

ACOL VILLAGE VOICE

August 2021

GOOD NEIGHBOURS and COMMUNITY SPIRIT

After a year of disuse, our Village Hall is now up and running once more. While it was closed we had the interior repainted and since we re-opened, our cleaner, Sally, has been coming in every day of use to sanitise and disinfect. However, the outside of the Hall had become a little delapidated overgrown with weeds to the sides and rear.

Thanks to a group of good citizens, all who got together to weed and tidy the surrounds, the Village Hall was made spick and span prior to its reopening. The Hall Committee want to publicly acknowledge the work of Karen, Jude, Brian and Bill and to thank them for their community spirit.

Finally a word of thanks to the good samaritan who kindly strimmed a path through the undergrowth that used to be our finely manicured Recreation Ground. We hope to have contracted a new provider of mowing services shortly, following the unexpected cessation of service from SERCO.

NEW FACILITIES AT THE VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall Committee have agreed to improve the facilities at the Hall for elderly and Disabled users by providing a more suitable toilet facility, with a taller toilet designed for the purpose in the ladies.

Additionally, we intend to provide a wi-fi hub capability in the hall, taking advantage of the new fibre infrastructure.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

In aid of the Macmillan Cancer Support, Brian and Carol HALL will be holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning on **Saturday 18th September from 10.30 am onwards**. It will be held in their garden at The Grove, The STREET, Acol.

There will be a raffle and some friendly company, please join us for this great cause

WARNING TO RESIDENTS

John Quittenden has asked me to advise residents to be vigilant, as he had a lock cut off a shed in Margate Hill last week. Luckily, a dog disturbed the perpetrator, and nothing was taken, but clearly there is always the possibility that they will come back and look for more vulnerable targets.

ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 Club

Winners for the Month of July 2021 were:

Member no. 83 who won 1st prize of £20.00
Member no. 39, who won 2nd prize of £10.00 and
Member no. 77, who won 3rd prize of £5.00

Winners for the Month of August 2021 were:

Member no. 115, who won 1st prize of £20.00
Member no. 84, who won 2nd prize of £10.00 and
Member no. 53, who won 3rd prize of £5.00

£70.00 has been donated to the Village Hall funds

The next draw will take place on the 8th September. Should you have any questions or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne (84090)



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VILLAGE INFORMATION

VILLAGE HALL

It is good to confirm that hall use continues to return to normal. Just now, of course, term-time events are on summer holidays, but most groups are continuing:

Mon pm - Sewing Group commencing Sept. Tues am - Ballroom Dance Fitness

Wed & Fri - Village Textiles commencing 17th Sept;

Thurs am & Sun - Dance class; Thurs afternoons - Art Group; commencing 6th July;

10am-4pm monthly Sats - Phoenix Quilters commencing 17th July.

Acol Horticultural Society meetings and other events will resume on Tues 3rd Aug followed by the 'Nosh & Natter' on 7th August.

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

REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Refuse (black) Garden Waste (green)
& waste food

16th August

30th August

Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food

9th August

23rd August

6th September

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

PCSO

Our new PCSO is Eileen Shrubsole, eileen.shrubsole@kent.police.uk. She has offered to attend our Parish Council meetings and we look forward to meeting her.

CCTV CAMERAS

Parish Council continues to campaign for the extension to Columbus Avenue, which will be the only solution to the volume and speed of traffic through our village. Unfortunately, the treatment we receive from Kent Highways is unacceptable, but we continue trying. Please report ANY incident in The Street to 844706.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

If you are concerned about any suspicious behaviour in the village, or suspect criminal activity, please contact Iris Osborne (840901), who will advise you of what action you can take.

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.co.uk, or please ring 844706 if you have any queries or advice.

Our next meeting date has not yet been confirmed, due to diary conflicts, but will be advised in the September Village Voice.

Sheila Bransfield

ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING OF ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Assembly Meeting of the Acol Parish Council was held on Tuesday 8th June, 2021 at 11.00 a.m. in the Acol Village Hall.

Present: Councillors Miss Bransfield, Hayfield, Inchley and Mrs Osborne. Also present: County Councillor Crow-Brown, Roy Wade (Clerk/RFO) and 3 residents .

1. MINUTES

Council noted that as a Parish Assembly Meeting was not held in 2020 in view of the restrictions introduced by the Covid regulations there were no minutes for approval.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No disclosures of interest were made.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman reported briefly on the years 2019/2020 and 2020/21.

Several villagers have been lost over the last few years, all of whom will be sadly missed.

Many younger villagers have volunteered to collect shopping, run errands, etc, for those who were house bound. Villagers are extremely grateful for their efforts and the Acol FaceBook has been considerably helpful for contact.

Volunteers also repaired the Acol Village sign and repositioned it, most securely.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION FORUM

The Chairman invited questions from the members of the public upon any matters appertaining to the Village of Acol.

No matters were raised by those residents in attendance.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Cllr Miss Bransfield be elected Chairman of the Council for the year 2021/22.

Councillor Miss Bransfield took the declaration of acceptance of office and took the Chair.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Councillor Inchley was appointed Vice Chairman of the Council for the year 2021/22.

3. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Council formally considered advertising the vacancy.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk advertise the vacancy and report to Council on any applications received.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported upon the following items:

- A letter of condolence from Acol villagers was sent to Her Majesty The Queen after the loss of His Royal Highness, Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh.
- A serious accident occurred in Minster Road, when the school bus stopped opposite the houses. A car overtook (which should be illegal here as it is in America) and there is no pavement or verge and it should have been obvious that a child would cross the road. The driver must have been going too fast because some bad injuries were inflicted. The Parish Council intends to invite local TV News companies to see volume and speed of traffic through Acol. Cllr Derek Crow-Brown suggested a contact to help us with that.
- Villagers were advised of a petition calling for mandatory printing of car registration numbers on all take-away food. So far it has 58,518 signatures and 100,000 are required to ensure a discussion in parliament. Closing date 30th December 2021.
- Notices have been prepared for the Recreation field, giving telephone numbers to contact for enquiries and giving full postal address in case emergency services are called.
- We are trying to establish contact for our new PCSO. The Chairman subsequently received contact with Eileen Shrubsole, who has offered to attend our next meeting.
- The Kent Association of Local Councils has announced their Community Payback scheme. Instead of volunteers having to attend to all requirements within the village, offenders can be used. We have used them in the past at the Recreation Field. They attend with an official Supervisor and it was they who installed the original stile.
- There is a requirement for a footpath from Acol to Quex, which is outside the Acol boundary and needs to be discussed with Quex and Birchington Parish Council.
- Neville Hudson, Chairman of the Thanet Area Committee, has written to our Prime Minister, Mr Boris Johnson, about Planning Laws ruining Thanet. The Chairman is preparing a similar response from Acol villagers.
- The Thanet Area Committee meeting was held via Zoom on 20th April, attended by Sir Roger Gale. Sir Roger was explicit about the damage being caused to our farmland and environment by so much building.
- Acol's Fixed Asset Register has been updated to remove damaged bench by Chapel of Rest. Jonathan Cole has very kindly offered to replace the seat. He has already moved the grit bin to his property where the new seat will be placed.
- Parish Council is experiencing great difficulty in receiving a satisfactory response to the loss of the dog waste bin at the Rec. No replacement has yet been received.
- Cllr Derek Crow-Brown advised that retired police officer Kim Burgess had recently died. Councillors were shocked and paid tribute to his attention, attendance in the village and efforts to help residents.

Cllr. Hayfield reported that Neil Cooper had quoted £600 for the removal of old equipment from the play area.

RESLVED: that (A) the report of the Chairman be received; and (B) the quotation from Neil Cooper be accepted and the works undertaken.

5. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS/FINANCIAL MATTERS

(A) Payments Made

Council noted that the following payments had been made:

Cheque No.	Payee & Details	VAT	Amount
700	KALC Annual Sub	30.29	181.75
701	D.Hayfield CCTV costs	0.00	53.00
702	Serco grass cut April	11.26	67.56

(B) Payments for Authorisation

RESOLVED: That the following payments be made

Cheque No.	Payee & Details	VAT	Amount
703	R.Wade ¼ Salary Plus computer paper	2.00	569.99
704	L Robbins – Audit	0.00	90.00
705	Serco grass cut May	11.26	67.56
706	Zurich Insurance	0.00	355.54

The bank balance at 1st June 2021 was £12,312.72.

6. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2020/21

Council noted that the internal audit had been carried out on 17th May 2021 by Mr. Lionel Robbins and noted his favourable report which had been circulated to Members

7. APPROVAL OF AGAR BY AN EXEMPT COUNCIL

Council considered the following matters and

RESOLVED:

(A) Effectiveness of Systems

That having reviewed the effectiveness of the system of internal control. Council are reviewed and approved the Statement and authorised the Chairman and Clerk to sign the relevant document.

(B) The Clerk be authorised to confirm that the Council can certify itself as exempt from the limited assurance review and the Chairman and Clerk/RFO to sign and date the certificate of exemption for 2020/21 with the contact details and the website address.

(C) approved the Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21, Section 1 of the AGAR for the year ending 31 March 2021 and the Chairman and Clerk to sign and date.

(D) The Accounting Statement for 2020/21, Section 2 of the AGAR for the year ending 2020/21 and the supporting Bank Reconciliation as at 31 March 2021 be approved plus details of any significant variations from the previous year.

Signed Roy Wade
Clerk to the Council
Phone: (01843) 832243

MINSTER SURGERY

COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME - UPDATE

We are very pleased to announce that the vaccination programme is continuing to be rolled out at a pace which has contributed to approximately 86% of the population in Thanet being fully vaccinated and 92% of all groups receiving at least one dose of a Covid-19 vaccination. Vaccination Clinics are continuing to be held at the Saga Centre in Westwood Cross and will now be held every Saturday throughout the summer, from 8am until 5pm for both "walk-ins" and those with appointments. Invitations being sent out to all groups including those aged 18 and over. Further up to date information can be found on the following website and on our Facebook page.

www.nhs.uk/coronavirus

Currently we are receiving supplies of both the Oxford AstraZeneca and Pfizer vaccines, so if you have not yet received your first or second dose of either vaccine or may have initially declined the vaccine, please **BOOK NOW!**

Please note; Once you have had your vaccination you may be asked to sit and wait for 10-15 minutes, depending upon individual circumstances.

NATIONAL LOCK-DOWN ROAD MAP

With the lifting of restrictions on Monday 19th July, regrettably Covid-19 cases are now rising dramatically, especially in the under 35's 'so: Please DO NOT get complacent, even if you have been fully Vaccinated, because you can still get the virus and unknowingly spread it to others! So please, use common sense where necessary and follow the guidelines.

PLEASE NOTE

In common with all NHS facilities it will still remain **COMPULSORY** to wear Face Masks when attending the Surgery.

IT'S HOLIDAY TIME!

With the start of the school holidays families are probably arranging days out or even a "staycation" so please ensure you have sufficient medication to last you. Please Also consider that our Healthcare Professionals take family holidays at this time as well, so please ensure you allow plenty of time when submitting your prescription request, both at the surgery and the various pharmacies. Thank you.

SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS

BANK HOLIDAY - MONDAY 30TH August - All Day

STAFF TRAINING - Thursday 23rd September - from 1.00 pm onwards

If you need to see a doctor during these times:

Please Call 111 for NON-URGENT confidential help and advice for you and your family.

For COVID-19 help and advice - Call 119

For URGENT/LIFE threatening Cases Call 999 as normal

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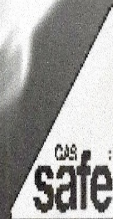
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Editors Note:

PLEASE PASS ON THIS EDITION OF VILLAGE VOICE

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 September 2021.