resolved** Request District Council fund this project.

CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

- 9.28pm In pursuance of the powers contained in section 1 of the above act I move that the press and public be now excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the business about to be transacted is of a confidential nature and that publicity will be prejudicial to the public interest.
- 94/17 **PERTON PLAYING FIELDS LEASE**
Council members were brought up to date regarding the Lease and Sub lease for Perton Playing Fields.
- 9.50pm *Cllr R Moreton left the meeting*
- 95/17 **EMPLOYEE CONTRACTS**
Resolved to approve Parish Clerk and Assistant Parish Clerk contracts, previously

distributed.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 14th November 2016 @ 7.00 pm

Crime and Disorder Implications

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, places a duty on a local authority to consider crime and disorder implications and to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions and to do all that is it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area.

Where relevant any decisions noted herein have taken this duty of care into consideration.

The meeting closed at 9.55pm

Chairman - 14th November, 2016