

KERSEY PARISH NEWSLETTER

July/August 2021



PHOTO: RICHARD WALKER

www.kerseychurch.org
www.kersey.suffolk.cloud

50p*

* **WHERE SOLD.** Delivered FREE to properties within the parish.
(50p is the approximate production cost per copy. All contributions gratefully received.)

CONTACT NUMBERS

Parochial Church Council –

Chairman: Jackson Crompton-Battersby 01473 657349

Vice Chairman: Lucy Oldham 07753 626899

Church Warden: Rachel Wells 01473 822230

Bellringers – Bell Captain: Neville Whittell 01473 822616

Forgetmenots – Organiser: Veronica Partridge 01473 823188

Tuesday Club – Rachel Wells 01473 822230

Table Tennis Club – Adrian Blyth 01473 827805

Parish Council –

Chairman: John Hume 01473 810098

Clerk to the Council: Sarah Partridge 01787 210859

Footpaths – Chairman: Kevin Pratt 07854 390658

Kersey Community Playground Committee – Jonathan Marsh 01473 822927

Neighbourhood Watch – Vacant

Village Hall –

Chairman: Veronica Partridge 01473 823188

Bookings: Norah Orriss 01473 827513

or Natalie Blyth 01473 827805

VPA (Village Produce Association) –

Chairman: Peter Partridge 01473 827231

Secretary: Rachel Wells 01473 822230

The Lewis Mowles Trust Fund – Secretary: Rachel Wells 01473 822230

Grays Trust –

Chairman: John Robinson 01473 823247

Secretary: Philippa Harris 01473 827079

Nightingale Trust/Allotments – Info: Natalie Blyth 01473 827805

School – Acting Head Teacher: Jess Damant 01473 823397

Kersey Playingfield Assoc. (Glebe) – Mark Pertwee 01473 810227

Kersey Community Website www.kersey.suffolk.cloud

Hadleigh Health Practice 01473 822961

West Suffolk Hospital (Bury St Edmunds) 01284 713000

Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust 01473 712233

Police The non-emergency number to call if you want to contact the local police is 101 (when it's less urgent than 999) .

Please let us know of any changes.

Defibrillators – *There are two AEDs located within the parish at The Bell Inn, Kersey IP7 6DY and Kersey Mill IP7 6DP.*

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Clergy:

Rev. Jackson Crompton-Battersby.
01473 657349 rev@kind.church

Church Wardens:

Mrs Rachel Wells 01473 822230.
and vacant position.

Elder: Mrs Julie Boast 01787 249511.

Weddings: For all enquiries regarding weddings at St. Mary's Church please contact the Benefice administrator 07706 188842 weekday mornings.

CHURCH CLEANING

5th July – Jenny Partridge & Sarah Partridge
19th July – Bridget Allen & daughters
2nd Aug – Frances Whymark
23rd Aug – Ruth Anderson & Sue Attridge

INVALIDS

We send our best wishes to those in the parish and church members from elsewhere who are unwell, attending hospital or have had operations.

TUESDAY CLUB

I have been thinking when we might be able to start Tuesday Club again, 7th September is a possible date. Can members let me know whether they would feel comfortable starting then or would rather leave until later. I don't want to arrange it and only a few turn up.

Rachel Wells.

FLOWER SHOW

We are still planning to go ahead with the flower show on the 11th September. Last years schedule is being used, if you have mislaid it and require another I have some available.

Rachel Wells.







Kersey Community Website

*Remember to check **www.kersey.suffolk.cloud** regularly
for latest news, information and updates.*



Established 2003
We are Specialists in
Grade II Listed Buildings

For all your internal and external painting and decorating work

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Doors, Windows, Skirting & Fascias |  Floor and Wall Tiling |
|  Coving |  Wallpapering |
|  General Repairs and Maintenance |  NVQ2 Qualified |

A PROFESSIONAL PAINTING & DECORATING SERVICE
FROM PEOPLE YOU CAN TRUST

For a FREE estimate contact Steve Ferguson on 07719 357322
Or 01206 393351

www.tenondecoratingltd.co.uk
tenondecorating@btconnect.com



Weddings, Parties, Trade Shows, Business
Functions, Conferences, Furniture Hire

Suffolk Based

Contact Us:
01473 559978
info@allseasonsmarquees.co.uk

PARISH NEWS

OBITUARY

Reg Farthing was a true village person. He was born in a cottage on Priory Hill and lived all his life in the village. He attended the village school before going to Hadleigh where he left at the age of fourteen. His first job was delivering oil then a milk round before settling at Kersey Priory where he worked for fifty years until he retired. At the age of eighteen he was called up serving in the army in Malaya, Trieste and Germany. In his younger days he played cricket and football and has been a lifelong supporter of Ipswich Town. Amongst his many interests was playing quoits and darts for The Kersey Bell and over the years has enjoyed many whist drives and regular bingo sessions. He was a long standing member of the Royal British Legion where he loved a game of cribbage.

On his retirement he volunteered at the Shelley Riding School and stayed for twenty years. He had endured operations and treatment for a few years but was always determined to carry on and could regularly be seen taking a walk when he would like to stop and chat.

The funeral service took place at St Mary's church on the 28th. He was laid to rest in the churchyard. Donations in his memory are for The Shelley Centre for Therapeutic Riding.

We send our sympathy to wife Grace, sister Norah and all the family who will miss him greatly.

GRAYS' TRUST, KERSEY

It is, once again, the time of year that the Grays' Trust reminds you all that we will be expecting applications for educational grants for the academic year 2021/2022 **by the 31st August**, for consideration at our September meeting.

Applicants must be residents of Kersey and may be either pupils attending years 12 and 13 of school, students at college or university, or mature students enlisted in re-training, or further training courses.

Applications should be addressed to:
graystrustapplications@gmail.com
and should include the applicant's name, address, and the name of the course he or she is attending.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**KERSEY VILLAGE PRODUCE
ASSOCIATION**

MARQUEE HIRE

AT VERY COMPETITIVE RATES
FOR ALL YOUR FUNCTIONS

40' x 20' Traditional Pole Marquee

30' x 15' Clear Span Frame Marquee

For details, prices and bookings Tel:

01473 822230



Established 1986

**COMMAND
PEST CONTROL**

*Rats, Mice, Wasps, Bees,
Ants/Insect Control
Rabbit and Mole Control
Timber Treatment/Rising Damp*

ALL TYPES OF PEST
CONTROL UNDERTAKEN

TELEPHONE: 01787 248049

A K SERVICES

SEPTIC TANK EMPTYING

DRAINS CLEARED
AND SURVEYED

TREATMENT PLANTS
SERVICED AND CLEANED

Tank Emptying from £80

Tel: 01473 822694
Mobile: 07891 341645
www.akservices.co.uk

FIREWOOD

DRY SEASONED LOGS

Kiln dried hardwood nets available.
Various loads available.

Call Carol Abbott on
01473 829130
or 07768 795981

**Tree garden work and
driveways also undertaken**

PARISH NEWS (cont.)

MOVES

Mark & Jackie Rigby moved from Carlton House to Lavenham on the 28th June we welcome in their place Marvin and Esme.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Jack and Thea at Priory Hill Cottage on the safe arrival of their baby Albert.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S

We are delighted to announce that the wonderful 'Chris Ingham Jazz Trio' have agreed to play for us again in Kersey on Friday 13th August at St Mary's Church! The acoustics will be simply amazing. Chris, George and Geoff are regular headliners at Ronnie Scott's and you may recall that the Trio put on a tremendous jazz evening for us two years ago, which was a sell-out.

This time we will be running a 'bring your own' drinks and snacks system. Wine will be available if anyone needs a top up, but don't forget to bring your own glasses and crockery!

Tickets will be £17.50 or £15 for FoSM members. For details as to how to become a FoSM member please visit www.kerseychurch.org/fosm.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible for a really fun night, as I think we are all in need of letting our hair down but in a Covid responsible way.

Please contact Jackie on 07721 625932 or fosmkersey@gmail.com for tickets and further details.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 500 CLUB LOTTERY

This month's **500 Club** draw took place in the Church on Tuesday 22nd June with independent witnesses and the winners were:

- 1st Prize – Susie Rudkin
- 2nd Prize – Chris Partridge
- 3rd Prize – Jackie Rigby

Well done to all the winners and thanks to everyone who has already joined the club.

Details of the **500 Club** monthly lottery, plus all membership information can be accessed at: www.kerseychurch.org/fosm

Or for further details please contact either Mark Rigby on **07484 649235** or Bruce Newbigging on **07734 595404** or email fosmkersey@gmail.com.



OLD BUCKENHAM HALL

A leading co-educational preparatory school for children aged 3 - 13 years

Awarded **EXCELLENT** by ISI May 2018



www.obh.co.uk

PARISH NEWS (cont.)

SAVE THE DATE - KERSEY REUNITED!

MONDAY 30 AUGUST 2021 – We're hoping to hold a village picnic in the recreation ground where all of us can meet together at long last! More details to follow in next month's newsletter but please put this date in your diaries!

SPEEDING IN VALE LANE!

SLOW DOWN when travelling in Vale Lane. Please respect others who all have the right to feel safe when using the road, there are vehicles emerging from gateways or you could encounter elderly residents or children.

WEATHER (for May)

Rainfall 81mm (3¼")
Maximum temperature 20°C (68°F)
Minimum temperature 1°C (34°F)



Thank you to Kate Banks who records the weather for us in Wickerstreet Green. The rainfall amount sometimes varies in different parts of the parish.

DIARY DATES

5 Jul – Parish Council	Village Hall	19.30
13 Aug – Chris Ingham Jazz Trio	St Mary's Church	tbc
30 Aug – Kersey Reunited Picnic	The Glebe	tbc
6 Sep – Parish Council	Village Hall	19.30
11 Sep – Flower Show	Village Hall	14.15-17.00
14 Sep – PCC	St Mary's Church	19.00

KERSEY CALENDAR ON-LINE

We also have a Kersey Community *Google calendar* on the website:

<https://kersey.suffolk.cloud/events/>

If you are planning an event in Kersey please email the information to Sarah Partridge at **kerseypc@gmail.com** so it can be included.

(If you already use Google Calendar you can add this to yours.)

To advertise in the Kersey Parish Newsletter please contact:

Colin Grannell at hawkgc@hotmail.com or 01473 829074

¼ page – £6.00 per issue, ½ page – £11.00 per issue

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

The Accidental Ecologist

The Rectory is surrounded by houses with front lawns so neatly trimmed I think they must use nail scissors for the final trim, things of lush green beauty that must take real dedication. It reminds me of the story of the American tourist visiting the Tower of London, he asked one of the Beefeaters how they kept the lawns looking so lovely “Oh it’s nothing special sir, you just oversee occasionally, mow regularly and catch the weeds before they grow. Oh and you have to do that for 400 years, then it starts to look nice.”

Well back in March this year I was doing a bit of paddock preparation and the mower blade hit a lump of wood in the grass. Well I say grass, there were a couple of tufts somewhere in the weeds. Anyway there was a clang and a bit of metal flew off and the mower started to vibrate like a massive vibratex machine thingy and threatened to destroy itself so I stopped it and looked underneath, the mower blade had a chunk out of it and was completely unbalanced. No problem I thought, Amazon to the rescue, but the mower it turns out is a bit of a specialist model, bought by SWMBO from Facebook Marketplace (I know, completely addictive isn’t it) and Amazon were out of stock. So I rang a specialist garden place “I’m sorry sir, there are none of those blades in the country, it’s a German make and because of Brexit we can’t get any, lots of people are asking because it’s a popular blade”.

Now I’m not one to have a go at people on the phone, well not very often, but I wanted to say “tosh” and “paff” because: A) Brexit is just a catch all excuse, like the supermarket who ran out of nappies a few days after the vote and publicly blamed it on Brexit when actually they’d forgotten to put the order in and B) Do people ever listen to themselves when they say “Oh yes we get lots of people wanting to buy ice creams but we don’t stock them?” I mean, do they ever say to themselves “Oh wait a minute, we could start selling ice creams couldn’t we? Turns out people expect us to sell them”.

So my specialist mower uses a popular blade that no one thought to order stocks of before Brexit. And that is the reason my mower wouldn’t work and in no way connected to me running over a lump of wood because I wasn’t concentrating.

The upshot however was that the front garden at Rectory Towers increasingly looked like a slice of the rain forest, by late April I installed a string to guide the children to and from the car and by mid May several neighbours had politely asked if I wanted to borrow a mower and Babergh Council wouldn’t collect the bins because of the large number of grass snakes now inhabiting the garden. My daily search for a blade came up empty but then a wonderful and miraculous thing happened, a joyous miracle, I discovered that actually I was virtuous, ahead of the curve and David Attenborough’s new best friend. Because dear parishioners, I had discovered that there is this thing called No-Mow-May and that actually I was near singlehandedly saving the Suffolk bee population. That’s right, when you tuck into your honey drizzle cake or a humble sandwich for that matter, you can thank me. Because it turns out that bees and other flying pollinators need us to leave their habitats alone during the spring, and thanks to my little accident, and Brexit, and the lack of foresight on the part of the UK distributors, I was now an ecologist, albeit

ST. MARY'S CHURCH (cont.)

with the scruffiest most horrid front garden in the village.

And that gave me a thought, well two actually; it made me think about how this world that God created, has within it a natural balance, that if we can tune ourselves in to that balance rather than fighting it (think glider rather than helicopter) then we become part of the sustainable future of the planet. And the second thought was that what became of our plan to purposefully rewild our stunningly beautiful churchyard at St Marys? I mean I do know what happened, it's a five letter word beginning with C and ending in D but it's time I think to dust off those ambitions and begin talking about how we can do that in a way that honours the purpose of the churchyard and joins in partnership with nature.

And next spring I shall post a sign at Rectory Castle to say "I'm not mowing because of the bees, not because I can't be bovered." Thankfully Tuesday this week a new blade arrived, sadly the wrong size and had to be swapped but they got the right one to me yesterday and our front lawn now looks as beautiful as any lawn could – well one that's been left to go to the dogs for six months and then viciously hacked about in a spirit of "let's just get this done shall we?"

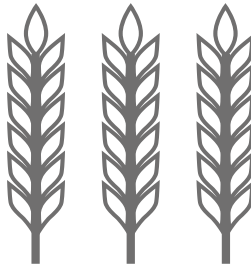
Rev Jackson Crompton-Battersby
Chaplain to West Suffolk Coastal Rescue
Vicar of Kersey
www.kerseychurch.org

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES

Due to Covid restrictions the Rose festival has been cancelled.

4 Jul	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Rev Jackson
11 Jul	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Rev Jackson and Julie Boast
18 Jul	6.30pm	Evensong	Rev Adrian Waller and Julie Boast
25 Jul	11.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Mary's, Aldham
1 Aug	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Rev Janice White
8 Aug	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Julie Boast
15 Aug	6.30pm	Evensong	Rev Adrian Waller and Julie Boast
22 Aug	11.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Mary's, Aldham
5 Sept	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Rev Jackson

- Estate Agents • Lettings • Valuations
- Land & Property Management



Chapman Sticks

Suffolk and North Essex

Providing unrivalled local knowledge, combining traditional service with a modern marketing approach.

Please visit us at
The Corn Exchange, Hadleigh.

Or call us
01473 372 372

Chapman Sticks

The Corn Exchange, Market Place, Hadleigh, Suffolk IP7 5DN
P | 01473 372 372 E | info@chapmansticks.co.uk W | chapmansticks.co.uk

Part of Investeq Holdings Limited

NEWS FROM KERSEY SCHOOL

Otters (Reception, Years 1 and 2):

All Creatures Great and Small

After last half term's learning about some of the greats including lions, crocodiles and many other animals from Africa, this half term Otters class are moving on to learn about smaller creatures.

Starting with learning about how important bees are to our world. This amazing book illustrates how busy the bees are, working with the nature around them where our story is set in the French countryside. We will learn about where Belle lives in Paris and compare the differences between the two locations. To learn more about bees we have planned a visit from a local bee keeper and are excited to see all the equipment needed and have a chance to learn from an expert.



We will move on to making wormeries and bug hotels in our discovery and exploration of insects. The book 'Yucky Worms' has a lot of information and is a fun way to learn about what happens underground!

Otters class are also excited to take part in sports week, including the first sports day for some of our class. The opportunity to try lots of different sporting activities and learn about health and fitness as well as working in our house teams is always an amazing way to learn new skills and have fun.

Badgers (Years 3 and 4):

In Badgers class this term we cannot wait for all the exciting different areas of learning. We will be focusing on the local area, by using OS maps, Google maps and even taking part in some orienteering! We cannot wait for Sports Week where we will be not only focusing on different sports but also the competitions that come from that such as The Olympics and Euro 2020. We are also really excited to be taking part in the Hour of Code during our computing lessons. Who knows what we'll be able to create by the end of the year!

Owls (Years 5 and 6):

Owls class have thoroughly enjoyed the story of Pig Heart Boy and are moving on to two further exciting texts; a poetry book, written in the style of a story, and a fiction book based on events during the Peasants' Revolt, but from a dog's perspective. We ALWAYS enjoy every book we read together, and can't wait to get into these texts very soon! In Maths, we are continuing with our work on angles (not ANGELS!) and are getting to grips with our protractors for measuring them. As we move into the rest of this term, we are looking to do more shape work, including rotating and translating shapes on a grid. In other news, we are also planning our leavers' assembly and leavers' activities for the end of the term; we never like to say goodbye to pupils but we know that Kersey leavers always achieve their potential!

If you would like to know more about Kersey school or would like to arrange a visit please ring the office on 01473 823397, email: admin@kersey.suffolk.sch.uk or visit our website: www.kersey.suffolk.sch.uk

CHIMNEY SWEEP

ECO SWEEP CHIMNEY SERVICES

- NEW POWER SWEEPING METHOD USED FOR A MORE THOROUGH CHIMNEY CLEAN THAN BRUSHES.
- INDUSTRIAL HEPA FILTERED VACUUM.
- FULLY INSURED.
- INSURANCE RECOGNIZED CERTIFICATES ISSUED.
- SPOTLESS, RELIABLE AND FRIENDLY SERVICE.
- ALL CHIMNEYS, WOODBURNERS, AGA, BOILER FLUES SWEPT.
- GUILD OF MASTER SWEEPS CERTIFICATED MEMBER.



TEL. 01359 232335

The Kersey Bell

We are now open Tuesday to Sunday. Tuesday nights are pizza night! Takeaway or eat in, in our newly decorated bar. We serve lunch 12.30 till 2.30pm and dinner 6pm till 9pm. Sunday all day till 5pm.

Tel: 01473 823229
www.kerseybell.com

R. GWINNELL & SONS

Independent Family Funeral Directors

“Where your family’s wishes are paramount”

*All types of funerals arranged, any area.
Traditional service, black Rolls Royce fleet.
All types of memorials made in our own workshops.
Memorial renovations and additional inscriptions.
Under the personal direction of the Gwinnell family.*



High Street, Hadleigh.
01473 824440
24 Hours
contact@gwinnell.co.uk



FARMING NOTES

Arable:

June is a quieter month on the arable side of the farm. I am writing these notes from the banks of the river Deveron in Aberdeenshire, north east Scotland, 575 miles north of Kersey, where I am enjoying a week of salmon and sea trout fishing. The Turriff area is noted for its fine quality soil, growing good cereal, vegetables, and especially grass. The weather here is similar to Kersey, perhaps a little cooler, but the big difference is daylight hours – much longer in the summer and it is not light for long in the winter. As we are here during the summer equinox the nights are as short as they get and as I am night fishing that suits me! It's only dark for about 2 hours and even then is not as dark as Suffolk. The crops in this area look extremely promising this year. Rather like us, they have had a warm and wet month of June which as we know keeps crops in tune. In case you are wondering, no, I haven't caught anything yet!

Livestock:

36 acres of grass were duly cut for silage in early June and 276 big round bales of quality winter feed were baled, wrapped in plastic to seal them and carefully moved back to the farm and stacked. Fertiliser was spread on the short grass sward and then it rained (lovely) and rained (OK) and rained (not so lovely!) Then the sun shone (lovely). This has resulted in massive grass growth across all of the grass fields. So much grass in fact that when checking the stock today I had trouble finding some of the calves who were playing hide and seek!

The latest embryo transfer flush resulted in a disappointing 5 fertile embryos, these were all implanted into waiting recipient cows, we hope for a conception rate of over 50%. The next flush of 3 pedigree British Blue cows is planned for two weeks time, and 15 recipient cows will be awaiting embryos so we hope for a better result then.

The lambs have continued to grow well and were weaned this week. Although both ewes and lambs do make a fuss for a couple of days when we separate them, they soon settle. The lambs are put onto quality short grass while the mums are dried off on poorer grazing. The best 15 ewe lambs will be retained for breeding, the next best 10 or so will be sold for breeding while the poorer end and any with genetic faults will be sold through Colchester market for meat. Only one ram lamb (the best) will be retained for breeding use in the flock, and a further 30 will be carried through to next year to be sold at 18 months of age. Meanwhile last year's male lambs, which have now been sheared, are almost ready to be sold to new homes for breeding.



**Please remember to
keep dogs under
close control and to
clean up after them.**



AERIAL VIEW

TV, FM & DAB Aerials
Freeview, Freesat & Sky
Installations, Repairs,
Extra Points
TVs set-up and installed
WiFi and telephone
extensions

For all my other services visit
www.aerial-installers.co.uk

01787 311057

FGS Garden Service **Estd 1982**

Traditional garden contractor
specialising in both hard and soft
landscaping including pruning, turfing,
seeding, rotavating work and general
garden maintenance.

All tree work carried out and
undertaken by qualified staff.

FREE ESTIMATES

Contact: Tom Smith
Collet Cottage, The Street,
Kersey, IP7 6DY

E-mail: fgsgardenservice@aol.com
Tel: 01473 824309
Mobile: 07889 738082

Antique Renovations



**EXPERTS IN ANTIQUE
FURNITURE RESTORATION**

UNIT ONE LAVENHAM STUDIOS
BRENT ELEIGH ROAD
LAVENHAM SUFFOLK CO10 9PE

Tel: 01787 248511

TRAVEL IN STYLE AND COMFORT

In our fully air conditioned
4-passenger vehicle.
Polstead Based

Local and long distance
Airports | Theatres | Restaurants |
Weddings | Any occasion

COUNTRY CARS

Contact: David Howard
(NVQ Trained)

**Hill View, Mill Street,
Polstead, Suffolk. CO6 5AD**

Phone: 01206 262196

Mobile: 07767 076 976

E-mail: maureendave64@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL

TREES, HEDGEROWS AND WILDFLOWERS

Babergh District Council are keen to improve the biodiversity in the district and are working with Parish Councils to find spaces for new trees, hedgerows and wildflowers. The Parish Council would like to hear from anyone with ideas of where new trees or hedges could be planted in Kersey. This can be public or private land. The landowner will be responsible for planting and maintaining the trees and hedges or where it is public land volunteers will be sought to help. Babergh Biodiversity Officers are able to supply free trees and hedgerow plants or can help to signpost to organisations who are providing free trees and hedge plants.

Babergh would also like to increase the areas of public land and verges where wildflowers grow or can be encouraged by reducing mowing. The Parish Council would welcome ideas of any suitable areas in Kersey.

Please email your ideas to the Parish Council – ***kerseypc@gmail.com*** or ring ***01787 210859***.

The Kersey Parish Newsletter

The Parish Newsletter is sponsored and distributed by St. Mary's Church on behalf of all parishioners.

The newsletter is delivered **FREE** to properties within the parish 10 times a year and is also available to download from:

www.kersey.suffolk.cloud/our-community/newsletter/

The approximate production cost is 50p per copy (£5 per year). All contributions gratefully received – please pass via your distributor or to:

Rachel Wells, 1 Vale Corner, Vale Lane, Kersey.

Or make online transfers (or arrange an annual standing order) to:

Kersey St. Mary PCC, 30-13-52 00694777.

*For further parish details and events, please see ***www.kersey.suffolk.cloud****

The next issue will cover **September 2021**.

Please send items for inclusion well before the deadline of 16th August to:

Rachel Wells: 01473 822230 - rachel@kersey-village.co.uk or

Viv Marsh: 07747 175858 - kersey@moonridge.me.uk

To advertise in the Kersey Parish Newsletter please contact:

Colin Grannell at hawckg@hotmail.com or 01473 829074

¼ page – £6.00 per issue, ½ page – £11.00 per issue

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

It has been a few months since I have submitted an article to the newsletter. With the Council being in Purdah due to the County Council elections things have been relatively quiet. However, with the elections over things are starting to pick up again as we move into the Summer.

One big change is the return to face-to-face meetings. While there are a number of advantages to remote meetings, both in terms of less time spent travelling and the obvious environmental benefits, it is good to actually see people in the flesh again. Going forward though, a lot of our working parties and briefings will remain online while formal committee and Council meetings will be completed in Endeavour House, under strict Covid guidelines.

There are a number of Working parties starting over the summer to review and respond to public consultations. The Recycling and Waste Strategy element of the Environment Bill is currently out to public consultation and a working party of officers and Councillors has been drawn together to consider the proposals in this strategy. Similarly a working party is also due to start in July to look at establishing a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for the Districts. You will be aware that the public consultation to develop an evidence base using the “commonplace” tool is already underway with a brilliant response to date from our communities.

CIFCO

This summer the Council will also review the CIFCO annual business plan. While the property investment company have brought in more than £5.4m to help fund services and projects for residents in Babergh and Mid Suffolk, the strategy of borrowing to generate income is

Housesitting

Reliable and experienced
house and pet sitter.

*Available:
June to September.*

Call or Text Josie Partridge
on 07553 185004

Email:
jspartridge3@gmail.com

could you foster?



**we urgently need
foster carers
in your area**



We can help you to provide a young person with a stable, secure home.

Call us on 0800 389 0143

Visit us at www.nexusfostering.co.uk

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL cont.

still controversial and does not garner unanimous approval. Both Babergh and Mid Suffolk Greens have been particularly outspoken on this topic.

Putting the Councils in to debt to get a return may be seen to be working, but it is not without risk. CIFCO have already had to wipe off £240,000 in debt from unpaid rent. This concern is shared by the Government who have now banned this type of income generation for Local Authorities.

Virtual High Street

Over 100 new businesses have signed up to the Virtual High Street as the site launches in Hadleigh and Stowmarket, joining over 130 already signed up to the platform in Sudbury. Shoppers can benefit from even more ways to shop local at a range of high street stores, independent retailers and market stalls, as well as cafes and restaurants. Customers will be able to visit their local shops online to browse stock, place orders and arrange click and collect or a delivery from home or on the move.

The aim of the Virtual High Street is to bring the local high street and market stalls into the homes of customers before they visit the high street in person, making shopping local and supporting local businesses even easier.

For residents in Hadleigh, over 55 businesses including Ferguson's Delicatessen, Cobbler Café and Wine Bar, Andrew's Quality Butchers and EriVica Cakes are all signed up as well as accommodation providers such as Holbeck House B&B and The Gables B&B.

Locality Award Fund

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' have again made money available for Locality Awards funding – enabling communities to improve facilities, learn new skills and work towards becoming environmentally sustainable.

Babergh have provided each Councillor with £2000 to support the villages in their wards.

Ensuring that no resident is left feeling lonely or excluded remains of great importance for both councils, and Locality Awards grants can be used towards combating this in communities by installing hearing loops, providing Wi-Fi in rural areas, or hosting coffee mornings or lunch clubs.

Groups can also apply for funding for sports and play equipment, exercise classes, walking festivals and other initiatives which support the councils' aim for communities to lead active lives and manage their own health and wellbeing.

Applications are also welcome for providing medical skills such as first aid to communities, as well as supporting them in other training including safeguarding, fire safety and anti-social behaviour prevention.

Anyone with interest in accessing this fund, please contact me.

Leigh Jamieson (Cllr.)

leigh.jamieson@babergh.gov.uk – Mobile: 07548 156181

Can you help secure and manage newsletter advertising?

*Please contact Colin Grannell at
hawkcg@hotmail.com or 01473 829074*



Developing Skills in Health and Social Care

The developing skills in health and social care (DSHSC) project is providing fully funded qualifications to staff living and working in the adult health and social care sector across Norfolk and Suffolk

The project is funding a range of specific qualifications including:

- Functional Skills in Maths, English and ICT
- Level 1 Course to embed the Care Certificate
- Level 1 Course in strengths based and person-centred approaches
- Level 2 Units in Dementia, End of Life Care, Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Autism
- Bespoke Level 4 Aspiring Manager Programme

All participants will have access to 1:1 mentoring support to help them throughout their training.

This project is part funded by the European Social Fund
For more information, visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/developingskills



Norfolk County Council



Suffolk
County Council

