



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

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thevoice

PLATINUM JUBILEE - JUNE 2-5

BY CLLR KAREN BEDWELL

As part of the celebrations of Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June, Uckfield Town Council will be organising the beacon lighting ceremony on Thursday 2 June. The Platinum Jubilee celebrations will begin at 2pm outside Hartfields in the centre of the town. A bagpiper will play *Diu Regnare* followed by the Town Criers 'Jubilee Proclamation' cry.

Food and drink

At 6pm a licenced bar (manned by Uckfield Town Councillors) will be available at Victoria Pleasure Ground together with a barbecue provided by Uckfield Lions.

All welcome

Members of Uckfield Town Council hope you will be able to join them on the day to start the full celebrations off in style.



Music

During the evening there will be a number of musical performances as follows:-

- 8.00pm - Uckfield Singers
- 8.30pm - Cantando
- 9.00pm - Uckfield Brass
- 9.35pm - Edward Strong - Bagpipes -
Diu Regnare
- 9.40pm - Bugle Call - Majesty
- 9.45pm - Jubilee prayers - Father John
Wall
 - Proclamation - Town Crier
 - Lighting of The Beacon
- 9.50pm - All come together to sing 'Song
for the Commonwealth'
- 10.30pm - Bar closes

Contact us through:

admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk



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TOWN COUNCIL GRANT AWARDS

BY CLLR BEN COX

Uckfield Town Council, at its discretion and subject to available funding, provides grants and general support to local groups promoting community life in Uckfield.

Local voluntary and community organisations that fulfilled the criteria could apply for a grant from the Town Council for a specific funding purpose in the next financial year (1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023). Twelve applications were received and they were reviewed by the Finance Sub-Committee on Wednesday 23 February 2022. All applicants were invited to be present, so any questions could be answered.

Awards ratified

The recommended award allocations were ratified by General Purposes Committee on 14 March 2022. A further £1505.72 was granted to Ridgewood Village Hall Committee.

Unfortunately no funding was granted to the Sunflowers Mental Health and Well-being as their application did not meet the criteria.

We would like to thank all of the groups for applying. Uckfield is very lucky to have wonderful people making the town a better place to live.

Testimonials

Uckfield Allotment Bee Club

"We would like to thank you again for supporting the Uckfield Allotment Bee Club. With the Grant monies the Bee club purchased and built a new flat pack beehive which we dedicated to our friend Dave Davies who sadly passed away during the pandemic."

Uckfield Community Orchestra

"Just to say, on behalf of myself and all our members, we are very grateful for your support and really appreciate the funds awarded. This will be a big help and encouragement to us."

Confirmed grants awarded for 2022/2023

Community Grant Funding under the General Power of Competence

Applicant	Amount requested	Recommended allocation
1.0 Uckfield Theatre Guild	£600.00	£600.00
2.0 The Royal British Legion - Uckfield Branch	£200.00	£200.00
3.0 Uckfield Bonfire and Carnival Society	£1,278.75	£1,278.75
4.0 St Wilfrid's Hospice (Eastbourne)	£1,100.00	£1,100.00
5.0 St Peter & St James Hospice	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
6.0 HM70 – Her Majesty 70 th Celebrations	£1,150.00	£1,150.00
7.0 Manor Park & Hempstead Fields Residents' Association	£299.00	£299.00
8.0 Ridgewood Village Hall Management Committee	£1,505.72	£1,505.72
9.0 Uckfield Community Fridge	£1,200.00	£1,200.00
10.0 Sunflowers Mental Health and well-being	£1,000.00	£0.00
11.0 Ashdown Radio Ltd (Uckfield FM)	£2,500.00	£2,500.00
12.0 Uckfield Festival Association	£4,000.00	£3,500.00

ALLOTMENT COMPETITION 2022

We are pleased to announce that Staverton's Nursery has, once again, agreed to sponsor Uckfield's Allotment Competition. The competition was cancelled last year due to Covid-19 so it will be good to see how all those allotments have grown and developed.

New rule adopted

In a change to the competition this year we will be introducing a new rule where anyone who has won a category in the previous two allotment competitions will be unable to enter that category. This is similar to the RHS approach at its flower shows and we hope this will allow new or novice allotment holders to feel they may have a chance of winning.

Best Kept Allotment

There will be a prize of £25 in garden vouchers for the best kept allotment on each of the five allotment sites in Uckfield as follows:

1. West Park
2. Bell Lane
3. Ridgewood
4. Framfield Road
5. Bird in Eye

Overall winner

From the winners of the Best Kept Allotment we will then choose the Overall Winner. The overall winner will have their name added to the plaque held at the Civic Centre.

Eco Award

We are retaining the Eco category this year as it marries well with Uckfield's green agenda. 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 how water consumption is reduced and managed. The judges will use the information provided on the entry form to judge this category and award the prize of £25 in garden vouchers.



Children's Award

We will be letting children choose what they would like to grow to be entered into this award. It might be tomatoes, runner beans or flowers - whatever they wish. The prize is £25 in garden vouchers.

Full criteria and entry forms

The full criteria and entry forms are available online (for both the adult and children's awards) at www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/council-services/allotments/ or printed copies can be collected from the Civic Centre office. The closing date for the allotment competition this year, is **Friday 1 July 2022**

Judging in July

Judging for all categories will take place in the first week in July (weather permitting) so get those entries in soon!

LAST MONTH IN YOUR COUNCIL

Annual Town Meeting

The Annual Town meeting was held on Wednesday 13 April in the Weald Hall of the Civic Centre. Uckfield Councillors were pleased to welcome Uckfield residents and address their questions and concerns.

Residents discussed a variety of topics relating to the town. This included questions asked in advance of the meeting relating to the road surface in Downsview Crescent and Southview Drive, the format of Town Council meetings and demand for community space within Uckfield. This followed with discussions on highway reinstatements, proposed development, untaxed vehicles, speeding vehicles, parking obstructions on pavements reducing access for those who are partially impaired or using a pushchair/mobility aid and the need for a pelican crossing or some form of aid to cross the junction at Church Street/High Street.

A copy of the Town Council's Annual Report which looks back at 2021-22 is now available to view at <https://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/key-documents/>

Drafting our Uckfield Neighbourhood Plan

A small group of local residents have been working with the Town Council, and Action in Rural Sussex to develop a draft Neighbourhood Plan for Uckfield.

We are holding a number of engagement sessions in May, to enable you see the story so far, and help us build the knowledge we need to finalise our key documents which include a Character Assessment for Uckfield, Local Green Spaces report, Important views out of Uckfield and draft policies relating to the themes of Design and Development, Environment and Health Infrastructure and Recreation, Local Economy and Transport and Access. We are keen to understand what's right, what we've missed, and what you can add.

These drop in-sessions are taking place on the following dates in the Ashdown Room, of the Civic Centre, Uckfield (TN22 1AE).

Wednesday 11 May 5.00pm – 7.00pm

Thursday 12 May 10.30am – 1.00pm

Saturday 14 May 10.30am – 1.00pm

UPCOMING MEETINGS

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

MON 9 MAY	– PLANS
MON 16 MAY	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 23 MAY	– FULL COUNCIL (ANNUAL STATUTORY)
MON 30 MAY	– PLANS
MON 6 JUNE	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 20 JUNE	– PLANS
WED 22 JUNE	– FULL COUNCIL (YEAR END)
MON 27 JUNE	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE

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

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Summer events
- Phonebox library

