



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

January 2023

EDITION 239

INTRODUCING JAMES HOLLINGDALE

In early November James Hollingdale joined Uckfield Town Council as its new Estates and Facilities Manager

James brings a wealth of experience to his new role. With a career in the healthcare industry and over 10 years of experience in Facilities Management, James brings a wide range of knowledge and experience, which will be invaluable to the role.

A big role

The role of Estates and Facilities manager is responsible for:

- Facilities Management for Civic Centre and UTC buildings
- Building Maintenance programme
- Health and Safety
- Supervision of Grounds staff
- Management of open spaces, nature reserves and play areas
- Contracts management – grass cutting, floral displays etc
- Management and conservation – nature reserves and ancient woodlands

Priorities

One of the first priorities for James will be to review and prioritise our health, safety and compliance, and ensure we remain up to date, and urgent matters are addressed.

James will assess our current project works and ensure they are progressed and completed, as well as implementing systems for reporting defects, so we can keep on top of anything that needs repairing and replacing.

Looking ahead, James will be surveying



our buildings to create a five year plan and make sure any improvements are identified and implemented in a timely manner.

James is responsible for both the grounds and buildings, and with that the grounds and caretaking/cleaning teams. This will involve making sure we have adequate cover for the work that needs to be completed.

Day to day his work involves meeting with contractors and building effective working relationships with key stakeholders.

It's going to be a busy time for him over the coming months, but we wish him every success in his new role.

Contact us through:

admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk



[@uckfieldtowncouncil](https://www.facebook.com/uckfieldtowncouncil)

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LOOKING BACK AT 2022

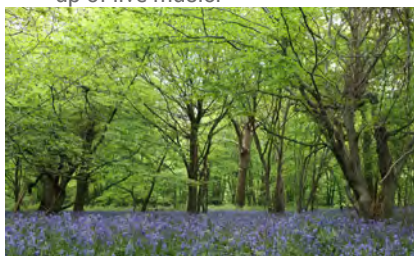
As we finally got back into the swing of things and learned to live with Covid, Uckfield began to return to a semblance of normal in 2022.

Some Achievements in 2022

- Awarded £54,500 in community grant funding to local groups and organisations (£27,500 to community groups, £8,000 to the Uckfield Volunteer Centre and £19,000 to Wealden Citizen's Advice).



- Hosted a successful Weald on the Field event in August, which provided the community with an excellent range of street food, pop up bars, crafts and activities, all whilst listening to a fantastic line up of live music.



- Undertaken works in Nightingale and Boothland Woods, to remove trees affected by ash dieback, and ensure the safety of nearby residential properties and woodland users;

- Launched the Our Parks Initiative to provide free circuit sessions every week to residents at Harlands Playing Fields (Saturday mornings from 10 until 11am);
- Undertaken our seasonal tree planting programme which has included the planting of fruit trees at West Park Recreation Ground;

eco EXPO

- Held a successful Eco EXPO in April which helped to promote alternative products and technologies to residents and businesses;



- Brought a filled events programme to the Civic Centre, with a variety of acts for different interests and age groups;
- Summer floral displays and Christmas lights in the town centre;

FRIENDS WE HAVE LOST DURING 2022



Mike Skinner - a friend and huge support to Uckfield Town Council and the town as a whole.



John Carvey - former Councillor and Mayor of Uckfield and a selfless supporter of the town.

GET FIT FOR FREE IN 2023!

The largest free fitness and online craze has come to Uckfield. Our Parks have been delivering Circuit Sessions every week at Harland Farm Playing Fields from 10.00am until 11.00am on Saturday mornings.

Moving inside until Spring

The sessions will be moving inside during January, February and March and will take place in the Weald Hall, Civic Centre at 10am until 11 am on the following dates:

- 7 January 2023
- 14 January 2023
- 21 January 2023
- 28 January 2023
- 4 February 2023
- 11 February 2023
- 25 February 2023
- 11 March 2023
- 18 March 2023

Book your place at ourparks.org.uk/uckfield



Fully qualified coaches

Our Parks classes are delivered by fully qualified and registered coaches and are for all ability levels and ages. Classes last one hour. More information can be found at their website:-

<https://ourparks.org.uk/uckfield>

Improve your mental and physical health

These classes provide an excellent opportunity for residents to improve their mental and physical wellbeing and to do so for free in one of our lovely green spaces.



UCKFIELD TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS 2023/2024

Applications now open!
Closing date:
Sunday 15 January 2023

Are you a community group or charity that needs financial help with a future project that will contribute to the welfare of the community by improving or supporting facilities and activities in the Uckfield Parish?

Why not apply for a grant to help your project. See the website below for guidelines and application form.

<https://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/community/town-council-grants-2023-2024/>

UPCOMING MEETINGS

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

council website. Meetings will now be held in person either in the Weald Hall

or Council Chamber at the Civic Centre. All meetings start at 7pm.

All questions should be directed to the Town Clerk at:

admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

TUES 2 JAN	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 9 JAN	– PLANS
MON 16 JAN	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 23 JAN	– FULL COUNCIL (BUDGET)
MON 30 JAN	– PLANS
MON 13 FEB	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 20 FEB	– PLANS
WED 22 FEB	– FINANCE SUB COMMITTEE
MON 27 FEB	– GENERAL PURPOSES

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Mayor's New Year Message
- Uckfield Town Council elections
- Annual Town Meeting

