



# THE UCKFIELD VOICE

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thevoice

## PROCLAMATION OF ACCESSION

*Hello everyone.*

*I am writing this on Sunday evening, three days after the passing of our dear Queen.*

*This morning I attended Holy Cross Church for a special service of commemoration for Queen Elizabeth II. I'd like to thank Father John Wall for this service and for helping many of us through this difficult time. I'd also like to thank our wonderful bell ringers who have rung for the passing of The Queen, for the accession of our new King and for many extra services. Following the service I went to the Belmont Centre for some welcome refreshments.*

*I went on to County Hall in Lewes to witness the reading of the proclamation by Jane King, The High Sheriff of East Sussex in the company of The Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex, other Mayors, leaders of councils, county, district, town and parish councillors, The Right Revd Will Hazlewood (Bishop Of Lewes), Father John Wall and members of all emergency services. Before leaving I signed the book of condolence.*

*This afternoon we welcomed to Uckfield; His Majesty's Deputy Lieutenant of East Sussex Deborah Bedford, Leader of Wealden DC Cllr Ann Newton and The High Sheriff of East Sussex, Jane King. They joined my fellow councillors, officers, our Town Crier and residents at the front of the Civic Centre, where I had the honour of reading the proclamation of accession for King Charles III.*

*I also had the pleasure to speak about*




*the links that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II had with our town. She was known to visit her cousin Lord Rupert Nevill at Uckfield House and later at Little Horsted. I have learnt that, as a town, we never knew officially of her impending arrival, however; the appearance of the Sporting Life and a little nod that the bells at Little Horsted Church needed to be rung, gave our residents a little hint. These memories made me smile.*

*After the proclamation, our town crier called for three cheers for His Majesty the King. The Union flag was again lowered to half mast.*

*Thank you to those who have signed the book of condolence in the Civic Centre. As a community we shall mourn the passing of Her Majesty but treasure our memories that we hold most dearly.*

Cllr Jackie Love  
Mayor of Uckfield

Contact us through:  
[admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk)  
 @uckfieldtowncouncil

## WHAT'S INSIDE

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## GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

BY CLLR DIANE WARD

I was very proud to be voted as Chair of General Purposes Committee at the Statutory Meeting in May. General Purposes are responsible for ensuring sound financial management, overseeing maintenance of all Council buildings and the running of Luxford Restaurant and Civic Centre.

### Grants

This year the Town Council awarded £14,333.47 to local groups, and granted a further £27k to the Wealden Citizen's Advice Bureau and Uckfield Volunteer Centre. We are very proud of the support we can provide to the local community, and despite financial pressures, we hope this can continue.

### Modernisation

The Town Council continues to modernise its procedures, security and IT systems. Supplier payments are all now made by BACs. We are currently investigating a new booking system for room and facility hire for the Civic Centre and wider properties.

### Maintaining and improving

We continue to deliver an annual programme of maintenance to improve our buildings, grounds and open spaces. This is paramount and as part of these improvements we have been gradually introducing more energy efficient and cost-effective options.

### Civic Centre and Luxfords Restaurant

The Civic Centre and Luxfords Restaurant are running well, and our Hospitality Manager, Louise Slaughter has been busy building up the venue's annual events programme. From Take That to ELO, Abba to Elvis. Murder at the Manor dining event, afternoon Teas and festive events including our pantomime.



We are currently developing an online event ticket system to make booking easier for you so watch this space! The restaurant provides fantastic breakfasts and there is a great range of lunches and light refreshments for all ages and dietary requirements so why not give us a try.

## RESCHEDULED MEETING

The following meeting was postponed as a mark of respect for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

## New date for rearranged Allotment Conference

Wed 12 October 2022 -  
6.45pm for 7.00pm

## NEW YOUTH MEMBERS CO-OPTED

Uckfield Town Council has been running a project with Uckfield College now for a few years. We welcome and provide two students studying A-level politics (or the equivalent) first-hand experience of the democratic process by involving them in our council and committee meetings.

Students can be co-opted onto the Town Council as non-voting members for at least a year, which enables them to attend council and committee meetings and participate in discussions relating to a wide variety of issues and agenda items.

The Town Mayor explained that the views and input of our youth members

are very important to us whilst providing the experience of a formal committee scenario for interested students.

On 5 September 2022, Holly Hemming and Lily Kortenburg-Wright were co-opted onto Uckfield Town Council and we very much look forward to working with them.



Left to right: Lily Kortenburg-Wright and Holly Hemming

# LAST MONTH IN YOUR COUNCIL

## Civility and Respect Pledge

Uckfield Town Council signed up to the recommended Civility and Respect Pledge on 5 September 2022, confirming that it will treat councillors, clerks, employees, members of the public, and representatives of partner organisations and volunteers with civility and respect in their roles.

### Media examples not the norm

As many will have seen in the national media during the pandemic, one particular parish council became famous for its handling of a difficult parish meeting. This is not normal practice and for those working in parish and town councils, it highlighted the minority of cases where issues do occur.

Unfortunately relationships can break down between councillors and staff; staff and staff; or both staff and councillors with partner organisations. But we know here in Uckfield, that as a Town Council, if you work together you achieve a great deal more and, most importantly, deliver more for the community.

The Town Council was particularly keen to support this pledge to demonstrate its commitment and ensure that the right framework and procedures continue to remain in place. In the region of 70 parish and town councils have signed up to the pledge and by the time this article has been published, we expect this number to have doubled if not tripled.

## Civility & Respect Pledge

To treat other councillors, clerks, all employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations and volunteers with civility and respect in their roles.



## 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.

MON 3 OCT	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 12 OCT	– ALLOTMENT CONFERENCE
MON 17 OCT	– FULL COUNCIL
MON 24 OCT	– PLANS
MON 7 NOV	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 14 NOV	– PLANS
MON 21 NOV	– GENERAL PURPOSES

All questions should be directed to the Town Clerk at:  
[admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk)

### COMING NEXT MONTH

- Environment and Leisure Committee
- Grants application
- Allotment Conference Report

