

**MINUTES OF KERSEY ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON
MONDAY 3 APRIL 2017 AT 7.30PM IN KERSEY VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT

Chair – John Hume, 4 Parish Councillors, Jenny Antill - Suffolk County Councillor, 13 members of public and Sarah Partridge - Clerk.

APA 1/17 APOLOGIES were received from John Maltby, Alan Ferguson – Babergh District Councillor, Adrian Blyth, David Griffiths and Liz Donaldson.

APA 2/17 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH MEETING held on 11 April 2016 were signed as correct.

APA 3/17 CORRESPONDENCE

Babergh are conducting an open Space, Play and Outdoor Recreation Study. The Clerk had completed the basic information but asked for further comments from members of the parish. It was commented that public footpaths are an important outdoor recreation asset. There were no aspirations or any wishes for further recreational facilities in Kersey. The Clerk will complete the survey and return to Babergh.

APA 4/17 REPORTS

Full Reports are all appended to these minutes.

Police, the Police are no longer attending or issuing reports to Parish Assemblies or Parish Council meetings. The Clerk had received a brief report this year explaining the situation, which was read.

Suffolk County Council, Jenny Antill gave her report and answered questions.

Babergh District Council, Alan Ferguson had sent a report which was read by the Clerk. The Chair raised a question about the lack of access to Babergh District Council officers once the District Council move their office to Ipswich. He was concerned that the offer of local meeting points at Sudbury and Stowmarket were inadequate. A little concern was raised from those present but there was not a wish for the Parish Council to follow up these concerns with the District Council. The Chair said he would write to Babergh to ask ‘What plans are there for local contact in Hadleigh?’

Kersey Parish Council, John Hume gave his report.

Kersey Parish Council Working Groups:

Footpath Working Group, Giles Hollingworth gave his report. John Maltby had recently retired as Chair of this Working Group after around 20 years. The Chair will write to thank John for his contribution.

KCPC Working Group, the Clerk read a report from Jonathan Marsh.

Forget-Me-Nots, Veronica Partridge gave her report.

Franey, Rand and Pest House Charities, Nora Ryde gave her report. The aim of this charity is to support anyone in a time of hardship, for example financial support for transport to hospital or extra costs related to health or medical issues. If anyone in the parish needs help they should contact Mrs Ryde. Mrs Ryde commented that she was not aware of any great needs in Kersey at present. She also said she was considering retiring from this role, anyone interested should contact the Parish Council.

Friends of the Fabric & Bells of St Mary's Church, Neville Whittell gave his report. The Chair and those present commented that they enjoy hearing the bells ring.

Grays Trust, Joan Hattrick gave her report.

Kersey CEVCP School, the Clerk read a report from head teacher Liz Donaldson.

Kersey Playing Field Association, Ian Hattrick gave his report.

Kersey Society, Ian Hattrick gave his report.

Lewis Mowles Trust, Norah Orriss gave her report.

Millennium Book Fund, a report was read from John Maltby.

Neighbourhood Watch, Giles Hollingworth gave his report.

There was a discussion about security and safety in the parish. Everyone was reminded that security should be taken seriously, keeping homes and sheds locked, even in the daytime. A couple of recent burglaries had taken place during daylight. A question was raised about the idea of installing security cameras because this might deter criminals and fly tippers which is becoming more of a problem. It was agreed that residents needed to create a deterrent atmosphere and there should be an increase in crime prevention awareness. Cameras may not be a good answer. It was agreed that Giles will try to get some more Neighbourhood Watch stickers to distribute to residents to display in windows.

Nightingale Trust, Natalie Blyth gave her report.

St Mary's Church PCC, the Clerk read a report from Linda Newbigging.

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

Tuesday Club, Rachel Wells gave her report.

The Tuesday Club welcomes everyone to their events. The topics and speakers for the monthly meetings are advertised in the newsletter.

Village Hall, Veronica Partridge gave her report.

Village Produce Association, Rachel Wells gave her report.

APA 5/17 PARISH ACTION PLAN UP-DATE

The Parish Action Plan was discussed. An updated copy of the Parish Action Plan is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

Points which were discussed in detail were:

There is still a problem with dog fouling in the village, particularly on the public footpath behind The Bell, which is disappointing since the dog poo bin is located at the bottom of this footpath. It was suggested that part of the problem may be caused by visiting dog walkers. More signs will be put up in the village and on this footpath including a note of the bin location. It was suggested that perhaps the parish needed another dog poo bin and may be more litter bins too. These issues will be discussed by the Parish Council.

The Kersey website was discussed; this provides a wealth of information about Kersey, village organisations, the Parish Council, businesses and much more. There is an events page but this just lists regular events and not one off events. It was suggested that if the Newsletter was published online this would give up to date information about dates and times of future events. The general feeling was that a hard copy of the newsletter is delivered to all households and so this was not

necessary. However, it would be another way to promote local events and may reach a different audience.

APA 6/17 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The proposed Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS) was discussed. VETS is a community run system where a simple memorable number for the village can be dialled in an emergency and this will contact up to 10 local volunteers. One of these volunteers will then assist pending the arrival of the emergency services. The system can be used for any emergency where additional help is required from neighbours, whether it is to bring the defibrillator because of a suspected cardiac arrest or another emergency. It would give a level of reassurance to the elderly, those living alone, and to the infirmed, that there is always help on hand. The Parish Council is looking for volunteers to be one of the 10 local contacts. The Clerk has more information for anyone interested.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.22pm.

There are 25 sheets appended to these minutes.

ALL REPORTS FOR KERSEY ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY 3 APRIL 2017

Police report 2017

The Clerk had contacted the Babergh East Safer Neighbourhood Team and they confirmed that the police are no longer attending Parish Council or Annual Parish Assemblies as it is not the best use of police time.

The Police and Parish Forum has been set up to address the lack of police attendance at parish meetings and is an opportunity for people from all the parishes to attend to discuss particular issues that are affecting their community. The next Police and Parish Forum is the annual meeting on 10 May at Hadleigh swimming pool. It is hoped the Superintendent responsible for the area will also be attending to give a presentation.

Anyone interested in crime figures and the local situation can access information on the Police.uk website or the Suffolk Police website, more information with web addresses is available on the Kersey website under 'useful information'.

Residents are encouraged to sign up for Police Connect on the Suffolk Police website as they will then receive information about incidents in their area. Residents can also follow the local police on Twitter (@HadleighPolice) and on facebook.

The local Safer Neighbourhood Team are holding a community engagement event at Hollow Trees Farm Shop on Tuesday 4 April from 10:00-13:00, anyone can come and speak with the police between those hours.

County Councillor's Report to Kersey Annual Parish Assembly Monday 3rd April 2017

This will be my last report to your Annual Meeting as your County Councillor since the Council comes to an end in early May.

Looking back over the past four years I wish that I had a more exciting record of achievement at the Council to report. Unfortunately however the very difficult financial circumstance in which all of local government finds itself has meant that the activities of the council have been necessarily limited. The main focus therefore has been on measures to cut costs while doing as little damage to council services as possible and on the whole I believe that this has been achieved.

Over the past four years our funding from Central Government has been reduced dramatically representing a large proportion of our net budget of a little over £550m. We have been obliged as a result to find savings of over £100m over the period. Further savings are likely to be necessary in years to come. As we promised in 2013 the County Council's share of council tax has not gone up. we have however increased the County Council share of the council tax bill by 2% last year and 3% in 2017/18 to reflect the levy permitted by Central Government to support our Social Care activities.

Suffolk has a population that includes more people over 60 than in other parts of the country, and this puts particular pressure on our Social Care budget. Thanks to investment in new care homes made prior to 2013, and a programme that changed the way that we deliver services to users, we have with one or two exceptions managed to continue to deliver adequate services to those in need who qualify. This has not been easy and there is need for further increases in resources in the years to come combined with improved co-operation with the National Health Service.

I think that it is fair to say that over the past two years the attention of the leaders of councils across Suffolk has been quite pointlessly distracted by the issue of Devolution. It was obvious as soon as the arrival of the new administration under Theresa May that this matter had fallen down the Government's agenda, and that only the most enthusiastic regions, which did not include Norfolk and Suffolk, would be pressing ahead with what was in any event a flawed initiative.

I would expect future changes in local government to be connected with the creation of unitary councils, which would to my mind be a good thing.

The Highways Department has been held back by problems relating to the contract that was signed four years ago now with Keir. It is clear that insufficient thought went into the design of these arrangements, and this is only now being sorted out. I will not dwell on highways apart from saying that demand for road repair and improvement, particularly in a dispersed county such as Suffolk, is infinite and it is almost impossible to satisfy the demands of everyone.

All has not been total doom and gloom however. Our Children's Services, both in the area of education and in looked after children have both shown an improving trend. Firstly, Suffolk's Children in Care services received a Good rating from Ofsted last year. Secondly, four years ago standards in Suffolk's Schools were very poor. Indeed one of my stated aims in my election material at the election in 2013 was to try to help to support improvements in educational attainment in the

County. I have enjoyed being a member of the Schools Improvement Board which has had oversight of this process. Suffolk has gradually risen from the bottom of the league tables, and now stands at or slightly above average in most areas which is a good achievement. One area where we still need to make improvements is in the area of special needs children and the focus is now shifting towards this aim.

Kersey

It has been a great pleasure to represent Kersey over the past four years I was pleased to be able to contribute towards the purchase of a defibrillator by the Parish Council during the current financial year.

On the whole, Kersey has been a relatively trouble free parish from my perspective, with the exception of matters relating to hedges and highways.

The only real excitement has been the attempt by County Council's contractors to remove the village's prehistoric natural feature, the Pudding Stone, thinking it to be a trip hazard. In this they were thwarted by the quick action of a resident, and I believe that we have now agreed a way ahead that will prevent a repeat of this in the future.

I very much enjoyed giving the prizes at the annual produce show a couple of years ago, attending the Christmas Fair in the church, meeting a good number of residents, reading the interesting parish magazine and generally enjoying the beauty of this unique village.

It only remains to thank the Chairman of the Council, Mrs Partridge, and the other councillors for their help and co-operation and the warm welcome that I have always enjoyed when visiting the village, and to wish all residents of Kersey all the very best for the future.

Jenny Antill

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT FOR KERSEY ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
MONDAY 3rd APRIL 2017
KEY POINTS IN THE SECOND YEAR OF BABERGH CONSERVATIVE ADMINISTRATION**

Introduction

Let me firstly apologise for my being unable to join you for the AGM this evening. I have a domestic issue that needs to be resolved quickly. I hope the following will suffice, but as ever if there are questions please feel to contact me directly.

End of Year 2

As we reach the end of the second year in its history with a Conservative majority in Babergh I can again report that the year has been challenging. In the year, Babergh (and Mid Suffolk) have had to address some key issues that are almost all about “process change” to facilitate better and more effective decision making. The next 2 year will focus more on “outcomes” for our constituents.

Devolution

Devolution (now just for Suffolk) sits on a Minister's desk in Whitehall. I will be amazed if it goes ahead with Suffolk alone as it goes against all the “bigger is better” principles that this government has pushed in a devolution context.

Governance Arrangements

After the Babergh AGM in May 17 and when we move to Ipswich, Babergh District Councillors will move from a Committee to a Cabinet governance arrangement. This (in theory at least) should make decision making quicker and easier although the power of decision making will rest in the hands of a smaller group of Councillors.

Public Access

An odd name for part of the decision to move from Babergh and Needham Market to Endeavour House, Ipswich. The move will take place in the middle of the year and be completed by September 17. With a shared back office Officer support arrangement this should make us more efficient as we will sit alongside our County Council colleagues and money will be saved by not having 2 half empty District Council buildings. However, the move will be challenging although we will ensure that support arrangements are put in place so that constituents do not have to go to Ipswich if they wish to meet with Council Officers. Details yet to be released.

Boundary Commission

As I have briefed previously, the Boundary Commission (BC) is looking at the number of District Councillors that we have in Babergh DC. Currently we have 43 but the Chief Executive has advised the BC that we require only 31 to populate the various committees that are needed to manage day to day business. The new number, therefore, is likely to be close to 31 (effective for next District Council elections in 2019) rather than the 36 that we suggested. I voted against 31 in the Full Council Meeting as I think the logic that got us to that number is flawed ie every District Councillor will sit on a minimum of 2 committees. The

jury is out on that one, but irrespective, I do not anticipate the reduction from 43 to 31 to impact on the South Cosford Ward

Housing (Public Sector)

We have recently completed a new public sector housing development in Lavenham and we have another that should be completed this year. We also have ambitious plans to build more council owned property. Details to follow.

Housing – Private Sector

We are building nowhere near the number of private sector houses that are required for our growing population in Babergh. However, I will remain strongly in favour of “right type”, “right place” and “right number” as we look at individual planning applications. That was my key reservation when the 6 cottages were mooted on The Street.

We have also agreed that a new McCarthy Stone development will go ahead in Hadleigh. The approval is for 65 flats and 2-3 bedroom chalet bungalows in what is best known as the site where Tesco planned (and failed) to build their supermarket. The project has been well monitored and influence for the better by Councillor Sian Dawson (Hadleigh North) to ensure that it is built to a high standard in keeping with the desirable location behind the High Street and close to the river. Building work is planned to start before the end of 2017.

East House Hadleigh

At last and after too many years, the disposal of East House has been agreed. It was offered at offers over £650,000 and it went under offer within 2 weeks. This valuable asset should again become a high profile part of the town.

5 Year Land Bank

As part of our housing delivery requirements from national government, we are required to maintain a 5 year supply of potential building sites. Just last month, and out of the blue, Babergh has declared that it no longer meets this requirement, which makes us vulnerable to speculative planning applications. Not good news. Watch this space

Your District Councillor

Finally Ward Members may wish to be aware that I have proposed and seconded for the position of Deputy Leader Babergh District Council. There will be a challenge to the current Council leader (Councillor Jennie Jenkins) and I have agreed to be nominated as deputy leader if the challenge to her leadership proves successful. The Conservative Group AGM takes place on 12th April 17, when secret ballots will be held for the Leader and Deputy Leader positions.

Alan Ferguson (tel: 01449 741542)

3rd April 2017

KERSEY PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

KERSEY ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY - 3rd APRIL 2017.

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

I thank my fellow Councillors and Clerk Sarah Partridge for another year of valued contribution to our community. I also thank the many members of our Parish who provide service to others by supporting their neighbours through individual initiatives, membership of formal and informal groups, societies, social networks and local charities. This work goes on largely behind the scenes but is highly valued and appreciated. Kersey is a special place in which to live and visit and I wish to encourage younger and newer residents to take a more active role in village life.

Kersey 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. All Parishioners are encouraged to raise matters of concern either with individual Councillors or by attendance at Parish Council Meetings. The Parish Council would welcome more attendance and participation at our regular meetings.

Existing Councillors are Iqbal Alam, Ian Fidell, Giles Hollingworth, John Maltby, Yvonne Martin (Vice Chair), Veronica Partridge and me. Contact details are attached to this report and are on the Kersey Parish website. Those interested in serving the community by being a Councillor are invited to contact me or the Clerk.

During the year, the Parish Council received 18 Planning Applications. 17 were fully supported, some with additional comments where heritage assets were involved. One supported application was refused by Babergh District Council. Babergh approved another application that was not supported by the Parish Council and correspondence continues on that application. Councillors attend training on Planning. We have agreed to change our previous practice of attending the sites of all applications and now only visit on a discretionary basis.

The Parish Plan actions are being implemented.

An Emergency Plan will shortly be submitted to Babergh and Suffolk County Council.

An over zealous sub-contractor of Suffolk County Council planned to tidy a footpath by removing the Pudding Stone outside the Ancient Cottages. This was prevented by an alert local resident, Ray Attridge, who asked for the work to stop and promptly enlisted the help of the Parish Council to avert a serious heritage loss.

The Clerk liaised with Suffolk County Council on many requests for pothole repairs and Parishioners are encouraged to use their Highways Department on-line reporting system to report damage to roads and signs.

Although fly-tipping and general litter has worsened this year, I am pleased to report that 13 residents volunteered for the litter collection day on 4 March. We were able to clear up all the lanes in the Kersey area and even ventured further into local Parishes. The fly-tipping at the water treatment plant was cleared by Anglian Water. They are now considering installation of cameras to prevent further spoilage.

A defibrillator was installed at The Bell and training conducted in its use. This was funded by Rosanna and Kim Gaywood's Swing Dance, a £1,000 Locality Grant from County Councillor Jenny Antill and two anonymous local donors.

Planning is now underway to install a Village Emergency Telephone System.

High Speed Broadband reached most of the Parish during the year, although to date, not all available capacity has been taken up.

Yvonne Martin and Veronica Partridge organised an excellent 'Drop In Event' on 24 September 2016 to publicise and encourage interest in the more than 20 businesses, voluntary groups, societies and local charities that exist in Kersey. Members of these organisations provided excellent presentations of their work and over a third of adult residents attended.

Jenny Antill, Suffolk County Councillor and Alan Ferguson, Babergh District Councillor, regularly attended Parish Council Meetings and I thank them for their advice and for taking up issues on our behalf. Jenny Antill is standing down this year and we wish her well for the future.

The Parish Council are delighted with the continued success of our local school and note the contribution made by the farming community, Kersey Mill and The Bell to the standard of life in Kersey. Although there have been four recent burglaries, one of which was very serious, Kersey remains a safe and pleasant place in which to live.

John Maltby has retired as Chair of the Footpath Working Group and was succeeded by Giles Hollingworth. I thank John for his many years of valuable service in maintaining the footpath network.

Finances are monitored at every meeting. Your Parish Council remains financially strong with funds in the bank. Expenditure in the year was within budget. The Precept for 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017 was £6,786.00 plus a Council Tax Support Grant of £48.08 and a Transparency Grant of £344.33.

The Precept for 2017/18 will be £7,340.00. Council Tax for a Band D property will be £40.00 which is a 6.8% increase on the previous year. This is mainly to fund the maintenance of both the defibrillator and the Village Emergency Telephone System.

Finally, I thank all of you who have contributed by providing service to others. Kersey is a vibrant, flourishing and generous community. This can only be maintained if there is more engagement and contribution from younger residents.

John W. Hume - Chair, Kersey Parish Council. 3 April 2017.

KERSEY PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS

Parish Councillors:

John Hume (Chair)	Ayres End, The Green, Kersey IP7 6EB	01473 810098
Mrs Yvonne Martin (Vice Chair)	Row View, The Street, Kersey IP7 6DY	01473 828361
John Maltby	Pax, 7 Church Hill, Kersey, IP7 6EE	01473 828383
Mrs Veronica Partridge	Chestnuts, Kersey, IP7 6EL	01473 823188
Giles Hollingworth	Chapel House, Church Hill, Kersey IP7 6DZ	01473 824663
Iqbal Alan	4 Ancient Houses, The Street, Kersey IP7 6EA	01473 827079
Ian Fidell	The Cottage, Church Hill, Kersey, IP7 6DZ	01473 828887

Clerk:

Mrs Sarah Partridge	Bridges Farm, The Tye, Kersey, IP7 6HB	01787 210859
	Email: kerseypc@gmail.com	

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

Kersey Parish Council Budget and Precept

	2016/17 Budget/ Precept	2017/18 Budget/ Precept
Post/Tel/Stationery/copier cartridge	£135.00	£135.00
Clerk's computer/working from home	£208.00	£208.00
Hall Hire:Parish Council 10 @ £5	£50.00	£50.00
Annual Parish Assembly @ £10	£10.00	£10.00
SALC subscription	£166.00	£172.98
Community Action Suffolk subs	£30.00	£0.00
External Audit	£100.00	£100.00
ICO Data Protection registration	£35.00	£35.00
Website hosting		£100.00
Sub total for Admin	£734.00	£810.98
Clerk's Salary	£3,920.00	£4,150.00
Training/External Meetings	£250.00	£250.00
Street Lighting	£210.00	£210.00
CAS Suffolk Insurance	£480.00	£500.00
Glebe Insurance	£50.00	£50.00
Hedge Cut - The Glebe	£83.00	£83.00
Playground Safety Inspection	£85.00	£85.00
Dog Litter Bin emptying charge	£44.00	£45.00
St Mary's Church	£400.00	£400.00
Defibrillator & Village Emergency Tel		£226.00
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	£300.00	£300.00
	£6,786.00	£7,339.98
<i>Transparency Fund Grant</i>	£344.33	
<i>Locallity grant from SCC Jenny Antill</i>	£1,000.00	
<i>Donations from residents</i>	£137.00	
Agreed spending from reserves:		
Defibrillator project S137	£771.56	
	£9,038.89	£7,339.98

Spent on defibrillator
Spent on defibrillator

The precept for 2016/17 was £6786, plus a council tax support grant of £43.08
For a band D property the council tax was £37.44

The precept for 2017/18 will be £7340
For a band D property the council tax will be £40.00

The main reason for the budget and precept increase is to cover the on-going maintenance and running costs of the defibrillator and emergency telephone system.

Footpath Working Group Report

Having taken over the chairmanship of the Footpath Working Group from John Maltby some months ago I am currently attempting to familiarise myself with all the numerous footpaths and the bridleway we have in the Kersey area and ascertain which of our many volunteers have committed themselves to the maintenance of each path. What I have realised is that John undertook a mammoth task over a period of 20 years or more for which, I am sure, we are all extremely grateful.

As for the future, we had a meeting of the footpath volunteers at The Bell on 28 March, which 11 people attended and a great deal of enthusiasm was evident. This bodes well for the future of our paths. However, more helpers would be greatly appreciated as the work load is quite substantial and I sometimes wonder whether doing the mowing and strimming in twos would be less arduous and more enjoyable.

We are currently looking into the condition of the equipment we have at our disposal, much of which John has been maintaining over the years. If appropriate we will consider some replacements or additions. We are also inspecting all the footpath signs in the area with the intention of improving visibility and condition over the next few months.

Finally, if those who use the footpaths encounter any problems with blockages etc would you please let me know, either by phone or email, contact details are on the Kersey website and in the newsletter. I will do what I can to arrange for them to be addressed.

Giles Hollingworth

Chair of Kersey Footpath Working Group

3 April 2017

KCPC Working Group

REPORT for Kersey Annual Parish Assembly

30th March 2017

The playground continues to be a popular resource for the children in the village and locality. The aim of this report is to highlight a few key events of last year and the notes surrounding the management of the playground.

The programme of rolling maintenance of various equipment continued and in this particular period the long overdue overhaul of the bark area was completed. In the end volunteers carried out the work to save money, I am most grateful to Ian Fidell for managing this project. It is hoped that the new rubber material will be longer lasting and fewer issues with weeds.

The ROSPA report continues to highlight a number of minor issues and the state of some wooden posts continues to be monitored for deterioration. They will need replacement in due course.

In the recent storm the lone pine tree at the apex of the triangle was badly damaged and sadly had to be removed.

The extra equipment outside the playground continues to be used but the Air Skier is currently out of use and Pascoe Gibbons and Sarah Partridge are looking into repairs under guarantee. The cricket net is functioning and available for use.

Pascoe Gibbons continues his management of the grass cutting and inspection schedule and I am pleased to say that has worked generally very well. The mower had its winter service and the first cut of the year took place last week-end.

A quiz night was held in November although sadly Bryn Hurren was unable to be Quiz Master. Numbers were considerably down, however, a profit of £407.83 was made and represents our major fund raising event for the year.

It is expected that we will hold another quiz night at a similar time and date this year.

Year-end accounts have not been finalised but KCPC funds now stand at approx. £2,450 and are sufficient for the day to day running of the playground. However, in the event of a major piece of equipment being needed to be replaced, additional funds will most likely need to be sought.

As always, we are looking for new members of the working group and volunteers for both maintenance day and grass rota. An additional push will probably take place on this over the next month or so.

Finally, I would like to thank all members of the working group for their hard work over the year and the continued support of Sarah Partridge. We continue to be very grateful to the Whymarks for allowing us to store the mower in their garden.

Jonathan Marsh, Chair of KCPC Working Group

FORGET ME NOTS

The Forget Me Nots group was formed mid to late 70's by Mr. Hacker and was affiliated to the Church. They met every fortnight in the Village Hall to play cards and other games.

The group was disbanded for a short period and then was reformed around 1982 and run by Frances Wymark for 10 years. After this time, Vivien Bourne took over and was the coordinator for 20 years, and during this stretch the group changed its venue and was invited into the homes of the Kersey residents and the surrounding villages for a wonderful spread of cakes, coffee and teas, all lovingly prepared by their hostess, with outings further afield arranged from time to time.

After 20 years Vivien moved away and Veronica Partridge took up the reins and again the format was changed. After discussions with the now members, who are all reasonably fit and well, it was decided that we would go out to cafes and restaurants for coffee mornings, lunches and in the summer, afternoon teas. We still have an invite or two to the lovely homes of the very willing hostesses of Kersey, which is very much appreciated.

The choice of eateries comes from the group, and we have tried places near and far. In the winter the Forget Me Nots do not like to drive too far, so Veronica hosts lunch at home at the Chestnuts, combining a game or two of Bingo!

We welcome more members, and if you wish to dip in and out of our program we would be delighted to see you when you are available.

Veronica Partridge

Franey, Rand and Pest House Charities

This past year has been very quiet. There have been no requests for assistance in the Kersey area this year. Anyone wishing for support or assistance only needs to ask and the Charity will be pleased to consider their request.

Nora Ryde
3 April 2017

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

It has been a very quiet year; there are funds in the bank of around £6,500. Two new bell ropes have been purchased; these have to be handmade which makes them expensive, more may need to be purchased soon. More ringers would be welcomed as there are only just enough people to ring on a Sunday, relying on ringers from other local churches joining them to ring. Bell ringing practice is on a Thursday evening, please come and take a look to find out more.

Neville Whittell, 3 April 2017

GRAYS' TRUST, KERSEY REPORT TO THE PARISH ASSEMBLY 3 APRIL 2017

During the year the Trust received income from its investments of £7,689 of which it distributed £5,450. This distribution may appear low but this is because a contribution to Kersey School was delayed until 2017.

The distribution included money to 6 sixth form college students and university students and 1 mature student, in addition to Kersey School leavers and the Tuesday Club.

Again during 2017 we will advertise in the Newsletter and ask for applications from university and sixth form students as well as others undertaking educational courses who are resident in the parish and surrounding area of Kersey. Applications are invited annually in September, and if funds are available, again in January. If there are any new families who have teenagers considering further education and would like more information please contact the Chairman, Mr. John Robinson, or any of the other Trustees. Telephone numbers are in the Newsletter. We are always glad to consider applications from mature students.

Joan Hattrick, Trustee

Annual Report for Kersey Annual Parish Assembly – April 2017

I have been made very welcome as the new Head teacher of Kersey which is a friendly and inclusive school where every child is listened to and respected. We currently have 70 children on role and are oversubscribed in our Early Years (Reception) class. The school's vision of 'Achieving Potential Together' is evident on a daily basis through the learning atmosphere that gives all children the opportunities to succeed. We have recently engaged in 'Philosophy for Children' and the children have many opportunities to involve themselves in the day to day activities in school. As well as having a Learning Council the school's Worship Council is now established and is governing and leading acts of worship at St Mary's Church including Harvest, Candlemas, Eucharist, Christmas and Easter performance, all of which were very well received.

We celebrate all achievements, both in and out of school. 'Weekly Head Teacher Assemblies' allow the children to share their skills and achievements out of school whereas the weekly 'Celebration Assembly' shares the children's personal and collective achievements within school. These are awarded in the form of House points. Our four Houses are named after famous people of Suffolk; Wolsey, Constable, Britten and the newly re-named, Garrett-Anderson. The children have continued to share their learning with their parents and the community during Discovery cafes and class assemblies. The pupils have enjoyed several educational visits this year which are shared on the school's website along with dates and events which are included in a weekly newsletter, which we would happily send to your members if requested.

Our Eco team 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 organised a very enjoyable and successful Pumpkin event, provided refreshments at the Christmas Fayre, and presents for all pupils, an Easter bonnet parade and a school Disco held in the Village Hall during the spring term.

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 May, in St Mary's Church. To which we would like to invite the whole community to join us to celebrate the pupil's achievements.

A number of children have represented our school this term in Able, Gifted and Talented enrichment events, a swimming gala, a prayer day and a technology day, which we hosted. We are very proud of their performances and achievements.

We are very aware of the intrinsic 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.

We have revisited the development of our facilities by building a school hall which would improve the learning environment for our pupils. However, since my arrival we are looking at alternative options for making the most of the facilities we have and continue to meet with Suffolk County Council, English Heritage and Babergh representatives to ascertain the feasibility of different options which have to be suitable and sympathetic to such a unique setting.

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 I can welcome you. Thank you all for your continued support in making my first year another successful year for Kersey School.

Liz Donaldson (Headteacher)

KERSEY PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION

3RD April 2017

It is now thirty four years since the first steps were taken to set up KPFA. From the outset it has been an invaluable resource for the school and latterly the playground, exercise equipment and cricket net have been added by KCPC. The playground and the net are well used but there seems little enthusiasm for activity among those who are too old for the playground and disinclined to play cricket. It would be good to see a change in that area – perhaps some walking football on the modestly sized pitch.

We are grateful to KCPC and others for their attention to maintenance duties so necessary for safety and also well ordered appearance.

THE KERSEY SOCIETY

3rd April 2017

Two successful events have taken place this year –a Christmas wreath making class and a wine tasting. In the autumn another tasting is planned this time not of wine but tea at a talk given by a professional tea taster. The date is not yet fixed but will probably be in October. Watch the Newsletter.

The Society operates on an informal basis in order to engage as many as possible in the planning of events. There is no committee and planning meeting are open to all so we can harvest everybody's' ideas and decide collectively what events we would like to pursue.

Our next planning meeting to which all are invited will be at The Bell at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 10th May.

Lewis Mowles Trust

We are very sorry to have lost Paul Ryde who was one of the original trustees when the trust was set up in 1988. We have had a quiet year with no expenses and the balance now stands at £10,272 pounds.

Norah Orriss
3 April 2017

Millennium Book Fund

The Millennium Book Fund was set up as a suitable outlet for the profits from the book – Kersey Within Living Memory – which was published close to the millennium and very soon sold out. Funds are available for small village projects in Kersey, at the discretion of the Parish Council. Anyone interested in using this source should apply to the Parish Council.

J Maltby

Neighbourhood Watch

As Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator Giles Hollingworth provides a two way line of communication between the parishioners and the police. Giles attended the Police and Parish Forum a couple of times; this is a new forum where parishes can meet and report problems and concerns in their parish to the local police. This year there have been no particular concerns affecting Kersey which needed to be brought to the attention of the police at this forum.

The main concerns in the parish relate to parking and speeding. There have been a couple of recent burglaries but Kersey is still a safe place in which to live. All members of the community should remember to take security seriously at all times of the day. The recent burglaries happened during the day time.

KERSEY ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY 2017 REPORT FROM THE NIGHTINGALE TRUST

Mr. Paul Ryde, a Trustee of the Nightingale Charity for many years died in February, and his support and advice will be greatly missed. He was very supportive of the Trust and its objects. The upkeep of allotment land and its continuing use for the benefit of the Trust was paramount, as was his awareness that Trust income should be used for the benefit of the needy in the parish of Kersey.

Mr. David Griffiths decided to resign as a Trustee at the recent Annual Meeting due to his wife's illness. He has served the Trust well for the past 10 years as Secretary and we are very sorry to lose him. We thank him for all the time he has given to the Trust.

During the year we had two inspections of the allotments and are very pleased with the general standard of cultivation and care on most of the plots. All the plots are taken at present and there is no waiting list. The allotments are quite large and 5 of them have been halved to accommodate tenants who required smaller plots. Rents have recently been increased after three years standstill, but remain very competitive indeed. We are pleased with the co-operation we receive from tenants in keeping the hedges and grass cut, and from two tenants for maintaining the pump and organising vermin control.

We would remind the general public that the allotments are private land and do not contain any public footpaths. Visitors to the allotments should be by invitation of Trustees and tenants only.

Fulfilling the second object of the Trust, we were able to give financial help to 7 Kersey residents in 2016.

We wish to record our thanks to Mrs. Norah Orriss, our Treasurer, and announce that Mrs. Natalie Blyth has agreed to become Secretary.

St Mary's Parochial Church Council

Year end to Dec 2016

Revs Tim and Trish French and our Elder, Julie Boast, continued to provide a regular pattern of services including Mini Messy Church, Communion, Morning Prayer and a Benefice service every 5th Sunday. We are grateful to the retired clergy and other elders who help with services especially Rev Gerald Drew and Ian Hatrick. As part of our Christian ethos we continue to make charitable donations to national and international charities.

The membership of the PCC remained constant at seven members: Julie Boast, Colin Grannell, Rachel Wells, Frances Whymark, Nick Judd, Lucy Oldham and Linda Newbigging. They are all committed to sustaining St Mary's as an important spiritual, community and historic focal point in the village.

The PCC met 6 times during the year to carry out the business of the church. As well as fulfilling our legal obligations with regard to Safeguarding, Insurance liability, repairs, fiscal propriety, documentation and record keeping, legal requirements of the Church of England - we have also organised several fundraising events: plant sale, an evening with Charlie Haylock, Kersey Christmas Gift Fayre, Christmas Cheese and wine. In planning our events we like to ensure that the events are something that our villagers will enjoy as well as raising the much needed funds to keep the church open each year – and we would like to thank you all for the support that you give by attending our events.

The PCC could not keep St Mary's Church going without help from this wonderful community. We would like to thank all of you involved as Sidespersons, flower arrangers, cleaners, Ian as organist, Joan Hatrick as administrator of the rotas, Jill and Alan Line for editing the village newsletter, Gerald Whymark, Tom Smith and Caroline Edwards for her sponsorship of the Gift Fayre.

We would like to recognise devotion of our two Church wardens whose daily attendance enables the doors of the church to remain open to visitors all year. We are delighted that the school children of Kersey School worship in the church three times a week and we are very proud of the close association between the school and the church which includes services taken by Tim or Trish once per half term.

There is a lot of goodwill within our community for which we are very grateful. However, I would like to highlight that the annual financial commitment required to keep our doors open as well as the spend identified for 2017-18 to repair the tower means that the PCC are under some pressure to raise even more money in the forthcoming year. We would very much like to fill our two vacancies on the PCC to help us achieve our future goals.

Our own APCCM is scheduled for 19th April 7.30pm at St Mary's Church and we look forward to welcoming you there.

FUNDRAISING report

We have enjoyed some wonderful fundraising events again this year: Plant Sale, Charlie Haylock, Kersey Gift Fayre and some spontaneous cream tea afternoons. We would like to thank all from the village who help make these events so successful: from jam and cake makers, volunteers and helpers, Caroline Edwards for supporting our fundraising at the Gift Fayre but most of all to those who come along as a guest – we couldn't do it without you and we love having people from the village coming together with a common purpose.

The church is a beautiful building and its kitchen and toilet make it suitable for meetings and events – so if you would like to use this space please get in touch with a Church warden.

Fund raising is essential to secure the financial security of the church as both a building and as a place of worship. The PCC would be grateful for any help, ideas and support for future fundraising events that are simple to execute and which attract visitors from outside the village too – so that the financial impact is spread further afield.

Kersey Table Tennis Club. - Report for the Year ending 31st March 2017.

The Table Tennis Club has had a successful year measureable by increased attendance.

Our participation in the drop in event last September had a positive outcome and I am pleased to report that the number of attendees from within the parish has improved considerably.

The Clubs finances are healthy and self supporting via the fees structure, The accounts for the year 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 will be audited.

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. The season runs from September to June.

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

Adrian Blyth

Tuesday Club report

A varied programme included talks on 'A Life in Nursing', Isles of Scilly, Old Trades of Hadleigh, Cartoons when we were shown how to draw a cartoon character, 'A small World' all about the history of dolls houses. We have sponsored the horse Rocky at the Shelly Centre for many years, he has now retired and we now sponsor Tilly who we are going to meet in the summer.

Members are grateful to the 'Grays Trust for their donation which helps to keep the club running.

Rachel Wells

3 April 2017

Village Produce Association

In 2016 the marquees were let out 20 times bringing in an income of £2,060. We had a relaxing day out in June to Abbots Ripton Garden Show in Cambridgeshire and held the Flower Show in September. The committee are grateful to have been given a donation of £100 towards expenses at this year's show. The schedules have been delivered, extra ones are available. This year a visit is planned to Waddesdon Manor and gardens on 2 July and the Flower Show is on 10 September.

Rachel Wells

3 April 2017

KERSEY VILLAGE HALL

Kersey Village Hall has had a successful year yet again. The School and Friends of the School continue to use the Hall on a frequent basis, which brings in a much welcome guaranteed income. There are several groups who also hire the Hall, namely Yoga, Table Tennis and Tuesday Club for example and we have many private lettings for parties and celebrations and workshops.

During this last year, The Committee has endeavored to keep the Hall in good order and improve the fabric of the building. A new window was installed in the Committee Room, and new overhead heaters were sourced and installed in the main Hall.

The Autumn Buffet, which is the only fund raising event of the Village Hall Committee, was a great success, bringing in a profit of £897.40, the largest amount for several years.

The name of this event was changed from Cheese and Wine to Autumn Buffet a few years ago to reflect the change of the times and expectations of the attendees. For example, the Buffet is now moving away from carb laden foods, to healthy choices, and a quiz has been introduced which has been a resounding success, with a small prize at the end for the winners. Also beers have been included, along with the wine and soft drinks, which has gone down well, especially with the males attending.

The Kersey Village Hall Committee work tirelessly to maintain the excellent condition of the Hall, and they must be commended for doing such a splendid job.

Veronica Partridge

Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2017

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
Affordable Housing	<p>PP 2008. Wish for carefully planned expansion identified (18 households stated that someone would want affordable in the next 5 years)</p> <p>R2014. As 2008</p>	Monitor need for affordable housing and carry out further survey as necessary	Parish Council	Medium	<p><u>October 2011</u> Scheme abandoned as no residents attended the information event to express an interest in affordable homes in Kersey.</p> <p><u>October 2014</u> There may be a need for affordable housing but PC still not aware of any current need from residents in Kersey.</p> <p><u>November 2015</u> Parish Council to investigate idea of creating a Neighbourhood Plan for Kersey.</p> <p><u>December 2015</u> 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>
Market Housing	<p>PP 2008. Wish for carefully planned expansion</p> <p>R2014. 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><u>November 2015</u> Parish Council to investigate idea of creating a Neighbourhood Plan for Kersey.</p> <p><u>January 2017</u> 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>

Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2017

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
Planning and Development	<p>R 2014. Improve the knowledge of residents about the planning system, powers of the Parish Council and the responsibilities of property owners.</p>	<p>Produce information for residents about the planning process, conservation areas and listed buildings</p>	<p>Parish Council and Babergh DC</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p><u>March 2017</u> 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>PP 2008. 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>R2014. Clubs and groups enjoyed by members of the 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</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 get involved in running clubs and societies.</p>	<p>Community members and Parish Council</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p><u>October 2014</u> 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><u>September 2016</u> A drop in event was held to showcase all the village organisations to the whole community.</p> <p><u>December 2016</u> 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.</p>

Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2017

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
Voluntary and Community Activity	<p>PP 2008. Desire for a Good Neighbour Scheme and a Volunteer Driving Scheme</p> <p>R2014. Support is offered on an informal basis. The community may support a formal scheme in future if the need arises</p>	Monitor possible future desire for schemes	Community members, Church and Parish Council	Low	<p><u>April 2011</u> 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.</p>
Public Transport	<p>PP 2008. 80 people would use public transport</p> <p>R 2014. There is still a need for some public transport from and to Kersey</p>	Monitor provision	Parish Council and public transport users	Low	<p><u>March 2017</u> 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 on a return trip to Sudbury.</p>
Traffic Management	<p>PP 2008 Wish for 20mph speed limit in Kersey village and 30 mph speed limit in the rest of the parish</p> <p>R 2014. There are still concerns about the speed vehicles travel through centre of the village</p>	Monitor and investigate 20 mph limit for the centre of the village	Parish Council and SCC highways	High	<p><u>November 2015</u> Parish consultation in Sept 15 showed residents wished for 20 mph limit in existing 30 mph area in centre of village.</p> <p><u>January 2016</u> Parish Council met with SCC highways to discuss road safety and 20 mph limits. SCC agreed to carry out speed monitoring.</p> <p><u>May 2016</u> 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>

Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2017

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
Parking	<p>PP 2008. Concern about too many cars parked in the centre of the village and inconsiderate parking.</p> <p>R 2014. 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><u>November 2015</u> 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><u>May 2016</u> 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>
Road Safety	<p>R 2014. To improve the footpath links between Vale Lane and the centre of the village</p>	Progress Jubilee Steps and Vale Lane Footpath Link Project	Parish Council and SCC Rights of Way	High	<p><u>January 2014</u> Stage 1 Jubilee Steps –proposal put to SCC Stage 2 Vale Lane Footpath Link – arrange to meet with landowner to discuss options</p> <p><u>November 2015</u> 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><u>May 2016</u> 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>

Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2017

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
Natural Environment	<p>PP 2008. Requirement for Dog litter bins</p> <p>R 2014. Dog fouling still a problem</p>	<p>Monitor and publicise the issue.</p> <p>Put note in newsletter reminding owners of their responsibilities. Investigate need for more dog bins.</p>	Footpath Working Group and Parish Council	Low	<p>Dog litter bin installed in Kedges Lane in 2009</p> <p><u>March 2012 update</u> 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><u>April 2016</u> Note put in newsletter reminding owners to clear up after their dogs and to keep dogs under control or on a lead.</p> <p><u>March 2017</u> Dog fouling still a problem in some parts of the village, particularly Bell Fields footpath near the allotments. Noted at PC meeting & newsletter.</p> <p><u>April 2017</u> New signs to be put up and another note in the newsletter.</p>
Natural Environment	<p>PP 2008. An appetite for working groups to tidy village.</p> <p>R 2014. As 2008</p>	<p>Invite residents to take on areas they would like to keep tidy throughout the year.</p> <p>Encourage residents to join the Footpath Working Group to help keep paths walkable.</p>	Parish Council, Footpath Working Group and community members	Medium	<p><u>January 2014</u> 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><u>March 2017</u> Appeal in newsletter for more Footpath Working Group volunteers.</p>

Kersey Parish Action Plan for 2015 to 2020 – showing progress to April 2017

Category	Issue identified in 2008 Parish Plan Or during 2014 Review	Action 2015 to 2020	Lead organisation and partners	Priority	Progress
Access to Information	<p>PP 2008. Creation of Website</p> <p>R 2014. 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. www.kersey.suffolk.gov.uk</p> <p>March 2017 Website promoted in the newsletter and updated regularly.</p>
Access to Information	<p>R 2014. Improve Broadband speed and provision in the parish</p>	To continue to highlight the issue with SCC	Parish Council and SCC Councillor	High	<p>March 2014 BB speeds variable but very slow in some areas. No fibre technology available in Kersey yet which would enable high speed BB.</p> <p>January 2017 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.</p> <p>ACTION POINT COMPLETED no further action.</p>
Access to Information	<p>R 2014. Improve mobile phone reception in the parish</p>	To investigate ways to boost the signals	Parish Council and SCC Councillor	High	<p>March 2014 Some areas, particularly near the Splash have very poor mobile reception.</p>
Local Democracy	<p>PP 2008. Keeping the Parish Plan alive in the community</p> <p>R 2014. As 2008</p>	Monitor	Parish Council	High	

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Local Democracy	<p>R 2014. Vacancies for Parish Councillors.</p> <p>Low public attendance at Parish Council meetings.</p>	Encourage residents to engage with the Parish Council and review 'Parish Time' engagement at meetings.	Parish Council	Medium	<p><u>June 2015</u> Both vacancies for Parish Councillors now filled</p> <p><u>April 2016</u> 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.</p> <p><u>March 2017</u> A small number of residents regularly attend Council meetings. Their attendance and relevant contributions are appreciated by the Parish Council.</p>