

ACOL VILLAGE VOICE

October 2020

SO, WHAT IS HAPPENING AT MANSTON AIRPORT?

The first thing to state is that the Government has now designated the airport as Nationally Important Infrastructure, whether it is used solely for freight or not, and it will therefore always remain as an airport, and it cannot be used for any other purpose. The DCO (Development Consent Order) was granted by the Secretary of State (SoS) on the 30th of July to the new owners, Riveroak, to construct a Cargo base over the next few years starting next year. Work on this £300m development will begin in 2021.

Currently, as you may know, the airport has been rented by the Department for Transport (DfT) as a Brexit lorry parking area with capacity for 6000 or more vehicles. This was supposed to last until the end of the year and is why Riveroak have not been able to start their development. It now seems that the delay will continue for a while after the end of year because the DfT wants to continue to keep it as a lorry park "just in case" no deal can be struck with the EU by the end of this month.

Many new innovations are planned to be incorporated in the new Manston. The developers have stated their intention to make it a totally 'carbon free' project by using clean fuels wherever possible and keeping abreast of the ever-improving development of electric flight, a subject being taken very seriously by all of the major aircraft and aero-engine manufacturers. It will be a while before such advances become commonplace but Manston will be ready for them when they arrive, whereas existing airports will not. Added to this an engineering training academy is planned for the site.

Regardless of what the 'nay-sayers' think, Thanet stands to really benefit from this!!

However, there is a small minority of objectors to the project (based mainly in Ramsgate) who are trying to get the DCO decision blocked by pushing for a Judicial Review. However, comments by people who have more knowledge of these matters than I, have said it is almost unknown for a Secretary of State decision to be over-turned.

A lot of false speculation has been circulated by the 'anti' group about the terrible things that will blight the lives of Thanet residents if the operation goes ahead. These include fake flight plans above the Isle, fake stacking areas, grossly exaggerated numbers of flights, terrifying sound levels and the threat of the annihilation of birds and wildlife within an area of 13 kilometres radius of the airport. Please ignore these stories, which have no basis in reality!

ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 Club

The next draw will be held on 7th October, and the results published in the November edition of the Voice. **Should you have any questions, or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne (840901).**

Been

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VILLAGE INFORMATION

VILLAGE HALL

If I may use the words of Alan Sherman "Please disregard my last letter"!

After advising that most classes would resume on 1st September, everything changed again last week! All the sewing groups have been forced by the new 'Rule of Six' Covid regulations to suspend their classes for their time being, and there are now only three bookings per week, whereas pre lockdown we often had three per day!

Attendance numbers are limited, hence only the private classes continuing:

Tuesdays - various times, Ballroom Dance Fitness.

Thursdays - afternoons and early evening, Art Group.

Sundays - various times, Dance Classes.

If you would like to contact any instructors, or the Art Group, please ring 841691 for details.

REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Refuse (black), Garden Waste (green) Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food
& waste food

12th October

19th October

26th October

2nd November

9th November

If you have any problems with your bins, ring TDC, **577115**, or queries to **577727**.

PCSO

In the absence of village surgeries, if you have any problems, you can email PCSO Debbie Forsyth at 60457@kent.police.uk.

CCTV CAMERAS

Please report ANY incident in The Street to 844706. We are expecting another monitoring system to be installed for October to calculate the amount of traffic and their speeds.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

You can contact Iris Osborne (840901) if you wish to be updated on local crime or anyone behaving suspiciously.

KENT POLICE

East Kent Division Rural Team can be contacted on **07980 978202** for queries or enquiries.

ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

You can check our website, acolparishcouncil.org.uk, or please ring 844706 if you have any queries.

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT 11am ON MONDAY 30TH NOVEMBER (ALL BEING WELL.)

Sheila Bransfield

CLAIRE NASH

PODIATRIST

CONTACT NO: 07745 932377

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MINSTER SURGERY

SEASONAL WINTER 'FLU VACCINATIONS 2020

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

FOR OVER 65' s AND AT RISK PATIENTS:

For those patients who opted for, or could not previously book, a vaccination Clinic will be held on Saturday 10th October from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm

A letter is currently being sent out to those eligible patients advising them of the time of their appointments, and should be with you shortly. Please ensure you keep your letter and bring it with you on the day.

PLEASE NOTE:

1. Due to Covid-19 we will be adhering to strict infection control measures and all patients attending **MUST wear face coverings** and adhere to **Social Distancing Measures** by keeping 2m apart at all times and follow the direction signs indicated
2. To ensure Social Distancing measures can be accommodated there will be **NO PARKING AT THE SURGERY**
3. IT IS **ESSENTIAL** that you bring your letter with you to the clinic, as it includes your Personal code, as without it, **WE WILL NOT** be able to give you your vaccination.

If you have any concerns about your eligibility, or mobility issues that could present difficulties, please contact Reception and you will be offered a more appropriate appointment date and time at specific clinics.

CONTACTING THE SURGERY

We are aware of the difficulty some patients are experiencing trying to ring the surgery and apologise for this, but unfortunately it is due to unprecedented demand. For example, in February we had an average of 2900 calls per week, it has now doubled to just under 4700 per week. Please use our call-back facility, it's easy to set up, you will not miss your place in the queue, but you can then hang up and get on with your day - and you WILL be called back!

JUST A COLD? OR IS IT Covid-19? - THATS WHAT PEOPLE ARE ASKING!

Main symptoms to look out for: High Temperature - hot to touch, back and front;
- New unexplained persistent cough; - Unusual loss of taste or smell
-For further Information please go to: www.gov.uk or www.111.nhs.uk

'SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS

The surgery will close for Staff Training on Thurs. 22nd Oct. from 1.00pm
Should you need to see a Doctor when the surgery is closed, please call NHS 111
Service direct on 111 to receive non urgent and confidential advice and information for you and your Family. For Urgent/Life threatening cases please dial 999 as normal.

PATIENT GROUP MEETINGS

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are currently holding our meetings using video

conferencing, however, if you have any issues you would like to raise or require further information on any of the above, then please contact Mary Hodgson on 842764.



Editors 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.

Non-residents of Acol can become subscribers to the Village Voice at the cost of £7.50 for 12 editions, the charge covers the cost of printing and posting to a nominated address.

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

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 November 2020.