



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

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thevoice

AN UPDATE FROM THE MAYOR

BY CLLR SPIKE MAYHEW

We are still living through worrying times and many of the things we would consider as normal practice, or events we look forward to, are having to be changed and adapted to suit the current situation.

Remembrance Sunday services

Covid-19 has meant a change to the town's Remembrance Sunday services and parade on Sunday 8 November. There will still be a service at Holy Cross Church but by invitation only due to the UK Govt guidance on numbers gathering. We are also planning a socially distanced procession. This will be arranged by invitation only away from the high street from the safety of Luxford's car park up to the church. The arrangements for laying the wreaths will also be adapted to make sure that distance is maintained.

Shop safely, shop local, shop Uckfield

With Christmas coming up, shopping locally for your festive gifts and food is a great option. The businesses in Uckfield have put all the necessary safety precautions in place and, although the late night shopping event has been cancelled this year, many of the shops and businesses will be staying open later on Friday 4 December to help you get ahead with your Christmas gifts.

Christmas lights

I would like to thank the Uckfield Chamber of Commerce very much for their contribution towards the cost of



Christmas Lights in the High Street. They should be bringing a bit of sparkle to the town towards the beginning of December!

Covid secure at the Civic Centre

At the Civic Centre in Uckfield and Luxfords Restaurant, a number of measures have been put in place to protect customers and hirers and make you feel safe whilst in the building. This includes restricting numbers per room for bookings, regular cleaning of touch points and access to the NHS Covid-19 QR code or our own track and trace records. Face coverings are also to be worn in all communal areas. This provides a safe environment for you to enjoy catching up with friends or family over a Christmas lunch, or perhaps one of our Festive Afternoon teas in December.

Contact us through:

admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk



@uckfieldtowncouncil

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Community Grant Programme
- Dog fouling

COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAMME

BY CLLR PAUL SPARKS

The Town Council will always try to support local voluntary groups and charities as a means of enhancing the great community spirit within the town.

One of the main ways of achieving this is through the annual Community Grant programme where an allocation of funds is awarded to local bidders to support specific projects.

Funding available

The total amount of money is agreed by Councillors when setting the Town Council's budget and for the current fiscal year the fund totals £25,000. Local groups are invited to apply for a grant providing full details on how the money would be used together with supporting information on the group itself.

Opportunity to present their case

Requests for grants are always greater than the money available so a meeting

of the Finance Committee is held where bidders are invited to explain their application and answer any questions from Councillors. Following this, the committee makes recommendations on how to award the funds. A total of 19 applicants were successful for 2019/20, and £25,000 was distributed in amounts ranging from £210 to £3,500.

Increase for 2021

For the future Community Grants programme the total funds available has been increased to £27,500. Applications are being invited from 2 November 2020 until 31 January 2021. Further details will be available on our website. In view of COVID-19 we are expecting a large number of applications.



(Ron Hill Photography)

Members of the Royal British Legion - an organisation which received a grant last year

COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAMME

Grant recipients in 2020/21

The smallest grant was given to the Royal British Legion, with the largest going to Wealden Works. Wealden Works provides a highly successful programme to support young people who are not in education, employment or training.



Bridging the gap between education & work

GRANTS AWARDED IN 2020-2021

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Uckfield & District Age Concern | £468.00 |
| Framfield & Blackboys Monday Club | £500.00 |
| Uckfield Bonfire & Carnival Society | £3,000.00 |
| East Sussex Association of the Blind | £300.00 |
| Family Support Work | £1,500.00 |
| Uckfield FM | £2,000.00 |
| The Royal British Legion | £210.00 |
| Uckfield & District Preservation Society | £1,500.00 |
| Ridgewood Village Hall Committee | £1,800.00 |
| Uckfield Festival Association | £3,000.00 |
| Uckfield Millennium Green | £287.00 |
| Uckfield Theatre Guild | £600.00 |
| Uckfield Community Orchestra | £400.00 |
| ATC Uckfield Air Cadets Squadron | £1,500.00 |
| Mediation + | £1,500.00 |
| Wealden Works | £3,500.00 |
| Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Assoc | £325.00 |
| Uckfield College Counselling Service | £2,000.00 |
| St Wilfred's Hospice | £600.00 |
| | |
| TOTAL | £25,000.00 |

WALKING YOUR WAY TO CLEANER GREEN SPACES

General litter is unacceptable and poses a risk to wildlife, and longer term, a risk to our environment particularly as single use plastic is unable to decompose.

But, dog poo, that's just one step too far...especially if you walk in it! It's offensive and a key issue which concerns the public. Not only do dogs themselves not want to walk in it, but neither do pedestrians. Hanging it on a tree to be collected later, is just leaving it for someone else to pick up!

Health risk

The parasite eggs responsible for toxocariasis can survive for many months in sand or soil, so all pet faeces should be collected and disposed of in rubbish bins.

Any bin will do!

"Keep Britain Tidy want to see dog fouling substantially reduced, and all but eradicated by 2030. They wholly support the concept of 'any bin will do.'" Uckfield Town Council empties over 70 litter bins across the town, in addition to those on public highways and in the High Street which are emptied by Biffa on behalf of Wealden District Council.

Open spaces such as Luxford Field have in the region of eight litter bins, but yet dog poo (and litter) is still found on the ground – where people like to sit and gather, eat their lunch, and where children play! Not very nice is it? Whatever people may believe, there really is no such thing as the dog poo fairy. Where it rests, is where it ends up! So bag that poo, as any bin will do!



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 be given at the meeting.

All questions should be directed to the

| | |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| MON 2 NOV | – PLANS |
| MON 9 NOV | – GENERAL PURPOSES |
| MON 16 NOV | – ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE |
| MON 23 NOV | – PLANS |
| MON 7 DEC | – FULL COUNCIL (DFT BUDGET) |
| MON 14 DEC | – PLANS |

Town Clerk at:

admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

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

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Christmas message
- The Mayor and Deputy Mayor's round up of 2020

