




## DO YOU HAVE PROBLEMS WITH DOG FOULING IN YOUR AREA?

Please give us your feedback on this issue so we can ensure all areas of Uckfield are cleaner and more hygienic spaces.

Contact us through:  
admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk  
@uckfieldtowncouncil 



## FALLING FOUL OF DOG MESS

BY CLLR. PAUL MEAKIN

There is a growing concern amongst residents and the great many responsible dog owners about dog waste being left on our streets, particularly on our sports fields, public green spaces and the nature reserves. It is not only very unpleasant and offensive but also can be a serious health risk, especially to young children, and may eventually get into our water supply.

The council has recognised this concern. The Environment and Leisure Committee has agreed to run a campaign throughout 2018 to re-educate the few irresponsible dog owners who

fail to pick up their dog's mess and dispose of it correctly.

I am a dog owner and walk in many of the areas that are of major concern which is why I am keen to champion this much needed proposal. It is clearly not right that dog mess has to be cleared away from our sports pitches and recreational areas before games and events can begin.

dog owners to change their anti-social habits.

One part of the campaign will involve siting dog poo bag dispensers to provide free bags at the locations where we have serious dog fouling.

There is more information about this campaign on the Uckfield Town Council's website <http://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/Dog-Fouling.aspx>



The campaign will seek to remind people of the importance of bagging and disposing of their dog's mess in the town's many litter bins, to explain why this is important to so many people and to influence the few irresponsible

### WHAT'S INSIDE

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## GREENING THE CIVIC CENTRE

*Over eight years ago your council decided to find ways to make their properties more environmentally-friendly and also reduce their annual running costs. This would be good for the environment and good for the council taxpayers. A great deal of work was carried out by councillors and consultants resulting in the council agreeing to changes being made to the Civic Centre including installing a new biomass boiler for space heating, a better water heating boiler for the kitchen, photovoltaics (PV) solar panels on the roof, sensor controlled lighting and changes in the electricity management systems.*

### BIOMASS BOILER

The Civic Centre also has a biomass boiler installed to provide heating and hot water for the building. A biomass boiler burns wood pellets to produce the heating and lower carbon emissions.

We spend around £10,000 in heating costs per year (£7,000 of which is for the biomass boiler system). However, we receive income back from the UK government's Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI). In 2016/2017, the money we received almost covered these costs; making a valuable contribution to our utility bills.



### SOLAR PANELS

The photovoltaics (PV) solar panels on the roof of the Civic Centre capture the sun's energy using photovoltaic cells. The cells convert sunlight into electricity and can still generate some electricity on a cloudy day.

The Civic Centre and Luxfords Restaurant spends around £10,000 a year in electricity costs. However, we receive income back from the UK government's 'Feed-in Tariff' scheme for the electricity generated by our solar panels and in 2016/2017 this was just over £4,500. Therefore, this investment almost halves our annual electricity bill.

### WATERLESS URINALS

The Civic Centre has also installed waterless urinals in the gentlemen's facilities. This significantly reduces the water consumption of the building and consequently saves money. The urinals are also easier to clean, won't cause flooding problems and better to maintain.

The council continues to review all areas of expenditure to reduce its costs to make it as efficiently funded and environmentally friendly as possible.

Visit <http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/renewable-energy> for more information and ideas.

# OUR PRIORITIES IN 2018/2019



Giving £41,285 of grant funding to local community groups



Arranging town events like 'Weald on the Field'



Introducing speed reduction initiatives and education on safety



Mapping our open spaces and footways and introducing health initiatives



Supporting the preparation of a draft Neighbourhood Plan for Uckfield



Pushing for improvements to accessibility and highway safety



Building on the success of the Uckfield Dementia Forum - encourage greater inclusivity within the town



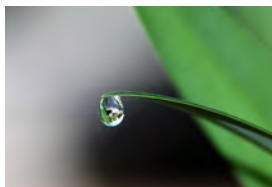
Improving Town Council owned buildings and assessing how to use them better



Exploring how footway links could be improved throughout the town



Providing a greater variety of events at the Civic Centre



Celebrating green initiatives like water conservation on allotments



Investigating suitable locations for a public convenience and the potential costs involved

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

Full Council agendas and minutes can also be seen at the Uckfield Library.

12 FEBRUARY	-	ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE
19 FEBRUARY	-	PLANS
26 FEBRUARY	-	FULL COUNCIL
5 MARCH	-	GENERAL PURPOSES
12 MARCH	-	PLANS
26 MARCH	-	ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE

If you wish to ask a question at a meeting, on items on the agenda, it is advisable to submit your question beforehand to allow a full response to be given at the meeting. All questions should be directed to the Town Clerk. Please email [admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk)

# WANTED

## AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS



### Calendar Competition 2019

#### ‘The Spirit of Uckfield’

Entry forms available now!

For full terms and conditions visit  
[www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/Calendar-Competition-2019.aspx](http://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/Calendar-Competition-2019.aspx)  
 The closing date of the competition is the 31 July 2018

## LAST MONTH IN YOUR COUNCIL

Whilst setting the future priorities of the council, members have been considering a number of new initiatives.

Environment and Leisure Committee looked into the possibility of introducing a shelter at Victoria Pleasure Ground and the most appropriate materials to use outside. However the two most suitable locations identified on the periphery of the sports field posed risks to safety (close proximity to the beacon and to the roof and pavilion building). And, if placed to the east of the car park, the shelter would be too close to nearby properties. Members were keen to keep investigating and agreed in principle, to provide a shelter subject to a suitable location being found.

A report was returned to committee on the pedestrian access between Victoria Pleasure Ground car park and the entrance to St Philips Catholic Primary School. Members considered the detailed information provided and agreed to make this temporary access, permanent for school pupils and their parents. This decision was based on the gate being locked when school had finished; that the access arrangements be formally reviewed each year; the school keeping an eye on parking behaviour and the Town Council giving notice to rescind the agreement if the terms were not met.

### COMING NEXT MONTH

- Date for annual town meeting
- Update on travel links