



OUR VACCINE HEROES

BY CLLR JACKIE LOVE

We are sending a big thank you to our wonderful doctors, marvellous volunteers and all of the incredible staff (known affectionately as 'Jabs Army') at the Meads Medical Centre who have given us a local vaccine hub to be proud of. Anyone who has been to receive a vaccine will join me in thanking them.

Efficient and helpful organisation

The organisation at the Meads Medical Centre in Uckfield has been exemplary. The Practice Manager, Charlotte Luck was awarded Practice Manager of the Year in 2020, an accolade that is well deserved based on the latest experiences of visiting vaccine patients.

Friendly volunteers

The car parking volunteers have been friendly and helpful to all those attending the Meads as well as the young people taking temperatures at the door. Local business, TR Fastenings, has kindly allowed them to use part of its car park on vaccination days and nearly 50 volunteers have come forward to help with car park marshalling! The Meads Patients' Participation Group has expertly organised the volunteer rotas and also provided the road signs directing drivers to the overflow car park at TR Fastenings.

Participating surgeries

The Meads Medical Centre has been providing a vaccine centre since mid December as part of a collaboration



Volunteers Susan and Carol assisting at the surgery

with Bird-in-Eye Surgery, Buxted Medical Centre, Herstmonceux Integrative Health Centre, Heathfield Surgery and Mid Downs Medical Practice. They have been vaccinating those in the over 80s category since then and they have now moved on to the over 70s.

Be patient

The vaccination programme does give us a positive boost to the current pandemic situation but we must be patient for our turn to come around. You will be contacted by your surgery to arrange your vaccination time.

If you would like to find out more about the vaccination programme please visit the government website at <http://bit.ly/UK-COVID-19-vaccines-delivery-plan>

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

WHAT'S INSIDE

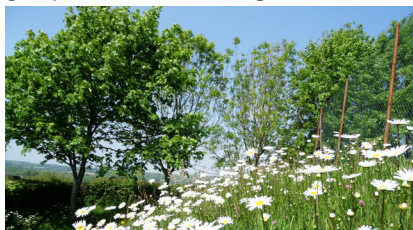
- 2021-2022 Annual Priorities
- Wealden District Council Local Plan
- Wealden Dementia Action Alliance

OUR ANNUAL PRIORITIES 2021-2022



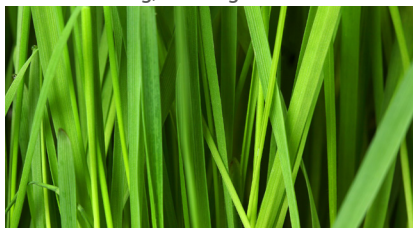
Community Grants

We will award up to £47,000 of community grant funding to local groups and charitable organisations.



Improvements to open spaces

Repairing and improving our open spaces - including new signage, play area surfacing, drainage issues.



Grass Verge Cutting

We will contribute to the costs of ESCC's grass verge cutting.



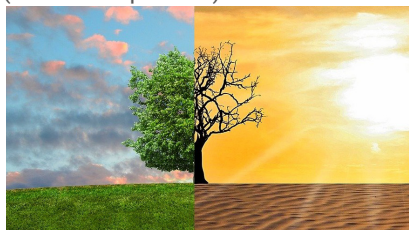
New Booking System

Installing a new internal computer booking system for Town Council rooms and open spaces.



Public Events in the Town

Two free public events within the town; Weald on the Field and Uckfield Revival (Covid-19 dependent).



Reducing impact on Climate Change

Reviewing contracts, buildings, equipment, managing land and minimising waste



New Finance

Changing our existing cheque payment method to a BACS system



Road Safety

We will work to re-establish community speedwatch initiative(s) in the town and install a speed reduction device.

OUR ANNUAL PRIORITIES 2021-2022



Reviewing Town Council Buildings

Reviewing our older buildings, repairing and improving to better suit the needs of hirers and local community groups.



Neighbourhood Plan

Supporting the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group in preparing an Uckfield Neighbourhood Plan ready for submission to the local authority.

Wealden District Council Wealden Local Plan Direction of Travel Consultation

WDC LOCAL PLAN - SETTING THE DIRECTION

Wealden District Council is the local planning authority for Wealden District and they are currently in the early stages of preparing a new Local Plan. This will set the planning policies for our area and assist planning officers with determining or rejecting planning applications.

Parish and Town Councils are being engaged in the development of the Local Plan from the early stages and a consultation document was placed out for comment in December/January 2021 to enable all members of the community including residents and businesses to put forward their views about their local area.

Consultation document

The consultation document, 'Wealden Local Plan – Direction of Travel' focused on a number of key planning themes such as climate change,

infrastructure, housing, economy, tourism, natural environment, and health and sought to identify the main challenges and opportunities within these themes.

The Town Council Response

The Town Council provided a detailed and honest response to questions within each of the themes. If you are interested in reading the consultation responses we provided in reference to the Direction of Travel consultation document please visit www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/community/have-your-say/

COMMIT TO HELP THE WEALDEN DEMENTIA ACTION ALLIANCE

The Wealden Dementia Action Alliance (WDAA) are asking businesses across the district to help create a dementia friendly community.

Why it is so important

There are currently around 850,000 people living with dementia in the UK. This is projected to rise to 1.6 million by 2040. Dementia research is desperately underfunded and although this is one of our main impairments later in life, ahead of cancer, cardiovascular disease and stroke, the healthcare system has less funding for dementia than those other conditions. Many of us will know or currently have a relative who lives with dementia and will understand that, although support is available, its finding the right support for your loved ones. The Uckfield Dementia Forum has a wide range of partner agencies on board who share key information about local activities, support and healthcare. The forum sits under the umbrella of the WDAA, and we work together to raise awareness of dementia across the district.

Uckfield Town Council has signed up to the WDAA Charter, now we need your help! It is important for us all to do what we can, by raising our awareness, helping those who live with dementia to carry out their day to day tasks and for people to have a safe and supported experience when out and about in the town centre, especially if things become a bit confusing.

How you can do your bit!

- Sign up to the WDAA Charter;
- Arrange for staff to undertake dementia awareness sessions, which can be carried out online at present – only 45 minutes a session;
- Request a copy of the 'Making your business dementia friendly guide' and make at least one change;
- Follow the WDAA on Facebook at @WealdenDAA
- Sign up to the WDAA weekly newsletter to stay up to date with current events and updates in the local area by emailing communitydevelopment@wealden.gov.uk

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

MON 1 MAR	– FULL COUNCIL
MON 8 MAR	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 15 MAR	– PLANS
MON 22 MAR	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
TUES 6 APR	– PLANS
MON 12 APR	– FULL COUNCIL
TUES 13 APR	– ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MON 19 APR	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 26 APR	– PLANS

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

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Awarded Grant Funding
- Uckfield's own Springwatch

