

Minutes of Kersey Parish Council extraordinary meeting held on Monday 31 July 2023 at Kersey Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: John Hume (Chair), Liz Bostock, David Butcher, Penny Calnan, Andrew Rogers and Richard Walker

In attendance: Sarah Partridge (Clerk) and one member of the public for part of the meeting.

111/23 Apologies – Apologies were received and approved for Esme Chapman. Apologies were received from Rachel Wells.

112/23 Accept Members' Declarations of Interest and any Dispensation requests for Pecuniary Interests – None

113/23 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2023 were confirmed as being correct and signed.

114/23 Public forum and reports

a. **Parish Time – Parishioners' opportunity to raise matters and ask questions** - None

115/23 Planning applications

a) Progress

DC/23/02978 The Bell Inn, The Street, Kersey, Ipswich Suffolk IP7 6DY

Proposal: Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Fell 1 No. Group of Conifer (G1)

Application withdrawn by applicant.

DC/23/01681 Land To The Rear Of 1 - 6, The Street, Kersey, Suffolk

Proposal: Discharge of Conditions Application for B/15/01196 - Condition 3: (Archaeology), Condition 4: (Construction Management), Condition 5: (Landscaping), Condition 6: (Highways), Condition 7: (Noise Mitigation), Condition 8: (Energy Efficiency), Condition 9: (Levels)

14 July Babergh discharged conditions as listed above, except Condition 7: (Noise Mitigation) which has had a non-material amendment approved allowing development to slab level before being satisfied.

DC/23/02488 River House, The Street, Kersey, Ipswich Suffolk IP7 6DY

Proposal: Listed Building Consent - Rebuild central chimney stack.

Babergh granted listed building consent on 27 July 23

b) Planning applications to consider

DC/23/03256 Agricultural Building South Of Water Lane Cottage, Water Lane, Kersey, IP7 6EJ

Proposal: Application to determine if Prior Approval is required for a proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings to Dwellinghouses (C3) and for building operations reasonably necessary for conversion. Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development)(England) Order 2015 as amended Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q - Change of use to a two bedroom dwelling

The applicant was present and outlined their plans to convert this former agricultural building into a dwelling.

A local neighbour had informed the Parish Council they had no objections to this conversion.

Councillors considered the application. It was resolved by a majority decision to support the conversion from agricultural building to dwelling house under the class Q general permitted development order. If Babergh decides to approve this application the Parish Council would like to request a condition be imposed to ensure that the dwelling is used as a permanent home and not used as a holiday let.

One member of the public left the meeting.

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116/23 Any other business – Councillors’ opportunity to bring matters to the Council’s attention

The Parish Council had been asked to provide supporting information to a highways document for a proposed 40 mph speed limit on the A1141 from Hadleigh to the B1115 junction to Lavenham. Any comments must be submitted before the next Parish Council meeting. At a previous meeting the Council agreed it supported a 40mph speed limit on this road together with a 30mph limit for the Stone Street section. The Council has long had concerns about the speed of traffic on this section of road and has worked with multiple County Councillors over the years to find ways to improve road safety. This is a dangerous section of road with several junctions where visibility is poor, blind bends and hills. There are several homes and businesses, including Kersey Mill with many commercial units which have access directly onto the highway. The road is used by cyclists for transport and leisure. There is no footway and there are public footpaths which start/end at the A1141. The South Suffolk A cycling route crosses the A1141 at the Kersey crossroads. The road is used by agricultural traffic. The accident data included in the report covers covid lockdown periods when there was far less traffic than usual. Near misses are not accounted for. The speed data did not show the top speeds of traffic but some of the accidents were due to excess speed. It was unanimously agreed that the introduction of a 40mph limit would greatly improve safety for all road users. Active travel needs to be encouraged, anything to make this section of road safer will help. The Clerk will submit supporting information.

Penny Calnan gave her apologies and left the meeting.

The poor state of the road surface in Kedges Lane has been marked for repair by highways. A Councillor had attended recent Babergh Community Infrastructure Levy briefings (CIL). The Clerk will circulate the briefing notes. A CIL funding bid should be considered if there are any projects in the community. A Councillor had attended a National Grid public consultation about the proposed Norwich to Tilbury pylons, maps and information was shared. The Parish Council had already agreed at the last meeting to submit a response objecting to the pylons. The Parish Council supports a co-ordinated sub-sea offshore electricity transmission network to transmit the renewable energy generated off the coast of East Anglia down to London and the South East where it is needed. The Chair thanked the Councillor for restoring and fitting the replacement historic street signs, they look great. Concerns were raised about the number of contractor vehicles parking near The Splash. It is hoped works at River House are coming to the end which will resolve this issue. Some refuse bins in Kersey were not collected, Babergh has been made aware. Two Councillors have not yet met with the landlords at The Bell to discuss the seating and lighting at the front of The Bell. Concern was raised about the lack of verge cutting in Kersey. The Clerk will raise this with our County Councillor.

The next scheduled Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 4 September 2023.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

There are no appended items.

Signed

Date