



UCKFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

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Town Clerk – Holly Goring

A Meeting of the **Environment and Leisure Committee** to be held on
Monday 23rd July 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 11th June 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. No income and expenditure report until accounts completed

6.0. ADMINISTRATION

6.1. Nothing to report at this time

7.0. ENVIRONMENT

7.1. Access gate onto Town Council land in Calvert Close
(Attached)

8.0. LEISURE

Nothing to report at this time

9.0. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

9.1. Road Safety
(Attached)

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)

10.3. Uckfield and District Twinning Association
(Nothing to report)

10.4. Age Concern
(Nothing to report)

10.5. Luxford Centre Management Committee
(Nothing to report)

10.6. Active Uckfield Group
(Nothing to report)

10.7. Wealden Bus Alliance
(Nothing to report)

11.0 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS



Holly Goring
Town Clerk
17th July 2018

Meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee

Monday 23rd July 2018

Agenda Item 7.1.

ACCESS GATE ONTO TOWN COUNCIL LAND IN CALVERT CLOSE

1.0 Summary

- 1.1. A resident of West Park has written giving details of why they require an access gate onto Town Council land.

2.0 Background

- 2.1. Early summer a resident phoned to say that the grass on the corner of the entrance footpath to West Park Local Nature Reserve off Markland Way had not been cut. It transpired that the groundstaff had cut the grass but not as short as normal and had not strimmed around the resident's boundary fence. It was at this time that we were advised that the resident had an access gate in their fence onto this land.
- 2.2. The resident was contacted regarding the grass cutting and also advised that it is Town Council policy not to allow access onto its land via private gates in boundary fences. The resident was aggrieved by this comment and has now written to explain the reason for the gate.
- 2.3. The Environment & Leisure Committee over the years has tried to alleviate access onto its property via gates in boundaries and these have normally been resolved amicably however, members will recall that legal action was taken at the Cemetery in 2013/2014, and also in 2013 the Town Council had to install fencing inside the boundary at Hempstead Meadows Local Nature Reserve to stop residents accessing the reserve as a short cut to the station.

3.0 Resident's Reason for Gate

- 3.1. *"We bought our property on West Park 25 years ago. The house was less than 2 years old.*

We quickly realised when maintenance was required that we had no access to most of the perimeter of our property – that included the back and side fencing, the rear and side of our detached garage and hedging and picket fencing to the front. Also, and most importantly, no access to our stopcock and water meter located on the footpath in Markland Way.

20 years ago, we installed a discreet, lockable gate in our fencing adjacent to the rear wall of our garage. In the time the gate has been there, to our knowledge, no one has ever complained of its presence.

Our house is probably unique in that the builders did not give access from the front or rear of this property to the stop cock and water meter and outer perimeter. So, we feel this gate is a necessity for us. Please see plan of the property of 7, Calvert Close attached". (Map 1)

4.0 Recommendation

- 4.1. As members are aware the Town Council owns acres of land that borders residential properties which all have boundary fences etc. If requested the Council has allowed residents access onto its land to repair and maintain

boundary fences. It has also given permission for tree surgeons to access trees and in some cases allowed delivery vehicles to 'crane' over material to the rear of properties, if vehicle access available.

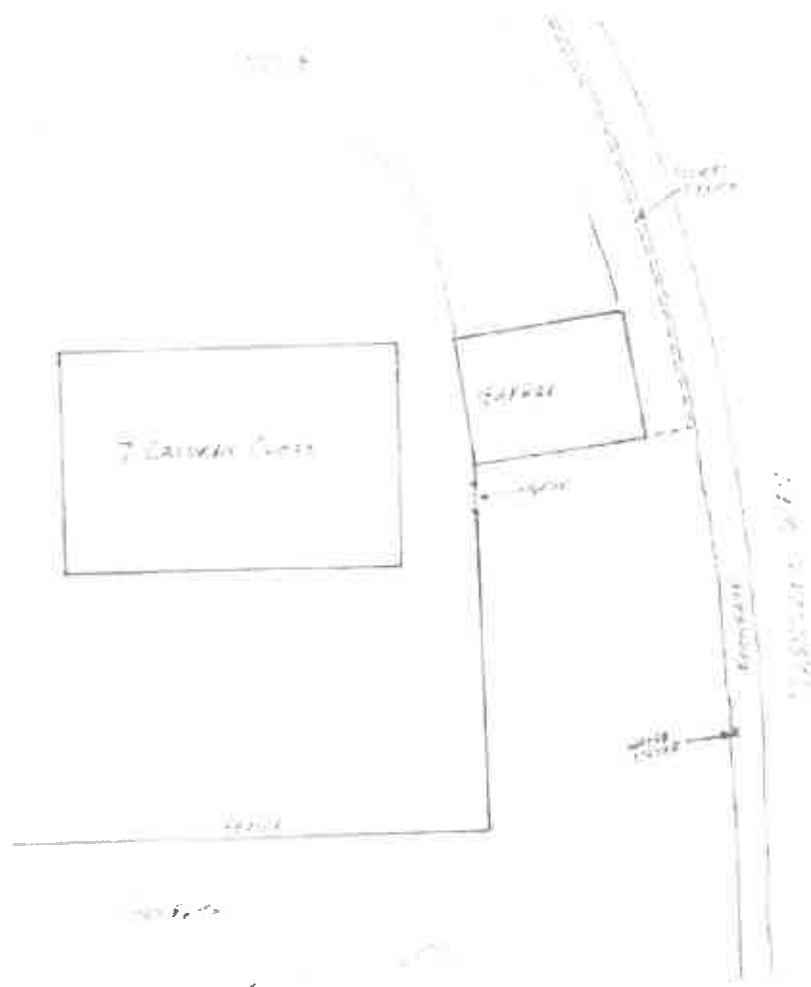
To our knowledge no other resident has a gate in their boundary for maintenance purposes in this area.

It is also felt that the Council provides sufficient authorised public access points to all of its land.

- 4.2. Members will note from the attached map (Map 2) that in order for the resident to access their property they have to drive along Markland Way and into Calvert Close, passing their stopcock and water meter every time they do so. Which gives them two opportunities on each occasion they leave and return their property to read their water meter.
- 4.3. Members are reminded of the Town Council policy and are asked to note the report and instruct the Clerk accordingly.

Contact Officer: Christine Wheatley

MAP 1



MAP 2



7 Calvert Close

Water Meter

Town Council Land

Meeting of the Environmental & Leisure Committee

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Agenda Item: 9.1

REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

The Road Safety Day (2018) Working Group

TO REPORT BACK ON THE DELIVERY OF THE ROAD SAFETY DAY WEDNESDAY 20st JUNE 2018

1.0 Summary

1.1 200 children attended from 5 local primary schools from Uckfield.

The event took place on Luxford Field on a relatively calm and cool day which was ideal for the activities.

The pupils and supporting staff all seemed to enjoy the many events, the SID racing and the road layout are always popular, and once again the day was a great success.

We were supported by only 5 participating organisations who brought vehicles, literature and staff teams to run a range of educational and fun activities focussed on Road Safety.

A traction engine attended and the children found it hot and very interesting.

Cold drinks and fresh fruit were provided for the children by Waitrose Ltd who also supplemented the water and squash that helpers provided. The Waitrose trainer used their large lorry to inform the children of the risks for cyclists around vehicles of the road.

The Road Safety Day working group was well supported by the team of local residents, who have helped in the past, and the working group itself. In total there were six helpers running the day. Special thanks must go to the Mayor who supported the Southern Rail group through-out the day, due to their much reduced resources.

Thanks must go to all our Council team; Office staff, Caretakers, Restaurant staff and ground staff who all contributed to the preparations and the success of the day.

2.0 Action Points

2.1 Attending Schools

Manor Park Primary
Rocks Park Primary
St Phillips Catholic Primary

Harlands Primary
Holy Cross C of E Primary

The children attending were from Year groups 3 and 4, aged 7 to 8

NOTE: The neighbouring village schools could not attend due to a variety of reasons. The most common was their inability to provide accompanying staff and helpers as result of their budgetary cuts. A ratio of 1 helper to every 6 children is required. One school cancelled two weeks before the event. Also, even with eight month's notice, one school found the date conflicted with other in-school activities.

The working party and Town Clerk were very concerned about this and the very great difficulties experienced this year in terms of communication. Despite this, it was agreed to go ahead with the day.

2.2 Participating Organisations

Sussex Community Rail Partnership (Southern Rail)
East Sussex Fire & Rescue Services
Costain Services – Highways (ESCC Highways)
Her Majesty's Coastguard Services
Traction Engine Consortium
Waitrose Ltd
Uckfield FM

This year we had a new participating organisation, Her Majesty's Coastguard Services which provided useful safety information when walking on the cliffs and the seashore. Thanks must go to them for their attendance and support.

2.3 Poster Competition

A competition took place which is open to all of the years at each of the attending schools for pupils to enter and create a poster based around a Road Safety Theme. This year the theme was "Look Out –Keep Your Eyes Peeled." Four schools submitted entries and the standards were as high as ever. The Mayor, Cllr Spike Mayhew, assisted by Mr Mike Skinner judged all the entries to decide the winners.

At the start of the Safety Day all the children gathered in the Weald Hall to see all the winning posters displayed and the winners to receive their prizes. A £10 voucher from Kids Stuff shop was presented to the winner of each year group in each school. The prizes were funded by Uckfield Town Council.

The James Molesworth-Edwards road safety day competition award for the overall winner of the poster competition was presented by the Mayor to a year 5 pupil from Harlands Primary School.

2.4 Transport.

The non-attendance of all the 'village' schools this year meant that no coaches were needed for transport. The five schools within the Uckfield urban area all walked to the Luxford Field.

2.5 Catering.

On the day a buffet lunch was provided by Uckfield Town Council for all the staff of the participating organisations and the event helpers.

Drinking cups and squash were donated to the event so all the children had access to a supply of cold drinks throughout the day, served by our event helpers

2.6 Budget management

A report detailing the final costings will be compiled by the working group and officers and reported at next meeting.

The savings resulting from not using any transport were significant. Additionally, with the reduction in the number of prizes for the Poster competition, this also resulted in a saving, so the very generous support in the past of the Uckfield Lions club to part fund the prizes, was not needed on this occasion.

2.7 Next Steps

- Environment and Leisure Committee to agree whether they wish to hold a Safety Day in 2019 and agree to a tentative date being set. An early decision about a possible date is helpful to alert all those involved to ensure they will be available;
- Most suitable date for 2019 is Wednesday 19th June;
- Confirm availability of participants for 2019;
- This year has shown, as feared, that due to the continuing pressure on resources two organisations, Sussex Police and British Transport Police, who had committed to attend, could not come. Network Rail no longer provide any community resource. The number of participants next year could again be uncertain and be reduced even further. The working group will therefore review the likely position for next year and will broaden the nature of the event to include other organisations involved in other aspect of children's safety;
- Report back to Environment and Leisure Committee with the suggested changes and the organisations that would be able to attend in 2019;
- Work with the Council Officers to develop strong communication links with the schools to ensure everyone understands what is involved and respectful of the timetable of actions.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 Members are asked to note the report and **RESOLVE** that;

- A date of 19th June 2019 be agreed to hold Road Safety Day 2019, subject to participants and funding being available;
- For General Purposes Committee to be requested to consider including adequate funds (2018 BUDGET+3%) for the day in the preparation of next year's budget;
- Agree to establish a working group for 2019;
- A Member to be tasked to obtain confirmation of continued support of current participants for 2019;
- A Member be tasked to inform likely attendee schools / likely participants of the provisional date for 2019;

Road Safety Working Group

Chair	Cllr. Ian Smith
Support	Cllr. Paul Sparks
Co-ordinator	Cllr. Paul Meakin

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Agenda Item 9.2

REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS: SPEED INDICATION DEVICE (SID)

SID equipment was used very effectively in the recent Road Safety Day with some record speeds being recorded for the fast running children.

The equipment is being deployed again at The Uckfield Grand Prix in this exiting annual Festival event with the kit cars that our local schools have built and customised.

We need to agree a regular programme for deploying SID at our approved locations and we will be working on this shortly.

Councillor Paul Sparks
SID Working Group

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THE UCKFIELD RAILWAY LINE PARISHES COMMITTEE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NEXT
MEETING OF THIS COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 11TH JULY 2018 AT 8 P.M.

IN BUXTED READING ROOM, CHURCH ROAD, BUXTED.

AGENDA

- 1) Apologies (these can be telephoned through on [01825] 732477)
- 2) Introduction + Welcome*
- 3) Minutes
- 4) Matters Arising
- 5) Current Service
- 6) Correspondence
- 7) Any Other Business

* we will be welcoming new Committee members Martin Hoggan and David Wells who are representing Buxted PC

Minutes of a Meeting of the Uckfield Railway Line Parishes Committee
held on 9th May 2018 in Buxted Reading Room

Present Cllr. I. Smith (Chairman) (Wealden Line Campaign), Mr J. Coleman (Crowborough Town Council), Cllr. M. Robson (Edenbridge T.C.), Cllr. C. Macve (Uckfield T.C.), Mr G. Brown (Edenbridge & Dist. Rail Travellers' Assoc.), Mr J. Fowden (Railfuture), Mr M. Bamford (Guest/User), Mrs J. Downing (Hon. Sec.)

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr T. Wells (Withyham Parish Council), Mr J. Carvey (Uckfield Resident/User), Mr R. Blake (Railfuture), Cllr. S. Catlin (Lewes T.C.), Cllr. D. Barlow (Maresfield P.C.), Cllr. S. Barnes (Newhaven T.C.), Mr N. Phiri & Ms. D. Anderson (Southern)

- 1) Minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2018 were agreed.
- 2) Matters Arising (a) With regard to the final form of the new timetable starting on 20th May 2018, both the on-line version and station booklets are now available. Committee expressed regret that the proposed weekday 18-37 service from London Bridge to Uckfield will not now run leaving an hour gap between 18-07 and 19-07 trains in a peak demand period (especially with the withdrawal of the evening shuttle service from Oxted to Uckfield). Whilst welcoming the earlier 09-34 Sunday service from Uckfield, Committee feels it would be an improvement for it to run through to London Bridge or at least East Croydon. Perhaps this could be considered for the December 2018 timetable. We would be giving feedback on these matters to Southern as requested by them in a communication (* see below) received by our Chairman just prior to this meeting.
- 3) Current Service More 10 car sets of trains are now running which is welcome. Nkulule Phiri (Southern Area Manager) had sent an update (*) to us covering network performance/punctuality, the new timetable and performance of the diesel units. We would thank him and include our comments as above and ask if he had had any response to our suggestion of turning trains at East Croydon as opposed to Crowborough in the event of late running. It was felt that the failure of an East Grinstead train in the Oxted tunnel recently which resulted in the closure of our line was not handled as efficiently as it could have been.
- 4) Correspondence (a) Ian Smith had written on our behalf to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council re their Madeira Park and Warwick Park: draft conservation area appraisal and management plan. It was made clear that we wish to see the continued protection of the rail trackbed between Tunbridge Wells West and Tunbridge Wells Central which falls within this area. After decades of protection it would be disappointing in the extreme to see this threatened now when the need for this and other strategic rail connections to be restored is being increasingly recognised. (b) Sharon Gray of Sussex Community Rail Partnership had very helpfully sent details of the new Transport for the South East body which we plan to contact further.
- 5) Any Other Business (a) The Committee are aware of the new General Data Protection Rules and the Chairman will ensure that we fully comply. (b) The meeting of interested parties to discuss the restoration of the Lewes/Uckfield rail link which East Sussex Association of Local Councils is organising is now awaiting agreement of a suitable date with Maria Caulfield M.P. (Lewes). (c) Ian Smith had attended a meeting of South Coast Alliance for Transport and the Environment (SCATE). They will be contacting us.

- (d) There is a new initiative for Market Led Proposals for rail which aims to enhance rail travel without government support. The involvement of private investors is no doubt the best hope for BML 2 and the Wealden Line Campaign are fully aware of this. (e) Committee are still concerned about the possible impact on the Uckfield line during the planned closures of the Brighton Main Line in October of this year and February 2019. We would be raising this again with Tronne Leslie (G.T.R./Southern Stakeholder Relations Manager).
- 6) The Next Meeting of this Committee will be held on WEDNESDAY 11th JULY 2018 followed by meetings on Wednesday 12th September 2018 and Wednesday 14th November 2018. All these to commence at 8 p.m. and be held in Buxted Reading Room, Church Road, Buxted.

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