

**MINUTES OF KERSEY ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON  
MONDAY 8 APRIL 2019 AT 7.30PM IN KERSEY VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT**

Chair – John Hume, 4 Parish Councillors, 41 members of public and the Clerk - Sarah Partridge. Suffolk County Councillor - Robert Lindsay and Babergh District Councillor - Alan Ferguson attended for part of the meeting.

**APA 1/19 APOLOGIES** were received from Parish Councillors Kevin Pratt and Stuart McQuaker, Andrew Rogers apologised that he would arrive late. Mark Rigby and Jonathan Marsh also sent their apologies.

**APA 2/19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH MEETING** held on 9 April 2018 were signed as correct.

**APA 3/19 CORRESPONDENCE** - None

**APA 4/19 REPORTS**

**Full Reports are all appended to these minutes.**

**Suffolk County Council**, Robert Lindsay gave his report and answered questions.  
*Robert Lindsay then gave his apologies and left the meeting.*

**Babergh District Council**, Alan Ferguson gave his report and answered questions. The questions mainly related to planning and development.  
*Alan Ferguson then gave his apologies and left the meeting.*

**Kersey Parish Council**, John Hume gave his report.  
*2 members of the public joined the meeting*  
The Chair was thanked by those present for carrying out his role as Parish Council Chair.

**Kersey Parish Council Working Groups:**

**Footpath Working Group**, Giles Hollingworth gave his report.

**KCPC Working Group**, a report was read from Jonathan Marsh.

**KVG Working Group**, John Hume gave his report.

**Forget-Me-Nots**, Veronica Partridge gave her report.  
*Andrew Rogers arrived at the meeting.*

**Franey, Rand and Pest House Charities**, Rachael Rogers gave her report.

**Friends of the Fabric & Bells of St Mary's Church:**

**Bells**, Neville Whittell gave his report. The Chair thanked the bell ringers. Kersey is fortunate to have such a dedicated team who ring regularly for everyone in the Parish to enjoy. Neville commented that new bell ringers would be welcomed.

**Fabric**, a report was read from Mark Rigby.

**Grays Trust**, Joan Hattrick gave her report.

**Kersey CEVCP School**, a report was read from Jess Nunn, Head of School.

**Kersey Playing Field Association**, Ian Hattrick gave his report.

**Kersey Projects**, Suzie Rudkin gave her report.

**Lewis Mowles Trust**, Norah Orriss gave her report.

**Millennium Book Fund**, Sarah Partridge gave a report. It was suggested the Parish Council could consider winding up this fund since there will be no further income, other than a small amount of bank interest.

**Nightingale Trust**, Natalie Blyth gave her report.

**St Mary's Church PCC**, Linda Newbigging gave her report.

**Table Tennis Club**, a report was read from Adrian Blyth.

**Tuesday Club**, Rachel Wells gave her report.

**Village Hall**, Veronica Partridge gave her report

**Village Produce Association**, Rachel Wells gave her report.

It was commented that Kersey is not just a village but a whole Parish with hamlets and outlying properties. It was suggested more needs to be done to engage people and encourage attendance at parish events.

#### **APA 5/19 PARISH ACTION PLAN UP-DATE**

An updated copy of the Parish Action Plan is attached to the minutes of this meeting and is also published on the website. There has been some progress on action points during the last year which the Chair highlighted.

#### **APA 6/19 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

A question was asked as to when the last Parish Council election was held. The Clerk confirmed that Parish Council elections are held every four years. However, there had not been a contested election for 25-30 years.

The Clerk asked all the village organisations to look at the Kersey website and confirm they are happy with the content. The website has many pages with plenty of information about the village organisations, events, local history and local businesses as well as Parish Council information.

**[www.kersey.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.kersey.suffolk.gov.uk)**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.12pm.

There are 27 pages appended to these minutes.

## **Suffolk County Councillor Annual report for Kersey Annual Parish Assembly 8/4/19**

### **School bus cuts**

I and my group did all we could to oppose this, including referring it twice to scrutiny committee. I fully expect it will lead to more cars on the road, confusion for parents and little savings. Catchment areas are so far being retained for school admissions policy but “nearest school” will apply for free school bus. I am glad though, that, through our consistent opposition to the policy, we were able to reduce the severity of the final policy change. The final policy that was agreed in July 2018 was much less damaging than the original proposal. In particular, we were able to ensure that children who are currently attending a school will continue to receive free school transport until the end of their time at that school – thus reducing the upheaval and ensuring no child is forced to move schools in the middle of their education.

### **Highways**

I said last year that much of my time has been spent urging highways to do jobs that appear to have slipped for whatever reason. This is still the case. However a new, more pro-active cabinet member for highways does seem to have helped speed up response times and has implemented a new pothole policy – filling in all holes in an area rather than just the largest – which the administration tells me is working to save money, though I have noticed a few failures lately which I have reported. A new head of highways, Mark Ash, who does not have a highways background, has just taken over and it is hoped he will further shake things up.

### **Pension fund risk**

I sit on the pension committee and have been steadily pushing for the committee to reduce the risk of “stranded assets” from holding a high proportion of fossil fuel shares. At the last meeting, the committee agreed to look at transferring some of its assets to a low carbon fund.

### **Leadership change**

In the past year, the leader of the Conservative administration was voted out by his fellow Conservatives and a new leader, Matthew Hicks, voted in. He has been less confrontational than his predecessor and has set up a series of ad hoc, cross party “policy development panels” which so far seem to be working well to bring in new ideas. After pressure from me, the “Suffolk Public Sector Leaders” group is now meeting in public with agendas and minutes published.

### **Special Educational Needs**

The best example of this is the recent panel on SEN which recommended cabinet invest up to £45m over the next five years in creating new places within the county. This has been approved by cabinet and subject to being signed off by the finance officer should be implemented in the new year. It was cross party input and support that helped the Conservatives agree to invest. However on the downside, the county has just failed its SEND inspection, two years after failing its first one. The inspectors said leadership and governance changes had been made but it had not fed through

into better outcomes for parents and children, as health care professionals and educationalists appeared not to be coordinating together.

### **2019-20 Budget and Cuts, Citizens Advice, staff**

Suffolk County Council's 2019-20 budget was agreed on Thursday 14 February. This will see an increase in council tax of 3.99%, and savings across the council's directorates totalling £10.1m.

One of the most concerning decisions by the Suffolk administration is to cut the entire grant for this service. I and my group have spoken out against this at every opportunity because I believe it is a false economy. The grant is being withdrawn over two years in two halves and the NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups have agreed to fund the other half alongside the county for the 2019/20 year only.

The budget also proposes staffing reductions across all directorates, totalling almost £3m. We do not currently have details of how these cuts will be distributed and which staff will be affected, but I am very concerned that this will result in less efficient services and an increase in stress amongst the remaining staff.

### **“Oversight board” to try to turn around Suffolk Special needs**

We have received assurances from the Cabinet member for Children's Services that an oversight board will be set up imminently, made up of councillors from all parties, as well as CCG staff and user organisations, after the SEND service failed its 2<sup>nd</sup> inspection.

### **Review into abandoned Upper Orwell Crossings project**

Nicola Beach (Chief Executive of Suffolk County Council) has confirmed that she will be undertaking a review of the project to determine what went wrong after £8.3m was spent on consultants and not a spade lifted.

### **Successful motions**

I'm please to say that three motions that I either proposed or seconded were passed.

They are

- Developing a strategic, costed five-year cycling plan to improve investment in cycling infrastructure in the county has
- Committing to reducing single-use plastic waste in Suffolk;
- Declaring a climate emergency and pledging to make Suffolk carbon neutral by 2030.

**Crossroads at Kersey Mill** – I am investigating what if anything can be done about the lack of visibility at this junction with officers and other councillors.

**Robert Lindsay**  
**Suffolk County Councillor for Cosford Division**

# DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT FOR KERSEY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 8<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2019

## **Introduction**

The last year has required Babergh District Council to consolidate after a long period of turmoil. We elected a new Leader in January 2018 and a new Cabinet was appointed to implement cabinet governance and complete the delivery of the objectives that we set ourselves in 2015. It's probably fair to say that the outcome has been mixed, but the challenges have been significant.

After the move to Endeavour House, only now are we beginning to recruit the number and quality of new staff that we (and Mid Suffolk) require to achieve our goals and that's very much a "work in progress" matter. However, it's encouraging to see that after losing a number of key senior officers as a result of the move to Ipswich, a positive recruitment trend appears to be in train that needs to be maintained if we are to deliver our vision and aspirations for the next 4 years. More than any other, the Planning Department is struggling with the loss of key Officers and an increasing number of applications that are required to meet Government targets. Only by delivering additional private sector housing will we bring in the additional funding that is required to balance our Council budget.

Election year is, of course, a significant event in local government. With a reduced number of Wards, it remains to be seen whether or not the Conservative Group will retain its majority, and it would be foolish to start making specific promises before we know that we are in a position to deliver them. Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, therefore, is a key date for everyone. Personally, I hope our electorate will focus on our delivery of local issues when they cast their votes rather than on party lines in the context of a highly undesirable Brexit scenario.

## **Public Access**

A year ago, you may recall that we were fighting to retain access points to Babergh council officers after the move to Ipswich. Originally only one (in Sudbury) was planned. I am pleased to see that common sense prevailed eventually and access points have now been provided in Hadleigh (in the library for one half day a week) with a similar facility being made available in The Peninsula area. Please **use it or lose it**. That is the key message to all our parishes.

## **Leisure**

The expenditure of £3.8 million to replace the Hadleigh Leisure Centre Pool and to redevelop the Kingfisher Leisure Centre in Sudbury was approved by the full Babergh Council and tenders have been let to ensure that these urgently needed facilities will be delivered early next year.

## **Boundary Commission**

The Boundary Commission final report will be implemented at the local elections on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 19. As expected, the number of District Councillors will come down from 43 to 32 and in our case, the final Ward solution (called SE Cosford) will comprise the parishes of – Aldham, Elmsett, Whatfield, Nedging & Naughton, Kersey, Semer, Lindsey and Chelsworth. The challenge for the new Leader of Babergh will be to find sufficient Members to populate the Cabinet and the various Committees that are an essential part of our governance process with a reduced number of Councillors. This is likely to call for some robust pruning of committee membership numbers - probably no bad thing in itself. Which committee and what numbers will not be decided until after the local elections on 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

## **Public Sector Housing**

The provision and acquisition of housing for the public sector has moved on a pace in the last 12 months. A significant number of properties have been added to the Council stock and Angel Court (21 one and two bedroom much needed flats) has gone through the Planning Committee for a start date in 2019. I am still hopeful that suitable Babergh owned garage sites will be identified and selected for demolition to make room for further council housing. Few are used for cars and the need for additional affordable housing is paramount.

## **Private Sector Housing**

A few months ago, we were given new guidance on the challenges of building yet more private sector houses. We are now required to build about 450 houses a year rather than the 350 that was already a serious challenge. In that context I will continue to fight on your behalf for "the right location, the right type and the right number" of houses at the Planning Committee deliberates its decisions in the

conflicting scenarios of requirements against location. We have had some successes in the last year, but this will be an ongoing challenge that will call for sensible compromise if our growth targets are to be achieved.

The inescapable fact is that we have not built the houses that Babergh requires in the last year, and as well as not providing housing required for our residents, we have been left with an income gap (new homes bonus) that needs to be resolved quickly if we are to deliver a balanced budget without cuts to services.

### **Finance/Council Tax**

Four years ago we were committed to no increases in Council Tax for Babergh residents. Sadly, that commitment has been shelved because the government has continued to remove direct grants to Councils for the delivery of outputs in our day to day business. The increase for 2019/20 (£5 per annum for a Band D property) is likely to be “the norm” for the foreseeable future. In addition, we and Mid Suffolk have got agreement to borrow a total of £100M at a low rate of interest for investment in infrastructure projects. It carries risk, but by careful management of that risk, we should be able to maintain our current level of services.

Irrespective, we have managed to submit a balanced budget (as we are legally required to do) for 2019/20 but we should not delude ourselves as there are significant challenges ahead in the following 2 years that will require innovative solutions for Councils to maintain the current situation.

Linked to finance and Council tax is “growth” and this is important to our future plans. After 4 years we have a growth plan for Sudbury, but this is still far from being delivered as opposition remains vociferous. However, we still do not have any strategy for the growth of Hadleigh and this must be a high priority for the new administration in May 19. The plan should address housing growth (Joint Local Plan), infrastructure, tourism and additional parking in the town. I will be pressing for these matters to be addressed quickly. Another 4 years of not even talking about Hadleigh issues would not be acceptable.

### **Merger of Babergh & Mid Suffolk DC**

With mergers going on around us to the east and to the north, it's understandable that voters have been suspicious about our intentions for Babergh & Mid Suffolk. The Conservative Manifesto makes no mention of a merger for the two District Councils, but following conversations in the Administration, we have agreed that all options (wider mergers rather than just Babergh & MS) will be considered as potential efficiency measures at some point in the future. Irrespective, any recommendations for change will be supported by a business case and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to agree governance as well as numbers and structures of committees.

### **Disposal of Corks Lane Buildings**

The future of the old Council buildings at Corks Lane was passed through the Planning Committee in March 19. Whilst there are remaining concerns about the plan that has been adopted, on the positive side the building, unlike East House, will not sit idle for years before development commences. When completed, this will produce income for Babergh and allow us to build a quality housing development suitable for the Grade II listed buildings and their high-profile positioning in Hadleigh.

### **The Future**

I defy anyone to make meaningful predictions about what the coming year will bring. From 2<sup>nd</sup> May 19 the Ward becomes SE Cosford Ward with Lindsey and Chelsworth being included. Therefore, the outcome of the local elections in May is clearly critical, and the current debacle in Westminster might overshadow any local initiatives. All I would ask Parish Councils and their residents to do is acknowledge that local elections are about local matters. With luck, that will allow us to deliver a strong vision for Babergh District Council in the next year and through to 2023.

### **My Personal Thanks**

Whilst I hope to be representing you from 2<sup>nd</sup> May 19 onwards, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Kersey Parish Council members for your encouragement and support over the last 4 years.

*Alan Ferguson*

South Cosford Ward

District Councillor Tel: 01449 741542 or 0797 407 5430 E: [alan.ferguson@babergh.gov.uk](mailto:alan.ferguson@babergh.gov.uk)

## KERSEY PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY, 8 APRIL 2019

Chair's Report.

This is my sixth Annual Report as Chair of Kersey Parish Council.

The Parish Council is the first tier of government. We aim to represent the interests of Kersey's 360 residents, enhancing well-being and security throughout the Parish. Residents are encouraged to raise matters of concern either with individual Councillors or by attendance at Parish Council Meetings.

Existing Councillors are Penny Calnan, Giles Hollingworth, Yvonne Martin, (Vice Chair), Stuart McQuaker, Andrew Rogers and me. Contact details are shown below and are on the Kersey Parish Council page of the Kersey website. The website also contains minutes of meetings and financial details. Iqbal Alam and Veronica Partridge both resigned during the year and I thank them both for their contribution and service. All Councillors have attended initial Parish Councillor training with further guidance from the Clerk where needed. Further planning training will be organised for Councillors after the May election.

Robert Lindsay, Suffolk County Councillor and Alan Ferguson, Babergh District Councillor regularly attended our meetings and we thank them for their advice and taking up issues on our behalf.

Your Parish Council is financially strong, as will be seen when the Year End Accounts are published. Reserves are well within the percentage range of annual expenditure. Finances are monitored at every meeting and details included in the minutes. This includes comparisons of income and expenditure against budget, bank reconciliations, noting of balances, expenditure approval and signing of cheques by approved signatories. Finances are also audited regularly.

15 Planning Applications were made during the year, of which ten were approved by the Parish Council and Babergh District Council. Of the remainder, one at Kersey Mill was supported by the Parish Council but refused by Babergh, one at Wickerstreet Green was not supported by the Parish Council but was approved by Babergh after some amendments. One in The Street was objected to by the Parish Council and refused by Babergh and the remaining two will be discussed at the Parish Council meeting later this evening.

Work continues on the Emergency Plan, The Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS) and the Parish Council approved a number of new policies to comply with data protection and other legislation. Councillors also approved a proposal for new approach to Risk Management but implementation will have to be considered by the newly constituted Parish Council after May. The Kersey Volunteer Group (KVG) has been created to allocate specific responsibility for litter collection and reporting potholes. New extra dog bins have installed. The triangle on top of the post war school sign on Church Hill was stolen and the Parish Council are considering how to replace it. There is still a vacancy for a Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.

Matters raised in Parish Time have been highway safety, traffic speed, grit heaps, diversions and damaged and discarded road signage.

I thank my fellow Councillors and Clerk, Sarah Partridge for another year of service to our community. I also thank the many members of our Parish who provide service to others by supporting neighbours, through individual initiatives, membership of formal and informal groups, societies, networks and local charities. This work goes on behind the scenes but is highly valued and appreciated. Although we are a small parish, there are over 25 businesses, groups, societies and local charities. Kersey is a vibrant, flourishing, safe and generous community but for this to continue into the future, we need more engagement and contribution from younger residents.

On May 2nd, we will have a contested election for Parish Councillors, with nine people standing for seven vacancies. Giles Hollingworth has decided not to stand and I thank him for his work as a Councillor and in particular for his practical approach to solving problems. Yvonne Martin has also decided not to stand. Yvonne has been a Councillor for over fourteen years and during this time has also been Chair and Vice-Chair. We will miss her experience, wise counsel and her calm, analytical and principled approach. I am delighted that both have indicated they would be willing to continue to support the Parish Council's future activities.

Finally, in the last two years, we have seen planning applications in Kersey which have been very contentious. I strongly recommend that the newly elected Parish Council embarks on a Neighbourhood Plan to gain community wide agreement on where development can take place.

John Hume  
Chair, Kersey Parish Council, 8 April 2019.

### **Kersey Parish Council Contacts**

#### **Parish Councillors until the election on 2 May 2019:**

John Hume (Chair)	Ayres End, The Green, Kersey IP7 6EB	01473 810098
Mrs Penny Calnan	Wickerstreet House, Wickerstreet Green, Kersey IP7 6EY	01787 210459
Giles Hollingworth	Chapel House, Church Hill, Kersey IP7 6DZ	01473 824663
Mrs Yvonne Martin (Vice Chair)	Row View, The Street, Kersey IP7 6DY	01473 828361
Stuart McQuaker	The Mount, The Street, Kersey IP7 6DY	01473 828722
Kevin Pratt	Green Gables, The Green, Kersey IP7 6EB	01473 823028
Andrew Rogers	The Gables, Wickerstreet Green, Kersey IP7 6EY	01787 212242

<b>Clerk:</b> Mrs Sarah Partridge	Bridges Farm, The Tye, Kersey, IP7 6HB Email: kerseypc@gmail.com	01787 210859
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Kersey Parish Council publishes on the Kersey website past minutes, financial information, ordinary meetings dates for the year and contact information. There is also a wealth of other useful information on the Kersey website.

**Kersey Website: [www.kersey.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.kersey.suffolk.gov.uk)**



### Kersey Parish Council Budget and Precept

	Budget/ Precept 2018/201 9	Budget/ Precept 2019/2020
<b>Parish Council</b>		
Post/Tel/Stationery/copier cartridge	£135.00	£135.00
Clerk's working from home exp	£208.00	£208.00
Hall Hire:Parish Council 12 @ £5	£55.00	£60.00
Annual Parish Assembly @ £10	£10.00	£10.00
SALC subscription	£180.00	£180.00
External Audit	£100.00	£100.00
Data Protection	£188.00	£35.00
Website hosting	£100.00	£100.00
<b>Sub total for Admin</b>	<b>£976.00</b>	<b>£828.00</b>
Clerk's Salary & Staff Costs	£4,915.00	£4,905.00
Training/External Meetings	£250.00	£250.00
Street Lighting	£225.00	£240.00
Parish Council Insurance	£340.00	£340.00
Glebe Insurance	£50.00	£50.00
Hedge Cut - The Glebe	£80.00	£80.00
Playground Safety Inspection	£87.00	£87.00
Dog Litter Bin emptying charge	£45.00	£45.00
St Mary's Church	£420.00	£420.00
Defibrillator & Village Emergency Tel	£135.00	£215.00
Chairman's Allowance	£0.00	£0.00
Election costs	£25.00	£25.00
Church Walk future maintenance	£130.00	£130.00
Footpath Map printing reserve	£75.00	£75.00
Contingencies	£200.00	£300.00
<b>Precept</b>	<b>£7,953.00</b>	<b>£7,990.00</b>
<i>Other PC income</i>	£28.41	
<b>PC Income</b>	<b>£7,981.41</b>	
Agreed spending from PC reserves:	£100.00	£100.00
	<b>£8,081.41</b>	<b>£8,090.00</b>

Defibrillator costs funded  
from Defib and VETS  
reserve

The Precept for 2018/19 was £7953  
For a band D property the council tax was £43.94

The Precept for 2019/20 will be £7990  
For a band D property the council tax will be £44.83

## **Kersey Footpath Working Group Annual Report**

The last twelve months have shown the considerable benefits of the efforts made by the dedicated group of footpath volunteers. All paths have been maintained, where appropriate side hedges have been trimmed, steps have been restored and three additional dog bins have been purchased and installed. They are at both ends of the footpath behind The Street, near the allotments and Kersey Priory. At the top of Vale Lane and the far end of Wickerstreet Green.

These new dog bins have been sponsored by Kersey Mill and The Bell to whom we are very grateful for their generosity.

It would be appreciated if all dog walkers would keep their dogs under control and clear up after them.

We currently have the self-propelled DR strimmer and the old strimmer that has been serviced. The equipment, including the hand held strimmer, is being used on a regular basis with great success. Our thanks to John Maltby for his continued support of the Footpath working group.

Throughout the year efforts have been made to maintain and repair the footpath signs, which continue to rot and generally deteriorate due to effects of nature. I would ask all walkers to report any defective signs to either Sarah or myself so the problems can be kept under control.

Footpath users are reminded to follow the marked paths and to avoid wandering off onto grass field margins. In many cases these have been created for the benefit of wildlife which we wish to protect and encourage.

At the start of the new season we have received notice from a number of volunteers who feel that, for various reasons, they are unable to continue with the work. I would like to convey, on behalf of all our volunteers, our thanks and appreciation for all their past efforts and dedication over many years.

For those volunteers who remain, I would like to thank them for all their efforts on behalf of all the walkers and dog walkers who live in, or visit, our wonderful village.

Giles Hollingworth  
Chair of the Footpath Working Group  
April 2019

# **KERSEY COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE**

## **REPORT for Kersey Annual Parish Assembly 8th April 2019**

The playground continues to be a popular resource for children in the village and locality. This report highlights last year's key events and some plans for this year.

The Quiz Night held in November 2018 was a successful evening, and we raised £820.00 net of expenses. We plan to hold the event again at a similar date later in the year (date TBC).

The KCPC funds stand at £3709.73 and are sufficient to cover our current planned expenditure including replacing the chestnut fencing surrounding the area.

The exercise equipment is serviceable (after some repairs in the year) and available for use. Two successful maintenance days were held. The Cricket net was available throughout the year, and has been power washed for the new season

The RoSPA report highlighted a couple of new issues, the urgent matters were rectified. There are ongoing issues surrounding some rot on some of the older wooden equipment that will eventually need replacing. The "chain walk" has been removed as it could not be repaired. The school is being consulted to see what would be a popular replacement. We will need additional funds for any major repairs or new equipment. Some preliminary enquiries for additional funding have been made.

The mower has been serviced and is in good working order. It is back in the rabbit hutch for the new season.

I thank Pascoe Gibbons for continuing to run the Grass Cutting Rota and Inspection Schedule. We have managed to recruit a few new volunteers for grass cutting, but still need more to replace those who have retired from the list. I would make a request that if people are unable to mow the grass on their designated day, could they please organise a stand-in, and email Pasco when they complete the task.

I would like to thank Sarah Partridge and Dominique Young for their hard work and support, and we would like to thank all the volunteers who assisted with the maintenance day and the grass-cutting last year. We continue to be very grateful to the Whymarks for allowing us to use their garden for the mower storage. I would also like to add a personal thank you to the members of the committee for their hard work and support.

JPFM 8.4.19

**KERSEY VOLUNTEER GROUP (KVG Working Group)**  
**Annual Report 2018-19**

The Kersey Volunteer Group has been set up to deal with collecting litter and reporting potholes.

Volunteers have been permanently allocated specific roads and lanes in the Parish. There has been an improvement in collection of litter and potholes are being dealt with more quickly.

This is not a substitute for individual initiatives, such as that carried out on a daily basis by Martyn Rudkin and for which we are all grateful. It is a supplement to, not a replacement for, the March Annual Litter Pick.

A briefing session for KVG members will be held after the May election.

John Hume  
8 April 2019

**FORGET ME NOTS**  
**Annual Parish Report 2019**

The Forget Me Nots have an outing twice a month, a coffee morning and a luncheon outing. The venues for our outings are decided each month by the group and we travel far and wide to enjoy our coffee and lunches at a chosen hostelry or our favourite restaurants. We are occasionally joined by friends or other Parishioners.

The Forget Me Nots have enjoyed a good year culminating last year with a Christmas lunch at Hintlesham Hall. The New Year started with our winter "Bingo Lunches" during which several games of Bingo are enjoyed, followed by lunch and dessert at the Chestnuts.

We welcome anyone who would like to join us each month, you can dip in and out if you so please, and a lift is available for all who require it. Please contact Veronica on 01473 823188.

**Franey, Rand and Pest House Charities**

During the past year the Charity made grants to groups, such as the Shelley Riding Centre and the Hadleigh Elderly People's Welfare, as well as to individuals. The Charity approved one request for a grant in Kersey.

Advertisements were placed in Parish Magazines and the Hadleigh Community News. The trustees decided it was necessary to remind local people of the Charities and how to make an application.

**Rachael Rogers**

**8 April, 2019**

## **Friends of the Fabric and Bells of St Mary's Church**

### **Bells Report**

The funds stand at £6,229.06. A donation was made to the tower repairs and the muffles were refurbished. The Bells fund received £30 in donations during the year.

New bell ringers would be welcomed. It is a fun and active hobby. Bell ringing practice is on a Thursday evening at 7.45pm

Neville Whittell  
April 2019

## **Kersey Annual Parish Assembly 2019**

### **Report from the Friends of St Mary's Church – The Fabric**

The original Trust of the Friends of St. Mary's Church was set up in the 1960s to include both the Bells and the Fabric, but over the years, partly due to the original poor state of the Bells, focus was entirely on the Bells side of the Trust. Now with pressing need of repair and development, attention has moved to the Fabric.

To this end, it has been agreed that a new sub-committee of the Trust will be established and this committee will focus on fund raising for the Fabric of the Church. Their work will be separate to the continuing great efforts of the Bell Ringers and each will be supported by separate funding arrangements. The Bells Trustees have kindly agreed to amend the original Deeds to include the purpose and focus of the new committee. Two sub-committees will therefore effectively work alongside but mutually exclusive of one another, with separate report and accounts, but under the same Trust. The combined account summary being reported to the Charities Commission to meet their requirements.

The Fabric sub-committee is comprised of Mr. Mark Rigby (Chair 829147), Ms. Mary Pearce (Secretary, 01473 822345), Mr. Bruce Newbigging (Treasurer, 01787 8210137), Mr. Mark Pertwee, Mr. Chris Partridge, Mrs. Sarah Stirling and Rev. Jackson Crompton-Battersby.

The amendment which sets out the changes of the constitution is still under development but it is hoped that it will be submitted to the commission for approval and acceptance in the coming weeks.

Six events for 2019 have been confirmed and all proceeds of ticket sales and Raffles will go to the Fabric, with a specific project yet to be decided. The inaugural event was held on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April with all future event dates and details available on the events page of the [www.kersey.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.kersey.suffolk.gov.uk) website. Special thanks to Ms. Sarah Partridge for her support and help in getting the events listed.

**GRAYS' TRUST, KERSEY**  
**REPORT TO THE PARISH COUNCIL ASSEMBLY 8 APRIL 2019**

In September 2018 the newly licensed Vicar, Rev. Jackson Crompton-Battersby, attended his first meeting as an ex-officio Trustee, and was welcomed by the meeting.

In 2018/19 we gave financial assistance to 6 University students. Donations are made in two payments, September and January. A sum was set aside for possible applications from Kersey School. Gifts were given to 9 children leaving Kersey School in July 2018.

The object of the Trust is to promote the education of residents in the Parish and surrounding area of Kersey. Applications are invited via the Newsletter annually in July. We welcome applications from university and sixth form students, as well as from mature students who live in the residential area undertaking educational courses. If there are new families in the village with children considering further education and would like more information, please contact any of the Trustees. Telephone numbers on the newsletter 'contacts' page.

There may be some changes in roles at the Annual Meeting in April, but the interest and dedication of the Trustees remains the same.

Joan Hattrick,  
Trustee

**Kersey CEVC Primary School Annual Report to Kersey Parish Council – April 2019**

Following on from our Ofsted inspection in February this year, the school has come together to focus in on the key areas for improvement, most notably, the inconsistencies in the quality of teaching and learning across the school. Prior to the Ofsted visit, the school had undertaken its own independent review, where an action plan was drawn up; the staff and governors are keen to demonstrate the improvements and will consider a return inspection in the near future. This action plan has also been discussed with parents at our parent forums held in the church; we have found the forums to be of benefit to all concerned and will aim to run further meetings in the future.

Our Learning Council this year chose four charities to support, including Cancer Research and WWF. The children have hosted events such as a cake sale and dress-up day to raise money for these charities. In the summer term, the children will hold an Africa Day to raise awareness around a charity called A Little Bit of Hope, which links in to the African Adventure residential that the Year Five and Six children take part in every two years. The school's Worship Council continues to govern and lead acts of worship at St Mary's Church including Harvest, Candlemas, Eucharist, Christmas and the Easter service, all of which were very well received. The children have continued to share their learning with their parents and the community during Discovery cafes and class assemblies. Most notably, this school year, the children have shared their learning during Science week, on World Book Day and in the lead up to Christmas. The pupils have enjoyed several educational and sporting visits this year which are shared on the school's website along with dates

and events which are included in a fortnightly newsletter, which we would happily send to your members if requested.

As part of my Maths training, I was lucky enough to visit Shanghai for two weeks before Christmas to see their Maths teaching; I learned so much whilst there and it was a fantastic opportunity- one which I am continuing to share with staff and pupils.

Our KS2 pupils took part in a local area litter pick, supporting the community and our eco-status. The Friends of Kersey continue to support the school purchasing educational equipment and providing transport to and from events. They continue to organise very enjoyable film nights for pupils, provide refreshments at the Christmas Carol Concert, and presents for all pupils. Also, an Easter Egg hunt held in the Spring term. We are looking forward to the summer fayre and Kersey Ball Run in June.

As well as individual music and drama lessons, all Key stage two pupils have instrument lessons and the whole school will be participating in our 'Arts festival' in June, in St Mary's Church, to which we would like to invite the whole community to join us to celebrate the pupils' achievements. We will send out further details about all of our events very soon.

We are very aware of the vital involvement the community has facilitated through shared venues and facilities, without which the School would struggle to fully function; the village hall, the church, the Glebe and The Bell Inn. We thank them all for their cooperation and continued support.

Thank you to all of you involved with the school. Please feel free to come and visit the school, just make an appointment so that we can welcome you.

Jess Nunn (Head of School)

**Kersey Parish Assembly 2019**  
**Kersey Playing Field Association Report**

We are grateful to KCPC not only for their tenancy of parts of the Glebe but their diligence in maintaining the facilities they have installed. The equipment and playing area are in regular use by our younger parishioners, school children and some from further afield. We look forward to entertaining the Friends of the School for their Fete on 30th June, sadly the only sign of adult activity so far this year.

Ian Hattrick  
April 2019

## **KERSEY PROJECTS**

Kersey Projects almost came about by default! A group of like minded people in the village got together with the main aim of bringing some fun into the village and possibly raising funds for good causes. There are five of us and I have named them 'the mince pies'!! Why mince pies? Well I felt they were the sort of people whom you could ask to make you a dozen mince pies and they would just get on with it! No questions, no excuses, just roll your sleeves up and job done! I'm always amazed at their energy and their enthusiasm.

To date, we have organised:

Two Christmas parties

Three safari suppers

A games evening

Open gardens

Contributed to the sponsorship of the Beech Duo event in the Church

And we sponsor the village Christmas tree and decorations

Forthcoming events:

We have a Sale Trail & Plant Sale in the pipe-line for May 11th

Organising a Safari Supper for September and

we are helping with the organisation of a Harvest Flower Festival for the weekend 11-13 October

Beneficiaries of any profits we have made so far have been:

St Mary's Church

Friends of St Mary's Church

We're always happy to offer help with any event that anyone in the village is minded to stage.

Suzie Rudkin

April 2019

## **Lewis Mowles Trust**

The Lewis Mowles Trust was started in 1989, since then over £13,000 has been given to various projects in the Parish including the Church, village hall, new seats and repairs to the pump etc. The balance now stands at £9,700.

## **Millennium Book Fund report for Kersey Annual Parish Assembly 2019**

This fund was set up with the income from the sale of the book 'Kersey Within Living Memory' written by Anne Maltby. Funds are available for the benefit of Kersey village organisations. Decisions about Kersey Millennium Book Fund and any applications for funding are considered and agreed by Kersey Parish Council. There were no applications received in the last year.



## **Kersey Annual Parish Assembly 2019**

### **Report from the Nightingale Trust**

During the last year the Trust received and accepted the resignations of three Trustees. Mrs. Joan Hattrick, Mrs. Norah Orris and Mrs. Jill Harbinson. Their service to the Trust was greatly acknowledged and all three will be sadly missed. A reception of gratitude was arranged for them for Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April at the Bell Inn, all welcome.

Four new Trustees were welcomed to the Trust, namely Mr. David Woollard, Mr. Matt Smith, Mr. Viv Marsh and Mr. Mark Rigby. Mr. Rigby was elected Chairman for the year and Mr. Smith Treasurer.

The New Tenancy agreement, as reported last year, has been welcomed by the Tenants at the AGM and Tenants meeting and all agreements are now signed and returned.

The Trust was originally set up in 1873 in order to support the poor and needy of Kersey village and we were able to give financial help to 7 Kersey residents in the last year. As society develops and with it, changes in behaviour and needs, the new Trustees have committed to updating the original purpose of the Trust to try and make it more relevant in our modern society. This is not to change in any way the original purpose of the Trust. We are currently seeking and reviewing ideas as to how this may happen. One suggestion is that a donation be made to the Food Bank initiative that is collected in Kersey Church, with the proviso that beneficiaries are restricted to the village of Kersey, and this is being investigated. Other suggestions gratefully received.

Two formal inspections were made during the year, one of which resulted in remedial work being carried out to the gate and slope at the village end of the Allotments. The Trust would like to recognize and thank Mr. David Anderson for the kind donation of the new gate, and to Mr. David Woollard, Mr. Viv Marsh, Mr. Pascoe Gibbons, Mr. Kevin Pratt, Mr. Giles Hollingsworth, Mr. Matt Smith and Mr. Mark Rigby for their generous time and effort in cutting out and installing new, safer steps, repairing the fence and installing the new gate.

Complaints regarding the noise nuisance of some livestock have been received by the Trustees, the first of its kind to our knowledge in over 50 years. The Trustees are resolving the sensitive issue, as no actual tenancy rule has been, or was intended to be, breached. A new agreement is being written for next year to accommodate learning as a result, in respect of permitted types and numbers of livestock. It was quite rightly pointed out that as we live in the country a degree of such natural wildfowl noise should be expected. However, as village residents we all have a commitment to living harmoniously together and a compromise is being sought.

At time of writing, there are 2 x ½ allotments available and any further interest should be directed to our secretary, Mrs. Natalie Blyth, (contact 827805).

The Trustees would like to remind the general public that the allotments are private land and do not contain any open footpaths. Visitors to the allotments should be by invitation of Trustees and Tenants only and allotments/produce should be respected as such.

We wish to record our thanks to our Secretary Mrs. Natalie Blyth and also to our outgoing Treasurer, Mrs. Norah Orris and our outgoing Chair, Mrs. Joan Hattrick.

## **Short Annual Report for the year ending December 2018 –**

### **(Prepared for presentation to the annual Village Meeting)**

We would like to thank everyone in the village who helps us look after our beautiful church: those who clean, act as sides-persons, help with keeping the churchyard well maintained, ring the bells, play the organ, arrange flowers, organise the rotas and help with maintenance jobs. There is a food bank collection point in church which is managed by Roger Jones.

We wish to thank everyone who contributes in some way towards the newsletter. Thank you to Emma Baker who became our first guest editor last summer and to Viv Marsh who is our current editor. If you are interested in being involved with the newsletter – please contact a member of the PCC.

The Church, including the toilet, is kept open every day of the year from morning to sunset – with the support of Frances Whymark. The church is available to hire – please contact the Churchwarden for dates and rates

The arrival of Rev Jackson Crompton-Battersby and his family in September 2018, was a much-welcomed event in the life of St Mary's, Kersey and our Benefice. We are delighted that he has come to be part of our community and we know he has already made a very positive impression on many of you who have already met him. If you would like Jackson to visit you at home or you would like to speak to him personally, he is happy to chat to anyone at anytime and you may contact him via the telephone number published in the newsletter.

We successfully managed a £65000 restoration to the tower and clock this year which was financed by money saved, grants awarded and generous donations from supporters from this community. The PCC remains hard-pressed to raise the £25000 a year required to keep the doors open and welcomes any input with this task.

Sales of gifts and cards in church continue to provide the essential income that we need on a month by month basis. We held the plant sale in May and the Church Buffet supper in December and would like to thank all those who were able to attend or donate raffle prizes – it was lovely to see you. We are very grateful indeed to Suzie Rudkin, her group of volunteers and all the gardeners for the generous donation from highly successful Open Gardens in June 2018. A new guide book about St Mary's was published towards the end of the year and is on sale in the church at £4.

At the beginning of 2019, villagers came together to start a Friends of St Mary's group. The PCC is delighted that so many from the village are interested in helping with the preservation and improvement of our wonderful church building and grounds and looks forward to further developments over the coming months.

The school and its leadership team continue to be well supported by the Foundation Governors and by Rev Jackson. An Open the Book Team visits regularly and is very popular with the children

We would welcome anyone interested in joining the PCC either as a full member or as a co-opted member to help with any aspect of church business including safeguarding, GPDR, the Electoral Roll and fundraising for annual running expenses. We currently have a vacancy for a Church warden to help Rachel Wells who continues to serve St Mary's so devotedly.

Prepared by Linda Newbigging

## **Kersey Table Tennis Club - Report for the Year ending 31st March 2019**

The Table Tennis Club has had another successful year and has been well attended. The Clubs finances are healthy and self-supporting via the fees structure, The accounts for the year 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019 will be audited in the next few weeks.

The club operates from Kersey village hall on Thursday evenings between 7:30 and 9:00pm. Players may elect to play either one hour or the full session at a cost of £1.50 or £2.00 respectively. Juniors are charged £1.00 irrespective of the duration. Fees will remain as stated and will be reviewed if hire charges are changed. The season runs from September to June.

The purpose of the club is social and recreational and all abilities are welcome.

Adrian Blyth  
01473 827805  
[amblyth1@gmail.com](mailto:amblyth1@gmail.com)

### **Tuesday Club**

It's encouraging to have more people attending the monthly meetings which included talks on Bhutan, Margaret Catchpole, Brickwork, Suffolk Landscape, TWAM, Nursing in the Middle East, Work of a journalist and Churches.

Members were grateful for a donation from the Kersey Society following their closure. The Club continues to sponsor Tilly at the Shelley Riding school.

Rachel Wells  
April 2019

## **KERSEY VILLAGE HALL PARISH ASSEMBLY 2019**

Kersey Village Hall is being used on a regular basis, which provides the Village Hall Committee with the funding to keep the Hall in good order and to upgrade and refurbish where deemed necessary.

We have regular Village events in our Hall, including the Annual Village Lunch held in April, the monthly Tuesday club, Table Tennis, Yoga, art classes, the Village Produce show, the annual Village Hall fund raising Autumn Buffet, and the ever-popular Village Quiz Night. Many committee meetings are also held in the Hall.

Last year, a new group called the Kersey Projects, organized an Open Gardens Event and the Hall was used to serve teas, coffees and delicious cakes made by the members of the Parish. This group also organised a well-supported Christmas Party in the Hall, which was a resounding success. The Hall is being used to bring together all those who live in the Parish of Kersey and also those who are past residents.

The Hall is also regularly used by Kersey School, and the Church host their excellent Christmas Buffet every year.

The refurbishment of the toilet block is the Committee's next project and quotes and funding are being sourced to upgrade this area. Also, the Committee are Looking to upgrade the kitchen with a new Range type cooker and again, quotes have been received to re-arrange the units and electrics to accommodate this. We are looking to do this work during the School's Summer Holidays.

The Kersey Village Hall Committee must be commended for their tireless efforts to maintain and upgrade this beautiful Hall, which was funded and built by the Parishioners in 1935.

### **Village Produce Association**

2018 was a good year with the marquees being let 15 times for various events bringing an income of £1,840. We enjoyed an outing to Penshurst Place and gardens in Kent and the flower show was held in September.

Donations were given to help the churchyard, newsletter, floodlights and the church tower appeal. A donation was received from Claire O'Sullivan for sponsorship of the show schedules. This year we plan to visit RHS Wisley in July. The lower show will be on 7 September.

Rachel Wells  
April 2019

## Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2019

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
Affordable Housing	<p><b>PP 2008.</b> Wish for carefully planned expansion identified (18 households stated that someone would want affordable in the next 5 years)</p> <p><b>R2014.</b> As 2008</p>	Monitor need for affordable housing and carry out further survey as necessary	Parish Council	Medium	<p><b><u>October 2011</u></b> Scheme abandoned as no residents attended the information event to express an interest in affordable homes in Kersey.</p> <p><b><u>October 2014</u></b> There may be a need for affordable housing but PC still not aware of current need in Kersey.</p> <p><b><u>November 2015</u></b> Parish Council to investigate idea of creating a Neighbourhood Plan for Kersey.</p> <p><b><u>December 2015</u></b> During discussions about a planning application for new housing, which included an element of affordable homes, the PC acknowledged there was support from residents for affordable housing in Kersey which the Parish Council would need to address.</p> <p><b><u>January 2017</u></b> The Parish Council decided not to embark on a Neighbourhood Plan, it is too big a project compared to the possible benefit to the Parish. Alternative community led planning options are being considered by the Parish Council.</p> <p><b><u>April 2017</u></b> The PC agreed not to work on any formal community led planning policies. The PC will investigate carrying out a housing needs survey.</p>

## Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2019

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
					<p><b><u>November 2017</u></b> The PC decided not to carry out a housing needs survey because the benefit did not outweigh the considerable cost of £3,000 for a survey which would be valid for only 5 years. Professional advice was that a survey would identify a small need for affordable housing.</p> <p><b><u>January 2019</u></b> The Parish Council are considering whether Kersey should complete a Neighbourhood Plan. This will be an enormous task with a separate steering group and community consultation.</p>
Market Housing	<p><b>PP 2008.</b> Wish for carefully planned expansion</p> <p><b>R2014.</b> To survey all residents about their wishes relating to planning and development in the parish</p>	To carry out a further survey of residents specifically asking about building and development in the parish	Parish Council	Medium	<p><b><u>November 2015</u></b> Parish Council to investigate idea of creating a Neighbourhood Plan for Kersey.</p> <p><b><u>January 2017</u></b> The Parish Council decided not to embark on a Neighbourhood Plan, it is too big a project compared to the possible benefit to the Parish. Alternative community led planning options are being considered by the Parish Council.</p> <p><b><u>April 2017</u></b> The PC agreed not to work on any formal community led planning policies. The PC will investigate carrying out a housing needs survey.</p>

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Planning and Development	<p><b>R 2014.</b> Improve the knowledge of residents about the planning system, powers of the Parish Council and the responsibilities of property owners.</p>	Produce information for residents about the planning process, conservation areas and listed buildings	Parish Council and Babergh DC	Medium	<p><b><u>March 2017</u></b> A new web page (Planning and Development Management), a sub-page under the Parish Council tab, on the Kersey website has been created giving information and links to Babergh District Council website which covers planning applications, planning policy, heritage, Conservation Areas and listed buildings. ACTION POINT COMPLETED no further action.</p>
Cultural, Sporting and Recreational Facilities	<p><b>PP 2008.</b> Desire for more planned social and sporting activities, including activities for young people to be achieved by creating a Kersey Sports and Social Club</p> <p><b>R2014.</b> Clubs and groups enjoyed by members of the</p>	<p>Monitor.</p> <p>Ensure website is up to date with contact info for all the various clubs.</p> <p>Encourage new volunteers to</p>	Community members and Parish Council	Medium	<p><b><u>October 2014</u></b> No committee established for a Kersey Sports and Social Club; a variety of social and sporting activities take place in Kersey. See the Kersey newsletter and Kersey website for information on all the clubs, societies, events and activities in the parish.</p> <p><b><u>September 2016</u></b> A drop in event was held to showcase all the village organisations to the whole community.</p>

## Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2019

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
	community but tend to be run by same few generally older volunteers. Younger people need to be encouraged to join in and volunteer to help	get involved in running clubs and societies.			<b><u>December 2016</u></b> Members of the community are organising one-off community social events such as a Christmas Party and erected a Christmas Tree in the centre of the village.
Voluntary and Community Activity	<b>PP 2008.</b> Desire for a Good Neighbour Scheme and a Volunteer Driving Scheme  <b>R2014.</b> Support is offered on an informal basis. The community may support a formal scheme in future if the need arises	Monitor possible future desire for schemes	Community members, Church and Parish Council	Low	<b><u>April 2011</u></b> Following further investigation Good Neighbour Scheme not pursued because residents did not wish for a formal scheme. Informal community help and support is evident in the parish.  <b><u>March 2018</u></b> Investigations are being made into the idea of setting up a volunteer driver scheme. A Village Emergency Telephone System is going to be set up to support lone rescuers in the event of a medical emergency.
Public Transport	<b>PP 2008.</b> 80 people would use public transport <b>R 2014.</b> There is still a need for some public transport from and to Kersey	Monitor provision	Parish Council and public transport users	Low	<b><u>March 2019</u></b> Hadleigh Community Transport Connecting Communities operates a pre-booked service covering Kersey and the Babergh area. The 112 service bus stops in Kersey on Tuesday and Thursday morning - return trip to Sudbury.
Traffic Management	<b>PP 2008</b> Wish for 20mph speed limit in Kersey village and 30 mph speed limit in the rest of the parish	Monitor and investigate 20 mph limit for the centre of the village	Parish Council and SCC highways	High	<b><u>November 2015</u></b> Parish consultation in Sept 15 showed residents wished for 20 mph limit in existing 30 mph area in centre of village.



## Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2019

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
	<p><b>R 2014.</b> There are still concerns about the speed vehicles travel through centre of the village</p>				<p><b><u>January 2016</u></b> Parish Council met with SCC highways to discuss road safety and 20 mph limits. SCC agreed to carry out speed monitoring.</p> <p><b><u>May 2016</u></b> Speed monitoring data showed traffic speeds on Church Hill were quite low and indicated speeding was not an issue. A change in speed limit is therefore deemed not necessary.</p> <p><b><u>March 2019</u></b> Concerns raised with the Parish Council about speeding in the parish. SCC have been contacted to request speed monitoring in the Parish.</p>
Parking	<p><b>PP 2008.</b> Concern about too many cars parked in the centre of the village and inconsiderate parking.</p> <p><b>R 2014.</b> Lack of car parking and inconsiderate parking is still a problem</p>	Monitor and ask Police for support, liaise with school, explore car park options	Parish Council, police and school	High	<p><b><u>November 2015</u></b> Police carried out regular visits to Kersey at school drop off and collection times to remind parents of the need to park safely. School sent letter to parents.</p> <p><b><u>May 2016</u></b> The Parish Council has worked with the police and school to encourage more considerate parking by parents. Residents are encouraged to use off road parking as much as possible.</p> <p><b><u>March 2019</u></b> The school contacted. School parents are regularly reminded to park considerately. Parents are able to park in The Bell carpark and walk up to the school.</p>

## Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2019

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
Road Safety	<p><b>R 2014.</b> To improve the footpath links between Vale Lane and the centre of the village</p>	<p>Progress Jubilee Steps and Vale Lane Footpath Link Project</p>	<p>Parish Council and SCC Rights of Way</p>	<p>High</p>	<p><b><u>January 2014</u></b>                      Stage 1 Jubilee Steps –proposal put to SCC                      Stage 2 Vale Lane Footpath Link – arrange to meet with landowner to discuss options</p> <p><b><u>November 2015</u></b>                      Parish consultation in Sept 15 showed residents wished to keep the grass path up beside the Church from the village sign to the Church lych gate. PC agreed to abandon plans for Jubilee Steps but continue working on finding a safe pedestrian route around the corner from Vale Lane to Church Walk. Working Group set up.</p> <p><b><u>May 2016</u></b>                      The working group met a couple of times after discussions with the landowner no progress could be made on a safe pedestrian route around the corner from Vale Lane to Church Walk. Working Group dissolved.</p>
Natural Environment	<p><b>PP 2008.</b> Requirement for Dog litter bins</p> <p><b>R 2014.</b> Dog fouling still a problem</p>	<p>Monitor and publicise the issue.</p> <p>Put note in newsletter reminding owners of their responsibilities.</p>	<p>Footpath Working Group and Parish Council</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Dog litter bin installed in Kedges Lane in 2009</p> <p><b><u>March 2012 update</u></b>                      Installation of a dog bin in Water Lane not possible as Babergh would not be able to empty the bin in this location. New ‘no dog fouling’ signs put up in Water Lane and around the parish.</p> <p><b><u>April 2016</u></b> Note put in newsletter reminding owners to clear up after their dogs and to keep dogs under control or on a lead.</p>

## Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2019

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
		Investigate need for more dog bins.			<p><b><u>March 2017</u></b> Dog fouling still a problem in some parts of the village, particularly Bell Fields footpath near the allotments. Noted at PC meeting &amp; newsletter.</p> <p><b><u>April 2017</u></b> New signs to be put up and another note in the newsletter.</p> <p><b><u>March 2019</u></b> 3 new dog poo bins erected in the Parish. Kindly sponsored by The Bell, Kersey Mill and The Miller's Kitchen café at Kersey Mill. Regular items put in the newsletter and signs on problem footpaths to encourage dog owners to clear up after their dogs.</p>
Natural Environment	<p><b>PP 2008.</b> An appetite for working groups to tidy village.</p> <p><b>R 2014.</b> As 2008</p>	Invite residents to take on areas they would like to keep tidy throughout the year. Encourage residents to join the Footpath Working Group to help keep paths walkable.	Parish Council, Footpath Working Group and community members	Medium	<p><b><u>January 2014</u></b> There is a group of volunteers who have tidied areas of the parish, in particular the area of Cherry Hill next to the footpath. PC to continue organising annual spring litter collection, promote widely to encourage participation. The Footpath Working Group maintains the footpath network in the Parish.</p> <p><b><u>March 2017</u></b> Appeal in newsletter for more Footpath Working Group volunteers.</p>

## Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2019

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
					<p><b><u>March 2018</u></b>                      The Footpath Working Group has several new members helping to keep footpaths well maintained.                      The Annual litter collection was well supported and the PC is to discuss an idea to organise regular litter collections throughout the year.</p> <p><b><u>March 2019</u></b>                      Successfully annual litter collection again.                      Footpath Working Group continue to maintain footpath network.                      Kersey Volunteer Group set up. Members will collect litter on a regular basis.</p>
Access to Information	<p><b>PP 2008.</b> Creation of Website</p> <p><b>R 2014.</b> Existing website is good but needs promoting</p>	Promote the website and continue to improve content	Parish Council	Medium	<p>Website created and launched Feb 2010.  <a href="http://www.kersey.suffolk.gov.uk">www.kersey.suffolk.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b><u>March 2018</u></b>                      Website promoted in the newsletter and updated regularly.                      A new Local History page has been created.</p>
Access to Information	<b>R 2014.</b> Improve Broadband speed and provision in the parish	To continue to highlight the issue with SCC	Parish Council and SCC Councillor	High	<p><b><u>March 2014</u></b>                      BB speeds variable but very slow in some areas. No fibre technology available in Kersey yet which would enable high speed BB.</p> <p><b><u>January 2017</u></b>                      Most homes in the parish can access fibre. Residents need to contact their service provider or seek an alternative provider who offers the high speed fibre service.                      ACTION POINT COMPLETED no further action.</p>

## Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2019

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
Access to Information	<b>R 2014.</b> Improve mobile phone reception in the parish	To investigate ways to boost the signals	Parish Council and SCC Councillor	High	<b><u>March 2014</u></b> Some areas, particularly near the Splash have very poor mobile reception.
Local Democracy	<b>PP 2008.</b> Keeping the Parish Plan alive in the community <b>R 2014.</b> As 2008	Monitor	Parish Council	High	
Local Democracy	<b>R 2014.</b> Vacancies for Parish Councillors.  Low public attendance at Parish Council meetings.	Encourage residents to engage with the Parish Council and review 'Parish Time' engagement at meetings.	Parish Council	Medium	<b><u>June 2015</u></b> Both vacancies for Parish Councillors now filled <b><u>April 2016</u></b> PC considered ways to improve engagement with parishioners at PC meetings. It was agreed to keep 'Parish Time' at the end of meetings to give residents the opportunity to raise matters with the PC. The PC welcomes residents to all meetings and the Chair ensures the public present have the opportunity to comment during meetings, particular before discussion about planning applications. <b><u>March 2019</u></b> A small number of residents regularly attend Council meetings. Their attendance and relevant contributions are appreciated by the Parish Council. 'Parish Time' moved to near the start of Parish Council meetings to enable engagement earlier in the meeting. Public participation guidance published on the website.