



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

May 2023

EDITION 243

thevoice

UCKFIELD LEISURE CENTRE

The future of the Leisure Centre is currently uncertain as the lease agreement between East Sussex County Council and Wealden District Council is due to end in July 2023. East Sussex County Council do not have the responsibility for leisure provision nor do they have the resources to continue running the site. A tender process was unsuccessful in 2021/22 which sought to find a new leaseholder.

Consultation

East Sussex County Council are running a public consultation on the future of Uckfield Leisure Centre and its facilities for a period of 10 weeks. The consultation went live on Saturday 18 March 2023 and will run until Saturday 27 May 2023.



The consultation can be accessed online at the following link:

<https://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/business-services/consultation-on-future-options-for-uckfield-leisur/>

Hard copies of the consultation can be obtained from Uckfield Library, the Civic Centre Uckfield and County Hall Library in Lewes. Service users, residents and businesses are encouraged to respond and put forward ideas. **completed forms should be returned to the Civic Centre.** Uckfield Leisure Centre has a swimming pool, large gym, exercise classes, 3G outdoor sports pitch and indoor sports halls accommodating squash, badminton, netball to name just a few! A fantastic facility for local residents.

Contact us through:

admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk



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



WHAT'S INSIDE

- Allotment Competition announced
- Weald on the Field - save the date!
- Last Month in your Council



ALLOTMENT COMPETITION 2023

Uckfield Town Council is very pleased to announce that Staverton's Nursery has agreed to sponsor the Allotment Competition again this year and we have worked with the judges to introduce some changes to the categories and how to enter.

Uckfield allotment holders will be able to enter a number of categories again this year or nominate others who they think deserve to win one of the awards.

New rule to encourage novices

Last year we introduced a new rule whereby 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 better opportunity of winning.

Judging

The competition closes on Friday 30 June 2023 and judging will take place during the first two weeks of July depending on the weather.



ALLOTMENT COMPETITION CATEGORIES

Best Kept Allotment

This category will be awarded to the best kept allotment on each of the five sites in Uckfield:

- Bell Lane
- Bird in Eye
- Framfield
- Ridgewood
- West Park

Allotment holders will be able to nominate their own allotments or those of others on their site. Each winner will receive £25 in vouchers from Staverton's Nursery.

Overall Winner

From the winners of the best kept allotments the judges will choose an overall winner whose name will be engraved on the plaque which is held in the Civic Centre.

Ecological Award

Entrants can also be considered for the Ecological Award which considers how they Reuse, Reduce and Recycle on their allotments. The winner of this award will also receive £25 in vouchers from Staverton's Nursery.

Children's Award

This award is designed to encourage all those young budding growers out there. Children are encouraged to grow whatever they like and the judges will be able to assess them even if plants or produce are not fully mature when judged. We will be providing the entrants with special flags that they can use to mark their plant(s) to help us find them! The winner will receive £25 in vouchers.

Fun and Creative Scarecrow



As a bit of fun this year we have introduced a new category. The winner of the most fun and creative scarecrow will receive a basket of garden goodies.

SAVE THE DATES!



King Charles III Coronation Celebration

Luxford Field
Saturday 6 May 2023
3pm - 7pm

WEALD ON THE **FIELD**

12 AUGUST 2023

11AM TO 7PM

LUXFORD FIELD
UCKFIELD

This free event is fun for all the family with local artisan crafts and food, street food, and pop-up bars. Add to that children's entertainment and live music from local bands and you have a great day out for all the family.

NOTICE OF CASUAL VACANCIES

At the time of writing this article, Uckfield Town Council had just learnt of the nominated candidates for this May's Town Council election. The Town Council has 15 seats with the positions of Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor being elected by the Town Councillors at the start of the annual statutory meeting of Full Council in May.

Council Committees

All Town Councillors meet in the format of Full Council at least six times a year, and the town council's three main standing committees, are:

- General Purposes Committee (9 members)
- Environment and Leisure Committee (9 members)
- Plans Committee (7 members)

We also have two sub-committees responsible for dealing with specific matters related to personnel and finance.

Town Council Facilities

The Town Council owns and looks after a number of buildings, sports pitches, recreation grounds, allotment sites, ancient woodlands, nature reserves, play areas, multi-use games areas and a cemetery.

Three Vacancies

Of the 15 seats on Uckfield Town Council, 12 have been filled. We are therefore aware of three vacancies in the following town wards:

- 1 in Uckfield Ridgewood
- 1 in Uckfield New Town
- 1 in Uckfield West

Any person wishing to fill one of these vacancies should apply to the Clerk in writing before 12noon on Tuesday 9 May 2023 stating the reasons why you would like to stand as a Town Councillor.

The applicant's name must appear on the current register of the Voters List or the applicant should during the whole of the twelve months preceding the relevant date above have resided in or within three miles of the town or the applicant's only place of work during the whole of the twelve months preceding the relevant date above is in the town.

Those applying should also be available to attend the Annual Statutory meeting of the Council on 15 May 2023 at 6.30pm.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Agendas and minutes can be viewed 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

MON 15 MAY	–	FULL COUNCIL (ANNUAL STATUTORY)
MON 22 MAY	–	PLANS
MON 5 JUN	–	ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 12 JUN	–	PLANS
MON 19 JUN	–	GENERAL PURPOSES
WED 28 JUN	–	FULL COUNCIL (ACCOUNTS)

Town Clerk at:
admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Your new Councillors and Council
- Coronation Day Photos

