



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

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EDITION 209

thevoice

LOVE IN THE TIME OF CORONAVIRUS

BY CLLR SPIKE MAYHEW

We have been living in strange times since the outbreak of Covid 19 and need to follow the advice of the UK Government and Public Health England. What has struck me most is how the community has pulled together to make sure everyone has support and help where needed. Uckfield has shown its humanity and compassion and I am very proud to be one of its residents.

Pulling together

During hard times good people do what they can for others like the group of residents and councillors that formed the food outreach box service which has provided essentials for those in need.

Events postponed

Many of the spring/summer events have been postponed and some cancelled. The 2020 Uckfield Festival has been cancelled. This will be very much missed with its week-long activities and Big Day. The organisers have promised to make up for this year's loss by bringing you a stunning programme of events next year. At the time of writing, we are unsure about some of the other events we look forward to like Weald on the Field, the Rugby Fete and Carnival. Keep up to date via the council website over the coming weeks – www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk Many events at the Civic Centre have been rearranged for later in the year or early next year. You can check out the



changes at the website:–
www.civiccentrueckfield.com.

In good spirits

Our town thrives on its many social events and the variety, ingenuity and good nature of its residents. From what I hear, the people of Uckfield are in good spirits. People queuing at the supermarkets are observing social distancing and having good light-hearted conversation with others.

I hope by the time you read this, things will be better but if not please stay strong and be kind.

Contact us through:

admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk



@uckfieldtowncouncil

WHAT'S INSIDE

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NEW LOOK ALLOTMENT COMPETITION

We are pleased to announce that Staverton's Nursery has, once again, agreed to sponsor Uckfield's Allotment Competition. They have worked with the Town Council to come up with new ideas for this year's competition. The judging will take place in July - coronavirus permitting - or later if not possible.

Best Kept Allotment

We will be keeping the category for the Best Kept Allotment at each site from which we will choose the Overall Winner who will have their name added to the plaque held at the Civic Centre.

Eco Award

A new category this year is the Eco Award. The mantra of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle is particularly important for gardeners and we will be looking at how plastics are reused, other items are recycled and water consumption is reduced.

Children's Award

We will be letting children choose what they would like to grow for this award. It might be tomatoes, runner beans or flowers - whatever they wish.

People's Choice Award

This year we will be introducing another new award. There will be a People's Choice award for each of the five allotment sites -

- Framfield Road
- West Park
- Bird in Eye
- Ridgewood
- Bell Lane

Each allotment holder will be able to vote for their favourite allotment on their site - obviously not their own! We will ask people to consider the following when making their vote:-

The Allotment Holder

- Are they friendly? Are they helpful? Do they offer advice or suggestions to other plot holders?
- Do they share surplus seedlings/ plants or produce with other plot holders when they have them?
- Do they offer to water when another plot holder is away?

The Allotment

- Is it kept in a reasonable condition bearing in mind how often the plot holder is able to tend it?
- Are weeds kept to a minimum and managed so they don't spread?

Entry forms

There are entry forms available online (for both the adult and children's awards) at www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/council-services/allotments/



CALENDAR COMPETITION

This year's photographic competition for entries into the 2021 Uckfield calendar is all about your funny photographs and the captions that go with them. We will all need cheering up by 2021 so start thinking about your Uckfield photographs that fit the bill. We have extended the closing date to 31 August to give you extra time to get your entries in. So get snapping when you can!

WANTED AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS



Calendar Competition 2021

Funny Photograph Caption

Entry forms available now!

For full terms and conditions visit
www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/community/calendar-competition/

The closing date of the competition is the 31 August 2020

LAST MONTH IN YOUR COUNCIL

The month of May is the end of one municipal year and the start of a new year for the Town Council. Local authorities are required to hold an annual statutory meeting of the Council. In an election year this annual meeting must take place on the day when the councillors take office, or within 14 days thereafter. In any other year, it may take place on any day in May.

Annual Statutory meeting

The Annual Statutory meeting of the Council is currently booked in for Monday 11 May 2020. It is very likely that this meeting will be held remotely. Further information will be provided to local residents via a press release, on our website and social media accounts in the days leading up to the meeting. For Uckfield, this meeting sees the Town Council elect its Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the year ahead, plus appoint members to the council's committees, working groups and members as representatives on outside bodies. Outside bodies are organisations and community groups working for the benefit of residents in the town.

Annual Town Meeting

The Annual Town Meeting is a meeting

for residents, and would normally take place in April each year. In light of the outbreak of Coronavirus (Covid 19) this will not be possible. Both NALC (National Association of Local Councils) and the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) are asking local councils to stop holding any physical meetings or gatherings during this time including full council, committee meetings, annual parish or council meetings. The health and safety of staff, councillors and local communities are considered our first concern. The Town Council will therefore be considering its options and looking at the advice and regulations which recently came into force (Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) Regulations 2020.

UPCOMING MEETINGS*

Agendas and minutes can be seen at Uckfield Library and on the town council website. 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

MON 4 MAY	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 11 MAY	– FULL COUNCIL (ANNUAL STATUTORY)
MON 18 MAY	– PLANS
MON 1 JUNE	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 8 JUNE	– PLANS
MON 15 JUNE	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 22 JUNE	– FULL COUNCIL
MON 29 JUNE	– PLANS

be given at the meeting. All questions should be directed to the Town Clerk at:

admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

* meeting dates may change or be held remotely see website for latest details

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Summer 2020
- Town Mayor
- Committee Membership

