

ACOL VILLAGE VOICE

May 2022

ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 CLUB

Winners for the Month of April 2022 were:

Member no. 78 who won 1st prize of £20.00
Member no. 54, who won 2nd prize of £10.00 and
Member no. 8, who won 3rd prize of £5.00

Winners for the Month of May 2022 were:

Member no. 48 who won 1st prize of £20.00
Member no.182, who won 2nd prize of £10.00 and
Member no. 62, who won 3rd prize of £5.00

£70.00 was donated to the Village Hall funds

The next draw will be on Wednesday 1st June 2022. Should you have any questions, or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne (838829).

FORTHCOMING VILLAGE HALL EVENTS

Sat. 4 th June,	daytime,	JUBILEE FETE in garden of Thane House
Tues. 7 th Jun	7.30pm	AHS MEMBERS ROSE SHOW
Sat. 14 th Jun	7.30pm	AHS QUIZ NIGHT

IN ACOL TWENTY IS PLENTY

The response to our article in the April Village Voice was overwhelmingly positive, so we went ahead with publication of the petition, which, at the time of writing, has so far received 172 signatures. If you haven't signed yet, please do so at <https://www.change.org/In-Acol-Twenty-Is-Plenty>

Please also help in sharing/ publicising the petition. We will keep you updated via the Acol Facebook Group and Village Voice.

Many thanks for responses to the previous article. richardjohnsteel@acol.com

ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING OF ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Assembly Meeting of the Acol Parish Council was held on Monday 4th
April 2022
at 18.00 p.m. in the Acol Village Hall.

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

Also present: Roy Wade (Clerk/RFO) and 1 resident.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Assembly Meeting held on 8th June 2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Mrs. Winpenny.

3. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR 2021/22

The Chairman read the following report of 2021/2022 to the meeting:

- Jubilee Fete on 4th June to commemorate 70 years' service of Her Majesty The Queen.
- Dog-waste bin removed 2016. TDC advise no replacement due to inaccessibility for emptying. Thanks to dog walkers for taking the bags home for disposal.
- July 2021 Serco ceased grounds maintenance, with no notification. We have cancelled contract and engaged a local gardener.
- Wendy Winpenny became a new Parish Councillor in September 2021.
- A defibrillator was fitted outside the village hall in November 2021.
- A new fence fitted south of recreation field in January 2022 by our friends from Minster.
- APC received a kind donation from AVHMC to buy a roundabout for playground. Currently stored within village for fitting when ground dries.
- Kent Highways conducted a traffic monitoring in March 2022, which was not helpful. Cllr Derek Crow-Brown advised that Columbus Avenue extension scheduled for 2025, but we've heard that before. We've only been waiting for 26 years!
- We have lost many valuable people from the village in last 2 years. Very sad.
- Thanks to those resuming meetings, events and various classes. Village returning to normal.
- Many thanks to everyone who undertakes chores on behalf of the village and villagers.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION FORUM

The Chairman invited questions from the members of the public upon any matters appertaining to the Village of Acol.

Karen Ault queried apparent omissions from the Council's website and the Clerk was asked to investigate.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was moved by Cllr. Inchley and seconded by Cllr. Hayfield and

RESOLVED: That Cllr Miss Bransfield be elected Chairman of the Council for the year 2022/23.

Councillor Miss Bransfield took the declaration of acceptance of office and took the Chair.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Councillor Inchley was appointed Vice Chairman of the Council for the year 2022/23.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 2022 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. REPORTS FROM VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Mr. Inchley as Chairman of the Acol Village Hall Management Committee reported as follows:

- We are pleased to report that our committee has survived the problems that everyone has experienced during the past two years and the Hall has returned to full use.
- Obviously, the closure of the venue and the lack of hiring income could have had a detrimental effect on the committee's funds but the central government grant that we received enabled us to maintain our stable financial position. The grant has enabled us to carry out improvements to the Hall that had been planned prior to the pandemic. It also enabled the committee to donate a sum to the Parish Council towards the cost of the play equipment in the Recreation Field, so the entire village could share the benefit.
- With the return to routine meetings towards the end of last summer we went ahead with plans for the Christmas activities – Senior Citizens' Party, Reindeer Drive and Carol Service - but regrettably all had to be cancelled at very short notice due to the onset of the new variant of the virus. There are now plans afoot to hold a Senior Citizens' Party on 6th May, as the food that had been purchased had been retained in storage. It has even survived the recent power cuts thanks to David Hayfield's generator-operated freezer!
- Among enhancements to the facilities during the past year, we have installed a Defibrillator, and provided a weatherproof library box at the Hall. New exterior doors have been fitted during recent weeks and I am sure you will all agree how very smart they look. The floor surface has taken a lot of wear since it was laid several years ago, and the taping that was required during the COVID regulations has left it in a sorry state. We have arranged for the floor to be sanded, sealed, and polished to bring it back into the state we wish to keep it in. This is being done at the end of April and will necessitate the Hall being closed for seven days.
- Although the committee held an AGM last July, no Annual report had been prepared for that year. Therefore, this is our first opportunity to formally place on record our sorrow at the loss of our dear friend Norman Chidwick. He was an invaluable member of our committee over many years and is still very much missed. Likewise, his wife Nancy, who decided that she was no longer able to continue her membership. She is equally missed. We also must record our thanks to Mary Hodgson, for so long the mainstay of the Village Hall Committee, who has agreed to accept the role of Honorary Treasurer but feels unable to continue to take an active role at the age of 95! We must also record with sadness the resignation due to ill-health of Sam Hodgson, long-time Chairman and then member of the Committee, who instituted the Village Hall Support Fund (200 Club).
- The Management Committee would not be able to discharge its responsibilities half as well without the invaluable efforts of our stand-in Treasurer and Secretary, Iris Osborne. Recent events have proved to be an especially busy time for her and we are very much beholden to her, as she facilitates everything we do. We should also acknowledge the efforts of Sheila Bransfield our booking secretary and David Hayfield as principle odd-job man. We are also grateful for the additional help that we have received on many occasions from other residents of the village. We are pleased to welcome several new members to our committee, Karen Ault, Chenice Butterworth, Judith Manser and Bill Yeoman.

- We are looking forward to another successful year in 2022-2023 and we hope to continue with the support of all those who have joined in our events, but we also look forward to seeing new faces. We operate the Hall for the benefit of the village and hope that with the support from everyone our Hall will continue to be the hub of the village.

SpeedWatch – Karen Ault reported on details of the 2 recent speed watch exercises.

5. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS/FINANCIAL MATTERS

(A) Audit of Accounts – The Clerk reported that the audit of the accounts procedure for 2021/22 had been notified. Members had been sent a copy of the details of the expenditure for the year 2021/22 and details of the income for that year would be sent out as soon as possible.

(B) Payments for Authorisation

RESOLVED: That the following payments be made

Cheque No.	Payee & Details	VAT	Amount
735	Hughes and Son – Grass Cut	0.00	140.00
736	AVHMC- Luncheon	0.00	100.00

(C) Bank Balance

The bank balance at 1st April 2022 was £10,297.31p.

(D) Air Ambulance Charity

It was agreed to make a contribution of £50.00 to the Air Ambulance Charity.

6. MEMBERS' REPORTS

Cllr. Inchley reported that the Senior Citizens' Party would take place on 6 May 2022 and reminded Council that it had not been possible to hold it at Christmas because of Covid restrictions. The event would be publicised

Cllr. Hayfield reported that the kiddies' roundabout would be installed as soon as the Recreation Ground dried out.

Meeting Closed at 19.00

ACOL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

AHS's next monthly meeting will be on **Tuesday 7th June at 7.00pm** This is billed as the **Members Rose Show**. If you have a favourite rose that you are proud of then please bring it along. Don't worry if you are not yet a member, we will welcome you and sort something out to enable you to show off (your rose that is). **It is free to members and £3 to non-members. OR you can join the Society: £4 single and £7 for a couple.**

Before that on Saturday 14th May the AHS is holding a QUIZ NIGHT starting promptly at 7.30pm. (start thinking from 7pm). Tickets are **£6 per person**, which will include food. When you buy or order your ticket you will be given an extensive choice of food which will be Fish or Sausage and chips. We do need advance notice so that the food can be ordered. Bring your own drink - whichever stimulates your brain best.

This is a chance for you to really show off the use of the brain! If you can't make up a table of a few then please come along anyway for a pleasurable and fun evening. We can always fit you on a table with other people who will appreciate the use and exploitation of your grey matter. You will soon get to know other people even if you can't remember their names.

Contact Steve or Theresa on 01843 846963.

Bill Yeoman

VILLAGE INFORMATION

VILLAGE HALL

After the new doors were fitted and then the week's closure for refurbishment of the floor, The Hall is now back in use - and looks wonderful! I know we are all delighted that so many improvements and changes have been achieved within such a short time.

The library cupboard outside the hall appears to be in good use and we hope villagers will continue to enjoy its' facilities.

OTHER MATTERS

As the ground on the playground recently became less wet, the new children's roundabout was finally installed. We are grateful to our Minster friends for their efforts in fitting the new fence and the roundabout so quickly, and hope village children will enjoy the playground improvement.

VOLUNTEERS

Sincere thanks are extended to the many village volunteers who help with so many things, including stripping out everything from the Village Hall to accommodate the work on the floor, as well as putting it all back!

Another volunteer has come forward to help fit a new junior basketball hoop on the recreation field. This was requested by a few villagers and the Parish Council's Clerk had a small amount of money allocated for such things and it was recently purchased.

SPECIAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

Saturday 14th May, evening, AHS QUIZ NIGHT.

Saturday 4th June, daytime, Jubilee Fete to be held in the garden of Thane House, with the hall in reserve in case of bad weather.

Tuesday 30th August to Friday 2nd September, the hall is booked by FabTex Quilters and will not be available until Saturday 3rd September.

If you need any information, for contact or confirmation of dates, please ring **841691**.

REFUSE COLLECTIONS

**Refuse (black) Garden Waste (green)
& waste food**

9th May

23rd May

6th June

Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food

16th May

30th May

If you have any problems ring TDC, **577115**, or queries to **577727**.

PCSO

You can contact our PCSO, Eileen Shrubsole, at eileen.shrubsole@kent.police.uk,

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Please ring Iris Osborne on 07951 072914 to register for updates

KENT POLICE

Police East Kent Division Rural Team is available on **07980 978202** for enquiries or information.

ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

Access our website at acolparishcouncil.org.uk. or ring 844706 for any information you need.

Sheila Bransfield

MINSTER SURGERY

Covid-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME - UPDATE:

The LocalVaccine Centre (LVS) which is now located adjacent to Wickes BuildingSupplies" and "Curry's Electrical Store" REMAINS OPEN every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 2pm to 5pm and every Saturday From 8am to 5pm, so if you are not fully jabbed yet just Drop-in - no appointment necessary! OVER 75 and had your first booster 6 months ago, then get your second booster NOW!

Those aged 5 to 15 are also eligible for a vaccine with a second dose 6 weeks later. With schools now reopened after the Easter Holidays now is a good time to get all your family vaccinated!

Vulnerable and Immune suppressant patients are also now eligible for a 4th vaccine, so if you have not received your invitation, please contact the Surgery. Had covid? or been in touch with someone who has, remember it must be at least 6 weeks since your last negative test before you can continue with your vaccination program. More information can be found at: www.nhs.uk or on the "MINSTER SURGERY" Facebook page.

SHINGLES VACCINATION

AGED 70 - 79 BUT NOT HAD YOURS YET? Please Contact the surgery to make an appointment.

"FACE TO FACE" APPOINTMENTS

Patients will continue to receive a telephone consultation from a doctor before being offered an appointment with the relevant healthcare professional. Currently 89% of patients are receiving a "Face to Face" appointment where necessary.

PLEASE NOTE

IT IS STILL mandatory to "WEAR FACE MASKS" when attending the Surgery, Vaccination Clinic or any NHS facility. THANK YOU.

SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS

Bank Holidays - closed all day

Thursday 2nd June (Spring Bank holiday)

Friday 3rd June - Platinum Jubilee

Staff Training - closed from 1pm Wednesday 25th May

REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS

Please ensure you have sufficient medication to last throughout the holiday period submit request at least 3 working days beforehand to allow processing time at the surgery and your chemist. Requests submitted prematurely will be held until the due date unless a specific reason is given.

If you need to see a Doctor during these times

Please Call 111 for NON-URGENT confidential help and advice for you and your family.

For COVID-19 help and advice - Call 119

For URGENT/LIFE threatening Cases Call 999 as normal

ACOL ART GROUP

If you would like to try your hand at drawing or painting **Acol Art Group** meets every Thursday afternoon from 1.30pm. Whether you are an established artist or a beginner, you are all welcome to join the group.

We would be pleased to see you.



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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.

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 send contributions to Village Voice 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 June 2022.