

**MINUTES OF KERSEY PARISH COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 1 AUGUST 2016 IN KERSEY VILLAGE HALL
AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT

John Hume – Chair, Veronica Partridge, John Maltby, Ian Fidell, 7 members of the public and the Clerk – Sarah Partridge

117/16 APOLOGIES were received and accepted from Yvonne Martin, Iqbal Alam and Giles Hollingworth

118/16 ACCEPT MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Ian Fidell declared an interest in agenda item 5b the planning applications for Green Gables, The Green B/16/00958 and B/16/00959 because he is a neighbour.

119/16 CONSIDER ANY DISPENSATION REQUESTS FOR PECUNIARY INTERESTS RECEIVED FROM COUNCILLORS – None received

120/16 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meetings held on 11 July 2016 and 12 July 2016 were both signed and dated as being correct.

121/16 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

B/16/00545 Bridges Farm, The Tye – Notification under Part 6 of Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 – Erection of agricultural building for cattle. Babergh has granted permission for this development.

B/16/00833 Agricultural building adjacent Red House Farm, Wickerstreet Green, Kersey – Conversion and alterations to agricultural building to form 1 dwelling. Councillors looked at all the documentation. *The Chair opened the meeting to the public* – there were no comments. *The meeting was reconvened*. Councillors discussed the proposal. There were concerns the proposal was rather ugly and not in keeping with the local vernacular. Councillors were sympathetic to the need to convert this redundant building into a domestic dwelling and recognise that this proposal meets the need for additional housing and complies with section 55 of the NPPF on a brown field site. However, it was felt that it was a lost opportunity not to have designed a better looking home with sustainable, energy efficient features. There is nothing in the planning application documentation to take this into account. Concerns about the effect on dormice were also noted. It was agreed to support the proposal subject to these concerns.

B/16/00958 and B/16/00959 Green Gables, The Green – Erection of single storey extension and raising height of roof and listed building consent for re-rendering of rear elevation, repairs to timber frame, internal alterations, reinstatement of internal arch braces, removal of kitchen ceiling, insertion of roof lights to kitchen roof and recovering kitchen roof in clay peg tiles in place of pantiles, replacing window to ground floor side, south, elevation. Alterations to outbuilding, extension and raising roof plate height.

Ian Fidell declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest because he is a neighbour and left the meeting room. Councillors, who had carried out a site visit earlier, looked at the documentation. *The Chair opened the meeting to the public* – the applicant said that this proposal was to remove the modern day materials and reinstate with traditional more appropriate materials which would allow the building to breathe again. Members of the public present fully supported the restoration of this listed building. *The meeting was reconvened*. Councillors discussed the proposal. Councillors were impressed with the proposals for restoration of this property rather than renovation. The proposals are very sympathetic to the historic fabric of the building. It was agreed to fully support the proposals.

Ian Fidell re-joined the meeting.

B/16/00940 Land adjacent to Woodbine Cottage, Church Hill – to fell a group of poplar trees. Councillors looked at the documentation. *The Chair opened the meeting to the public* – It was commented that the application should be supported; some trees had fallen into the gardens of adjacent properties. The trees have grown so much that they now obscure some lovely views as you enter the village across the roof tops and views of the church from the village. *The meeting was reconvened.* Councillors discussed the proposals. In the application documents there was a letter of support from the residents of Woodbine Cottage who state that the trees are completely shading their property. It was agreed to support the felling of these trees.

122/16 TO DISCUSS THE PROJECT TO INSTALL A DEFIBRILLATOR IN KERSEY

Yvonne Martin, Giles Hollingworth, Wendy, the landlady at The Bell and the Clerk, Sarah Partridge met Martin Render of the Community Heartbeat Trust on 26 July 2016 to discuss the defibrillator project for Kersey. A Community Public Access Defibrillator cPAD would be a real asset to Kersey; they have helped to save lives in other rural communities. They are very simple to operate and the equipment takes you through the whole process. You cannot do any harm because the defibrillator monitors the patient and will only shock if necessary to restart the heart. Martin answered many questions raised at the Parish Council meeting on 11 July.

Location - It was agreed by those at the meeting that the best location would be on the wall in the smoker's shelter at the back of The Bell. The Clerk had been in contact with The East Anglian Ambulance Service who stated that if a defibrillator was located in Kersey anyone contacting them in an emergency needing a defibrillator would be told the location of the defibrillator if they were within 0.5 mile of the unit. Therefore, if the defibrillator was located at The Bell this would cover all of central Kersey and Vale Lane. However, as a community we can let the whole parish know the location of the defibrillator and anyone could come and take the unit to a patient regardless of distance.

Unlocked or locked cabinet - It was agreed that it would be best to have an unlocked cabinet as this would give the fastest unrestricted access.

What additional extras such as a telephone are required? -There are no additional extras we are required to have.

CHT provide free signs to put up in the village giving the location of the defibrillator.

We may need to fit a light above the unit so that it is always easy to find, even at night.

We could decide to set up a Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS).

CHT now provides a service to help villages install and run a Village Emergency Telephone System, or VETS. A third of all 999 calls are from lone rescuers, so getting help to them quickly is important. VETS is a community run system, and enables up to 10 neighbours to assist pending the arrival of the emergency services. VETS uses a simple memorable number unique for the village. The system can also be used for any emergency where additional help is required from neighbours, whether Cardiac Arrest or not. It could be linked to the Emergency Plan the Parish Council is working on for Kersey. It gives a level of reassurance to the elderly, those living alone, and to the infirmed, that there is always help on hand. There is an initial set up cost of £45 and then the service costs £100 per year but is free for the first year. Councillors thought this sounded an excellent idea, it was agreed to add this to the agenda for the next meeting to discuss further.

Should we have a managed solution from CHT? - costs £126 per year.

A CHT Managed Solution offers a cost effective method of implementing a quality community defibrillator project that addresses the many potential liabilities. The advantages of this approach are that CHT:

- becomes the 'owner' in law, and therefore accept the main liabilities
- has Public Liability insurances

- takes control of policies and procedures, and the site becomes ‘Accredited’
 - has theft and damage insurances
 - will make sure that if the equipment is out of service for any reason, replacement equipment is provided for the community
 - covers the cost of any replacement parts – pads and battery
 - provides a counselling service as part of ‘duty of care’
 - has the contract with the local ambulance service
 - arranges any hosting and other agreements with the hosting site
 - arranges an annual ‘health check’ on your equipment – defibrillator and cabinet
- and the community gets the best equipment and solution currently available. The type of defibrillators CHT supply should last 10-12 years.

The Parish Council would pay for the unit and cabinet but CHT would retain ownership of the unit for a minimum of four years. At the end of the contract the Parish Council would become the owner of the equipment for a £1 fee but the contract can be extended at no cost. There will be an agreement so that if the CHT were to go out of business the equipment would automatically become the property of the Parish Council.

The Commitments for the Parish Council -The defibrillator would need checking every week to ensure it is working and ready for use and this is then reported via the CHT website so the Ambulance service know it is ready for use.

Community commitments - The CHT will come to Kersey to give a free training session. This event will be promoted to everyone in the community so they are all familiar with the unit and would be prepared if needed.

Total costs for the defibrillator

Initial costs:	Defibrillator and cabinet £1650 Installation by a qualified electrician approx. £200
Annual costs:	CHT managed solution annual membership £126 Electricity running costs £5 to £30 depending on location and climate
Optional extra:	Village Emergency Telephone system £45 set up cost and then £100 per year (free for the first year)

Funding was discussed. Jenny Antill has kindly offered £1,000 from her locality budget. There is £771.56 which was set aside for the Jubilee Steps project and was now agreed should be used for this project. The Chairman has received two offers from residents to match donations up to £100 to go towards this project. This means the total amount needed has virtually been secured. Members of the public present fully supported this project. It was agreed to confirm details with Wendy at The Bell and then place an order with CHT for the defibrillator and cabinet with the managed solution.

123/16 TO DISCUSS HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS INCLUDING VERGE CUTTING IN THE PARISH

Councillors discussed highway maintenance and verge cutting. Councillors are very disappointed with the verge cutting service carried out by Suffolk County Council this year. None of it has been done on time according to the published schedule; areas in some parts of Kersey and the rest of the county still remain uncut. Some of the verges which have been cut have been poorly done and not to the standard of previous years or as expected. Councillors were aware that the wet conditions in June and the excessive growth had made cutting more difficult but it was still felt the level of service this year is not acceptable. Some landowners in Kersey have taken it upon themselves to cut verges for the sake of highway safety. Also some road signs around the county are obscured by vegetation. The public present fully supported this view. It was agreed to write to the highways officer with a copy sent to James Finch the portfolio holder for highways at Suffolk County Council and our County Councillor Jenny Antill.

The Clerk had recently reported several potholes which the County have confirmed will be repaired in the next four weeks.

124/16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Fast fibre optic broadband connections are now available to some Kersey properties on the Hadleigh exchange and some properties on the Boxford exchange. Residents need to contact their service provider to find out whether they can upgrade their service should they wish.

The meeting was adjourned for ‘Parish Time’

It was commented that the hedge outside Church Cottage was overgrown. The Clerk will contact the landlord.

It was commented that there have been a couple of thefts from outbuildings in Kersey recently and the church alarm has also been activated. Residents were warned to be vigilant. It was asked how this sort of information could be relayed to residents to make them aware of the problem and to remind them to be vigilant. Giles Hollingworth, the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator would be asked what information he receives. It was commented that some crime information updates are available via the Suffolk Police ‘Police Connect’ service. Information is available on the Suffolk police website or via a link from the Kersey website.

The meeting was reconvened.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.34pm.

There are no items appended to these minutes.