

UCKFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Council Offices, Civic Centre Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 1AE

Tel: (01825) 762774 Fax: (01825) 765757 e-mail: townclerk@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk

Town Clerk - Holly Goring

A Meeting of the Environment and Leisure Committee to be held on Monday 3rd June 2019 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 23rd April 2019
- 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. No income and expenditure report until accounts completed

6.0. ADMINISTRATION

- 6.1. To Appoint Members to Outside Bodies
 - a) West Park Local Nature Reserve
 - b) Hempstead Meadows Local Nature Reserve (Attached)

6.2. Working Groups (Attached)

7.0. ENVIRONMENT

7.1 Electric sheep fencing at West Park Local Nature Reserve (WPLNR) (Attached)

8.0. LEISURE

8.1. To consider the Town Council's involvement in celebrating/commemorating VE Day 75, the 75th Anniversary of the end of WW2 in Europe (Attached)

9.0. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

- 9.1. Children Stay Safe Day
- 9.2. Speed Indication Device (SiD) (Attached)

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 (Nothing to report at this time)
- 10.3. Uckfield and District Twinning Association (Nothing to report at this time)
- 10.4. Age Concern (Nothing to report at this time)
- 10.5. Luxford Centre Management Committee (Attached)
- 10.6. Active Uckfield Group (Nothing to report at this time)
- Wealden Bus Alliance (Nothing to report at this time)

11.0 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

12.0 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

To consider whether to **RESOLVE** to exclude the press and public (pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960) during consideration of the following confidential business to be conducted: -

12.1 To consider a report on the Marketing programme (Attached)

Town Clerk 28th May 2019

Monday 3rd June 2019

Agenda Item 6.1

REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2018-19

1.0. Outside Bodies

1.1. At the Annual Statutory meeting of Full Council on 13th May 2019 it was agreed that the following representatives be appointed at the next meeting of Environment & Leisure Committee.

West Park L.N. R.	(2) 1 member and 1 substitute
Hempstead Meadows L. N. R	(2) 1 member and 1 substitute

- 1.2. Cllr. J. Love expressed a wish to be appointed a representative for West Park LNR.
- 1.3 Cllr. D. French and Cllr. J. Edwards expressed a wish to be representatives of the Hempstead Meadows Local Nature Reserve.

2.0. Recommendation

2.1 Members are required to appoint representatives to the Local Nature Reserve Supporter Groups.

Contact Officer: Christine Wheatley



Monday 3rd June 2019

Agenda Item 6.2.

Working Groups

1.0. Summary

1.1. The Environment & Leisure Committee currently has three Working Groups, the start of a new council year is a good time to review these groups and the process of working groups in general.

2.0. Background

- 2.1. In general, a working group shall be formed to investigate an issue or carry out a particular project that will help the standing committee in deciding a course of action in the future. Issues or projects to be considered should broadly have objectives which support those of the Council. Working groups should generally be research oriented and not initiated to carry out tasks.
- 2.2. All working groups should have a life of no more than six months. Requests for extensions should be made to the standing committee giving reasons why there is a need to extend the time or if necessary, to consider revisions to the agreed terms of reference.
- 2.3. The Environment & Leisure Committee has had many successful groups over the years the latest being Battles Over A Nations Tribute and World War One Commemoration.
- 2.4. Working group policy No. 39 attached.

3.0. Current Situation

3.1. There are currently three Working Groups:

Children Stay Safe Day - The Children Stay Safe Day has been an annual event for primary schools, for many years teaching pupils' various ways of staying safe on our roads. This year's event is on Wednesday 19th June.

Speed Indication Device (SID) - Volunteers use the device in various approved locations to detract motorists from speeding, however the group are currently struggling for volunteers as can be seen from their current report.

Historical Plaques – This group was set up to look at the possibility of installing Historical plaques within the town. The Committee agreed that a Working Group be set up to investigate the scheme, explore schemes elsewhere, potential categories and seeking property permission etc.

No meetings have ever taken place as only one councillor put their name forward to sit on the group and they are no longer a councillor.

3.2. As can be seen from the above Working Groups can be beneficial, however the current groups appear to be struggling with support.

4.0. Recommendation

4.1. Members are asked to note the report and consider the benefit of the Working Groups and their existing format.

Contact Officer: Christine Wheatley

UCKFIELD TOWN COUNCIL



WORKING GROUPS POLICY

Policy Number 39			
Issue No.	Date completed	Details of amendments	
1	19.01.09	GP.065.01.09	
2	17.05.10	Annual Statutory Meeting (Revisions)	
3	24.05.10	GP.097.05.10	
4	28.07.14	GP.20.07.14 – General review.	

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In general, a working group shall be formed to investigate an issue or carry out a particular project that will help the standing committee in deciding a course of action in the future. Issues or projects to be considered should broadly have objectives which support those of the Council. Working groups should generally be research oriented and not initiated to carry out tasks.
- 1.2 A Member or group of Members who feel that a standing committee should consider a particular issue or develop a specific project should submit a report on the issue in accordance with the Council's Standing Order No. 4.10.19 whereby:-
 - "Councillors may request an item to be placed on an agenda of the relevant committee at least seven days prior to the publication of the agenda supported by a written report..."
- 1.3 As a result of the report the standing committee will resolve whether it supports the issue, whether it will appoint a working group and if so, the standing committee will also agree the terms of reference for the working group. The standing committee may also resolve that the issue will be dealt with by the committee direct.

2.0 GENERAL

- 2.1 All working groups should have a life of no more than six months.

 Requests for extensions should be made to the standing committee giving reasons why there is a need to extend the time or if necessary to consider revisions to the agreed terms of reference.
- 2.2 Depending on the possible work that may be involved, the standing committee will determine the number of Members to sit on the working group and appoint from those volunteering for the task. There should be no less than three and no more than five Town Councillors in any working group. Members of the working group do not have to be members of the standing committee.
- 2.3 The working group may include persons who are not members of the Council, but they are not permitted to be Chairman of the working group or be entitled to vote on the deliberations of the working group.
- 2.4 The working group must refer all decisions rightly the responsibility of the standing committee to that committee. Where there is a need for a decision to be made rightly the responsibility of that standing committee, but outside the usual committee cycle, the Chairman of the working group will liaise with the Town Clerk to enable such decision to be determined by the Urgent Consultation Panel if appropriate.

3.0 TERMS OF REFERENCE

3.1 The written report submitted in 1.2 above will include a set of specific and achievable recommendations and/or objectives which may help form the basis of a set of terms of reference for the working group. Such terms of reference will be determined by the standing committee.

- 3.2 The terms of reference shall also require the working group to set out all the alternatives and options and should also provide evaluation of these alternatives and options giving reasons why specific courses of action have been put forward or disregarded.
- 3.3 The final report should contain recommendations for the standing committee to consider. This report should have enough information to inform other Members on the options and recommendations presented so that an informed debate can then be held.
- 3.4 If funding is to be provided that has not been previously agreed through the standing committee's annual budget, such funding should be requested by the standing committee in accordance with the Council's Financial: Regulations.
- 3.5 Where funding is to be provided, estimates of proposed expenditure should be submitted to the standing committee in advance of any expenditure and thereafter details of income or expenditure should be submitted to the standing committee at each meeting.
- 3.6 All orders for work, goods and services must be made in accordance with section 10.0 of the Council's Financial Regulations.

4.0 ESTABLISHMENT

- 4.1 Immediately after the appointment of the working group, officers will propose a number of dates for the first meeting of the working group.
- 4.2 At this first meeting which can be facilitated by officers, a Chairman will be appointed who will be responsible for:-
 - Convening meetings where the majority of the working group can attend.
 - Compile reports for the agreement of the working group and submit these to each subsequent meeting of the standing committee.
 - Request, in writing, extensions to the life of the group or possible changes to the agreed terms of reference if necessary.
 - Ensure that all enquiries from the press are referred to the Chairman of the standing committee in accordance with the Council's Media Policy (No. 26).
- 4.3 One week prior to each meeting of the standing committee the Chairman of each working group will submit a written report at that meeting.

- 4.4 The working group will occasionally need enabling information from officers to complete their task. As far as possible this should be agreed with the appropriate officer at the beginning of the work. On some matters it will be essential that the working groups work with officers in order that a satisfactory outcome can be achieved. It is important that the same, fast working timetables are used in presenting a final recommendation to the standing committee.
- 4.5 If during the agreed life of the working group it is found that the original task is greater than that initially envisaged, the working group should submit a report to the standing committee and suggest ways that the task can be subdivided down to meet the agreed timeframe of the working group.
- 4.6 Details of both the terms of reference and the task of the working group shall be set out in full using the template attached at Annexe A of this policy and agreed by the standing committee.

ANNEXE A

Working Group Terms of Reference

Name of Working Group	
Establishment Resolution	
Duration	
Reporting Committee	
Member Composition	-
Budget	
Tasks/Terms of Reference	

Monday 3rd June 2019

Agenda Item 7.1.

Electric sheep fencing at West Park Local Nature Reserve (WPLNR)

The north eastern end of WPLNR behind Saunders Close and Egles Grove running up to the boundary with Buckswood Grange consists of a gently sloping open area of low soft vegetation below the sandstone rock outcrop running along Rocks Road. The open area is dominated by bracken and rough grass with very little in the way of wild flowers. To reduce the bracken and increase the diversity of plant species this area requires management.



One way to do this is to introduce sheep grazing which already takes place each autumn in a permanently fenced off area to the south which is accessed by the public when the sheep are not there through two gates, one at either end. Reproducing this in the new area is made difficult by the network of paths criss-crossing it which would require many gates.



The sheep are provided by The Sussex Wildlife Trust from their much larger flock of conservation grazing animals. Discussion with their grazier confirmed that they would be happy to provide the sheep for the new area and suggested that a way to minimise the presence of permanent structures is to use electric fencing.

To find out more about this I visited Sheepcote Valley LNR on the eastern edge of Brighton which is owned and run by Brighton and Hove City Council (BHCC) and their experienced ranger Paul Gorringe.

Sheepcote Valley is 200 acre area of chalk downland between the housing estate of Whitehawk and East Brighton Golf Course. Although the land down in the valley is a mixture of parkland and scrub about half is open chalk grassland that was in danger of getting scrubbed over as there was little management. Three years ago BHCC took the decision to spend several thousand pounds fencing off the perimeter and then getting electric fencing to allow this large area of about 100 acres to be subdivided whilst it was grazed.



The BHCC ranger explained how the electric fencing was set up and used and where it was obtained. He emphasised the importance of getting the local community involved and fully understanding how useful the electric fencing is for managing the sheep and to put up notices informing visitors where the fencing is as well as using the internet for this.









The component parts of the electric fencing can be supplied locally by agricultural merchants. Estimated costs for a fence of 300 metres: -

Electric fencing netting 50 metre roll	£120.00 x 6	£720.00
Energizer (green box in photo)		£170.00
Battery		£100.00
Earth stake		£15.00
Plastic warning signs (pack of 3)		£10.00
Tester		£20.00

Subtotal £1035.00

In addition, it is envisaged that the rectangular area to be fenced off would require four corner posts and there would need to be two posts for the gate which could be moved from the existing sheep field as there wouldn't be any sheep in there when in the new area.

Posts £10.00 x 6 £60.00

Total estimated costs £1095.00

Costs for the works are already covered in current budgets.

The WPLNR Supporters Group was advised at their AGM on the 8th March 2019. The scheme would need to be well publicised to ensure the public are well aware of the proposal and the ecological benefits to the reserve.

It is anticipated that the works could be carried out in time for this year's September grazing, however this would be dependent on delivery of materials, workforce etc.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report and approve the works as detailed above.

Contact: Geoff Pollard, Ranger



Monday 3rd June 2019

Agenda Item 8.1.

VE DAY 75 – EVENT TO CELEBRATE/COMMEMORATE THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WW2 IN EUROPE

1.0. Summary

1.1. The Town Council has been invited by the Pageantmaster (Bruno Peek LVO OBE OPR) to participate in a VE DAY 75 event to celebrate/commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the end of WW2 in Europe.

2.0. Background

2.1. The Council has previously participated in National events commemorating various important events in this country's history, including most the VE Day celebrations, the Queen's 90th Birthday and Battle's Over – A Nations Tribute and WW1 Beacons of Light.

3.0. Invitation

3.1. The following information has been sent by Bruno Peek: -

VE DAY 75

Further to your successful involvement in Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute - 11th November 2018, we have pleasure in inviting your participation in **VE Day 75**, being organised to celebrate/commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of WW2 in Europe, as mentioned in my last communication to you last year.

The 8th May 1945 was the day peace emerged after nearly six years of war, so the 75th anniversary on 8th May 2020 represents an important milestone in our history. I am sure you will agree that we cannot let this day pass without reflecting on the enormous sacrifice, courage and determination of people from all walks of life who saw us through this dark period. Our celebration, **VE Day 75**, will cover the weekend of 8th - 10th May 2020, and will be an international celebration of peace – a time to remember, reflect and pay tribute to the millions who played such a vital part in achieving it.

This includes the Armed Forces personnel from many countries who gave their lives, and those who returned home injured in body and mind; the hard-working women and men who kept the factories, mines, shipyards and farms operating throughout the years of turmoil; the ARP wardens, police officers, doctors, nurses, firemen, local defence volunteers and many others who put their lives on hold to safeguard the home front.

The official, exclusive charity for **VE Day 75** is SSAFA, the Armed Forces Charity, which also supports the Merchant Navy.

The planned activities over the weekend are as follows, and please go to the VE Day 75 website – www.veday75.org to see the complete overview for this important anniversary.

- The Playing of Battle's O'er & VE 75 Years
- The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2
- The Cry for Peace, around the World
- Churches & cathedrals Ringing out for Peace
- Street parties and parties in pubs. clubs. Hotels, on town and village greens and in halls etc
- Services of commemoration and celebration in churches, including the reading of the Tribute to the Millions and the playing of the Last Post

Registration for all participants will be solely through <u>www.veday75.org</u>. As well as adding your details you will also be able to download important documents, including a commemorative certificate, and view messages of support from individuals and organisations.

FRIDAY 8TH MAY 2020

3pm - Battle's O'er & VE 75 Years

3pm is the time Winston Churchill officially announced the end of WW2 in Europe from the Cabinet Office at 10 Downing Street, London.

Pipers from around the world will open **VE Day 75** by playing Battle's O'er and VE 75 Years at 3pm local time in the country they are in, paying tribute to the millions who gave so much to earn our freedom today. Battle's O'er is the traditional tune played by pipers at the end of a battle, and VE 75 Years has been specially written for this occasion by Pipe Major Roger Bayes of the City of Norwich Pipe Band.

Battle's O'er will be played by pipers from the top of the four highest Peaks in the UK - Ben Nevis, Scotland; Scafell Pike, England; Mount Snowdon, Wales, and Slieve Donnard, Northern Ireland – and also at the five furthest points in the UK. This has never been undertaken before.

We are encouraging pipers working that day to pause at 3pm to play the tune in their workplace. It will provide pipers throughout the world the opportunity to participate without having to take time off work. We are already aware that a nurse will be playing the pipes on her hospital ward, and that others will be playing at a railway company, in a field and outside a bakery. May we suggest therefore, that you try and source a local piper to play at a location of your choice at 3pm that day as part of this aspect of VE day 75. Pipers taking part can register their involvement at the VE Day 75 website — www.veday75.org.

3pm - The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2

To coincide with the playing of Battle's O'er, we would like to encourage your Lord Mayor, Mayor, Leader, Chairman of the Council, High Steward, High Sheriff, Deputy Lord Lieutenant or another, to lead your local community in the Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2 at 3pm on the 8th May 2020, paying 'tribute' to the millions at home and abroad that gave so much to ensure we all enjoy the freedom we have today. Please register your involvement on the VE day 75 website – www.veday75.org.

In association with the British Beer & Pub Association, the thousands of pubs throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man will be inviting their customers to raise a glass at 3pm too and take part in The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2. All pubs taking part can register their involvement on the VE Day 75 website – www.veday75.org.

6.55pm - A Cry for Peace Around the World

Town Criers and members of local communities around the world will be undertaking A Cry for Peace Around the World, kindly written for this occasion by Crier Peter Taunton. The 'Cry', which can be downloaded from the website, will be performed at 7pm local time in locations around the world, starting in New Zealand. Those Town Criers and others undertaking this 'Cry' can register their involvement on the VE Day 75 website — www.veday75.or.g

7pm - Ringing out for Peace

Bells in churches and cathedrals will ring out at 7pm in a collective celebration of VE Day 75. The sound of church bells is deeply rooted in British culture. They provide the grand soundtrack to our historic moments, calling us to wake, to pray, to work, to arms, to feast, to celebrate and, in times of crisis, to come together. This aspect of VE Day 75 could not be more appropriate, ringing out around the world to celebrate the peace we share today. Please encourage your local church to take part, regestering their participation on the VE day website – www.veday75.org.

7pm onwards - Parties and Celebration

Parties and celebrations will take place in pubs, clubs and hotels, on town and village greens and in our streets, bringing the communities of the nation together in common friendship. Those town and cities twinned with others around the world will be encouraged invite them to join in this joyous occasion. We know that many of those taking part will be organising firework displays over the weekend too. Those taking part in this celebratory element of the event can register their involvement on the VE day 75 website – www.veday75.org.

SATURDAY 9TH MAY 2020

Parties and celebrations continue.

SUNDAY 10TH MAY 2020

10.30am - Church Services of Celebration and Commemoration

Services will take place in cathedrals and churches throughout the UK, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man to celebrate the peace we share today and remember those who lost their lives or returned home dreadfully wounded. The services will also recognise the sacrifices of those who kept the nation fed and the factories, mines and hospitals working during the most challenging of time, so please encourage your local churches to participate. Churches wishing to take part should register their involvement on the VE Day 75 website — www.veday75.org.

Tribute to the Millions & the Last Post

Those planning services will be encouraged to ask a representative from their local community to read out the Tribute to the Millions, which can be downloaded at www.veday75.org, and involve a local bugler or trumpeter to play the Last Post and Reveille. Their participation can also be registered on the VE DAY 75 website — www.veday75.org.

We do hope that you will take part in **VE Day 75** especially as many of those that served at home and abroad came from the Towns and Parishes of England, so your involvement will be a perfect 'tribute' to the sacrifices made by so many of them.

Please be kind enough to register your involvement in one or more of the events by going to the VE Day 75 Website – www.veday75.org as soon as possible to enable us to keep in touch with you and update you on progress, along with putting this letter up on your website, and circulating it widely via other forms of social media such as facebook and twitter.

3.2. As can be seen from the above the Town Council can become involved in one or more of the events.

4.0. Recommendation

- 4.1. Members are asked to note the report and consider the following:
 - a) if the Town Council wishes to take part in the commemoration and celebrations
 - b) the setting up of a Working Group to organise the event and
 - c) if a sum of money for the event should be set aside in the 2020/2021 budgets

Contact officer: Christine Wheatley



Monday 3rd June 2019

Agenda Item 9.2

REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS: SPEED INDICATION DEVICE (SID)

This working group was established a couple of years ago as a means of trying to reduce the speed of traffic within our Town by using a Speed Indicator Device (SID) which can be moved to different locations around the Town.

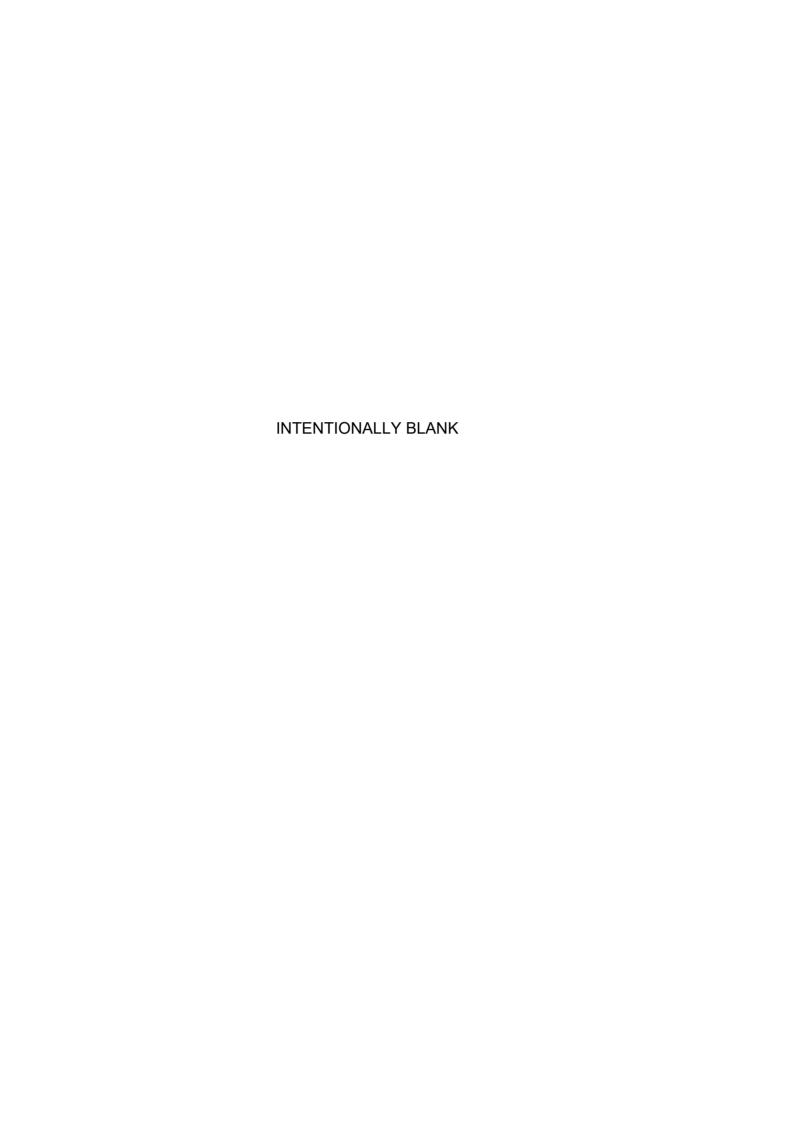
It is deployed during the day at different times and relies on a group of volunteers willing to undertake shifts of usually 2 hours. These volunteers need to be trained in how to use SID together with safety and protocol advice.

County Highways provided a SID to us on loan and arranged some training. However, in view of lack of volunteers and someone to actively manage this, we have not deployed SID for some little time.

Also, there has been some debate on obtaining permanent speed indicator signs either in place of or as an addition.

We now need to review this Group to decide if we want to refresh and go again or if another solution would be better.

Councillor Paul Sparks SID Working Group



Environment & Leisure Committee

3rd June 2019

Agenda Item 10.1.

Uckfield Railway Line Parishes Committee

The function of "Transport for the South East" group was discussed at length and suggestions recorded with regard to promoting the improvement to the Uckfield Line one both the infrastructure and operation. It was felt the group's aims were progressing slowly but that more could be done in respect of the Uckfield Line. It was agreed the chairman would contact them to try to achieve more contact and information. Whilst it was agreed the service on the Uckfield Line was improving there were still many turn arounds at Crowborough and that there were still problems on short term parking and pickups at Crowborough. This problem is compounded by the issue of false parking tickets from the ANPR machine.

With the forthcoming tender process for the new franchises the committee should compile a list of requirements to be included in the tender process, to start with improved car parking at stations, additional peak time evening services and coordination of timing of buses and trains.

Cllr. C Macve



Monday 3rd June 2019

Agenda Item 10.5

Luxford Centre

The executive committee Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday 11th May 2019 and attended by 37 club members and guests including Cllrs. Chris and Claire Dowling.

Prior to the commencement of the formal business the Chairman welcomed Mr Peter Siggs from the Loxfield Lodge of Uckfield Masons who presented the club with cheques totalling £1,200 which will substantially fund the purchase of a new commercial dishwasher for use in the centre kitchen. The members showed their appreciation of this very generous donation in the usual way.

The meeting then proceeded with the adoption of the last year's minutes and a very detailed explanation of the accounts followed by the chairman's report.

The existing committee were re-elected on block and the chairman, secretary and treasurer were also then re-elected.

The secretary advised members of the Clubs safeguarding policy and the date of 9th May 2020 for next year's Annual General Meeting.

Matters raised under 'Any Other Business' covered details of the change to a C10 and car parking at the centre. Councillor Chris Dowling thanked the club and committee for all that they do in supporting this very useful community asset.

Cllr. C.Macve

