

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 July 2021 21:17  
**To:** reviews  
**Subject:** Boundary Commission personal submission 27826 South Staffs District Council  
**Attachments:** Boundary Commission personal submission.pdf; Proposed Wards.pdf  
**Categories:** Submissions, [REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam,  
Please find attached the submission from myself personally for South Staffs District Council, Perton wards. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
I have lived in Perton since 1980 and [REDACTED] so have a longstanding connection with my community. Attached is my submission and the relevant map, which is supported by the Parish Council..  
Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

## PERTON PARISH COUNCIL BOUNDARY COMMISSION SUBMISSION RE COMMUNITY LINKS

This report is a personal submission from [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED], Perton.

Historically Perton parish was a rural community centred on Jenny Walker Lane crossroads and had a number of farmsteads. During WW1 an airfield was developed and then again in WW2. The airfield was used to train pilots and we have contact with the Princess Irene Regiment in the Netherlands that was based here and historical maps and archaeology associated with this. Some of the air force buildings have been developed for housing, particularly at Cranmoor Lodge.

A masterplan for a garden village was developed and started by South Staffs District Council in 1976 and building continued until the mid 1980s. As each section of homes was developed the electoral boundaries were changed and numbers of councillors increased at Parish and District level. The village now has approaching 11000 residents. As a brownfield site Perton village had a number of developers and it now has the range of facilities you would expect and is classed as a large village for the Best Kept Village competition and by the District Council as a Tier 2 village. It was designed as a separate village and does not have direct access into Wolverhampton, just a bus link.

Within the Parish Council boundary there is a small area of properties in Wightwick, which is a ward in Wolverhampton Borough Council. This is a historical anomaly and should be ignored for the purposes of our electoral wards. We have no contact with this area.

There are two hamlets in the parish, one at Trescott on the A454, a linear settlement with a ford and one at Kingswood, also a linear settlement along the A41 and the A464.

### PERTON VILLAGE

The village has its own identity and it is not a housing estate. We have a large number of private houses and social housing, a sheltered housing complex, an ecumenical church, two public houses [one currently closed due to the pandemic], a County Council Library, a large Civic Centre used by our local residents for many activities, including Lakeside Community Church, and large free car parks. There is a small plant nursery and shop at Brownies, a farm shop at the Bradshaws and this has planning permission for retail units and small business units available to rent. There is a nursing home at the A41 traffic lights and opposite a Natural Burial Ground and wood owned by Lord Wrottesley who still comes to some village events. We are also very fortunate in having two lakes, public open spaces throughout the village, playing fields and a pavilion, woodland areas and two notable national paths, the Staffordshire Way and Monarch's Way. The Parish Council owns the children's Play Area and the Multi Use Games Area [MUGA] and a youth shelter in the centre of the village and the War Memorial. The playing fields are leased to the Playing Fields Association.

#### A] Civic Centre

The modern Civic Centre has the Parish Council's office upstairs. The Parish Clerk, Assistant Parish Clerk, two caretakers, a cleaner and two litter wardens are employed by the Parish Council which has a precept of £200,000. The accommodation downstairs comprises a large hall with a stage which can hold 250 people seated, a bar, a catering kitchen, a smaller hall and a room fitted out for a nursery. Upstairs there are two more rooms suitable for meetings and the Boardroom for the Parish Council. Many uses are made of this flexible arrangement. We host weddings, film shows, a very popular Indoor Bowling Club, exercise classes, children's theatre group, nursery groups, an art club, a Citizen's Advice Bureau, a theatre company which provides a traditional pantomime each year and rehearses in the Hall and it is in full use for our major village events. Recently we now have a

permanent Diabetic Retinopathy clinic which operates in the nursery room full time and a Pulmonary Clinic which operates twice a week.

There is a website for the Parish Council plus a Facebook page and local news is also added to the Perton Connect free magazine delivered to all properties.

#### B] Schools

There are three schools as we are in a three-tier system feeding Codsall High School. Perton First and Perton Primary Academy take children from the age of two in the nursery to nine years. Perton Middle School takes nine to thirteen year olds and then pupils transfer to Codsall High School. Due to the difficult route to Codsall High School for pupils walking or cycling the Parish Council and Codsall High School, together with a local voluntary group of parents, [PASST- Perton Action for Safe School Travel] are campaigning for free school transport for all our children [unfortunately half our village is under the three-mile limit] and the case is currently with the Local Ombudsman. In the interim CHS is bussing half the pupils in the Federation's minibuses and subsidising the transport with payments from the parents and school funds. The Parish Council have assisted this with a grant.

#### C] Shops

We have a modern shopping centre with a large Sainsbury's store which serves our local residents and all the local villages and provides employment, and a number of other retailers, including an estate agent, hairdressers for men and women, a beauty parlour, a chemist, an Indian restaurant and take away, a fish and chip shop, an Indian restaurant and takeaway, two charity shops for the local hospices, an off licence, a funeral parlour, a newsagent, two shops selling home necessities and one has ironmongery and motor parts and accessories, a vet, a cheaper food retailer and a popular coffee shop. Most residents use our food shops. Two dental practices operate here and two doctors' surgeries which are well used by parish residents. There are also mobile hairdressers and mechanics living in the village and several businesses operating from home.

There is a golf club in our village which is heavily used by Perton residents as it has a driving range, a novelty mini golf course, snooker table and café. It hosts parties and weddings and wakes and sometimes large community events such as Firework Night.

A nursing home operates at the A41 traffic lights and provides local employment and provides permanent and respite care for local people.

#### D] Public Transport

We have public transport links by bus, a frequent service into Wolverhampton every 15 mins at peak times through the bus link. We also have buses to Bridgnorth along the A454 and Telford along the A41. We have a cycle path round part of the Parkway and along Wrottesley Park Road. The services are normally well-used by residents travelling to work and shop particularly in Wolverhampton, Bridgnorth and Telford. School buses operate to Codsall High School, Bridgnorth Endowed School and Telford College. A less frequent service links us to Codsall and Pattingham. The public buses are used by young people going to the church schools in Wolverhampton and are very important to our residents in social housing. Our Kingswood residents catch buses along the A41 and our Trescott residents have a bus service to Bridgnorth and Wolverhampton. The Parish Council has recently conducted surveys to see whether bus shelters are required in both hamlets but demand there is low. The Parish Council owns and maintains the bus shelters except for the one at Sainsbury's and encourages public transport use.

## E] Churches

The Church At Perton is a joint project between the Anglican and United Reformed traditions and owns its own building next to the Civic Centre in the centre of the village. It holds funerals, baptisms and weddings and weekly services. The vicar is very active in the Parish and visits schools and businesses as well as residents. She also visits and holds services in the sheltered housing complex, Corser's Court and the local nursing home, Perton Manor. It has a Place of Welcome coffee morning on Saturdays and hosts the Brownies, Rainbows and Guides, Pilates classes, a craft group and other community groups.

Lakeside Community Church has a small congregation but provides free Sunday Breakfasts and evangelism courses and finance courses for residents.

## F] Environment

The open spaces are mainly maintained by South Staffs District and our local District and Parish councillors play a large part in the liaison necessary with all authorities. We are currently in the process of discussing a green areas management plan with the officer from SSDC.

We also have a particular problem with flooding and have been liaising with SSDC and Staffs County Flood Team re the 256 properties which we now know experience problems in difficult weather conditions. We are also talking to Severn Trent about particular problems with discharge from our sewage pumping station in Dippons Lane and flooding.

The Perton Playing Fields Association manages the playing fields and we have three football pitches which are hired out to local groups, three children's teams and one for adults. The Parish Council normally assists with the management of the pavilion and provides grants as necessary. A groundman employed by the PPFA takes care of the pitches and main mowing and maintenance is also provided by SSDC.

An environmental group, Wild About Perton, is looking after our traffic islands and other areas and we have recently had a grant in association with Bromford Housing Association to plant bulbs on the north Wrottesley Park Road island as our residents were so cooperative with their roofing contractors. The group organises walks with a local landowner at the Bradshaws each year and takes an interest in monitoring local flora and fauna. Keith Elder, the Chair of the Parish Council also organises regular walks for those interested in plants and birdlife.

We have monthly litter picks organised by one of our District councillors and have recently taken part in the Great British Spring Clean when twenty six new litter pickers and hoops were given out to invite residents to do their bit in their own areas. Many of those collecting litter have continued to do so.

Our lakes provide many opportunities to watch birds and plants and we have swans, geese and plenty of ducks. There are two areas being developed by SSDC to feed the birds as we now have too many rats, a source of many complaints.

The Parish Council facilitates provision of seats in appropriate areas and our latest is a memorial seat for one of our doctors who died last year.

Walking For Health has a weekly walking group for short and long walks. The Parish Council also has a walking map to encourage people to walk for health and exercise.

## G] Events

We have four large events each year under normal conditions which attract huge groups of people and their relatives who live locally.

#### 1. Carnival

On the first Bank Holiday in May we have a Carnival [usually]. The uniformed organisations make a particular effort to be involved in the parade, and other local organisations join them. We have prizes for the best floats and individuals. A local church band leads the parade, we have fifteen marshalls and police help. The Church and Civic Centre are open and we have stalls mainly run by our local groups, bouncy castles and a giant slide, icecreams and doughnuts and other edibles and it attracts 1000-2000 people as residents bring their families. There is full cooperation from the Wrottesley Arms pub with an outdoor bar and barbecue. Entertainment is in the Civic Centre with a magician and music. The Parish Council makes the Civic Centre available at no cost for this event. Sainsbury's own the pedestrian area and allow this event to take place and assist with groceries for several local events.

#### 2. Spring Festival

The Spring Festival takes place about a month later and is centred on the Library and adjacent green space. There are wildlife and plant exhibits, opportunities to examine bones, archaeology exhibits, pond dipping scenarios and wood carving, willow statues and baskets and other craft items. Wild About Perton plans this activity and it is fun and educational. Over 1200 people came to this before Covid.

#### 3. Village Show

The Village Show in September means a concentrated weekend of exhibits for local gardens, flowers and plants, photos, artwork from schools, a poetry competition, cookery items and jams and chutneys. Handmade craft work that leaves us all in a state of wonder- jewellery, patchwork, knitting etc. At the end an auction of all items that have not been removed takes place. The Parish Council makes the Civic Centre available at no cost for this event.

#### 4. Pantomime

In early January the Harlequin Players usually produce a pantomime, which they rehearse, produce and act in the Civic Centre. This involves local actors and children and as a traditional pantomime aimed at children and families is widely supported in our community and by groups from across the South Staffs and Wolverhampton area. It runs for a week and at full capacity and sometimes the elderly residents come to the Dress Rehearsal.

#### 5. Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair offers an opportunity for local businesses to sell or advertise their products and voluntary groups to raise funds for their organisations. The local schools normally provide the music and the local choir which practises in the Civic Centre. The Parish Council provides a large Christmas tree and commercial sellers of refreshments attend. The outdoor lights have been paid for largely by the Christmas Fair committee and the Parish Council assists with putting them up around the Civic Centre, Church and shopping area. Funds raised add to the lights. The event is organised by the Vicar with a committee entirely of parish residents and shopkeepers.

H] Community Groups and organisations

As a large village Perton has a large number of community groups which have all suffered during the pandemic. Some of these are listed below:

Uniformed organisations, Guiding and Scouting, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Cubs, Scouts. Women's Institute, Townswomen's Guild, Perton Action for Safe Transport, Friends of the schools and PTFAs, Gardening Club, Perton Youth Club, Day Centre, Friends of the Library, British Legion, Wild About Perton, Pride in Perton, Friendship Club, Whist Club, STEM group and other groups operating from the Library. Five social media groups- Perton Residents, Totally Unbiased Residents, Perton Posts, Perton Garden Veg Growers, Perton Community Post. Both Kingswood and Trescott have residents' groups.

#### **I] Community Support**

During this pandemic the Parish Council has assisted with the Community Hub being run to collect shopping, prescriptions and even walk dogs for vulnerable people. Grants were given by SSDC for Christmas lunch provision and activity bags were given to those suffering isolation during the winter months. All residents in our sheltered housing scheme received one and 150 were distributed in total thanks to a grant from the Community Foundation for Staffordshire. The Parish Clerk and office staff were most helpful in the necessary administration of these activities and many Perton residents offered their help.

Assistance was given by a mobile butcher, in a negotiated exchange for a site for his mobile shop at the playing fields, with 40 meat packs each week during the first and second lockdowns for each family, allocated by Housing Association officers to needy families with the assistance of the Parish Council. Vouchers for children's food were exchanged for packs from a village shop, C&L Foods and these were well-received and the same retailer also provided assistance privately to local people in need.

The Parish Council contacted the Residents' Associations in both Kingswood and Trescott but they are well networked and were helping each other.

#### **Kingswood**

This hamlet has a good connection with our community as our former county councillor lives there.

It also has an area of common land which is used by Perton residents for dog walking and BMX biking and cycling and for leisure activities. Perton residents litter pick the Common and other areas.

There are several commercial interests and a well-supported charity together with large farms and some farm buildings converted to dwellings. There is also a development of mobile homes and a public house and garage for motorbikes. The public house is well known in the area and attracts customers from Perton parish and elsewhere. It is well-used by Perton village residents.

The Business Park has light industry and financial offices. It also has room for expansion.

There are two riding stables making good use of the quiet lanes and bridle paths in the area.

Kingswood Trust is a registered charity on a eight acre former school site that offers day and residential outdoor activities principally for inner city children and also for families. It has over thirty volunteers who recently won The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. There is also a commercial centre for PGL which is currently closed due to the pandemic and is usually busy and offers outdoor and sporting activities for young people and also provides employment.

The Silver Poplar Residents' Association from the mobile home park meets monthly in the Civic Centre and liaises with the Parish Council as necessary.

Kingswood residents use our shopping facilities, our doctors and our Library as their nearest available resource.

We are connected by bus services that run along the A41 but most residents have private transport.

#### TRESCOTT

Trescott is predominantly a linear settlement on a ford for Smestow Brook. It has several farmsteads that have had farm buildings converted to dwellings, particularly in the last ten years, and its population is therefore growing. Farming is still the main activity and there are bridle paths and footpaths that are well-used in the area.

The Parish Council has been assisting them with clearing footpaths this year and in their request for a speed limit in their area which our new county councillor is pursuing on their behalf. The Residents' Association was formed after the last local Parish Council elections and is proving to be a good way of communicating. Two years ago the Parish Council received a request for a bus shelter and a survey was undertaken by the Council which showed only two regular users of the service along the A454 into Wolverhampton, which shows that most residents have their own transport.

#### FUTURE HOUSING

The Parish Council has taken an active interest in the new housing proposed by SSDC for our area and has obtained some community benefits by maintaining a pro-active and cooperative approach.

In this summer work will commence on a scheme close to the golf course for 160 homes to the west of Perton village. 40% of these will be affordable homes at our request as there is a lack of these in the village and there will be bungalows too. Housing Plus, a social housing provider is building these homes and has been very helpful in liaising with the Parish and District Councils. We will be receiving 30 full size allotments for our community in an area to the south of the golf course drive [which will be divided into 60 half plots plus a community plot and possibly a community orchard] and this facility will be completed for us by Housing Plus with main services, road and car parking and fencing and division. This will be a major benefit for our community and great interest is being expressed.

We have also been successful in our Section 106 payments in accessing further monies for youth and sporting facilities. The highways improvements needed are being funded by a change of software for the A41 traffic lights which should help with our only access road. The Parish Council and PASST have also been successful in lobbying for a pedestrian crossing at the A41 which is being installed now.

In the last Local Plan an area for 60 homes to the north of the new development was allocated as safeguarded land, which we have been told will be used in the next Local Plan. This will also add to our electors and we have a high demand for homes here which is growing due to our pleasant and green environment, good schools and proximity to employment at the A54 and in the local area.

We have a strong record as a parish in lobbying for the necessary infrastructure and for our community. The presence of our SSDC councillors working with the Parish Council directly [they are all parish councillors too] and our new county councillor gives our parish sound representation and our Parish office is respected by the public and frequently used for queries and information, as is our Library.

## WARDING ARRANGEMENTS

Electoral Ward	Current District Ward Name	Number of Electors	Number of District Councillors
CGA2	Perton East	1631	1 District Councillor
CGA1 CHA CJA	Perton Dippons including Kingswood [303 electors] and Trescott [227 electors]	1062	1 District Councillor
CFA	Lakeside	4721	3 District Councillors

The following proposed warding arrangements have been agreed by Perton Parish Council.

Ward	District Ward Name	Current Number of Electors	Proposed District Ward	Proposed Ward Numbers	Number of Councillors
CGA2	Perton East	1631	Current street pattern plus electors living in Rockingham Drive and roads off, Rowton Avenue and Cheriton Grove, Roundway Down and the section of Edgehill Drive between the Parkway and the green space.	2040	1 District Councillor
CGA1 CHA CJA	Perton Wrottesley [formerly Perton Dippons]	1062	Current street pattern plus St Andrew's Drive and roads off and including the hamlets of Trescott and Kingswood	2159	1 District Councillor
CFA	Lakeside	4721	Current street pattern less the electors living in St Andrew's Drive and all roads off but including the new Severn Homes development planned and due to start this autumn.	4096	2 District Councillors



## Pattingham Parish

This adjoining parish in Locality 4 is a rural traditional village which has little in common with our new village. The other adjoining boundary for Pattingham is the ward which has Trysull, Seisdon and Bobbington, all rural small villages with similarities and common issues with concerns over new development, transport, highways and preservation of facilities and traditions. I believe that a joint electoral boundary with one or more of these villages would offer better synergy and enable Pattingham to have additional numbers to approach the desired number of electors. I understand that reference has been made in the Pattingham Parish submission to the hamlets of Kingswood and Trescott but this would reduce representation for our growing village and would destroy the good relationships that Perton enjoys with its hamlets. As a recent [REDACTED] I urge you to resist this idea.

I would be pleased to offer further information if required.

[REDACTED] 29/07/21

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## PROPOSED WARDS

