

ACOL VILLAGE VOICE

March 2017

KCC CONSULTATIONS - MANSTON and PARKWAY STATION

For those of you who are not tempted to plough through the minutes of the Parish Council meetings, it is perhaps worth highlighting two key messages:

1 Villagers are reminded to repond to the Draft Local Plan by Friday 17 March.

2 The presentation that took place in the village was attended by more people from Cliffsend and Sandwich than from Acol.

Response to the consultation can be made by Sunday 19 March and an extention to Columbus Avenue needs to be emphasised, in order to accommodate the obvious increase in traffic.

"Cllrs Crow-Brown and Gregory advised the meeting that the extension has become a priority for Kent Highways and the more pressure that can be applied by villagers, the better."

The Proposed Revisions to the Local Plan as they relate to Manston Airport will undoubtedly generate much opposition from well established organisations and lobby groups. In addition there is a Secretary of State Enquiry to be held shortly. Furthermore, in due course the Government will consider the strategic case for retaining Manston as an operational airport, which will depend on the viability of the plans put forward by Riveroak and other interested Airport operators. However there is an opportunity to object to the change of use proposed in the draft revised Local Plan, and we should none of us complain of the outcome if we fail to register our views at the appropriate time.

The Parkway Station, however, while it may benefit Thanet as a whole (in particular it may prove invaluable in 2020, when the Open Golf returns to Royal St Georges), will impact upon Acol and the lives of every resident. Such a threat needs everyone to respond individually, to express their concerns about the proposed access routes from the Northern coastal strip (Margate, Westgate, Birchington) to Cliffesend.

KCC needs to be reminded that road access needs improving, by way of EXTENDING COLUMBUS AVENUE.

ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 CLUB

Winners for the Month of March 2017 were:

Member no.71 who won 1st prize of £20.50

Member no. 37, who won 2nd prize of £12.30 and

Member no. 95, who won 3rd prize of £8.20

£41.00 was donated to the Village Hall funds

The next draw will be on Wednesday 5th April 2017. Should you have any questions, or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne on 01843 840901

FORTHCOMING VILLAGE HALL EVENTS

Sat 18 th Mar	6.30 for 7.00pm	Social Evening, Dinner and Quiz
Sat 1 st Apr	2.30pm	AHS SPRING SHOW
Mon 10 th Apr	6.00pm	Acol Village Hall Management Committee AGM
Sat 16 th Apr	2.30pm	AHS Late Spring Show

RELEVANT INFORMATION

CCTV CAMERAS

Please ring the Parish Council, on 844706, to report any accident or incident between Dilnot Lane and Margate Hill. Drivers who cause any damage in the village can be identified and reported to the police for action.

REFUSE COLLECTION - MONDAYS

Refuse (black) & waste food	Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food
	13 th March
20 th March	27 th March
3 rd April	

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/

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

(Check hall calendar or email Sheila.Bransfield@btinternet.com for dates)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

FRI 17TH MARCH - DEADLINE FOR RESPONSE TO TDC DRAFT LOCAL PLAN, TO EMPHASISE THE URGENT NEED TO EXTEND COLUMBUS AVENUE

Sat 18th March, 7pm - Village Quiz (courtesy of Vera and Charlie George)

SUN 19TH MARCH - DEADLINE FOR RESPONSE TO PARKWAY STATION CONSULTATION, WITH EMPHASIS ON EXTENDING COLUMBUS AVENUE

Sat 1st April, 2pm - AHS Spring Show

Mon 10th April, 6pm - Acol Village Hall Management Committee AGM

Sun 16th April, all day - AHS Late Spring Show

THUR 4TH MAY, ALL DAY - KCC ELECTION

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Contact Iris Osborne, 840901, for information and updates for NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH.

PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE

Ring 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 MEETINGS WILL BE THE PARISH ASSEMBLY AT 6PM ON MONDAY 24TH APRIL 2017, FOLLOWED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL AGM AT 6.30PM, OR AFTER ASSEMBLY MEETING.

Sheila Bransfield

Minster Surgery

MISSED APPOINTMENTS

30 PATIENTS DID NOT ATTEND THEIR DOCTOR,S APPOINTMENT!

65 PATIENTS DID NOT ATTEND THEIR NURSES APPOINTMENT!

Please remember - DON'T NEED IT? CANCEL IT! By Phone, By Text, On Line.

"WALK FOR LIFE" ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

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. These take place every Thursday at 10.30 so please come along and join us, or If you would like further information please contact the surgery.

SPRING FAYRE

Our Annual Spring Fayre will take place on Saturday 13th March at Old Schools Hall Minster. Tables are on sale now, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

"FRIENDS AND FAMILY" SURVEY

Last month patients responses were as follows:

Extremely likely/Likely - 92%; Extremely unlikely/Unlikely - 5%; Unsure/Don't know - 3%

SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS

Please note that the surgery will close for staff training at Mid-day on the following days
Thursday 30th March; Wednesday 26th April; Wednesday 24th May.

BANK HOLIDAYS;

The surgery will be closed all day on: Good Friday 14th April and Easter Monday 17th April
Monday 1st May; and Monday 29th May

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, dial " 999 " as normal.

PATIENT GROUP MEETING

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

ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Acol Parish Council meeting held at 2pm on Tuesday 28th February 2017 in the Village Hall, Acol.

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

Also Present: Cllrs Crow-Brown & Gregory (TDC) and Roy Wade (Clerk to the Council)

66. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Hall (APC), Latchford (KCC), Community Warden Gander and PCSO Raisbeck.

67. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Meeting held on 12th January 2017, subject to an amendment to the minute number 64, be approved and signed by the Chairman.

68. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

69. REPORT OF THE POLICE AND COMMUNITY WARDENS

No officers were in attendance to report but the Chairman read the report of PCSO Raisbeck setting out that 156 phone calls had been logged from the villages but none related to Acol.

70. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported upon:

BT Kiosk

Emails and letters sent to Iain Livingstone, TDC Planning, but no replies received.

An article appeared in 15 February's Thanet Extra, announcing TDC's intention to retain 2 kiosks, in Acol and Sarre. An attempt to contact Mr Livingstone by phone failed, as he is on holiday. No one else knows anything, so he will be contacted next week.

2 Church Cottages

Emails and letters were also sent to Mr Livingstone to ask why Acol Parish Council had not been notified of the planning application for 2 Church Cottages. He will be asked next week.

Update on Manston

Villagers are reminded to repond to the Draft Local Plan by Friday 17 March.

Update on Parkway Station Consultation

The presentation that took place in the village was attended by more people from Cliffsend and Sandwich than from Acol.

Response to the consultation can be made by Sunday 19 March and an extension to Columbus Avenue needs to be emphasised, in order to accommodate the obvious increase in traffic.

Cllrs Crow-Brown and Gregory advised the meeting that the extension has become a priority for Kent Highways and the more pressure that can be applied by villagers, the better.

Dog waste bin

Although emails have been sent to the appropriate TDC department and no replies received, Councillors and the Clerk pointed out that TDC are adamant there is no proper place to stop their vehicle for clearing the bin. It was agreed that the pull in allowed by Quex Estates, adjacent to the stile, would be adequate, particularly as that part of Acol Hill has clear vision for traffic to pass. TDC will be approached again, with a further request that a dog waste bin be installed by the stile.

Members noted that Cllrs Crow-Brown and Gregory would discuss with TDC a suitable siting for the bins

Highways

Highways have not responded to our earlier emails, forwarded by Paul Valek, and two more repairs are now required to damaged drains. Photos will be sent to them in the next few days.

71. RECREATION GROUND.

Councillor Hayfield reported that Bob Lawrence and Norman Chidwick had kindly repaired the fence and the Council recorded its appreciation for their help. Enquiries are in progress for acquiring bark for the play area.

72. CRISPE ROAD – SOUTHERN WATER AUTHORITY

A response has now been received from CCWater that agrees with Southern Water. They are satisfied that everything is being done in conjunction with UK Power Networks. Due to the many additional buildings appearing on the Manston Industrial Estate, however, it is essential that a dedicated sewage pumping station be installed there. This matter will be taken to the next step in the Complaints Procedure.

A new company, Business Stream, will be taking over the commercial side of Southern Water's business, but only as a contact. I shall write to ask them how this will impact upon our contact with SWater.

73. ACOL PARISH COUNCIL – WEB SITE

At the recent meeting of the Thanet Area Committee for the Kent Association of Local Councils, a KALC representative had recommended a private company to set up a Parish Council website. The Chairman and Clerk reported upon discussions with the KCC and the KALC on improvements that could be undertaken to make the Parish Council's web site more user friendly. The Chairman reported that she was investigating the services offered by the private company, Hugo Fox. In response to Cllr. Gregory the Clerk was asked to discuss possible future arrangements with Paul Drake, Clerk to St Nicholas at Wade Parish Council.

75. LITTER PICKING INITIATIVE

The Chairman reported that Richard Steel was not able to attend the meeting but had advised her that he was prepared to produce and distribute leaflets around the Village seeking support for the initiative. There also followed a discussion on what equipment would be needed, such as high-viz jackets, litter-picking sticks and black sacks. Members raised various issues, such as insurance cover, and the Clerk was asked to discuss with Cllr. John Quittenden, who had set up the Minster initiative and report back to Council.

76. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported that he was discussing with TDC the provision of bark for play area and would report further.

77. FINANCIAL MATTERS - PAYMENTS

RESOLVED: That (A) That the following payments be authorised

563	R Wade 1/4 Salary	£440.00
564	HMRC – PAYE	110.00
565	R WADE – Printing cartridge	16.00

And;

(B) the bank balance at 1 February 2017 was £9637.05 be noted.

78. REPORTS OF COUNCILLORS CROW-BROWN & GREGORY (TDC)

Cllr Crow-Brown: (i) TDC Savings – reported that economies and savings had been made; (ii) Fly tipping – was a growing problem and TDC had been given the powers to fine people who fly tipped up to £400; and (iii) he had attended the opening of the Princess of Wales reserves ceremony.

Cllr. Gregory: (i) Manston Fire School – The Ministry of Defence was being criticised for the black smoke resulting from the exercises and were looking at whether the Fire School should be re-located; (ii) Regional Authority – A meeting would be held on 22 March to discuss further the possible creation of a regional authority in East Kent; and (iii) TDC Budget 2017-18 - the budget had been agreed but concerns were still being discussed at the proposed level of car parking charges.

79. MATTERS FOR REPORT BY MEMBERS

No matters were raised.

80. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed to hold the

- (i) Parish Assembly meeting at 6 pm on 24th April 2017; and
- (ii) Annual General Meeting at 6.30pm, or upon the closing of the Parish Assembly meeting, on 24th April 2017.

Time concluded: 15.05

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Tuesday 21 March, 7p.m.
Russian Vocal Virtuosi – The Hermitage Ensemble
Concert at St Nicholas-at-Wade church in Kent

The Hermitage Ensemble is a choir consisting of top Russian soloists from the various opera, ballet, theatre and concert groups of St Petersburg. The group have been performing their unique mixture of Orthodox chants and folk music, with some modern hits too, in churches across Europe for twenty years. Their sound has been described as "one moment like a Slavic barber shop quartet and the next like the massed ranks of the Red Army Choir".

Tickets cost £12 in advance (St Nicholas post office or online as shown below), £15 on the door. Admission free for under 18s

Full information: <http://bit.ly/StNickNews>

<p>ACOL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY</p> <p>SPRING SHOW</p> <p>SATURDAY 1st APRIL</p> <p>Acol Village Hall</p> <p>Daffodils Tulips Other Spring Flowers FLORAL ART - DOMESTIC - HANDICRAFTS - PHOTOGRAPHY</p> <p>Phone for Schedule 07748 346031</p> <p>Teas etc. Raffle</p> <p>Doors Open 2.30 - 4.30pm</p>	<p>ACOL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY and WINCHEAP ALLOTMENTS ASSOC.</p> <p>LATE SPRING SHOW</p> <p>For Daffodils and Tulips Open to Members and Non Members</p> <p>SUNDAY 16th APRIL</p> <p>Acol Village Hall Doors Open 2.30 - 4.30pm Staging Judging 5.00pm</p> <p>Afternoon Tea 4.30 - 5.00pm Entry £1</p>
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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.

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 April 2017.