KERSEY PARISH NEWSLETTER May 2023





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CONTACT NUMBERS

Parochial Church Council –			
Vice Chairman: Lucy Oldham			
Church Warden: Rachel Wells			
Bellringers – Bell Captain: Neville Whittell			
Forgetmenots – Organiser: Veronica Partridge			
Tuesday Club – Rachel Wells			
Table Tennis Club – Adrian Blyth			
Parish Council –			
Chairman: John Hume			
Clerk to the Council: Sarah Partridge			
Footpaths – Chairman: Kevin Pratt			
Kersey Community Playground Committee – Jonathan Marsh 01473 822927			
Neighbourhood Watch – Vacant			
Village Hall –			
Chairman: Veronica Partridge			
Secretary and Bookings: Natalie Blyth nablyth1@gmail.com or 01473 827805			
Treasurer: Norah Orriss			
VPA (Village Produce Association) –			
Chairman: Peter Partridge			
Secretary: Rachel Wells			
The Lewis Mowles Trust Fund – Secretary: Rachel Wells 01473 822230			
Grays Trust –			
Chairman: Peter Martin 01473 828361			
Secretary: Philippa Harris 01473 827079			
Nightingale Trust/Allotments – Info: Natalie Blyth 01473 827805			
School – Joint Headteachers: Jess Damant and Claire Dunnell Paley 01473 823397			
Kersey Playingfield Assoc. (Glebe) – Mark Pertwee 01473 810227			
Kersey Community Website www.kersey.suffolk.cloud			
Hadleigh Health Practice			
West Suffolk Hospital (Bury St Edmunds)			
Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust01473 712233			

Please let us know of any changes.

Defibrillators – There are two AEDs located within the parish at **The Bell Inn, Kersey IP7 6DY** and **Kersey Mill IP7 6DP**.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Warden:

Mrs Rachel Wells 01473 822230. and vacant position.

Weddings: For all enquiries regarding weddings at St. Mary's Church please contact adrianwaller@mac.com or phone 01473 652561.

CHURCH CLEANING

Week beginning: 8th May – Marvin Kuzamba and Esme Chapman.

22nd May
Sue Jones and Lynn English.
Neil and Joan Hutton.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

St Mary's PCC held its APCM at the beginning of April. We were delighted to welcome villagers to the meeting with a glass of wine.

Rachel Wells was elected as Church Warden. There remains a vacancy for a second Church Warden – if you are interested please contact Rachel or Linda.

A report on the activities of the PCC was received by the meeting. The PCC expressed their gratitude to the many teams of volunteers for everything they do to keep St Mary's a welcoming and well-loved building open to the public; clock winders, flower arrangers, cleaning team, lock up team, bell ringers, and Ian Hattrick for playing the organ at our services. FoSM were thanked for all the wonderful events they organise to raise additional funds for the enhancement of the church.

The Treasurer presented the year end accounts. Our income is now showing an annual shortfall against our annual running expenses so the PCC need to consider ways to increase regular income.

The Electoral roll stands at 36. The inventory and terrier and regular repairs and maintenance to the building are up to date. Repairs identified in the 2019 Quinquennial report are completed except the repairs to soakaways which will be done during this year. The next report is due 2024.

The PCC comprises: Rachel Wells (Church warden), Lucy Oldham (Vice Chair), Colin Grannell (Treasurer), Jenny Partridge, Linda Newbigging (Secretary), Nick Judd, Frances Whymark, Holly Crompton Battersby (coopted)

At the time of going to press, a candidate for the role of Incumbent was interviewed – watch this space.

FLOWERS

Thank you to those who arranged the flowers for Easter. The church looked lovely with the spring flowers. The rota for the coming year is up on the notice board for anyone who is willing to arrange the altar flowers. **Rachel Wells**

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PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (cont.)

KERSEY SUMMER FAYRE SAT 17TH JUNE 10-4PM

Are you able to help with any of the following: Make cakes, prepare refreshments, serve refreshments, welcome people on the door, help to set up on Friday or clear up on Saturday, sell tombola tickets.

Additionally, I am planning to hold a BOTTLE TOMBOLA stall, so if you think you have a bottle of ANYTHING that we can put on the table please do let me know ie. perfume, washing up liquid, booze (obviously), olive oil – anything at all in a bottle or jar.

If you would like to be part of the team please contact:

Lindanewbigging@btinternet.com or 07905731431.

INVALIDS

Best wishes to those who are suffering or unwell at this time. Thank you to those who sent me cards and inquired after me following my recent knee operation. **Rachel Wells**

SYMPATHY

We send our deepest sympathy to Jill Bond on the passing of husband Terry. He was known by so many for his incredible bird paintings and his love of wildlife. He was an avid photographer and for lots of years he had judged the photo classes at our flower show. A hard act to follow. For some time he delivered the newsletters in his part of the village. He had been ill for many years but always seemed to be cheerful and joking. He will be greatly missed by Jill, his friends and neighbours.

Our sympathy also goes to Jenny Partridge and her family on the death of her father.

PARISH NEWS

FORGET ME NOTS

Dear Villagers and potential "Forget Me Nots" – We do not have regular meeting dates, but meet when we are all available, approximately every two weeks.

If you would like to join us, please phone me so I can reserve a place. If you need a lift, we can pick you up and return you. If you would like to have regular updates about our outings, please can you contact me with your email address or phone number and I will endeavour to make sure you will know our movements. All are welcome and we venture near and far for our meals, so there is something for all! I hope to hear from you soon.

Veronica Partridge, 01473 823188 veronica@kersey13.plus

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PARISH NEWS (cont.)

TUESDAY CLUB

As tradition goes, May is the month for our annual meal. On 2nd we are meeting at The Bell at 6.30pm. Competition is for "Something red, white and blue". **Rachel Wells.**

BELL RINGING AT KERSEY CHURCH

Hearing the church bells ring is a fantastic feature of Kersey life. Kersey is very short of ringers at the moment and more team members would be very welcome. To learn more about bell ringing or possibly joining the team, do go along to bell ringing practice night on Thursdays from 7.45pm to 9.30pm.

KERSEY OPEN GARDENS - WE WOULD LIKE YOUR HELP

We will be serving refreshments in the Village Hall between 11am-5pm on the day (Saturday 10 June) and would really appreciate donations of cake/s. We're more than happy to collect from all you wonderful cake bakers.

Also, if you'd be happy to help in the Village Hall on the day, please let us know. Contact as always is: kersey.projects@gmail.com. Thank you all.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S

Tickets are now on sale for the Kelvedon Singers concert on Sunday 2nd July. Doors open at 6pm for the concert at 6.30pm. Ticket price is £18 or £15 for FoSM members and includes a glass of wine. There will be a licensed bar during the interval. Tickets available at fosmkersey@gmail.com or phone 07721 625932.

TERANCE JAMES BOND 1946-2023

It is with deep felt sadness that I announce the passing of Terry, my husband, friend and mentor, on 21st April. We have lived in Wickerstreet Green for 46 years and the beautiful area gave Terry the opportunity to create the love of his life – a small wildlife sanctuary which has inspired many of his wonderful and acclaimed bird paintings.

I also wish to express my sincere gratitude to my neighbours for their care, support and "chauffering" over the last few years of Terry's long hard fought battle with cancer. Thank you everyone. **Jill**.

VPA OUTING

Names of those wanting to go to Hyde Hall on the 15th July are coming in slowly. If you would like to book a seat please let me know as soon as possible as we would like Kersey people to have the first opportunity. We will then advertise it at other gardening clubs. The cost of coach and entrance to gardens is £25 per person. RHS members only pay for coach which is £13. **Rachel Wells**.

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FARMING NOTES

Arable

April has been an interesting month on the arable front. The weather in March and until mid April left us badly behind with the field work. This didn't change until the week beginning Monday 17th April when some dry weather finally appeared and as this coinciding with Ryan's welcome return to work, was very convenient. With Jimmy helpfully fitting in on the days when Adam is at college we managed to catch up.

The sugar beet seedbeds were achieved with a minimum of cultivation and the beet were drilled into good seedbeds, albeit 3 weeks later than the optimum time. Further nitrogen was applied to the wheats and also as a pre-emergence treatment to the freshly drilled sugar beet. The latter were also treated with a pre-emergence herbicide – something we have not done for some years as the soil conditions have been too dry for this to be effective. This year with showers continually forecast, this spray will give us some flexibility with the critical post-emergence weed control, when good spraying days must coincide with cotyledon sized weeds, which is often very tricky. Also this week we managed to belatedly plough the game cover and the wild bird seed plots in readiness for the new season, so all in all its been a very productive week, and with a nice gentle shower of rain as I write on Sunday 23rd April things look to be well set up for another good year.

Livestock

A big thank you to all who came to support our farm family fun day on 2nd April and especially to all the helpers who made it a success. We had over 200 visitors and in all over £1400 was raised towards supporting the Church building. We had a lot of good reports and I hope everyone enjoyed the day.

As I write we have one cow left to calve and two sheep still to lamb, it looks like being a close race! Cattle numbers have now reached our annual high of 190 and will soon be

reducing as we start to sell finished animals through Colchester Market as well as sending groups of young breeding bulls off to Cogent's stud. The most recent batch of seven British Blue embryo transfer calves to arrive came in a flurry last weekend and we ended with five bull calves and two heifers, a very nice result especially as the majority of these calves are carrying the polled (hornless) gene which we and Cogent are pursuing. We are looking forward to taking on another member of staff soon – Tui the Border Collie puppy will be ready for collection in a few weeks. She will be trained up to gradually take over from Jess who is 10 years old, and a bit like some of us is slowing down and starting to show her age!



Written by Rob and Chris Partridge

Kersey Community Website

Remember to check **www.kersey.suffolk.cloud** regularly for latest news, information and updates.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Getting things into perspective

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar and the two glasses of wine!

One morning a professor of philosophy stood in front of his class and wordlessly began to fill a very large and empty mayonnaise jar with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was. The professor picked up a box of tiny pebbles and tipped them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. Allowing the pebbles to roll into the open areas between the golf balls before asking the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was. Next the professor poured a box of sand into the jar filling up all the remaining space and once more asked his class if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous "Yes". The professor then produced from under the table two glasses of wine and poured the entire content into the jar. The students laughed. "Now", said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognise that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the most important things – your family, your children, your health, your friends and your passions. In other words, all those things that if everything else was lost and if only they remained your life would still be full. The pebbles are other things that matter like your job, your house, your car, holidays etc. The sand is everything else, all the small stuff. Now if you put the sand into the jar first, there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls."

"The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are truly important to you. So pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness, play with your children, take care of your health, make time for your friends and go out to dinner with your partner because there will always be time to clean the house or fix the car. Set your priorities and take care of the golf balls first for they are the things that really matter. All the rest is just sand."

One of the students raised her hand and asked: "What does the wine represent?" The professor smiled: "I am glad you asked. I was also showing you that no matter how full your life may seem, there is always room for a couple of glasses of wine with a friend."

KERSEY PARISH NEWSLETTER

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES

_	7th May 11am	Celebration of the Coronation	DIY
	14th May 11am	Parish service	Rev Liz Law
2	21st May 6.30pm	Evening service with Holy Communion	Rev Adrian Waller
Ī	28th May 11am	No service in Kersey – at Aldham	
Ī	4th Jun 9am	Holy Communion	Rev Janice White

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 500 CLUB LOTTERY

Latest **500 Club** draw results:

MarchApril1st Prize –Sarah PartridgeNeil Hutton2nd Prize –Neil HuttonNick Hamblen3rd Prize –Mary PearceRay & Sue Attridge

Well done to all the winners and thanks to everyone who has already joined the club.

Details of the **500 Club** monthly lottery, plus all membership information can be accessed at: **www.kerseychurch.org/fosm**

Or for further details please contact either *Mark Rigby* on *07484 649235* or *Mark Pertwee* on *07919 166782* or email *fosmkersey@gmail.com*.

CHURCH FLOODLIGHTS

If you would like the church floodlit to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or in remembrance etc. the cost is £10 per night. Contact **Rachel Wells** 01473 822230.

To advertise in the Kersey Parish Newsletter please contact: **Colin Grannell at hawkcg@hotmail.com or 01473 829074**½ page – £6.00 per issue, ½ page – £11.00 per issue

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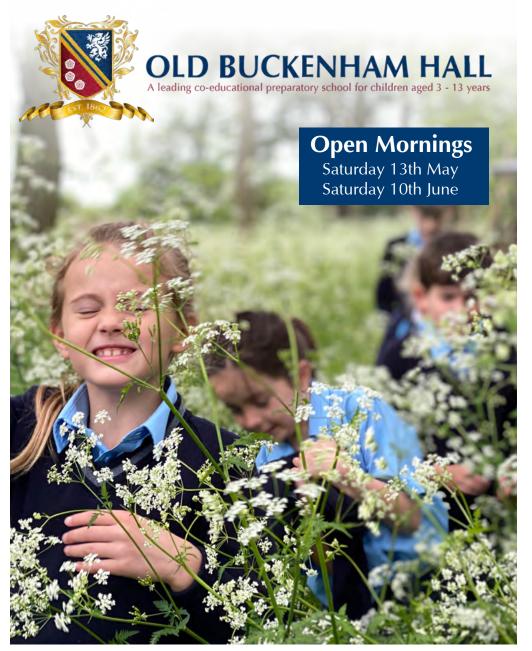
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PARISH ASSEMBLY

The annual parish assembly was held on the 17th April.

Present was *John Hume* chair, three councillors, County and District councillors, four members of the public and the clerk.

Apologies: Received from two councillors and thirteen members of the public.

Minutes of the 2022 parish assembly were confirmed and signed as correct.

Reports: County councillor *Robert Lindsay*'s report included items on Safer speed limits, Floods and drainage backlog, Bildeston food bank, Roundabout magazine, County Council budget, New highways contract, Carbon budget, Review and recommendations concerning SEND and Suffolk devolution. He answered questions mainly on the new Highways contract and pothole repairs.

District councillor *Leigh Jamieson* reported on Local and Council matters, Funding, Environment, Housing, Parking, Tree canopy survey and May elections. Leigh then answered questions on the number of empty houses. Babergh are to try and get more properties back in use.

Kersey Parish council chairman *John Hume* said the Council represent the interests of Kersey parishioners, enhancing well being and security. Our aim is to make Kersey a great place to live, work and visit. Residents are encouraged to raise any matters of concern.

All councillors are confirmed in their posts for the next electoral period. He thanked them and clerk for their continuing service. There is one vacancy. The website contains minutes and financial details. County and District councillors regularly attend meetings and he thanked them for their advice.

The Parish Council is financially strong.

Seven planning applications were made. Six of which were approved with one withdrawn.

The late Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee was marked with a successful street party. He thanked everyone who organised and took part in such a memorable event. The King's coronation will be marked by a picnic at The Glebe. He thanked members of the parish who provide service supporting neighbours, through individual initiatives, membership of formal and informal groups, societies, networks and local charities. This work goes on behind the scenes but is highly valued and appreciated. Kersey is a vibrant, flourishing, safe and generous community but for this to continue in the future we need more engagement and contribution from the younger residents.

A brief comment on planning applications: We have many listed buildings in the parish. Planning laws and regulations are there to avoid harm to our heritage and ensure safe living and working conditions. Advice must be sought from Babergh District council planning department before starting any work.

Footpath Working Group: Another good year, the volunteers continue to do an amazing job repairing broken posts and bridges as well as cutting the footpaths and keeping them in good order. All equipment has been serviced. A proposal for upgrading and purchasing some new battery equipment will be considered by the council. I wish to extend my thanks to all the volunteers and landowners for help during the year. We trust everyone throughout the Parish will continue to enjoy walking in the beautiful

cont./

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KERSEY CALENDAR ON-LINE

We also have a Kersey Community *Google calendar* on the website:

https://kersey.suffolk.cloud/events/

If you are planning an event in Kersey please email the information to Sarah Partridge at *kerseypc@gmail.com* so it can be included.

(If you already use Google Calendar you can add this to yours.)

PARISH ASSEMBLY (cont.)

Kersey countryside in the year ahead. – *Kevin Pratt*.

KCPC: The playground has been available all the year for the village to use. Issues raised in the ROSPA report have been addressed or are being monitored. The cricket nets were maintained. The grass cutting rota was reinstated on a formal basis and the mower replaced. Two maintenance days were held and the hedges have been cut. A quiz night raised £1,094.51.

I am grateful for all the support received over the past year. – *Jonathan Marsh*.

Kersey Volunteer Group: The group consists of fourteen local volunteers who are responsible for collecting litter, reporting potholes and other hazards. New volunteers are always welcome. I thank the volunteers and residents who strive to ensure we live in a safe and pleasant environment. – *John Hume*.

Forget Me Nots: They have had a enjoyable year with outings every two weeks for coffee or lunch trips. The venues are chosen by members, we travel far and wide to celebrate birthdays and enjoy social time together. Anyone is welcome to join the group. – *Veronica Partridge*.

Franey Rand and Pest House Charity: The number of applications for help has increased. Grants were made to individuals and groups including Hadleigh Elderly Peoples Welfare, Shelley Riding for the Disabled and Surviving Winter in Hadleigh which could benefit people from Kersey. – *Rachael Rogers*.

Friends of the Bells: Practice night is every Thursday evening for which beginners, learners or experienced bell ringers are welcome. It is hoped to ring a peel to celebrate the King's coronation on 7th May. – *Neville Whittell*.

Friends of St Mary's: A good year for the Friends with a number of fund raising events. One trustee resigned at the AGM with two new ones elected. We have helped with repairs to the west door and renovations in the bell tower. A family farm day was held and a popular jazz night. An American Supper dance was a resounding success raising almost £2,000. More of the same events are planned for 2023 with the addition of the Kelvedon singers. A great way to support the church. – *Mark Rigby*.

Grays Trust: The object of the Trust is to support the education of residents in the parish. During the year grants were made to two Year 13 pupils and eight undergraduates, the school and the Tuesday Club. – *Philippa Harris*.

Kersey School: The school has gone from strength to strength since academising in 2021. The head teachers have developed a strong dedicated staff who are keen to see the school grow and flourish. The children enjoyed a trip to see "Jack and the Beanstalk" and a sports event at Hadleigh school. They took part in celebrations to mark the Queen's Jubilee, World Book Day and made Easter gardens which were displayed in the church. Sports Week was successful with a range of activities. The harvest festival was well attended by pupils and parents. This was our last chance to say goodbye to Rev Jackson. In December the annual nativity was held in the church also a Christmas Carol service. – *Jess Damant and Claire Dunnell Paleu*.



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PARISH ASSEMBLY (cont.)

Playing Field Association: The Glebe continues to provide a large open space for village and school use and will provide the space to hold the coronation picnic in May. – *Mark Pertuee*.

Kersey Projects: A drinks and canapés party was held in celebration of the late Queen's Jubilee and was attended by 120 people. In December saw the lighting of the Christmas tree followed by mulled wine and eats. The new tenants at The Bell invited everyone for a complimentary drink and an opportunity to introduce themselves. January brought Burns night with an evening of Scottish fayre and dancing. – *Suzie Rudkin*.

Lewis Mowles Trust: The trust is paying for a new seat to be put next to the church. They are also giving a donation to the Village Hall improvement. Other donations are being considered before the account is closed. – *Norah Orriss*.

Nightingale Trust: A number of maintenance projects were completed including cutting of the boundary hedges and footpaths. A notice board has been erected so allotment holders can share information. Members have been able to receive discount on seed purchases. All plots are taken with the exception of one which will be returned to natural wilding and planted with wild flowers. The trust continues to provide support for people in the community. There is also a taxi service for those in need of transport to medical appointments. – *Mark Rigby*.

St Mary's Church: Sadly we said goodbye to Rev Jackson who resigned his incumbency from the Benefice in September. We wish him and his family well in his new ministry. We are grateful to those who have stepped in to help with services. A service of thanksgiving was held at the street party for the celebration of the Queen's jubilee. Sadly a short time later we held a service of commemoration.

A hornbeam is to be planted in the churchyard as part of the Queen's canopy initiative. During the year windows were repaired and the roof checked. Further works from the Quinquennial report are needed.

Our beautiful church continues to attract visitors and their comments demonstrate how important the place is to pilgrims, worshippers and those seeking solace and comfort. The PCC are grateful to all those who help in anyway. — *Linda Newbigging*.

Table tennis: At the beginning of the year numbers were low but after raising awareness of the club in the wider community attendance picked up and has been maintained. The club meets on Thursday evenings in the village hall 7.30-9.00pm. The purpose of the club is social and recreational, all abilities are welcome. – *Adrian Blyth*.

Tuesday Club: There was a full programme for the year. We started with a beetle drive followed by a talk by Jenny Antill on a novel she had written. Rev. Holly Crompton Battersby gave an interesting talk on her life and work this was followed by an old friend Chris Parfitt with a Cornish Medley. We had flowers from the French Alps, Watery places of Suffolk, a poetry evening, a talk on the Dogs Trust plus our annual meal at Groton Fox and the Christmas party. The club continues to sponsor Tilly at Shelley Riding for the Disabled. Anyone is welcome to attend our monthly meetings. – *Rachel Wells*.

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The newsletter is delivered **FREE** to properties within the parish 10 times a year and is also available to download from:

www.kersey.suffolk.cloud/our-community/newsletter/

The approximate production cost is 50p per copy (£5 per year). All contributions gratefully received – please pass via your distributor or to: Rachel Wells, 1 Vale Corner, Vale Lane, Kersey.

Or make online transfers (or arrange an annual standing order) to: **Kersey St. Mary PCC, 30-13-52 00694777.**

For further parish details and events, please see www.kersey.suffolk.cloud

The next issue is June 2023.

Please send items for inclusion well before the deadline of 22nd May to:

Rachel Wells: 01473 822230 - rachel@kersey-village.co.uk

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PARISH ASSEMBLY (cont.)

Village Hall: Since the hall was built in 1935 many events have taken place, dances, whist drives, meals and parties. A place for all activities. Over the years this has changed. There are regular lettings such as art classes, table tennis, yoga, committee meetings and other community events.

The committee work hard to keep it up to standard. A new door has been fitted for the disabled access. Forthcoming works are to replace heaters in committee room and landscaping to the rear of the hall. We are fortunate to have a healthy bank balance although we no longer have rental from the school. – *Veronica Partridge*.

Village Produce Association: The proposed outing to Bressingham Gardens was cancelled. An outing is planned this year for a visit to Hyde Hall in July. A successful flower show was held in September. Bookings for marquees were up which was encouraging after the last two years. Donations were given to help the churchyard, church floodlights and newsletter. We welcome a new member who has joined the committee. – *Rachel Wells*.

See the website where you can see full reports and find a wealth of information including a calendar of Kersey organisation events.

PARISH COUNCIL

A council meeting followed the AGM.

Parish time: Several parishioners were concerned about the recent crown reduction of the oak tree on Vale Lane triangle. Only 20% was removed which has not damaged the tree. Residents hoped any future work would be strongly resisted by the Parish Council. It is an important tree in the conservation area.

Minutes of previous meeting were confirmed and signed as correct.

Planning progress: Babergh had granted permission for single storey rear extension at Manor Farm. Babergh had granted permission for work at Leys House following concerns from the Parish Council.

 $\label{lem:construction} \mbox{Corner House. Proposal. Reconstruction of chimney stack. Councillors supported this application.}$

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AOB: There will be a community picnic on the Glebe Sunday 7th May at 12.00am The dog bin at Wickerstreet Green has been stolen.

WEATHER (for March)

Thank you to Kate Banks who records the weather for us in Wickerstreet Green. The rainfall amount sometimes varies in different parts of the parish.



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Invitation to all Kersey Residents



Please come to the
Kersey Coronation community picnic
on Sunday 7 May 2023 at 12 noon
at The Glebe (playing field)
to celebrate the Coronation of
King Charles III

Please bring your own picnic or you can pre-order a 3 course seasonal buffet lunch for £10 per person. To order contact John Hume johnhumekerseypc@gmail.com

Please bring a picnic rug or chairs.

There will be a marquee and games for entertainment.

Kersey Open Gardens

Saturday, 10 June 2023

11.00 am to 5.00 pm

Adults: £5 (cash only), Under 16s: Free

Back at last a chance to see Kersey's beautiful gardens.



Refreshments will be available in the Village Hall throughout the day.

Proceeds will be shared between St Elizabeth Hospice in Ipswich and Kersey Projects for community events.

Contact us at: kerseyprojects@gmail.com for further details.



