

# **ACOL VILLAGE VOICE**

**June 2018**

## **ACOL TRAFFIC CALMING**

**The Parish Council have received the following communication from Damien Cock of KCC Highways:**

“Further to our discussion on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May, I would be most grateful for your assistance in helping to organise a date in June for KCC to attend Acol Village Hall to engage with the local parishioners and residents to discuss the proposed Acol traffic calming scheme. Once a date has been organised KCC will deliver a leaflet providing information, design drawings on the proposed scheme and will advise on the arranged meeting date to discuss the scheme. KCC are planning on delivering this scheme on 29<sup>th</sup> July for a duration of 6 weeks but understand there may be some minor changes to the design depending on the outcome of the meeting.

Best Regards

Damien Cock | Schemes Project Manager | Highways, Transportation & Waste | Kent County Council

Thus it would seem that 20 years of badgering and agitating has at last born fruit, although it is not clear whether this is the scheme initially outlined at the meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017, or a revised scheme. However we do have a date and duration for Implementation, which is perhaps grounds for optimism!

**THE CONSULTATION MEETING WILL PROVISIONALLY BE HELD ON MONDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> JUNE in the Village Hall between 5.00pm and 7.00pm, subject to the outcome of an internal KCC review on 7<sup>th</sup> June. Please attend if you are able. We will keep everyone as fully informed as we can as details emerge.**

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

The draw will be held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018, and the results published in the next edition of Viollage Voice. Should you have any questions, or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne (840901).

## FORTHCOMING VILLAGE HALL EVENTS

Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> June	5.00pm - 7.00pm	ACOL TRAFFIC CALMING MEETING
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> Jul	6.00pm	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

### ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

Following the resignation of a Parish Councillor (see Minutes of Parish Council dated 14<sup>th</sup> May), a vacancy on the Parish Council has occurred. In accordance with the election guidelines, this vacancy has been advertised on the Parish Noticeboard, but has not elicited any interest, so it will not be necessary to hold an election to fill the vacancy. The next step in the process is for individuals to put themselves forward for co-option onto the Council (by 10<sup>th</sup> June), with the Parish Council having the task of selecting a new Councillor from among those putting themselves forward. If this in turn proves unsuccessful, the final stage is for the Parish Council to approach individuals and invite them to become Parish Councillors. If you wish to be considered for this post, then please contact either Sheila Bransfield Chair, Acol PC, on or Roy Wade, the Parish Clerk.

On a different topic, there have been complaints about the amount of dog mess being found on the Recreation Ground. Please can I remind residents that they are free to walk their dogs on this communal space only on condition that they clear up after them? Not only is dog mess unpleasant., it is a health hazard, and makes the Rec unusable for children, who are the intended users. Should the problem persist the Parish Council will regrettably be forced to reintroduce the ban on dogs using the site, which would be a shame for the majority of users who abide by the rules.



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## **USEFUL INFORMATION**

### ***REFUSE COLLECTIONS***

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

11<sup>th</sup> June

25<sup>th</sup> June

9<sup>th</sup> July

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

18<sup>th</sup> June

2<sup>nd</sup> July

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

### ***NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH.***

Please ensure that Iris Osborne (on 840901) has your contact details to advise you of suspicious behaviour or local crimes.

### ***VILLAGE HALL***

Please ring **841691** for enquiries or to book the Hall.

### **REGULAR BOOKINGS**

Monday afternoons (term time) - Pam's People

First Tuesday evening - AHS meeting

All other Tuesday evenings, Dance Fitness Class

Wednesday 9.00 to 16.30 (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/)

Friday 9.00 to 16.30 (term time), Village Textiles

Monthly, Saturdays, 10am-4pm - Phoenix Quilters.

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

### **FUTURE BOOKINGS**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 5 - 7pm - **TRAFFIC CALMING EXHIBITION** from Kent Highways.

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July, 6pm, Acol Parish Council Meeting.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2.30 - 4.30pm, AHS SUMMER SHOW.

### ***CCTV CAMERAS***

Any incident or damage in The Street can be reported to 844706 for culprits to be identified.

### ***ACOL PARISH COUNCIL***

The Parish Council website can be found at: [www.hugofox.com/community/acol-parish-council-13724/contact/](http://www.hugofox.com/community/acol-parish-council-13724/contact/)

THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 6p.m. on MONDAY 9th July. You can 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.

Sheila Bransfield

**ACOL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 18.00 hours in**  
**the Village Hall, The Street, Acol**

**Present:** Councillors Miss Sheila Bransfield, D Hayfield, J Inchley & Mrs. Osborne

**Also Present:** R Wade (Clerk to the Council)

**10. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Parish Assembly and Annual General Meetings held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**12. RESIGNATION OF FORMER COUNCILLOR RICHARD STEEL**

The Clerk reported that Mr. Steel had resigned from the Parish Council. TDC has been advised of the resignation and a notice advertising the vacancy displayed on the parish notice board. Members would be kept informed of the situation.

**13. CHAIRMAN'S REPORTS**

The Chairman reported upon the following:

**(i) Crown & Sceptre**

Torran were in "Breach of Conditions" when they removed the roof. At the Planning Committee meeting in February 2015, they said they would retain the facade of the building and this was included as a Condition of the Planning Approval of March 2015. APC has pointed out this fact to the Planning Inspectorate. When the Section 215 was served upon Torran by TDC in December 2017, they omitted to confirm that there was no Right of Appeal for such a contravention.

The closing date for responses to the alleged Appeal was 9<sup>th</sup> May.

**(ii) Highway Matters**

The results of the Traffic Monitoring have been received and the results are now known. The total volume of traffic for one week, from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February inclusive, was 78,721 and the number of vehicles speeding at over 36mph was 3,708, although it was 10,392 if we include everyone over 30mph. It would appear that only 8 were driving at over 50mph, which is still too many through our little lanes.

It would appear that, unless there is another route, a traffic calming programme in Acol would be ineffective in cutting volumes. The only solution would be the extension to Columbus Avenue, which would also prevent motorcycles using it as a race track late in the evenings. APC has been campaigning for this extension for over 20 years and Kent Highways have recently highlighted it as a priority, but no finance has ever been secured for it. Likewise, TDC have never enforced their policy that any company wishing to build a commercial property in Thanet would be expected to contribute to the cost of improvements to the infrastructure.

**(iii) Southern Water**

Southern Water has now responded to our question about the provision for sewage disposal from the new Maple Leaf Industrial Estate. They said "The solutions considered are for flows to go east and not to Acol WPS." That is not a commitment, so we will keep a watch on this.

**(iv) Alleged Flooding**

The Environment Agency has responded to our request about alleged flooding. They assured us that their information is correct, even though it is not. It is apparent that not all insurance companies use the incorrect data and, therefore, anyone who experiences unnecessary increases in premiums, should use a different company.

**(v) Planning**

Housing on Manston Airport. APC will respond as before, but every individual is able to respond.

Birchington Vale Caravan Park. An additional caravan site is proposed instead of a golf course. Not in our parish, but of interest because we may be able to get them on side for the Columbus Avenue extension.

**(vi) BT Kiosk**

Several emails have been sent to BT advising that the phone is decommissioned. We have been assured there is a fault that will be repaired.

**14. REPORT OF THE POLICE/COMMUNITY WARDENS/PCSOs**

No officers were in attendance to report, but PCSO, Shane Arniszewski, asked to be advised of any issues raised at this meeting. He also advised that he would be conducting speed checks on either 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> May, following concerns raised by residents along The Street.

**15. RECREATION GROUND/PLAY AREA**

Councillor Hayfield reported that the works to make good and reseed the play area had been carried out to his satisfaction. The operatives who carried out the works would return in the Autumn to reseed the grassed area if that was needed. An invoice for payment had been received.

**16. PARISH COUNCIL'S WEB SITE**

**RESOLVED: That (A) the offer from Mr. Richard Steel to continue to maintain and update the web site be accepted with thanks; and (B) Mr. Steel draft an item, for approval by the Clerk, setting out the proposals by Kent Highways to undertake traffic calming measures within the Village.**

**17. CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported that:

(a) Four requests under the Freedom of Information Act had been received from Richard Steel. The Clerk advised Mr. Steel that it was not necessary to use F.o.I.s, as requests made by residents would be dealt with. The requests related to:

- (i) the duties of the Clerk (job description),
- (ii) defraying the cost to the local tax payer to purchase a lap top for compliance with the transparency code,
- (iii) a copy of the compliance scheme; and
- (iv) details of training that had been undertaken by councillors.

Members were advised that these requests would be researched, and Mr. Steel responded to.

(b) Members were advised that Government was now reconsidering the need to appoint data protection officers and a decision would be made in late May on this matter.

(c) Serco – the maintenance contract had now been renewed and Serco were continuing the grass cutting at the recreation ground. Members were reminded that no invoices had been received for several months to cover the cost of the service. This would impact upon the Council's bank balance when they are received and paid.

**18. FINANCIAL MATTERS/AUDIT OF PARISH COUNCIL RECORDS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2007**

The Clerk reported that the internal audit had been undertaken by Eric Fewkes and no matters of concern had been raised

**RESOLVED: That (A) the financial records tabled at the meeting for the period to 31 March 2018 be approved and the Chairman be authorised to sign off the document to enable them to be submitted for audit**

**Payments Schedule**

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

<u>Chq No</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Amount</u>
597	Quex Estates	Rent on Rec	0.00	60.00
598	Neil Cooper	Play area	0.00	310.00
599	KALC	Subscription	26.73	169.39
600	KALC	Seminar fee	10.00	60.00
601	Roy Wade	Salary & Exp.	6.33	493.56
602	HMRC	PAYE	00.00	110.00

**19. REPORTS OF MEMBERS**

**Cllr. Mrs. Osborne** reported :

(i) Village Hall – Two funding grants had been received for the refurbishment of the Village Hall Kitchen; one from the KCC Village Hall funds and the other from the KCC members funds,

(ii) The property opposite her is to be demolished and TDC has advised that planning permission is needed to demolish

(iii) Site at Spitfire Corner – The site has been cleared and is being offered for leasing.

**Cllr. Inchley** had no matters to report upon.

**Cllr Hayfield** reminded Members of the need for Council to keep its data secure.

The Clerk was advised to set up a Parish Council email account and Cllr. Inchley said he would meet with the Clerk and advise on the measures to be put in place.

**Time concluded: 18.55**

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## MINSTER SURGERY

### SPRING FAYRE Saturday 12th May

Thank you to everyone who supported us at our Spring Fayre and who took part in our raffle. A full list of prizes and prize winners is displayed on our notice board at the surgery.

All proceeds from this event will go towards our new fund-raising project.

### NEW FUND-RAISING PROJECT

Recent guidelines from NHS England regarding the accuracy of diagnoses based on "one off" blood pressure readings it has now been recommended that 24 hour monitoring will enable a more accurate assessment and diagnosis to be made.

We are therefore looking to purchase additional 24 hour blood pressure equipment for patients own use at home, at a cost of approximately £950 per 24 hour ABPM equipment.

Full details are shown on our notice board in the waiting room.

### MISSED APPOINTMENTS

43 PATIENTS DID NOT ATTEND THEIR DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENT and

44 PATIENTS DID NOT ATTEND THEIR NURSES APPOINTMENT

So that is still 87 WASTED APPOINTMENTS - Remember - Don't need it - cancel it.

### "FRIENDS AND FAMILY" SURVEY

A total of 142 patients responded last month with the following results:

Extremely likely/Likely - 93%; Extremely unlikely/Unlikely - 4%; Unsure/Don't know - 3%

### 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 28th June and Wednesday 18th 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 (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.

#### 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 (842764).

### **And finally, on a personal note....**

May I extend my grateful thanks to my friends and neighbours for their support and assistance in locating Thomas, a large and inquisitive black & white cat, who managed to get himself shut in to a neighbour's garage? He disappeared at tea-time on Thursday, and did not reappear that night (he usually appears on the bed in the small hours, taking up as much space as he can!) The next morning I distributed a flyer to my neighbours asking them to check outhouses etc. They all responded immediately, and within less than half an hour I had received a phone call from Suzanne, my neighbour, who reported that Thomas was sitting looking out of her garage window without a care in the world. One bowl of food later and he was as right as rain - rather better than Barbara and I who had had a very sleepless night!

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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 [villagevoice@btinternet.com](mailto:villagevoice@btinternet.com).

**This edition of Village Voice has been sponsored by Iris Osborne in memory of her husband Ted who died on 29th 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 2018.