



## LUXFORD PLAY AREA OPENS

The newly refurbished Luxford play area was officially re-opened on Saturday 19 September in a small ceremony by the Mayor Councillor Spike Mayhew.

The new design for the play area was chosen following a public consultation in February 2020 and has a castle theme. The site is slightly wider and shorter which will make it easier for children to be supervised while using the new equipment.

### Accessible for more

As part of the design for the new play area it was important to make it accessible and included is:-

- an accessible (wheelchair) ramp into the main 'Uckfield Castle'.
- A sensory pathway with more musical equipment.
- An extra flat seat swing and additional inclusive seating.

### Poster winner

Also there at the official opening was Dylan Trigwell, who won the local schools' poster competition to design a fantasy play area. As part of his prize Dylan had his poster 'brought to life' by a professional graphic illustrator. Dylan was also first to be able to try out some of the equipment.

### Safety is paramount

At this time of Covid 19, the safety of play area users is paramount and all play areas in Uckfield are sanitised every month. The equipment in Luxfords play



© Mike Skinner

area had been cleaned and sprayed ready for the reopening and a full ROSPA safety check had been carried out.

### Sanitising play areas

The sanitiser – Zoono - is a safe, non-hazardous, water-based product that has a toxicity rating similar to Vitamin C. It is colourless and odourless and it doesn't create any fumes. When applied it is a very dry mist that rapidly evaporates and dries on surfaces. The active ingredient in Zoono (Benzalkonium Chloride) bonds to surfaces and this process takes between 10 and 15 minutes and is effective for over 30 days.

Prior to spraying, test swabs across Uckfield play areas recorded between 900-1500 microbes and after spraying these had dropped to between 13-50.

Contact us through:

[admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk)



@uckfieldtowncouncil

## WHAT'S INSIDE

- Update on the Allotment Competition
- Update on Uckfield Revival
- Ridgewood Village Hall update
- Last month in your council

# RIDGEWOOD VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

Since 26 May 2020 Ridgewood Village Hall has been undergoing a £90k refurbishment. This finally came to a close on September 11 when the management committee received the keys for the new automated front door.

The community hall, which was built during the 1980s by local people, drawing on local expertise and businesses, is a very popular hall. It is used by a wide range of local clubs, groups and businesses serving all age groups from babies through to our senior generation and everyone in-between.

The committee, who are made up of a group of volunteers, work tirelessly to provide a facility that meets modern needs and also puts on community events throughout the year to bring the community together and to raise money for the hall.

## In need of modernisation

The hall was in great need of modernising with broken showers, holes in floors and walls, an old kitchen and poor disabled access. With fundraising events, hirers' fees, Tesco and Waitrose coin schemes and some incredible generosity from local business (including Rory Baptiste,



**Ridgewood Village Hall**

Working For The Community

Adam Palmer, Chris Thorne, David Spurrell, Taylor Wimpey and many others) the hall has been transformed into a very modern facility. It has new toilets, a new kitchen and a brand new meeting room which can be divided into two smaller rooms, perfect for art and craft classes, and a completely refurbished main hall.

## Opening celebrations halted

Covid regulations halted the planned opening celebrations for 13 September but hopefully 2021 will see the community events return starting with the Easter Bunny Hunt and Spring fair on 3 April. Meanwhile the hall is open for local hire and bookings can be made through the website:

<https://ridgewoodvillagehall.wixsite.com/uckfield>

The committee continue to look at new opportunities for the hall including the possibility of opening it for weddings and other types of celebrations.

## Join the committee

The committee is looking for new members to join for 2021 at the AGM which will be held via ZOOM on 28 October.

If you would like to attend, get involved or want to know more about what is being planned for the future for Ridgewood Village Hall (including Phase 2 – The Extension) please contact Karen Bedwell, Chair at [ridgewoodvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:ridgewoodvillagehall@gmail.com).



## ALLOTMENT COMPETITION 2020 WINNERS

We were still able to go ahead with the annual allotment competition this year with the help of our sponsors - Staverton's Nursery - who provided the excellent judges.

### Best kept allotment winners

Bell Lane - Alan Huxley  
Bird in Eye - Emily and Neal Matheson  
Framfield Road – Philip Manning  
Ridgewood - Mrs A Butler and Mr B Gillett  
West Park - Mr and Mrs Rowland

### Overall Winner

The overall winner has their name added to the shield held at the Civic Centre.

Framfield Road - Philip Manning

### Ecological Award winner

Framfield Road - Caroline Hoath

### People's Choice Award winners

New for 2020, the People's Choice

Award allowed plot holders to vote for their favourite allotment holder on their site. Not all sites voted.

Bell Lane - Mr Vic Oliver

Framfield Road - Mr and Mrs Phillips

Bird in Eye – David Moor



### Children's Award winners

Framfield Road – David Tobys

Framfield Road – Benjamin Newbery

Framfield Road – Thomas Newbery

**Check back next month for the full report and pictures**

## UCKFIELD REVIVAL POSTPONED UNTIL MARCH 2021

Following further risk assessments and advice from the Government, it became clear that we could not proceed with the car parade this year because spectators in the High Street might not be able to maintain a safe distance due to numbers attending..

### New Date in 2021

We have now set a date for 2021 - March 27 - when it is hoped we may be able to safely proceed with this popular annual town event which has seen in excess of 120 classic and vintage vehicles take part in the past

# LAST MONTH IN YOUR COUNCIL

## Department for Transport

Open consultation

## Pavement parking: options for change

### Pavement parking in Uckfield

Up and down the country, pavement parking is becoming more of an issue with households owning more than one vehicle, young people living at home longer so more vehicles at home, vehicles getting larger and some roads and urban landscapes just not able to cope with the increase.

The landscape of Uckfield makes this particularly difficult with smaller residential roads such as those in New Town requiring residents to park on the street. Drivers park on the pavements towards the upper part of the High Street for convenience to collect takeaways and items from local businesses. We also have difficulties with delivery vehicles unloading on the High Street as a result of the many businesses not having a rear loading area or space to do so.

### The Department for Transport wants to hear from you...

Pavement parking in London has been prohibited since 1974 but the department recognise there is no straightforward solution particularly in more rural areas like Uckfield.

### Options to consider

They want to understand your thoughts on three proposed options, which focus on making improvements to traffic regulation orders, allowing authorities with Civil Parking Enforcement powers to enforce against unnecessary obstruction of the pavements, or imposing a national parking prohibition. All of which have their advantages and disadvantages. It's important we put our views across. To take part, visit [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/2Xl2G/](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/2Xl2G/) before 22 November 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 be given at the meeting.

All questions should be directed to the Town Clerk at:

[admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk)

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

MON 5 OCT	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 12 OCT	– PLANS
MON 19 OCT	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 26 OCT	– FULL COUNCIL
MON 2 NOV	– PLANS
MON 9 NOV	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 16 NOV	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 23 NOV	– PLANS

### COMING NEXT MONTH

- Allotment Competition full report
- Remembrance ceremonies
- Calendar Competition

