



PLANNING: ROLE OF TOWN COUNCIL

BY CLLR KAREN BEDWELL

Planning authorities must inform parish and town councils of applications affecting its parish. Whilst parish and town councils do not have the power to grant or refuse planning permission, as a statutory consultee our role is defined in law and our views must be considered. The local planning authority for Uckfield is Wealden District Council's (WDC) planning department. Uckfield Town Council is a statutory consultee on:

- the development plan
- local plans
- structure plans

Plans Committee

The Uckfield Town Council Plans Committee consists of seven town councillors who meet every three weeks to review and comment on planning applications that have been submitted to WDC, prior to them making a decision. The gathering of local knowledge by UTC plans committee is important. We can offer background insight on local ecology, flood risk, highway concerns, parking, loading, turning, loss of light, changes to the street scene and neighbourhood concerns. We can provide local detail that planning officers who are unfamiliar with individual sites are not always aware of. As a consultee we also have input in the shaping of a local Neighbourhood Plan, input into the Wealden Local Plan and provide feedback on highways matters. Sometimes it can feel a very frustrating




Cllr Karen Bedwell, Chair of the Plans Committee

role, especially when local knowledge has not been taken on board. However, it is important that we are there to represent residents' views.

Uckfield is currently facing growth on an unprecedented scale. We are expecting to see large scale applications for consultation in the next three months and it is important that residents take the opportunity to share their views with UTC Plans committee and Wealden District Council.

You can view applications online at:
<https://www.wealden.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-weekly-list/>

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

WHAT'S INSIDE

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WEALD ON THE FIELD 2022 - THANK YOU

A big thank you to everyone who made the Weald on the Field event happen on Saturday 13 August!

Thank you to all of the volunteers who set up, maintained the site, kept it safe, clean and tidy throughout the day and packed up afterwards! It was a fantastic team effort!

Thank you to the wonderful local events company Food Rocks for supporting us with all the pitch bookings and marketing.

Thank you to Dukes Lettings for their fabulous promotion on the key routes into Uckfield.

Thank you to Lawson Commercial Uckfield Chamber of Commerce and Eastbourne Motoring Centre for supporting our live music on the stage!

Thank you to our wider sponsors for your fabulous support: AGB Event Services, C J Thorne & Co Ltd CPJ Field Cranwell Wealth Solutions Dawson Hart Solicitors Happy Me Dance Lawson Queay Chartered Surveyors Mini First Aid Sussex Parker Building Supplies and Uckfield Garage

And thank you to our suppliers and voluntary services on the day, without your efficiency and fab facilities we wouldn't be able to go ahead!

Airstream Stages, AGB Event Services, Belmont Centre, Brighter Uckfield Dragoneventsrd Luxford Centre Southern Events Sussex Party Bales TM

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WEALD ON THE FIELD 2022 - THANK YOU

and Truloo.

And to Wealden District Council and Apcoa Parking UK and Network Rail who supported us with free parking!

We were joined by an amazing selection of street food, drinks, local vineyards, local produce and crafts. We really appreciate your support and attendance in the high heat especially for keeping us well fed and watered!

And thank you so much to our line up of live music who did an amazing job! That airstream stage gets a little warm at the best of times!! The crowd loved you! Pentacle Drummers Megan Tweed, The Management Duo, Iron Tyger Fat Freddie And The Queens - Queen Tribute Band and Max White Photographs courtesy of Mike Skinner and Uckfield Town Council



**Uckfield Town Council
Allotment Conference
Wednesday 14 September 2022
7.00pm**

**Weald Hall, Civic Centre
Tea and coffee from 6.45pm**

Don't miss out!

The annual Allotment Conference is your opportunity to meet your fellow Uckfield allotment holders and raise any questions or concerns.

**Please send any questions or concerns in advance
so we can make sure we have a response for
you on the night**

email: rachel@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

**post: Rachel Newton, Uckfield Town Council,
Civic Centre, Uckfield TN22 1AE**

LAST MONTH IN YOUR COUNCIL

Update on The Dene

On 25 July, Full Council were presented with an update on the Dene, off Brown's Lane on Manor Park. The Dene was originally part of the Lord Nevill Estate and is a steeply sloping piece of land which creates a beautiful vista from Manor Park towards Buxted Park and Views Wood. At present the land is owned by Buxted Parish Council, but they are looking to dispose of this and one other site in order to raise funds to develop a community hall. The grassed area attracts a variety of wildlife including deer and foxes together with a range of birds.

Asset of Community Value

As a result of the land being registered as an Asset of Community Value with Wealden District Council, Buxted Parish Council were required to follow specific procedures in their investigations to dispose and/or sell the site. This means that time is given for community interest groups to express an interest during an interim moratorium period. The deadline for expressing an interest was 3 August 2022.

Members of Uckfield Town Council

were keen to see the Dene protected as an important green space within the town and ensure that the open plan garden estate layout of Manor Park is retained. For that reason, the Town Clerk was tasked with writing to Wealden DC to register Uckfield Town Council's interest before the deadline and register as a potential bidder for this asset. If accepted, this would mean that the clock would stop and a full moratorium period be undertaken until December 2022, whereby Uckfield Town Council could explore further details with regards to the land, in terms of the title deeds, maintenance and purchase price. Wealden DC have confirmed receipt of the council's letter and advised that the full moratorium period would now be put in place until December.

Looking to the future

Moving forward, Uckfield Town Council will now arrange a meeting with Buxted Parish Council to obtain further details about the Dene, and liaise with the Town Council's solicitors to understand the full liabilities within the title deeds for the site.

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 5 SEP	– FULL COUNCIL
MON 12 SEP	– PLANS
WED 14 SEP	– ALLOTMENT CONFERENCE
MON 19 SEP	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 26 SEP	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 3 OCT	– PLANS
MON 17 OCT	– FULL COUNCIL
MON 24 OCT	– PLANS

All questions should be directed to the Town Clerk at:
admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Allotment Conference Report
- General Purposes Committee

