

# **ACOL VILLAGE VOICE**

**June 2017**

## ***PARISH ASSEMBLY AND AGM***

This edition of Village Voice focusses on the proceedings of these meetings.

### **ACOL PARISH COUNCIL**

**The Draft minutes of the Parish Assembly Meeting of Acol Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Acol on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

**Present:** Councillors Miss Bransfield (Chairman), D. Hayfield, J. Inchley and Mrs. Osborne.

**Also Present:** Cllrs. Latchford (KCC) and Crow-Brown (TDC), one resident and Roy Wade (Clerk to the Council)

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from PCSO Craig Raisbeck, KCC Warden Tony Gander and Jim Barber (St Mildred's Church)

**2. MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

No declarations of interest were made.

**3. MINUTES**

The minutes of the Parish Assembly Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2016/17**

The Chairman reported on the work of the Parish Council (Appendix A) for 2016/7 and the issues affecting the community of Acol.

The report highlighted the following matters: Planning, Southern Water highlighting primarily the problems in Crispe Road, the continuing problems of highways and speeding traffic through the Village, the retention of the BT kiosk, litter-picking initiatives, the Thanet Area Committee clerked by Iris Osborne and that band D rate for Acol was not now the highest in Thanet.

The Chairman reported that Cllr. Brian Hall had resigned from the Parish Council as he spent so much time out of the country.

RESOLVED: That (A) Cllr Hall be thanked for his services to the Parish Council and the community of Acol; and (B) Thanet District Council be advised of the vacancy resulting from the resignation of Cllr. Hall.

ACOL VILLAGE HALL  
**CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL TO REDEVELOP AND  
REOPEN MANSTON AIRPORT AS A HUB FOR  
INTERNATIONAL AIR FREIGHT**

Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00p.m.

## **5. REPORTS FROM VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS**

The reports from the Acol Art Group, the Horticultural Society, St. Mildred's Church and the Village Hall Management Committee will be posted on the Parish Council web site.

## **6. PUBLIC DISCUSSION FORUM**

Karen Ault of Nursery Fields raised the question of why a 20mph speed limit could not be introduced in the Village similar to restrictive orders applied in South East London.

Cllr. Inchley supported the introduction of such an order but indicated that the problem was one of enforcement.

## **Appendix A**

### **ACOL ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY – 24 APRIL 2017 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2016-2017**

We acknowledge with thanks the contributions of villagers who help with village events, etc.

Jon Inchley Village Hall Committee, Village Voice, Support Fund

Iris Osborne Village Hall Committee, Support Fund, TRRG, Thanet Area Committee and Neighbourhood Watch.

Bob Lawrence AHS, Tree Warden

Bill Yeoman AHS, Xmas Reindeer Drive

Mary & Sam Hodgson, Nancy & Norman Chidwick, Kay Skinner – Village Hall Committee

Norman Chidwick, Bob Lawrence, David Hayfield – odd jobs

Cllrs – Ken Gregory, Derek Crow-Brown (now rep to the Joint Transportation Board and TRRG), Roger Latchford (for all his help with funding for many improvements over the years) and Brian Hall, who has submitted his resignation.

Thanks also to all those who lend a helping hand when required.

It's been a busy year, with Consultations on the Local Plan and Parkway Station. Both are now completed but no updates have been issued. The same applies to the proposed merger of Councils.

#### **Planning**

Building has commenced on the Church land and Crown & Sceptre sites. Grosvenor Cottage residents were concerned about possible health & safety issues. TDC have handed Building Regulations responsibility to a private company. I emailed them and immediately had a call from the developer. He was adamant all was OK, but I was not satisfied. I wrote to the Health and Safety Executive, but no response has been received. I have passed documents and photos to Sir Roger Gale for his intervention.

There has been no response from TDC Planning about why APC was not notified of 2 Church Cottages application. Several people are leaving the Village due to developments and traffic. One, near a new build, said he was leaving "before someone gets killed".

#### **Southern Water**

The on-going saga. The complaint to CCWater failed. It took ages but they agree that Southern Water has done all they could. This is not satisfactory, particularly in view of several new commercial units now available on Manston Industrial Estate, not to mention a massive site being prepared on the right of Columbus Avenue, behind Summit Aviation. Another letter is on its way to the Water Redress Scheme, the next step, which seems to be another stalling mechanism. We cannot approach Ofwat until the procedure is completed. There has to be a dedicated pumping station for the Estate.

Water supply and sewage disposal was discussed at the recent Parish Forum. Madeline Homer (CE) was astounded to hear of our problems – she did not know. She asked for details, which are on their way. Perhaps she might insist TDC Planning demand a new pumping station be installed.

## Highways

There are still excessive volumes of traffic and an increased number of boy racers. The CCTV cameras are helpful (David Hayfield to report). There have been no serious incidents since their installation, so perhaps drivers are taking care. The extension to Columbus Avenue would ease the problems. KCC Highways have announced that it is now a priority, so we need to remind them constantly.

The damaged drain, Margate Hill/The Street, has been reported to Highways. They have repaired the one by Sycamore Cottage.

The KCC Community Warden, Tony Gander, reported that the amount of fly tipping is reduced, but speeding through the village remains of concern. Wardens conducted a speed check on 19<sup>th</sup> April, outside the village hall. No speeding was noted, but screeching brakes were often heard, probably when drivers spotted the monitoring.

## BT Kiosk

TDC have said they will preserve kiosks in Acol and Sarre, but ours is not working at the moment.

## Fly tipping

Even if the amounts have reduced, it's always on going. Everyone must report to TDC when spotted. The bed up Acol Hill was reported today.

## Website

A new facility was recently reported. It has not yet been set up, but it's imminent.

## Litter picking

No sign of TDC (their email 29 Sep "as soon as resources allow"). Our own litter pick will be set up, with thanks to Richard Steel.

## Thanet Area Committee

Some interesting speakers: Steve Scully, Kent Resilience Team, offered to attend Acol to help prepare our Emergency Plan. Terry Martin, KALC, was mentioned in previous minutes. Ray Mallon, the representative of the new owners at Manston Airport, could not find a diary date to accommodate attending.

## Rates

It is pleasing to note this year's Community Charges. Acol no longer pays the highest.

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## 1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was moved by Cllr. Inchley and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Osborne and

**RESOLVED: That Cllr Miss Bransfield be appointed Chairman of the Parish Council for the year 2017/18.**

Cllr. Miss Bransfield took and signed the declaration of acceptance of office and took the chair.

## 2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Councillor Jon Inchley was appointed Vice Chairman for the year 2017/18.

## 3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

## 4. REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES

It was agreed that the following Members be appointed to the under-mentioned bodies:

Thanet Area Committee	Cllrs. Miss Bransfield & Mrs. Osborne
Thanet Local Board	Cllr. Miss Bransfield
Thanet Rural Regeneration	Cllrs. Miss Bransfield & Mrs. Osborne
KIACC (when reinstated)	Cllr. Inchley
Neighbourhood Warch	Cllr Mrs Osborne

## 5. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS & FINANCIAL MATTERS

### a) Audit for 2016/17

The Clerk tabled the Income and Expenditure details for 2016/7; and Reconciliation Statement for 2016/7 prepared by the Internal Auditor And Members were advised that the Council's financial records had been approved.

**RESOLVED:** That the financial records be approved, placed on deposit and forwarded to the external auditor for approval.

### b) Schedule of Payments

**RESOLVED:** That the following payments be approved:

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount
566	E. Fewkes – Audit	£150.00
567	R. Wade ¼ salary	440.00
568	CCTV energy costs	82.00

## 6. REPORTS FROM CLLRS LATCHFORD (KCC) & CROW-BROWN (TDC)

Cllr. Latchford congratulated the Chairman on her re-appointment as

Chairman. He advised Members that this would be his last meeting as he would not be seeking re-election in the KCC elections to be held in May.

Members thanked Roger for his support to Acol over many years.

He also advised Council that due to boundary changes the Parishes would be represented by 2 members and that the grant allocation for these members would be £44,000 and that the Parish Council should bid for an allocation from these grants to go towards the cost of the extensions and refurbishment of the Village Hall kitchen.

Cllr. Crow-Brown (i) congratulated the Chairman on her efforts to have a road built to avoid traffic going through Acol, (ii) TDC were undertaking budget cuts and redundancies to the staffing levels. Officers were investigating raising more income from car parks, (iii) the re-organisation of East Kent authorities was not going ahead as Shepway D.C. were not in favour of the merger, (iv) TDC had reduced its debts by £14m, (v) he was investigating issues in respect of "boy racers" and the lack of response from TDC officers to matters raised by the Parish Council; and (vi) the planning department (TDC) had lost an appeal and it emphasised the need for the adoption of a Local Plan which should be in place by September 2017.

## 7. MANSTON AIRPORT

Cllr. Hayfield reported on an item in the Flight International magazine which drew attention to the problems being created by the closure of smaller airfields, including Manston. Members were also advised that a meeting has been tentatively booked in Acol Village Hall at 7pm on 28th June 2017 which will be addressed by Tony Freudmann and Dr. John Shepherd. Confirmation will be advised via the Village Voice.

## 8. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

Cllr. Mrs. Osborne reported that she had relinquished responsibility for the Speedwatch programme to Cllr Andrew Field, who was proposing its expansion. She asked if villagers could pass her their email addresses in order for her to notify them of problems on behalf of Neighbourhood Watch. She also expressed concern that the residents of Crispe Road had not been advised of the proposed power cuts on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May. The Chairman undertook to pursue this matter.

## 9. DATE AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Chairman to prepare a calendar of meetings based on summer meetings commencing at 6.30pm and Autumn/winter meetings starting at 2pm.

Roy Wade  
Clerk to Acol Parish Council  
Phone: 01843 832243  
Email: roywade125@gmail.com

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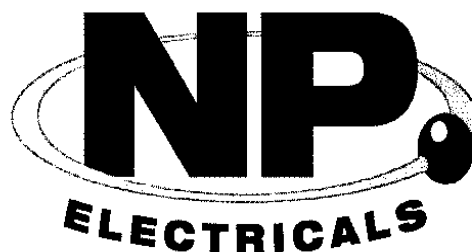
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## **ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 CLUB**

Results of the June Draw will not be available by the publication date this month, so will be reprinted in the July Edition. The next draw will be on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017. Should you have any questions, or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne on 01843 840901

## **RELEVANT INFORMATION**

### **CCTV CAMERAS**

There have been a few minor incidents in The Street and the culprits (usually "hit and run") have been identified. As yet, the cost of repairs did not warrant involving the police, but the success of the system is proven. Please advise the Parish Council, 844706, if you witness anything untoward.

### **REFUSE COLLECTION - MONDAYS**

Refuse (black) & waste food

Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food

12<sup>th</sup> June

19<sup>th</sup> June

26<sup>th</sup> June

3<sup>rd</sup> July

Ring TDC, **577115**, to arrange collection if you are unable to put your bins out.

Or Ring the 'Recycle for Thanet' line on **577727** with any queries you may have

### **REGULAR VILLAGE HALL DIARY DATES**

Monday afternoons (term time) - Pam's People

First Tuesday evening - AHS meeting

All other Tuesday evenings, 6-7pm - Dance Fitness Class

Alternate Wednesday evenings - Life Drawing Art Group  
Every Thursday evening - Art Group. **Art Group Website:** [www.acolartgroup.org/](http://www.acolartgroup.org/)  
Monthly, Saturdays, 10am-4pm - Phoenix Quilters.  
(Check hall calendar or email [Sheila.Bransfield@btinternet.com](mailto:Sheila.Bransfield@btinternet.com) for information)

#### **DIARY DATES FOR THIS YEAR**

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2pm - St Mildred's Cream Tea

**Wed 28<sup>th</sup> June, 7pm, MANSTON CONSULTATION MEETING**

Sat 29<sup>th</sup> July, all day - AHS Summer Show

Sat 12<sup>th</sup> August, 10am to 4pm - AHS Nosh and Natter

Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> September, all day - AHS Autumn Show

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH** For the latest information, ring Iris Osborne on 840901. Simply provide your email address so that you can be sent immediate updates whenever suspicious events occur locally.

#### **PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE**

Ring the Parish Council on Mondays (9am-5pm) on 844706, or the day after a Bank Holiday, or the Clerk any day (9am-5pm) on 832243.

Please ring these numbers if you have problems and do not know who to contact.

***THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 6.30PM ON MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE.***

Sheila Bransfield

## **Minster Surgery**

#### **RECENT CYBER ATTACK ON NHS**

Unfortunately, Minster Surgery was one of many Practices in the UK that was affected by this action on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May, with over 50% of our computer systems compromised and consequently unable to be used. Our I.T. Team were on site throughout the weekend and specialists brought in on Monday morning and by Wednesday, 90% of our systems were back on line.

This obviously effected the service we were able to provide to patients and therefore had to introduce "emergency only" appointments, whilst also cancelling some routine ones, which regrettably caused inconvenience to some. We would therefore like to thank all those patients who were supportive and understanding throughout this difficult period.

#### **MISSED APPOINTMENTS - A VERY GOOD MONTH - THANK YOU!**

**ONLY - 21 PATIENTS DID NOT ATTEND THEIR DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENT!**

**- 48 PATIENTS DID NOT ATTEND THEIR NURSES APPOINTMENT!**

Although this is probably due to the nice weather, school holidays and Easter, please don't get complacent. Remember! Don't need it - cancel it!

#### **"FRIENDS AND FAMILY" SURVEY**

A total of 190 patients responded last month with the following results:

Extremely likely/Likely 89%; Extremely unlikely/Unlike 7%; Unsure/Don't know - 4%

### SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS

Please note that the surgery will close at 12.00 Mid-day on the following days for the purpose of staff training: Thursday 22nd June and Wednesday 19th July

Please ensure you have sufficient medication to last you during these periods, and of course, please don't forget to include all the family who may need medication and also check when their "Medication Review" is due.

Should you need to see a Doctor when the surgery is closed, please call the NHS 111 Service via the normal surgery number 821333 where you will be transferred automatically, or you can call direct on 111, to receive "non urgent" confidential health advice and information for all the family.

For Urgent/Life threatening issues, please dial 999 as normal.

### "WALK FOR LIFE" ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

The surgery is now holding these events every Thursday morning at 10.30 and we are inviting people to come and join us in a walk around the local area for about an hour or so, with the aim of meeting people, becoming more active and enjoying our community

### PATIENT LIAISON GROUP MEETING

If you have any issues you would like to raise at our meeting in June, or require further information on any of the above, then please contact MARY HODGSON on 842764.



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### **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 place contributions to Village Voice in the post box on the wall of the Village Hall (by the main door) or e-mail to [inchley@btinternet.com](mailto:inchley@btinternet.com).

**This edition of Village Voice has been sponsored by Iris Osborne in memory of her beloved husband, Ted, who died on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2010.**

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 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017.