

KERSEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Kersey Parish Council Aims and Strategic Plan

Kersey Parish Council is committed to working together with the residents of Kersey for the benefit of the whole parish and aims to be as accessible as possible. The Kersey website provides access to all Parish Council policies, procedures and information to inform and support residents.

Kersey Parish Council aims to:

- act in the best interests of all residents in the whole parish
- make Kersey a great place in which to live, work and visit
- provide a safe, secure and modern environment
- preserve Kersey's unique heritage
- have a well-run, financially secure and involving Parish Council
- represent local views to the next levels of government at Babergh District Council, Suffolk County Council and Westminster

All parishioners of Kersey are encouraged to raise matters of concern and proposals with the Parish Council and are welcomed to attend meetings. The Parish Council is an elected body which reflects local views and functions as the first tier of government for the parish of Kersey. It is embedded in the community with a broad responsibility for the well-being of the local neighbourhood.

The work of the Parish Council includes:

- representing the local community
- improving local quality of life
- delivering services to meet local needs
- managing a budget to support their work

The Parish Council regularly consults residents. The Parish Council is currently working on a People and Place Plan, also known as a Neighbourhood Priorities Statement, which will provide a collective voice to record what is important now and in the future for Kersey Residents. An action plan is being created as part of this plan which will guide the work of the Parish Council over the next few years. The Kersey People and Place Plan will be shared with residents and with Babergh District Council who will have a legal duty to have regard to the approved People and Place Plan when making decisions affecting Kersey.

The Parish Council initiates and supports, with the help of volunteers, a variety of projects in Kersey to improve the quality of life for residents. Projects include the installation of defibrillators, managing the playground, the footpath network and keeping Kersey litter free. The Parish Council can also influence other bodies and tiers of local government, including through planning recommendations, raising matters of local concern and partnership working.

The residents of Kersey, through the 'precept' fund the Parish Council. The precept is the local tax levied by the Parish Council that Babergh District Council collects on our behalf as part of the Council Tax bill. The Parish Council sets a budget in November each year and carefully monitors expenditure during the year, financial statements form part of meeting minutes and are published on the Kersey website.

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