

ACOL VILLAGE VOICE

September 2017

NEW PARISH WEBSITE

Following years of struggling to utilise the KCC hosted Acol Website for the benefit of the villagers, the Parish Council have admitted defeat and taken advantage of the expertise of new Councillor Richard Steel to produce a richer, more user-friendly Website of our own.

The new parish website:

<https://www.hugofox.com/community/acol-parish-council-13724/about-us>

will host official Council content, including Council meeting minutes, copies of newsletters and information about local planning applications. At present, this is a "work in progress" but we expect the site will be completed soon. Thereafter it will be regularly maintained and kept up-to-date.

And an Acol Community Facebook Page

There is also, now, a new Facebook page for our community. The Acol Village Facebook site... <https://facebook.com.acol.village> is independent of the parish website, providing an informal medium for community engagement with, and discussion, of local issues, news, events and activities.

Separate Sections provide for **Posts** from the administrators, **Community** observations, comments and discussion, the sharing of **Photos**, which may be arranged into albums, information about upcoming **Events** and the organisation of local **Groups**.

We know that not all of us are comfortable with using social media, but you don't need a Facebook account to view the content (except for "Group" material, to which you must be subscribed) and whether you contribute directly, or not, we hope you'll find the site useful.

Some of the initially planned content will comprise occasional articles on village history, but let us know what you would like to see!

Our Village Facebook page is currently administered by Richard Steel, but Richard is keen to hear from any villagers who may be able to help manage the site, whether that may be in managing the content for a local group, providing holiday cover or a more general editorial role. Use the "Send Message" button to get in-touch, or 'phone 845363.

ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 CLUB

The next draw will be held on 6th September. Should you have any questions, or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne on 01843 840901.

ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the meeting of Acol Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Acol on Monday 4th September 2017 held in the Village Hall, Acol.

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

Also present: Councillor Crow-Brown

Apologies: PCSO Raisbeck & KCC Warden Tony Gander.

25. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd July 2017, as amended, be approved and signed by the Chairman.

26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

27. REPORT OF THE POLICE/COMMUNITY WARDENS/PCSO'S

No officers were in attendance to report. However the Chairman reported that PCSO Raisbeck had submitted a written report covering the Thanet parishes and the 2 reported, minor, incidents relating to Acol.

28. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported upon Kent Highways.

Houses were flooded after a rain and hail storm a few weeks ago and Southern Water came to clear the drains, with a follow-up attendance shortly afterwards. Minster Road was seen to be flooded again last Thursday, following a downpour, especially by the duck pond. No reports of house flooding were received, so hopefully the drain clearance was successful, but we would ask residents to advise Parish Council if they experienced flooding.

At the July meeting, there was mention of traffic monitoring strips seen by Sycamore Cottage. Highway alleged to have no knowledge of them, but we have been advised that they were possibly arranged by RiverOak in relation to an extension to Columbus Avenue.

The Parish Council has contacted Paul Valek today in relation to a few matters, including an all-day burning street lamp and, especially, the weeds growing along the Dilnot Lane wall and the duck pond.

29. CRISPE ROAD – SOUTHERN WATER AUTHORITY

The Chairman reported that Sir Roger Gale M.P. had arranged a meeting for the 15th September with representatives from SWA to discuss the ongoing problems due to failures at the pumping station and invited P.C. Members to attend. The Chairman will ask SWA if a separate pumping station will be constructed for the new buildings on Manston Industrial Estate, especially the new Maple Leaf development, as was promised some time ago.

30. CROWN & SCEPTRE SITE

The Chairman reported upon her correspondence with Iain Livingstone (TDC Planning) in respect of the Parish Council's concerns over the procedures followed in respect of the development of the former public house site

Cllr. Crow-Brown had asked for the application to be "called in" to TDC's Planning Committee and Mr Livingstone has acknowledged its receipt and will confirm to which Committee it will be considered. It will definitely not be September's.

Members expressed surprise that the application site had not been listed and the Chairman indicated that she would send photos of the premises to English Heritage and seek their advice.

31. LITTER PICKING INITIATIVE

Cllr. Steel reported he had purchased equipment for the litter picking team and that he would pass the invoices to the Clerk for payment. The team had litter picked the Village and 6 bags of rubbish had been collected. Members were further advised that he would arrange to meet the manager of McDonald's restaurant to discuss the litter emanating from their premises.

The Chairman thanked Richard for undertaking this initiative.

32. FACEBOOK & PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

Council were advised by Councillor Steel of the initiative to create a Parish Council Facebook and Website to allow more detailed information to be made available to the residents of Acol.

However in respect of the Facebook site Members expressed some reservations and it was agreed to meet to discuss this matter separately.

33. RECREATION GROUND

Cllr. Hayfield reported that he and Norman Chidwick had assembled and installed the picnic table in the Recreation Ground.

The Council thanked David and Norman for their efforts and also David for purchasing materials and constructing a gate to facilitate disabled entry. The total cost of all materials for the table and gate had cost £260.00 and Members were reminded that a budget of £500.00 had been allocated for the project.

The Clerk was asked to arrange for RoSPA to inspect the facilities within the Recreation Ground.

34. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported that he would be on leave until 26th September but that he would continue to monitor matters of importance to the Village and keep Members fully advised.

35. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (i) Bank balance: The balance at 1 September 2017 was £10387.40 and Members were advised that within this budget was £425.60 which was the balance from the APEG account.

36. REPORT OF COUNCILLORS MS DAWSON & GREGORY (KCC), & CROW-BROWN(TDC)

Councillor Crow-Brown advised that TDC was facing the prospect of making budget cuts of £2m. The debate on car parking and charging for on-street parking was continuing.

Visitor numbers to Thanet had substantially increased to the levels of the 1970s and Wetherspoons had opened premises in Ramsgate.

Finally Members were advised that TDC had served a section 215 notice on the owners of the land at Spitfire corner requiring it to be cleared of rubbish.

37. MATTERS OF REPORT BY MEMBERS

Cllr. Mrs. Osborne:

- (i) Andrew Field, the Speedwatch co-ordinator, had resigned and Cllr. Searle from St. Nicholas at Wade would be taking over these duties.
- (ii) Jonathan Cole was seeking advice from TDC on a proposal to construct a car port on the land adjacent to the Chapel of Rest; and
- (iii) Enquired whether planning consent was being sought for the development of land in Plumstone Road.

There were no additional reports from Members.

38. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date for the next meeting will be 27 November 2017 at 14.00 hours

Time concluded 18.30pm

RELEVANT INFORMATION

RECREATION FIELD

Please note that a picnic table has been installed on the field, beside the children's play area. As there are no waste bins on the field, could we respectfully remind you to take your litter home with you.

Quex Estates have consented to the erection of a self-closing gate, adjacent to Acol Hill, to facilitate disabled access. This was considered the best replacement for the broken stile. Cars may be parked in the space that Quex kindly leave for us. We are most grateful to Quex Estates for their continued support.

REFUSE COLLECTION - MONDAYS

Refuse (black) & waste food	Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food
18 th September	11 th September
2 nd October	25 th September
	9 th October

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, 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 information)

DIARY DATES FOR THIS YEAR

Sat 23rd September, all day - AHS Autumn Show

Sat 14th October, eve - AVHMC Quiz

Sat 28th October, eve - AHS Race Night

Sat 4th November, a.m. to 3pm - AHS Autumn Fayre

Tue 7th November, 7.30pm, AHS AGM

Sat 2nd December, eve - AHS Christmas Party

Sat 9th December, eve - AVHMC Seniors' Dinner

Fri 15th December, eve - St Mildred's Carol Service

Sat 16th December, eve - AVHMC Reindeer Drive

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH. Ring Iris Osborne on 840901 for information or to be included in notifications of suspicious activity or crimes.

CCTV CAMERAS

Please report any incident in The Street to the Parish Council on 844706.

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.

Sheila Bransfield

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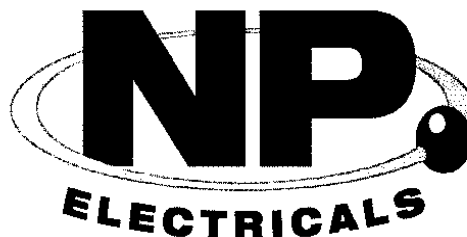
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Minster Surgery

SEASONAL WINTER 'FLU VACCINATIONS 2017

Vaccination Clinics will be held on the following days:

Saturday 23rd September and Saturday 14th October from 9.00 am and 1.00 pm.

Appointments are now available and can be made in the usual way via the surgery.

MISSED APPOINTMENTS

A slight reduction, probably due to the holiday period.

Last Month: 35 PATIENTS DID NOT attend their DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENT

46 PATIENTS DID NOT attend their NURSES APPOINTMENT

DON'T NEED IT? - CANCEL IT! KEEP FORGETTING? - GET TEXT REMINDER SERVICE.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY SURVEY

Last month we received 201 patient responses as follows:

Extremely likely/Likely - 90%; Extremely unlikely/Unlikely - 6%; Unsure/Don't know - 4%

'WALK FOR LIFE' ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

Join us every Thursday morning at 10.30am for a walk around the local area for about an hour or so, and meet old and new friends. Bring your pets as well, they might also enjoy the exercise and make new friends!

SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS

Please note that the surgery will close from 1.00 pm onwards on the following days:

Staff Training - Thursday 28th September; Wednesday 18th October and
Thursday 30th November.

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

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 111 direct, to receive "non-urgent" confidential health advice and information for you and your family.

For Urgent/Life threatening cases please dial 999 as normal.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

Our ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR will be held on SATURDAY 18th NOVEMBER.

As this is our most popular event, tables are highly sought after, and are on sale NOW!

PATIENT GROUP MEETING

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

Acol Village Hall Management Committee

The response to the suggestion of a Christmas event for the younger generation has been rather disappointing - clearly this has not excited the level of interest we had hoped for, and therefore we have had to think again.



Robin Burrows of Vine Cottage has suggested that we hold a Christmas Party for all age groups on Sunday 17th December, probably starting at 6.30pm.

He has also offered the services of his band - Ozzie and the Ugliers - to provide a couple of hours of live music. All that would be required would be for attendees to provide drinks and nibbles, and pay an entrance charge (as yet to be determined) on the door.

The band are a professional covers band, and they have a vast repertoire ranging from modern Funk to Sixties classics. They perform throughout the Thanet area and can be found gigging most weeks - see their website:

<https://www.facebook.com/ozzieandtheugliers/>

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ACOL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

AUTUMN SHOW

With

**THANET BEEKEEPERS
Assoc. HONEY SHOW**

Saturday 23rd Sept.

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Acol Village Hall Management Committee cont.

Don't forget we are holding one of our regular Quiz Nights on Saturday, 14th October.

Doors will open at 7.00pm, and the Quiz will start at 7.30. We are looking for teams of 8 - but if you can't make up an eight, then turn up anyway and we will fit you in!

Admission will be £3-00 per head.

There will be an American Supper, and you will need to bring your own drink.

Senior Citizens Christmas Party

As usual, we will be raffling a Christmas Hamper to raise funds towards this event, which is open to all over 60s. Last year the Hamper raised more than £140, and it would be great if we could top that this year.

Any donations of Christmas Food and/or Drink would be gratefully received. Please contact Jon on 847705, or any other member of the Management Committee.

Observed in Plumstone Road



Thanks to Tony Burgess for these pictures of the sort of stuff that gets dumped - as he says, it will be a Bus next!

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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 postage.

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.

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 October 2017.