



# UCKFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

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**Town Clerk – Holly Goring**

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A Meeting of the **Environment and Leisure Committee** to be held on  
**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.00pm**  
in  
**The Council Chamber, Civic Centre**

## AGENDA

### 1.0. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members and Officers are reminded to make any declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interests that they may have in relation to items on this Agenda. Should any Member consider that they require a dispensation in relation to any prejudicial interest that they may have, they are asked to make a written application to the Clerk well in advance of the meeting.

Notice should be given at this part of the meeting of any intended declaration. The nature of the interest should then be declared later at the commencement of the item or when the interest becomes apparent.

### 2.0. STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON MATTERS ON THE AGENDA AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

### 3.0. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

### 4.0. MINUTES

4.1. Minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Leisure Committee held on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018

4.2. Action list – For information only  
(Attached)

4.3. Project Monitoring List – For information only  
(Attached)

### 5.0. FINANCE

5.1. To note bills paid

5.2. Income and Expenditure Financial Forecast  
(Attached)

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**6.0. ADMINISTRATION**

- 6.1. Minutes of the Strengthening Local Relationships Liaison Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 (Attached)

**7.0. ENVIRONMENT**

- 7.1. Request from The Church of Holy Cross for the Town Council to remove a Yew tree on the southern side of the churchyard (Attached)
- 7.2. Ridgewood Village Twinning Sign (Attached)
- 7.3. To consider the Town Council's position when dealing with requests for dropped kerbs (Attached)

**8.0. LEISURE**

- 8.1. Hughes Way Play Area Update (Attached)
- 8.2. Request for Netball lines to be added to Victoria and Ridgewood Multi Use Games Areas (Attached)

**9.0. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS**

- 9.1. Road Safety
- 9.2. Speed Indication Device (SID)

**10.0. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

- 10.1. Uckfield Railway Line Parishes (Attached)
- 10.2. West Park LNR and Hempstead Meadows LNR – Supporters Group
- 10.3. Uckfield and District Twinning
- 10.4. Age Concern (Attached)
- 10.5. Luxford Centre Management Committee
- 10.6. Active Uckfield Group
- 10.7. Wealden Bus Alliance

**11.0 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**Holly Goring**  
**Town Clerk**  
6<sup>th</sup> February 2018

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Financial Forecast Environment Leisure as at 30th September 2017

	Apr 17 Actuals £	May 17 Actuals £	Jun 17 Actuals £	Jul 17 Actuals £	Aug 17 Actuals £	Sep 17 Actuals £	Actuals to Date	Budget To Date	Oct 17 Budget £	Nov 17 Budget £	Dec 17 Budget £	Jan 18 Budget £	Feb 18 Budget £	Mar 18 Budget £	Total £	2017/2018 Budgets
<b>Income</b>																
<b>Income</b>																
Weald Hall Events	612	397	289	228	355	665	2,546	12,502	2,083	2,083	2,083	2,083	2,083	2,083	15,044	25,000
Allotments	123	124	16	23	35	0	321	0	0	5,000	0	0	0	0	5,321	5,000
Allotment Deposit	100	200	75	0	0	50	425	0	0	500	0	0	0	0	925	500
Playing Fields & Pitches, Sport Income	382	2,383	102	64	196	157	3,284	2,500	0	0	5,000	0	0	0	8,284	7,500
Playing Fields & Pitches, Event Income	436	166	1	172	3,549	394	4,718	4,400	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,718	4,400
WDC - West Park Culverts Agreement	210	0	0	0	0	0	210	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	210	0
Cemetery - Interments	1,784	337	3,337	1,596	2,491	9,718	19,263	9,476	1,579	1,579	1,579	1,579	1,579	1,579	28,737	18,950
Cemetery - Memorials	102	353	101	302	1,187	504	2,549	1,702	283	283	283	283	283	283	4,247	3,400
Cemetery - Sundry income	40	160	40	0	0	80	320	176	29	29	29	29	29	29	494	350
Cemetery Maintenance Charge	372	0	186	0	186	186	930	1,402	233	233	233	233	233	233	2,328	2,800
Env. Sundry Income	46	0	0	52	0	0	98	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	198	0
Litter/bus station	0	320	0	0	0	320	640	640	0	320	0	0	320	0	1,280	100
Roundabout income	0	873	0	0	0	0	873	875	0	0	0	0	0	0	873	1,280
Road Safety donations	0	0	0	200	0	0	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200	875
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4,207</b>	<b>5,313</b>	<b>4,147</b>	<b>2,637</b>	<b>7,999</b>	<b>12,074</b>	<b>36,377</b>	<b>33,673</b>	<b>4,207</b>	<b>10,027</b>	<b>9,307</b>	<b>4,207</b>	<b>4,527</b>	<b>4,207</b>	<b>72,859</b>	<b>70,155</b>
<b>Weald On the Field Grant</b>															<b>1,936</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>																
<b>Expenditure</b>																
Clothing - Corp/Prot, Outdoor staff	41	0	0	100	0	59	200	700	0	0	0	0	0	0	200	700
Olives Meadow Upgrade S.Lights	0	16,650	0	0	0	0	16,650	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16,650	0
Renew/Update Interp Boards	0	235	0	0	0	0	235	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	235	0
Street Lights, Supply & Maintenance	8,867	0	0	0	0	0	8,867	0	0	0	0	0	0	9,000	17,867	9,000
Street Light Repairs	0	0	1,442	0	0	0	1,442	1,442	0	0	1,758	0	0	0	3,200	3,200
Bus Shelters	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	0	60	60
Allotments	359	6	220	0	0	0	585	998	167	167	167	167	167	167	1,587	2,000
Playing Fields and Pitches	69	191	7,425	0	544	970	9,199	9,000	0	0	9,000	0	0	0	18,199	18,000
Play areas rolling programmes	2,000	550	7,465	(250)	0	0	9,765	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9,765	0
Play Areas	127	126	602	132	0	4	991	1,252	208	208	208	208	208	208	2,239	2,500
Cemetery, rates	98	100	100	100	100	100	598	558	92	92	92	92	92	92	1,150	1,110
Grave digging	0	320	0	320	0	1,280	1,920	2,498	417	417	417	417	417	417	4,422	5,000
Cemetery, litter	293	40	293	0	0	0	626	502	83	83	83	83	83	83	1,124	1,000
Cemetery Sundries	0	74	42	0	0	62	178	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	178	0
Cemetery Maintenance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200	0	0	0	0	0	200	200
General Equipment Repairs	184	0	133	152	195	0	664	1,552	258	258	258	258	258	258	2,212	3,100
New Equipment	386	37	0	111	0	944	1,478	0	0	3,000	0	0	0	0	4,478	3,000
Grounds Maintenance Contract	52	3,629	907	0	0	0	4,588	9,998	1,667	1,667	1,667	1,667	1,667	1,667	14,590	20,000
Grounds Maintenance general	102	132	688	144	197	193	1,456	1,102	183	183	183	183	183	183	2,554	2,200
Hire of Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	100	100
LNRS & Sites of Interest - Ranger	2,165	2,108	2,172	2,168	2,168	2,165	12,946	13,075	2,180	2,180	2,180	2,180	2,180	2,180	26,026	26,155
LNRS & Sites of Interest - Working budget	253	66	0	111	60	59	549	1,748	292	292	292	292	292	292	2,301	3,500
Transit	69	73	240	121	0	73	576	14,083	180	180	180	180	180	180	1,656	2,163
Ford Ranger	57	56	0	52	325	58	548	652	108	108	108	108	108	108	1,196	1,300
Tractor maintenance & running costs	42	1,053	46	88	0	89	1,318	750	125	125	125	125	125	125	2,068	1,500
Movano Vehicle	75	75	118	71	75	102	516	1,083	180	180	180	180	180	180	1,596	2,163
Fencing	0	0	74	0	0	26	100	0	0	0	1,000	0	0	0	1,100	1,000
Trees	0	0	0	460	0	110	570	2,250	375	375	375	375	375	375	2,820	4,500
Graffiti Removal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	100	100
Litter Bins	0	0	0	0	0	613	613	0	0	0	520	0	0	0	1,133	520
Litter Collection, Open spaces	939	40	971	0	0	118	2,068	2,078	317	317	317	317	317	317	3,970	3,980
Horticulture	0	0	130	0	0	0	130	300	0	0	0	0	0	0	130	300
Weald Hall Events	1,002	1,929	0	0	0	287	3,218	7,500	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	10,718	15,000
Festival Tent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50
Corp Dev - Signage outside areas	0	103	0	0	0	0	103	0	250	0	0	0	0	0	353	250
Roundabouts exp	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	50	100
Groundsmen - Salaries	5,813	6,583	6,548	6,548	6,548	6,235	38,275	39,873	6,645	6,645	6,645	6,645	6,645	6,645	78,145	79,743
Groundsmen - National Insurance	444	528	528	528	528	528	3,084	3,278	546	546	546	546	546	546	6,360	6,554

Financial Forecast Environment Leisure as at 30th September 2017

	Apr 17 Actuals £	May 17 Actuals £	Jun 17 Actuals £	Jul 17 Actuals £	Aug 17 Actuals £	Sep 17 Actuals £	Actuals to Date	Budget To Date	Oct 17 Budget £	Nov 17 Budget £	Dec 17 Budget £	Jan 18 Budget £	Feb 18 Budget £	Mar 18 Budget £	Total £	2017/2018 Budgets
Groundsmen - Pension	1,141	1,116	1,104	1,093	1,093	1,084	6,631	8,615	1,435	1,435	1,435	1,435	1,435	1,435	15,241	17,225
Town Security/CCTV	52	55	56	55	56	56	330	2,002	333	333	333	333	333	333	2,328	4,000
Road Safety Week	0	10	1,310	0	0	0	1,320	1,750	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,320	1,750
Floral Displays	0	0	1,864	462	462	462	3,250	4,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,250	4,000
Repair & Replacement street furniture	0	42	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	0
Cleaning Materials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	50	0	0	0	50	100
Civic Hospitality	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	300
<b>Total Purchases</b>	<b>24,630</b>	<b>35,927</b>	<b>34,478</b>	<b>12,566</b>	<b>12,351</b>	<b>15,677</b>	<b>135,629</b>	<b>133,039</b>	<b>17,541</b>	<b>20,041</b>	<b>29,469</b>	<b>17,041</b>	<b>17,101</b>	<b>26,141</b>	<b>262,963</b>	<b>247,423</b>
<b>New Initiatives</b>																
Speed Reduction	0	400	0	0	0	0	400	400	0	4,600	0	0	0	0	5,000	5,000
Resurface Osborn Hall Car Park	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,000	7,000	7,000
West Park Car Park White Lines	0	0	0	415	0	0	415	1,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	415	1,000
Weald on the Field & Revival	0	0	250	3,344	1,294	296	5,184	1,500	1,500	0	0	0	0	0	6,684	3,000
Litter Policy Bins	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,000	3,000	3,000
<b>Total New Initiatives</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>3,759</b>	<b>1,294</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>5,999</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>4,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>22,099</b>	<b>19,000</b>

# UCKFIELD TOWN COUNCIL



Minutes of the meeting of the Strengthening Local Relationships Liaison Meeting held in the Oakleaf Room, Uckfield Civic Centre on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 9.15am

**PRESENT;** Cllr. Claire Dowling                      East Sussex County Council  
Cllr. Chris Dowling                                 East Sussex County Council  
Ian Johnson     East Sussex County Council  
John Godfrey                                         East Sussex County Council  
Cllr. I. Smith                                         Uckfield Town Council  
Cllr. P. Sparks                                         Uckfield Town Council

## **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Christine Wheatley – Assistant Town Clerk, Uckfield Town Council  
Minutes taken by Christine Wheatley

### **1.0 APOLOGIES** NIL

### **2.0 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017**

### **3.0. MATTERS ARISING**

#### Land Drains at West Park

East Sussex County Council are to be asked to look at the drainage area of land owned by them by the West Park allotments as this was overgrown.

#### Grange Road yellow lines, kerbs and signage

The refreshing of lineage etc. has been noted as an observation defect by the Highway Steward.

#### Twining Signs

It was reported that the Twining sign in Lewes Road had been removed due to visibility issues. This will be replaced at an interim location by ESCC and then moved to a new location as part of a gateway scheme financed by the developer in the future.

The Town Council is still waiting for a quote for the “Ridgewood” village sign for the Fernley Park roundabout in Eastbourne Road.

#### Speed Limit on London Road

A meeting was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> August regarding this area. This item is to be reported on later in the meeting.

#### Traffic Speeds Browns Lane

Cllr. Sparks reported that Browns Lane outside the shopping parade had been approved by ESCC for a Speed Indicator location. They are now seeking volunteers who will be fully trained on operating the device.

#### Land Ownership

The Highway Steward was asked to clarify ownership of land at Highview Lane and Framfield Road junctions.

#### **4.0. GRASS VERGES IN DOWNSVIEW CRESCENT – UPDATE**

Concern has been expressed regarding vehicles parking on grass verges in Downsvie Crescent. The problem is caused by vehicles dropping off/picking up children from the nearby schools and nursery. Vehicles are also blocking driveways and in one instance a vehicle parked in a resident's drive. Tarmac to replace the grass verges has been dismissed and ESCC are looking to re-instate the grass verges and install posts. Concern was expressed that the installation of posts would only displace the problem elsewhere. No timescale has been given for the works.

#### **5.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Cllr.Sparks wished to pass on congratulations with regards to repairs to the wall at the top of Browns Lane/London Road junction.

The "slow down" laminated posters had disappeared in Browns Lane. These may be put back up but notices of this type can only be displayed for 3 months.

Cllr. Smith thanked ESCC for reclassifying the grass cutting in Eastbourne Road to urban from rural.

The Highway Steward is to ascertain who can remove "advance warning" signs after road works etc. have been carried out. This follows re-surfacing of a pavement in Newtown.

Road re-surfacing schedules are to be found on the ESCC website although they can be subject to change without notice.

Snatts Road was identified as a safety site and minor signage and lining was almost complete. Improved drainage has vastly reduced flooding in the area.

#### Speed Limit on London Road and Surveys

The speed survey at Ringles Cross had been completed and ESCC are waiting for the analysing of results. The surveys carried out in other locations paid for by the Town Council are to be sent to ESCC for analysing.

College Place, New Town - water run-off from the development had still not been resolved, the Highway Steward is to investigate.

Eastbourne Road – a resident appears to be creating an access onto the highway, this has been passed to the County enforcement team.

New Town Action Group – would like a dropped kerb as part of a Community Match programme, details had been sent to the Town Clerk.

#### **6.0 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

10<sup>th</sup> July 2018 in the Oakleaf Room at Civic Centre Uckfield at 9.15am.

Meeting finish at 10.15am.



## Meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018

### Agenda Item 7.1.

#### **REQUEST FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL TO REMOVE THE YEW TREE TO THE SOUTHERN END OF HOLY CROSS CHURCHYARD**

##### **1.0 Summary**

- 1.1. The report details a request from the Church of the Holy Cross, Uckfield for the removal of a Yew tree to the southern end of the churchyard. They feel the autumn/winter berries and foliage that falls from the tree is dangerous to members of the public that use the nearby footpath.

##### **2.0 Background**

- 2.1. The age of the tree is unknown however there has been a church on this site since 1291, although it was originally a small chapel, but by the end of the fourteenth century a bell tower, chancel and east window had been added.

In 1839 this building was demolished save for the tower and a small part of the south wall of the chancel. At that stage William Moseley rebuilt the church increasing its size and height by adding a spire. The church was then dedicated to the Holy Cross.

In 1846 Uckfield became a parish, it having previously been just a chapel to Buxted parish church. From 1883 onwards, various alterations were made to the church including moving the pulpit from the right to the left-hand side of the nave, the extension of the chancel and resetting of the mediaeval window in the new east end. The clock faces were installed in 1894 The north porch was made into an organ chamber and the south porch a choir vestry, although this later became the chapel of the Sacred Passion of Christ. There were box pews in the church until the late 1800s.

- 2.2. A tree removed from the lychgate area in 1996 was found to be over 100 years old.
- 2.3. The churchyard is "closed" and the maintenance is the responsibility of the Town Council.

##### **3.0. Request to fell the tree**

- 3.1. There has been concern regarding the fall of berries over the years and the Council has discussed various solutions including:
- the possibility of installing a net to catch the berries
  - sweeping of the path more often during this period
  - the closure of the path during this time and using the various other paths around the churchyard available to the public.

The net solution was deemed unviable and the Church did not want the footpath closed. Regular blowing of the path and the removal of debris in general takes place every couple of weeks.

- 3.2. The churches safety officer is now requesting the following:  
*"As this is a closed churchyard the path and tree appear to be the responsibility of your council. However, as the most likely people to fall as a result of the*

*sometimes very slippery nature of the path are those making their way into church, Holy Cross does have a moral responsibility – thus my involvement as safety officer representing the view of the churchwardens.*

*The major problem is with the annual fall of berries, which goes on for several weeks during autumn and early winter. However, at all times of the year there can be a discharge from the foliage that also creates a greasy path surface.*

*Attempts have been made to sweep this path, which is inherently dangerous anyway, caused by the rather uneven brick construction, are never successful due to the pure intensity of the berry drop (in high winds or frost it is no sooner swept and they reappear) and the berries in their brushed residual state are even more slippery.*

*As the tree is directly by the path lopping it would not be the solution. The only recourse would be its entire removal.*

*We know that people have fallen and with the advance age of those involved it is fortunate that broken hips have not occurred. We don't have named of those hurt but from now on when reported to us we will make an entry in our accident register and let you know.*

*I appreciate the dilemma you have with the tree being subject to a Tree Preservation Order and of course this is a conservation area, However, the safety of individuals should transcend all of this and I know from personal experience that TPS's can be overturned on safety grounds”.*

*Reverend John Wall has added “I'd be sorry to see the tree go, but reluctantly agree as it does cause a danger to those walking under it: we could perhaps make something of planting a new non-berry bearing yew for the next generation? There were Millennium yews available and we could make enquiries re current availability”.*

#### **4.0. Wealden District Council**

- 4.1. The churchyard is in the conservation area therefore we will require permission from Wealden District Council if any works to the tree are proposed. The tree is not subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) and Wealden District Council are unlikely to be able to apply a TPO on the tree due to the tree's close proximity to the building as per Government guidelines.

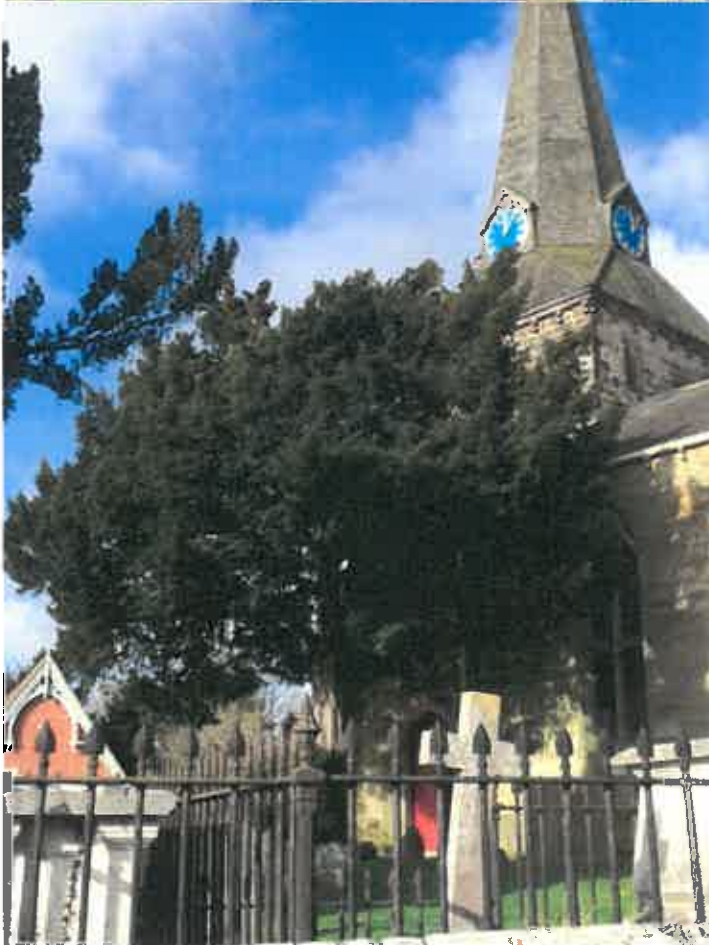
#### **5.0. Incident**

- 5.1. The Town Council has received a letter from a resident informing the Council that they recently slipped on the path and knocked their head on a nearby memorial. Having spoken to them they were alarmed to hear that there was a request to fell the tree as they do not want to see this happen. They have suggested that a handrail could be installed to assist pedestrians along this stretch of path.

#### **6.0. Recommendation**

- 6.1. Members are asked to note the report and advise the Clerk accordingly.

Contact Officer: Christine Wheatley





## Meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee

12<sup>th</sup> February 2018

### Agenda Item 7.2

#### **Ridgewood Village Twinning Sign**

##### **1.0. Summary**

- 1.1. The report details the current situation regarding the additional 'Ridgewood Village' plate to the Eastbourne Road Twinning sign.

##### **2.0. Background**

- 2.1. Last year the Town Council replaced all the town's twinning signs to incorporate the French town of Arque la Bataille.
- 2.2. At the time of organising the Lewes Road and Eastbourne Road Twinning signs 'Ridgewood Village' was omitted.
- 2.3. The Lewes Road sign will eventually be replaced by the Ridgewood Farm developers to form part of a 'Gateway' feature and will include the wording 'Ridgewood Village'.
- 2.4. East Sussex County Council had been asked to provide a quotation for supplying an additional 'Ridgewood Village' plate to go underneath the twinning sign.

##### **3.0. Quotation**

- 3.1. East Sussex County Council has stated that to add an additional plate under the existing sign would not be passively safe as the signs need to be mounted at a minimum of 1.8m. As the existing signs were mounted at this height, to add an additional plate would require two extension posts to be added to lift the 'Welcome to Uckfield' assembly and mount the 'Ridgewood Village' plate beneath.
- 3.2. A quotation has been received for the 'Ridgewood Village' plate, the removal of the existing posts and to supply and install new longer posts to accommodate the sign and transfer the existing sign onto the new posts at a net cost of £568.71.
- 3.3. There is currently £739.00 remaining from the original budget set for the provision of twinning signs which would cover the above costs.

##### **4.0. Recommendation**

- 4.1. Members are asked to note the report and advise the Clerk if they wish to proceed with the provision of a 'Ridgewood Village' plate at Eastbourne Road at the above cost.

Contact Officer: Christine Wheatley

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## Meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018

### Agenda Item 7.3

#### **TO CONSIDER THE TOWN COUNCIL'S POSITION WHEN DEALING WITH REQUESTS FOR DROPPED KERBS**

##### **1.0 Summary**

1.1 The Town Council has recently received two requests for support to provide dropped kerbs in specific areas of the town. This report seeks to highlight the matter, and asks members to consider the Town Council's position on such requests and if a policy or position statement needs to be created.

##### **2.0 Enquiries received**

2.1 The Town Council has received two requests relating to the need for dropped kerbs in areas of Uckfield:

*(i) On 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018, the Town Clerk received contact from the Newtown Action Group. Concern had been expressed by one of their members at the Newtown Action Group meeting in November 2017 regarding the provision of dropped kerbs for wheelchair users in their area, with a particular need at the junction of Harcourt Road and Framfield Road.*

*The Action Group made contact with East Sussex Highways and their local County Councillor. The Highway Steward visited the area in December and took photographs of the two areas where they thought a dropped kerb was needed. Subsequently the Action group were advised that the County Council would not be able to fund the full cost of these works and were advised to contact their Town Council to see if a community match application could be submitted.*



Figure 1 – junction of Harcourt Road and Framfield Road

When reviewing the kerb line at the junction of Framfield Road and Harcourt Road it appeared fairly low. However there may be difficulties in other parts of the Harcourt Road area.

*(ii) Contact was made with the Town Clerk by a local resident to advise that their elderly friend and others in Regency Close who used mobility scooters were having difficulty moving about and were effectively imprisoned in their homes due to the lack of dropped kerbs in this area.*

*To ensure access in this area, someone capable of lifting their scooter on and off the pavement would have to assist them twice at this junction. The pavement on the other side of the road is so rutted and full of twisted drain covers that the individuals were concerned that it could jolt them from their scooter.*



Figure 2: Regency Close



Figure 3: Regency Close

### **3.0 Contact with East Sussex Highways**

**3.1** In response to receiving these enquiries, the Town Clerk made contact with East Sussex Highways to understand their position. The Town Clerk was advised that *"East Sussex Highways needs to consider how they spend their money to best effect, ensuring they target those areas in most need of repair throughout the county, and this targeting takes into account a number of factors including safety and condition. They select the roads to carry out works, starting with the sites which require their immediate attention. Any areas which have caused a safety hazard to road and footway users are dealt with immediately whilst minor damage takes its place within their works programme.*



*Due to this approach, they no longer have a budget dedicated to the provision of dropped kerbs and would only look to do so as part of a larger scheme. They simply do not have the funding for this at present and as their priority is to maintain the existing highway network and ensure it is safe, this leaves them no scope for the construction of features such as dropped kerbs. They would advise that the local area look at funding such works under the community match scheme."*

- 3.2 Further information was sought to understand the type of figures involved in undertaking any works of this nature. It was advised that a standard access is in the region of £1500/£2000 plus a £280 licence fee.

If the Town Council wished to apply for Community Match funding, East Sussex Highways would halve the cost of the work with the Town Council. However it was noted that this route was a little more time consuming as any forthcoming applications would go to the Lead Member for approval in March 2019 as the deadline for applications for 2018 had just closed.

The Community Extras option involves the parish/town council paying for the entire cost of the works.

#### **4.0 Agreeing a policy or position statement**

- 4.1 The Town Council has received two requests in the last 8-10 weeks from different areas of Uckfield town. The Town Council is likely to receive more requests over the coming months and years. It is therefore suggested that the Town Council should agree its position on such requests in order to inform the responses provided by Town Council staff.

- 4.2 The Town Council may also wish to decide how it deals with such requests and whether it wishes to support any requests, going forward.

#### **5.0 Recommendation**

- 5.1 Members are asked to note the report and advise the Clerk accordingly of their preferred next steps.

Contact Officer: Holly Goring

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## **Meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee**

**12<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

### **Agenda Item 8.1**

#### **Hughes Way Play Area Update**

##### **1.0. Summary**

- 1.1. The report details the current situation regarding the upgrade of the Hughes Way Play Area.

##### **2.0. Background**

- 2.1. Members will recall that HAGS-SMP had been appointed to upgrade the play area at Hughes Way.

##### **3.0. Current position**

- 3.1. Installation date was confirmed as week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> February, however due to inclement weather conditions this has been postponed to 12<sup>th</sup> February. Works will last approximately 3 – 4 weeks.
- 3.2. Information letters have been delivered to nearby residents advising them of the initial work date and posters have been displayed on site with the new proposed start date.

##### **4.0. Recommendation**

- 4.1. Members are asked to note the report.

Contact officer: Christine Wheatley

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## Meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018

### Agenda Item 8.2

#### **REQUEST FOR NETBALL LINES TO BE ADDED TO VICTORIA PLEASURE GROUND AND POSSIBLY RIDGEWOOD RECREATION GROUND MULTI USE GAMES AREAS**

##### **1.0 Summary**

1.1. The report details a request for netball lines to be added to the Multi Use Games Areas (MUGA) at Victoria Pleasure Ground and possibly Ridgewood Recreation Ground.

##### **2.0 Background**

2.1. The courts currently have lines marked out as follows: -

- Ridgewood has white for football, red for basketball and yellow for cricket.
- Victoria has white for football and red for basketball

Both courts have backboards and rings for basketball and a goal for football and Ridgewood has a cricket board. The size of the MUGA's do not allow for either of these markings to conform with sporting rules and users have to adapt when playing friendly games.

##### **3.0. Request**

3.1. The request is from an individual who plays with a group of ladies: -

*"We use this court on an irregular basis to practise playing Walking Netball. However even though 'Netball ' is listed on the Notice Board at the Car Park there are no Netball lines on this court only Basketball which is considerably different.*

*I have been told that there used to be an official Netball Court where the Tennis Courts now are but that has since been done away with.*

*The All-Weather Court in the Recreation Ground in New Road is exactly the same.*

*We do not understand this as Netball is really popular in all age groups. As we are all being told to be more active and maintain our mobility for as long as possible I find this very hard to comprehend and would appreciate an explanation or for the matter to be rectified. This is also a very sexist attitude as the sports lines drawn up on this court are for sporting activities mainly played by the male sex. We should all be doing our very best to encourage girls to continue with their sporting activities in whatever way is possible.*

3.2. They have been advised that to accommodate netball we would have to remove the basketball ring as this is larger than a netball ring and the backboard, they have stated that they are not asking for a change to these

facilities, only that some extra lines in another colour be added to avoid confusion. These would consist of two parallel lines to divide the court into three and goal circles.

#### **4.0. Costings**

4.1. Provisional costings to provide the goal circles and lines to both MUGA's would be in the region of a minimum charge of £700.00 + VAT, no budget has been set aside for these works.

#### **5.0. Recommendation**

5.1. Members are asked to note the report and advise the Clerk accordingly.



Contact Officer: Christine Wheatley

## **Environment and Leisure Committee**

**12th February 2018**

### **Agenda Item 10.1**

#### **Uckfield Railway Line Parishes Committee**

Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018

The Chairman advised that he has had correspondence with our MP Nus Ghani regarding the problems on reliability and timekeeping and had emphasised the need for electrification of the line which was felt would resolve many of the problems being encountered. The MP had replied that she has had a meeting with Paul Maynard MP, the Rail Minister and that further meetings were planned at which our case was discussed.

The meeting agreed to write to congratulate Nus Ghani on her promotion in the recent Government reshuffle.

It was agreed to write again on the matter of car parking at the stations along the line as this problem is getting worse. The increase in usage of the line is causing problems with street parking and areas around the station.

The meeting was advised of the planned closure of the Brighton main line in October 2018 and February 2019 for engineering works and it was felt this would put even more pressure on our line and the car parking facilities. The Chairman will contact GTR on this matter.

A report covering morning departures and evening arrivals at Uckfield was presented for the period 20/11/17 to 22/12/17 which showed percentage punctuality over 25 planned services. This confirmed the poor level of reliability and it was proposed to forward the sheet to Nus Ghani MP to reinforce our position. In addition, it was noted that the reliability of the rolling stock had decreased from 18,000 to 13,000 miles. GTR had advised the Chairman that they were still experiencing problems with the old 5eot Rail diesel units and that they were doing everything possible to resolve the defects.

The Transport for South East Group are now functioning in a shadow mode within East Sussex County Council who are, at present, providing the infrastructure for the group, close contact will be maintained to ensure that our views are at the forefront in their deliberations.

Finally, it was agreed to explore all avenues to maintain the pressure on GTR and Network Rail to ensure the improvement of service and development of the infrastructure.

Cllr. C. Macve

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## **Environment and Leisure Committee**

**2nd January 2018**

### **Agenda Item 10.4**

#### **Age Concern – Uckfield District**

At the Extra Ordinary General Meeting held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018 the ongoing matter of the position of officers for the organisation was discussed in great detail.

It was agreed to amend the Constitution to allow the Chairman to continue in office on an annual basis, subject to nomination seconding and election at the group's Annual General Meeting each year without the restriction of the time limit constraint in the existing constitution.

The new Treasurer was elected as were the existing committee members. Discussion followed on the way forward for the group and ideas for the future.

Cllr. C. Macve

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