

# **ACOL VILLAGE VOICE**

**November 2019**

**CHRISTMAS IS NEARLY HERE.....**

## **A Special Christmas Message.**

**Start your Christmas at St Mildred's**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

**Community Carols in the Village Hall at 7.00pm**

**This will be followed by home made soup and rolls.**

**Everyone is welcome to join in this popular village event**

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

**Christmas Eve Carol Service at 3.00pm**

**Start your festive celebrations by coming to our  
traditional service at St Mildred's**

**All are welcome**

## ***Seniors Christmas Party***

Once again, this year the Village Hall Committee is inviting all those aged over 60 living in the Village, together with some friends of Acol, to an evening of companionship, fun, music and food, to be held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

We are pleased to confirm that we have booked caterers for the event, who will provide a full 2-course Christmas meal. We have also booked the "Greyhound Buskers", the Ukulele Band which has so royally entertained us for the last four years.

Enclosed within is a reservation slip for the evening so that we can ensure we cater for the appropriate number of attendees. Please complete the form and return it by 24<sup>th</sup> November if at all possible, as we are meeting with the caterer on 25<sup>th</sup>.

In order to raise funds for the event we have begun putting together a CHRISTMAS HAMPER to raffle. Therefore, any **DONATIONS OF CHRISTMAS PRODUCE** would be gratefully received. We have already received some very generous donations but need to get selling tickets within the next two weeks.

Please contact Jon on 847705, or any other member of the Management Committee should you have something to donate or should wish to buy tickets for the raffle.

***And, as detailed in the October edition***

### ***An Evening with Reindeer...***

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December Acol Village Hall Committee will be holding a Reindeer Drive in the Village Hall. It's a Christmas version of a Beetle Drive, and anyone, any age, is welcome.

Of course, there will be a "bring and share" supper as well, and you will need to bring your own drinks.

What better way to get into the Christmas spirit?

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

### **Winners for the Month of November 2019 were:**

Member no. 133 who won 1<sup>st</sup> prize of £19.00  
Member no. 115, who won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of £11.40 and  
Member no. 62, who won 3<sup>rd</sup> prize of £7.60

£38.00 was donated to the Village Hall funds

The next draw will be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019. Should you have any questions, or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne (840901).

### **FORTHCOMING VILLAGE HALL EVENTS**

Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	10.30am	<b>AHS AUTUMN FAYRE</b>
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	11.00am	<b>Acol Parish Council Meeting</b>
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7.30pm	<b>AHS Christmas Party</b>

**Congratulations to Village Textiles and its students, who this year raised £300 at their MacMillan Coffee Mornings in the Village Hall.**

## **VILLAGE INFORMATION**

**VILLAGE HALL** - Please ring 841691 about Hall availability

### **REGULAR BOOKINGS**

Monday afternoons (term time) - Pam's People

First Tuesday evening, Acol Horticultural Society meeting.

All other Tuesday evenings, Dance Fitness Class

Wednesdays, 9.30am-4.30pm (term time) - Village Textiles

Alternate Wednesday evenings, Life Drawing Art Group

Every Thursday evening - Art Group. **Art Group Website:** [www.acolartgroup.org/](http://www.acolartgroup.org/)

Fridays, 9.30am-4.30pm (term time) - Village Textiles

Saturdays (monthly), 10am-4pm - Phoenix Quilters

(Check hall calendar or email [Sheila.Bransfield@btinternet.com](mailto:Sheila.Bransfield@btinternet.com) for information)

### **EVENTS COMING UP**

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November, afternoon, AHS Autumn Fayre

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 11am, Acol Parish Council meeting.

### **CHRISTMAS EVENTS**

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December, evening, AHS Christmas Party

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December, evening, St Mildred's Carol Service

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December, evening, VHMC Seniors' Dinner

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December, evening, VHMC Reindeer Drive

### **PCSO**

Our PCSO, Debbie Forsyth, has combined her police surgeries for the villages and they are now held at 12.15 on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at Monkton Village Hall.

### **REFUSE COLLECTIONS**

**Refuse (black) Garden (Green) &  
waste food**

11<sup>th</sup> November

25<sup>th</sup> November

**Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food**

18<sup>th</sup> November

2<sup>nd</sup> December

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

### **CCTV CAMERAS**

If you experience any traffic incident in The Street, please report to 844706.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Please ring Iris Osborne on 840901 to register for updates on local incidents.

### **KENT POLICE**

The dedicated phone number for the East Division Rural Team: **07980 978202**.

### **ACOL PARISH COUNCIL**

THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE AT 11.00am, MONDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER

You can keep informed through our website - [acolparishcouncil.org.uk](http://acolparishcouncil.org.uk)

You can ring Parish Council, 844706, Mondays 9am-5pm, or the Clerk any day (9am-5pm) on 832243. Please ring these numbers if you have problems and do not know who to contact.

Sheila Bransfield

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ACOL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

## **AUTUMN FAYRE**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November  
In Acol Village Hall**

**Doors Open 10.30am to 2.00pm**

**RAFFLE TOMBOLA CRAFT**

**Soup & Rolls at Midday**

**For more information/booking of  
stalls ring Steve on 846963**

## **MINSTER SURGERY**

### SEASONAL WINTER 'FLU VACCINATIONS 2019

NOT HAD YOURS YET? There is still plenty of opportunities to have a Flu Vaccination and appointments are available and can be made in the usual way via the surgery.

### ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

A Zero Tolerance Policy exists throughout the NHS and naturally Minster Surgery adheres to that policy. Your Surgery is working hard to meet the needs of all our patients within a very stretched NHS service and we would ask that they are treated with the respect they deserve. Sadly, we have recently experienced several instances of foul and abusive language used against members of the surgery, both over the phone and face to face, which will NOT be tolerated. Therefore, a simple plea. Please treat us in the way you would expect to be treated yourself. Thank you for your understanding.

### MISSED APPOINTMENTS

This month 27 PATIENTS DID NOT attend their DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENT  
and 39 PATIENTS DID NOT attend their NURSE'S APPOINTMENT!

Furthermore 14 PATIENTS DID NOT attend their VACCINATION appointment  
Remember! Don't need it - cancel it!

### FRIENDS AND FAMILY SURVEY

Thank you to all those patients who take part and please continue to do so.

Last month patients we received 314 responses to "would you recommend our Practice" as follows:

Extremely likely/Likely - 91% ; Extremely unlikely/Unlikely - 6% ; Unsure/Don't know - 3%

WIN £100 CASH IN OUR GRAND CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Tickets on sale now and will be drawn at our 10th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - Saturday 23rd NOVEMBER. Tables for the event are nearly all gone! So Get in QUICK!

SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS

Please note that the surgery will be closed from Midday onwards on Wednesday 27th November

Please ensure that you have sufficient medication to last you during these times.

PATIENT GROUP MEETING

If you have any issues you would like to raise at our meeting in November, or require further information on any of the above, then please contact Mary Hodgson on 842764

**Village Voice has received the following from Vicky Price:**

Just a quick note to say thanks again for putting our piece about the THREE PEAKS CHALLENGE in the Village Voice. I think it brought in quite a few donations from kind neighbours, so that was great.

We took part in the Challenge the weekend before last, and it was every bit as hard as we thought it would be, but such a great experience! Happy to say I completed it in 22hours and 56 minutes and more importantly we raised a crazy total of £4537 which will pay for over 20 weeks of physio sessions for my Dad and allow us to make a donation to the Physio Centres Trust, which will be a massive help.

Thanks again,

Vicky.

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**ACOL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Acol,**  
**at 11.00am on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019.**

Present: Cllrs Miss S. Bransfield (Chairman), D. Hayfield, J. Inchley and Mrs. I. Osborne.  
Also present: Cllr. T. Roper (TDC), Roy Wade (Clerk)

**33. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Ms. Debbie Forsyth, PCSO, KCC Warden Tony Gander and Ray Owen.

**31. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting 29<sup>th</sup> July 2019 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**32. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No disclosures of interest were made.

**33. CO-OPTION TO COUNCIL**

The Clerk was requested to prepare a notice inviting any resident of the Village to apply for co-option to the Parish Council

**34. REPORT OF POLICE/COMMUNITY WARDEN/PCSO's.**

No officers were in attendance. PCSO Ms. Forsyth was not present but submitted a written report.

The Chairman read the report to Council:

*"Pleased to report that your village has been quiet over the last 2 months.*

*"A report of nuisance youths on haystacks but unfortunately a report of a distraction burglary targeting an elderly resident on Plumstone Road. Offenders of this nature tend to target elderly people and I would encourage all residents to be vigilant and look out for their neighbours and loved ones. I would also urge people not to let strangers into their home unless they can independently confirm their identity and not accept any unsolicited offers for work to be carried out on the spot. If you are ever unsure, ask them to come back at another time when friends or family are around to offer support, and close the door.*

*"I would like to take this opportunity to promote Neighbourhood Watch. We have a brilliant Neighbourhood watch liaison officer at the station, Adam Sackett, and he is constantly updating us and providing us with invaluable intel, protecting your area and keeping you in touch with what crimes of note eg burglaries, fraud are being committed in Thanet. His details are:- :*

*[adam.sackett@kent.police.uk](mailto:adam.sackett@kent.police.uk)*

*"My email is 60457@kent.police.uk but please remember to report all crimes through the correct channels."*

**35. ACOL PARISH COUNCIL – STANDING ORDERS**

The Clerk tabled draft standing orders based on the national standard orders of the NALC.

**RESOLVED: That the standing orders, as tabled, be adopted by Acol Parish Council.**

**36. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN**

(i) **Stagecoach.** A villager had complained to the company about a bus driver refusing to stop at Plumstone Rd junction, insisting there was no bus stop. He took her to the next bus stop, which was at Spitfire Way, about 2 miles out of the village! The Parish Council also wrote to Stagecoach in support of the complaint. An acknowledgement was finally received with an assurance that it will be "looked into".

(ii) **Crown & Sceptre.** The new owners are attending to the building's structure.

(iii) **Traffic monitoring.** The Parish Council has now received a copy of the monitoring conducted since traffic calming was installed. Almost 17,000 vehicle movements were recorded in one day with speeds up to 90+mph!

(iv) **KCC application for government funding.** The government have agreed that KCC's application for almost £50m for a Birchington/Acol/Westgate Relief Road can progress to the next stage. Kent Highways have given an excellent presentation on our behalf and we hope to see funding available within the next few years.

(v) **BT Kiosk.** Parish Council continue to persist with insistence that all previous agreements to retain our kiosk are respected. No response has yet been received.

(vi) **Ptarmigan consultation.** Parish Councillors attended the recent event in Birchington, but Ptarmigan are preoccupied with building 1,600 new houses, to which most attending residents lodged objections.

The Clerk reported that he was still awaiting the final report of the Internal Auditor, David Buckett, and will report to Council as soon as it has been received.

**38. COUNCIL WEB SITE/BROADBAND**

- (i) **Website** - Ray Owen was not in attendance to report; and
- (ii) **Broadband** - Richard Steel reported on discussions with George Chandler (KCC) on a voucher scheme to introduce fibre optics to the Village.

**RESOLVED: That Council support the plan developed with KCC's Broadband Manager, to use the Government's and KCC's Broadband voucher schemes to aggregate grants to finance the estimated £65,000 cost of a Community Broadband Partnership that will provide fibre to Acol properties and superfast (greater than 25 mbps) broadband availability at no additional cost to householders.**

#### 39. **CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported on:

- (1) **Parish Elections** – An invoice had been received in the sum of £232.38 from TDC in respect of elections held on 20 May 2019. The Clerk reminded Members that an election had not been held on that date and that elections for the Parish Council were not held and Members had been returned without a contest.

**RESOLVED: That the invoice be not paid at this stage and TDC be asked to explain the reasons for the invoice.**

- (2) **Salt Bin** – Members were advised that the bin would be ordered and delivered to the Chairman's home for siting once Kent Highways had given its final approval. Karen Ault undertook to agree a siting with other residents on Nursery Fields and these details would be submitted to Kent Highways.

#### 40. **RECREATION GROUND**

Cllr. Hayfield reported:

- (i) **Dog Bins**. Thanks were offered to Ms Ault for her efforts in securing the dog bin.
- (ii) **Repairs to the Post**. The post securing the chains had been repaired and he and the Clerk had met the operatives on site to inspect the work;
- (iii) **Seats to Children's' swings**. **RESOLVED: that the Council purchase 2 swing seats at a cost of £74 each to replace the existing seats which are in poor condition.**
- (iv) **Children's Play Area**. Cllr Hayfield reported that the play area was in a poor condition and that some of the equipment needed replacing. **It was agreed to draw up a costed scheme for the refurbishment of the play area and to submit to Council when the draft budget for 2020/21 was being considered.**

#### 41. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- (i) **Payments Schedule.**

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

<u>Chq No</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Amount</u>
646	SERCO	Grass cut Aug	11.26	67.56*
647	<b>CANCELLED</b>			
648	N. Cooper	Play area repairs	0.00	199.85
649	SERCO	Grass cut Sept	11.26	67.56

\*Cheque 646 was paid prior to the meeting.

- (ii) **Bank balance.**

The following financial details were not available at the meeting.:

Balance at 01.10.19	£12,088.48
Less	267.41
Balance at 10.09.19	£11,821.07

**Cllr. Mrs. Osborne verified the financial details.**

#### 42. **REPORT OF COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Thanet Cllr Roper reported on:

- (i) **Port of Ramsgate** – the apparent purchase of 2 pontoons,;
- (ii) He has been appointed to the Travellers' Sub Committee with a view to identifying a permanent site for travellers;
- (iii) **Ramsgate Race Way** – the proposal will be considered by the Planning Committee but many residents had objected to the scheme;

#### 43. **MATTERS OF REPORT BY MEMBERS**

Cllr. Mrs. Osborne reported that James Wraight would be the guest speaker at the next Thanet Area meeting.

#### 44. **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed to hold the next meeting at 11.00 am on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019.

**Time concluded: 12.25.**



Acol Village Hall Management  
Committee presents:

## **A REINDEER DRIVE**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>  
December at 7.30pm in  
the Village Hall**

**American Supper - Bring your  
own drink**

**Entry: Adults £3.00  
Children £2.00**

### **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. 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](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 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019.