

# **ACOL VILLAGE VOICE**

**March 2024**

## **News from The Parish Council**

All Acol village homes should by now have had an Acol 2024 Household Survey document (Acol Village Appraisal) delivered. This survey is a vital first step in the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for our community, which is the means by which we will be able to maximise our influence on any development affecting our parish. It is no small undertaking, particularly for a community as small as ours with only the correspondingly small budget and resource available, but your Parish Council considers it to be an urgent requirement.

At present, Acol is the only Thanet village that does not have development planned or underway, but we should not assume that will remain the case. To minimise expense we are utilising, as far as possible, work already undertaken locally, especially in Birchington, to inform our planning, but we will inevitably need to commission additional professional help as the Neighbourhood Plan development process progresses, and we will seek to obtain grant funding to support this work.

The Neighbourhood Planning website - [Make a neighbourhood plan - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/make-a-neighbourhood-plan) - has more information about the process but, for now, the most important point to stress is that neighbourhood planning must exemplify community consultation and involvement. Other communities have tried, and failed, to develop their Neighbourhood Plans through insufficient community participation and support, thereby ceding power to external bodies and developers. It is essential, therefore, that we gain a good response to the Household Survey.

Data from the survey will not be associated with individual respondents but anonymised and used only for the purposes of gaining a greater understanding of the needs and views of our community as a whole. Addresses will be used only to monitor survey responses, ensuring, for example, that we do not duplicate household responses. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to any Parish Councillor, or contact us via the PC website - [Contact - Acol Parish Council, Acol, Birchington](#)

Gavin Winpenny (Planning & Development)

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> February are now on the PC website. As ever, Highways matters featured. By the time of our next Council meeting (and Annual General Meeting) an updated Highways Improvement Plan (HIP) should be in place and our expectations are that it will be possible to commit to reducing the speed limit along The Street to 20 mph, and that on Acol Hill to 50 mph. (Still too fast, in our view, but it appears, under current KCC and Police guidance, unrealistic to expect to achieve any

greater reduction.) The village CCTV is being upgraded and it is anticipated that it can play greater roles in monitoring the village centre and deterrence of traffic regulation infringements. Convex traffic mirrors have been situated at some village junctions to help overcome obstructed visibility.

The ambition for our village 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day commemoration has been downgraded but we still plan to mark the occasion with a weekend event, to include participation in a best kept village competition with other Thanet villages.

Richard Steel (Chair)

## ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 Club

### Winners for the Month of February 2024 were:

Member no. 46 who won 1<sup>st</sup> prize of £20.00.

Member no. 2, who won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of £10.00 and

Member no. 93 who won 3<sup>rd</sup> prize of £5.00.

A total of £30.00 was donated to the Village Hall funds

The next draw will take place on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024, and the results publicised in the April 2024 Edition. Should you have any questions or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne (838829)

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## FORTHCOMING VILLAGE HALL EVENTS

2 <sup>nd</sup> Apr. 7.30pm.	AHS - 65 Years in Horticulture - Jim Buttress
6 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1.30 pm.	AHS - SPRING SHOW
18 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 7.30pm	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

### Acol Horticultural Society

Acol Horticultural Society's next meeting is on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** when **Jim Buttress** will be talking on his **65 years in Horticulture**. This will be far from boring as Jim is a very good speaker with humour and a lifetime of experience in all forms of horticulture.

Then on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April** the Society will be holding its '**Spring Show**'. This is an opportunity for you to show off your prize spring bulbs and flowers. There are also classes for cooking, handicraft, and photos (on the theme of rough seas!). There are also classes for **CHILDREN** which give a **good financial reward**. In this show we need 3 butterfly cakes and a Dinosaur made from Recycled Materials. (I can pose for the dinosaur part for ideas). Schedules are available from Steve or Theresa and entry forms need to be submitted by Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> April. Entries can be staged from 8.am on Saturday.

The show is open to the public at 1.30pm. Please make the effort to marvel at what people have grown, made, cooked etc., and socialise with other members.  
Hope to see you all at one of our events.

Schedules available from Steve or Theresa, tel. 01843 846963

*Remember we meet on the first Tuesday of the month.*

You can join the Society:- £4 single and £7 for a couple.

### VILLAGE INFORMATION

#### VILLAGE HALL

Usage of the hall has further increased, and everyone who uses it comments on how lovely it is. There are many groups and classes in the hall for villagers, and if anyone is interested, please ring me on **841691** for details. Also ring if you would like to use the hall yourself for a private event.

#### REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Refuse (black), Garden Refuse (Green)	Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food
& waste food	
11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	18 <sup>th</sup> Mar
25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	1 <sup>st</sup> Apr.
8 <sup>th</sup> Apr.	

Ring TDC on **577115**, if you have problems, or **577727** with queries.

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH


Please contact Iris Osborne on 07951 072914 for any information you require.

### ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

For news and information visit the Acol Parish Council website at

[www.acolparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.acolparishcouncil.org.uk)

Sheila Bransfield

 <p><b>NP</b> <b>ELECTRICALS</b></p> <p>BS7671 Qualified Electrical Engineer</p> <p><b>ELECSA</b> <small>Part of the ICA Group</small></p> <p>Part 'P' Registration No EPP2390</p> <p><b>All Electrical Work Undertaken</b></p> <p>Free Quotations ~ Competitive Prices Quality Workmanship ~ Fully Guaranteed</p> <p>Call Nic Morling on 07714580978</p> <p><a href="http://www.npelectricals.co.uk">www.npelectricals.co.uk</a></p>	<p><b>YOUR M.P. At Your Service .....</b></p> <p><b>SIR ROGER GALE</b> Margate, Herne Bay &amp; The Villages</p> <p>For appointments and for advice on urgent problems:</p> <p>Ring: 01843 848588 (a.m. from 10.00) Web: <a href="http://www.rogergale.co.uk">www.rogergale.co.uk</a> Email: <a href="mailto:galerj@parliament.uk">galerj@parliament.uk</a> Write: <b>HOUSE OF COMMONS</b> London, SW1A 0AA</p>
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### Editor's Note:

PLEASE PASS ON THIS EDITION OF VILLAGE VOICE to any friends from outside the village who might be interested in knowing what is going on in Acol.

### Advertising

For a box advertisement of about 8cm x 9cm the cost is £10 for inclusion in 3 editions, £15 for 6 editions and £25 for 12 editions.

Please e-mail contributions to Village Voice to [inchley@btinternet.com](mailto:inchley@btinternet.com)

This edition of Village Voice has not been sponsored.

Should you (or your organisation) wish to sponsor an edition, either in memory of a loved one, to commemorate an event or even from a feeling of civic duty(!), please contact me.

Contributions for the next edition must be received by 5th April 2024.