

# Welcome!

**We are seeking your views on the People and Place Plan surveys carried out in the spring, now that the results have been analysed.**

## About this exhibition:

- Around the Hall we have placed various boards with topics that have arisen from the survey – those things that most people mentioned.

## Community Groups:

- Kersey has a rich diversity of Community Groups. Many are here today, so please chat to them to find out more.

## How you can help shape the Plan:

- Do you agree with what you see?
- Is anything missing?
- Have a look at the questions on the right panel on each board, add your comments or other feedback, using the post-it notes.
- Your views will then be incorporated into the draft People & Place Plan.

## Timeline:

- The final draft Plan will be out for consultation later this year.
- The intention is to approve the Plan in the spring, so it can be shared with Babergh before the mayoral elections in May 2026.



# Our Aims for this Kersey People and Place Plan

A living, working, caring community that cherishes its past, embraces thoughtful change and flourishes together.

## Aims:

- The Kersey People and Place Plan (PP&P), also known as a Neighbourhood Priorities Statement, will give residents a collective voice to record priorities for the future.
- Developed through public consultation, it will set out community wishes on issues such as design and character, transport, road safety, sustainability, biodiversity, recreation, and social infrastructure.
- Although not a statutory planning document, Babergh District Council must have regard to the approved Plan, its evidence, and supporting data when making decisions.
- This evidence base, which the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act requires all Councils to have regard to, will ensure there are community-led, better-informed decisions and outcomes for Kersey.

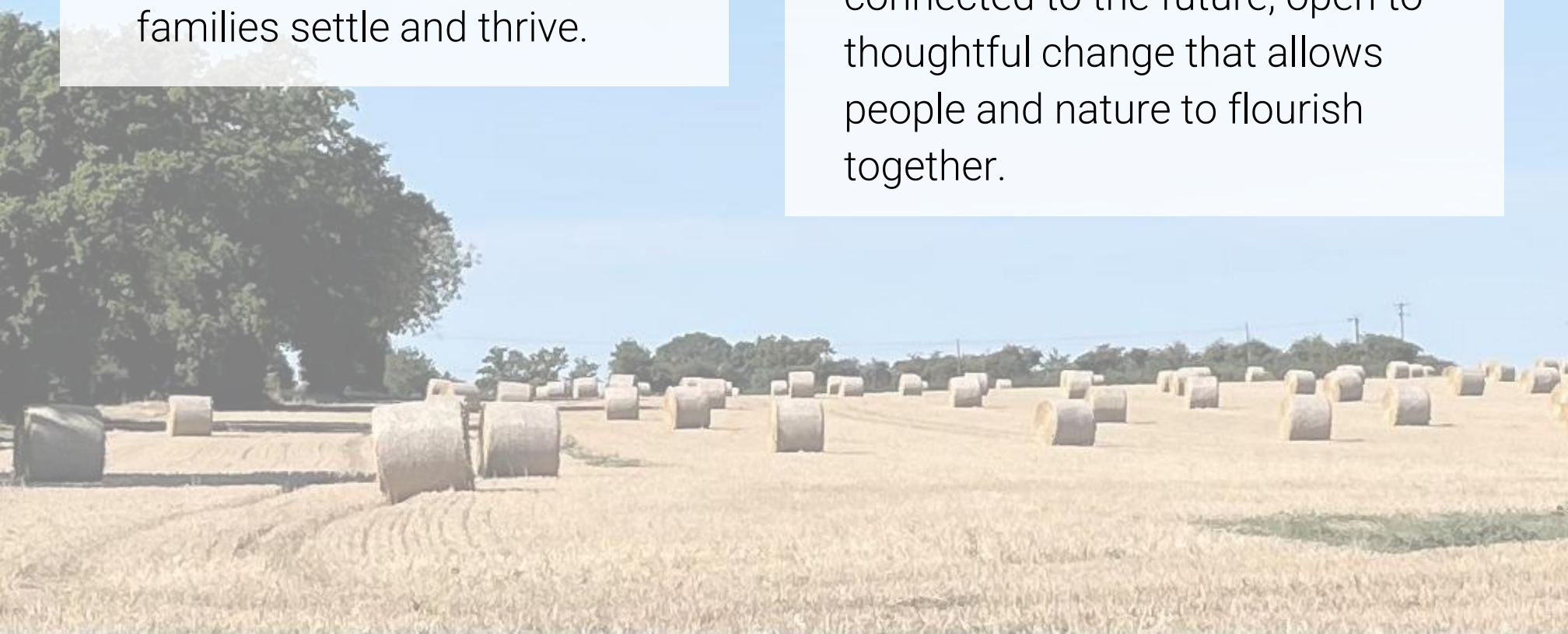
**Thank you for attending  
and helping to plan for  
Kersey's future.**



# Our shared Vision for Kersey's future by 2040:

## Kersey Vision 2040:

- In 2040, Kersey is a thriving rural parish that cherishes its heritage, unique character and beautiful setting while embracing gentle, sustainable change. Our church, school, pub, and community organisations continue to be the heart of village life.
- Small, thoughtful improvements in housing and services alongside sustainable housing growth, shaped by local needs, have helped local people stay and younger families settle and thrive.
- Modern facilities, reliable transport, and digital connectivity support daily life, while safe walking and cycling routes link the parish with its surroundings. Nature is cared for and enhanced, with renewable energy and greener choices reducing environmental impact.
- Community life flourishes across generations through shared spaces and strong volunteer spirit.
- Above all, Kersey in 2040 continues to be a welcoming, peaceful, and beautiful parish - a living, working community rooted in its heritage, connected to the future, open to thoughtful change that allows people and nature to flourish together.



# Plan for sustainable, local housing

## Goal:

To provide affordable housing options for younger families and locals.

## Actions:

- Support small-scale housing development in line with community feedback (e.g. outside the historic core).
- Advocate for affordable small family homes and better-quality rural housing for local people.
- Encourage use of existing buildings and holiday lets as permanent homes.

## What type of housing is needed?

- Starter homes to buy?
- Rental homes / social housing?
- Small family homes?
- Downsizing opportunities?
- Mixed developments including some executive homes?
- On the assumption we may need to add 40 houses in the next 16 years, where in the parish would you prefer new developments?



# Improve transport and infrastructure

## Goal:

Reduce car dependency, make travel safer and improve connectivity.

## Actions:

- Work with Suffolk County Council for improved bus links to Hadleigh, Sudbury and Ipswich.
- Lobby for creation of a safe walking/cycle path to Hadleigh, particularly along Stone Street.
- Continue highlighting concerns regarding road safety and reporting road maintenance issues and potholes to Suffolk County Council.
- Continue support for footpath maintenance and encourage more volunteers to join the working group.
- Lobby for improved mobile phone and broadband connectivity across the parish.
- The Parish Council supports the maintenance of underlying infrastructure. Relying on many residents volunteering to keep footpaths clear, playground equipment safe, reporting hazards and trying to keeping Kersey litter free.

## Transport:

- Did you know you can dial up and order a community bus to Hadleigh (for example)?
- How often would you use a bus service if it ran daily to Hadleigh? (5 times per week)
- What are key travel times for you?

## Connectivity:

- The PC is already lobbying OFCOM on mobile service coverage.
- Given we are spread out as a community, would you be willing to pay an additional charge to improve coverage?
- If yes, how much per month?

## Maintenance of infrastructure:

- Are you happy with current levels of infrastructure maintenance?
- If not, would you be willing to join one of the volunteer groups? or support an increase in council tax?



## Develop local amenities and services

### Goal:

Improve access to daily needs within the parish.

### Actions:

- Investigate the feasibility for a community shop or hub (perhaps part-time or shared with another service). This would significantly improve convenience and reduce car trips.
- Work with The Bell to ensure it remains welcoming to locals.
- Assess options for more off-street parking.
- Promote awareness and support of the village hall and activities held in the hall.

### Community shop:

- Where could a shop be located?
- Would you use it ?
- How often?
- If it were a community shop, would you be prepared to help staff and run it?





# Biodiversity, the environment and reducing carbon footprint

## Goal:

Protect nature and make it easier for people to live more sustainably.

## Actions:

- Form a community sustainability group to:
  - Encourage more nature friendly gardening, wildflower planting, bee/bird boxes.
  - Support better hedge and ditch care.
  - Host sustainability events: heat loss surveys, EV/solar info evenings, community composting.
  - Publicise grants for home energy efficiency, insulation, EVs.
  - Create a car share group and promote cycling/walking.
- Encourage more volunteers to join the KVG which aims to make Kersey a cleaner, safer, more attractive and pleasant place to live and visit.
- Balance heritage with sustainability: work with Babergh to provide planning flexibility and simplicity to enable adoption of green technologies in historic buildings such as solar panels, heat pumps, double glazing, and insulation.

## Balance heritage with sustainability:

- Any changes to current planning rules you would like to see?
- Any environmental improvements you would like to see in the parish to improve natural diversity?
- Would you be interested in setting up or joining a sustainability group for Kersey?
- Would you be interested in attending sustainability events to learn more?
- Would you like a community team to carry out thermal imaging of your home to identify heat losses? (If yes, please leave your contact details.)



# Strengthen community and social life

## Goal:

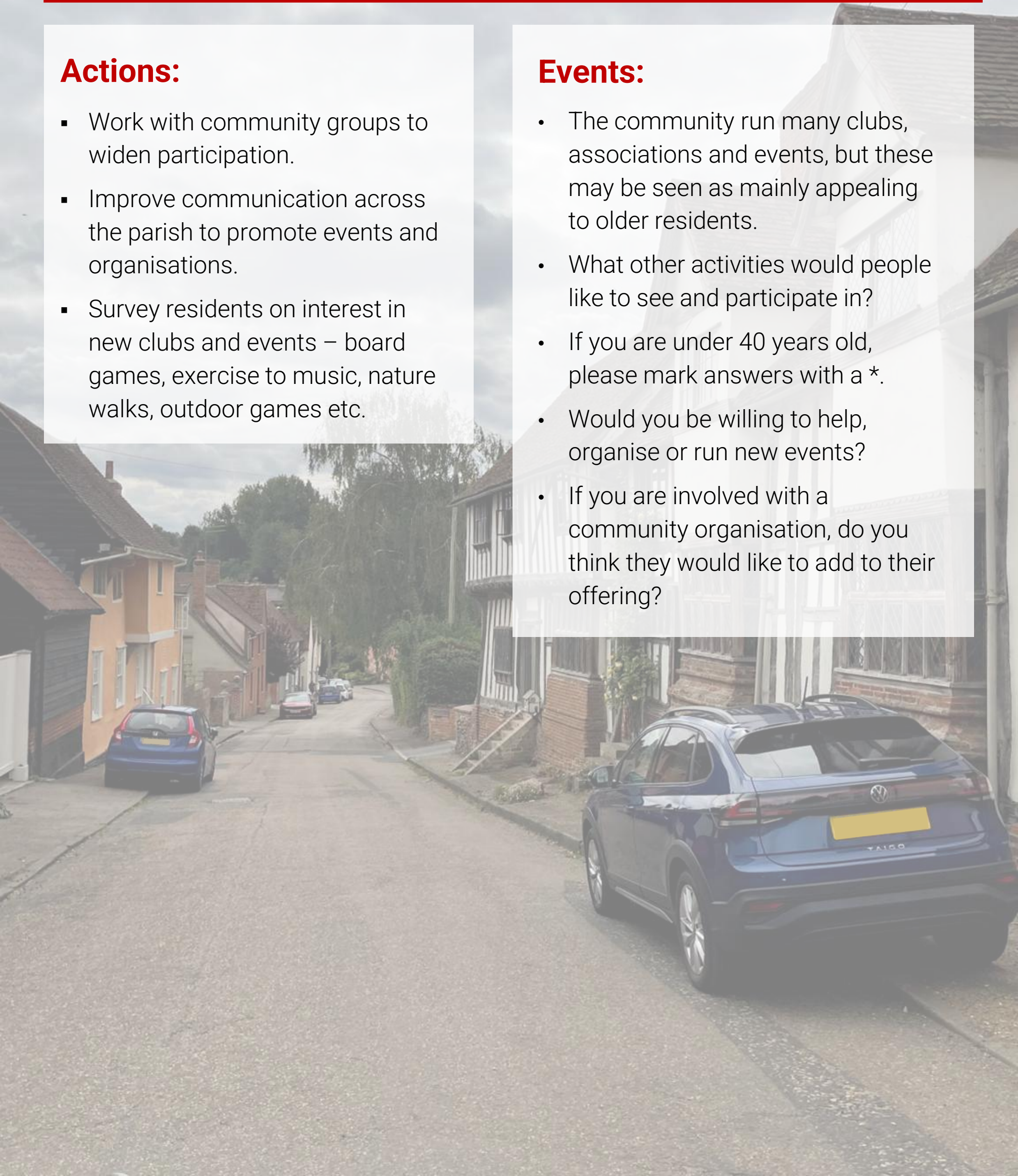
Encourage engagement, inclusivity, and intergenerational connection.

## Actions:

- Work with community groups to widen participation.
- Improve communication across the parish to promote events and organisations.
- Survey residents on interest in new clubs and events – board games, exercise to music, nature walks, outdoor games etc.

## Events:

- The community run many clubs, associations and events, but these may be seen as mainly appealing to older residents.
- What other activities would people like to see and participate in?
- If you are under 40 years old, please mark answers with a \*.
- Would you be willing to help, organise or run new events?
- If you are involved with a community organisation, do you think they would like to add to their offering?





# Support community volunteering

## Goal:

Maintain and grow the strong community spirit.

## Actions:

- Contact the 10 residents who offered their help in the survey.
- Share "volunteer spotlights" in the newsletter to raise awareness and appreciation.
- Encourage more volunteering to strengthen community facilities and groups and to increase inclusivity.
- Those who volunteer gain as much as those who attend community groups and events through more social contact.
- Encourage younger residents to volunteer and get involved with community events.
- Create local WhatsApp groups for the main population clusters.

## Community connections:

- The Parish Council has recently encouraged the creation of local WhatsApp groups for the main population clusters across Kersey.
- Community organisation spotlights are already published in the newsletter – do you enjoy reading these?
- Would you be interested in writing volunteer spotlights for the newsletter?
- Would you be interested in helping to produce the newsletter?
- How do you think volunteering can be encouraged across all age groups for the many community organisations in Kersey?
- What more do we need to do and how?



# Summary

## Our People and Place Plan

Preserving Heritage,  
Enhancing Community, and  
Shaping a Sustainable Future.

### Protecting Kersey's identity:

- Kersey is a village rooted in heritage and natural beauty, with a strong sense of community.
- Our vision is to preserve this character while embracing thoughtful progress.
- We aim to protect our historic buildings, landscapes, and community, ensuring that future generations can enjoy the same charm and tranquillity that define our parish today.

### Planning wisely for the future:

- We want Kersey to be a place where people of all ages feel welcome, connected, and empowered to shape the future of their village.
- Looking ahead, we will focus on responsible development, better connectivity, and continuing to develop community groups.

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