



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

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thevoice

ROADWORKS IN FORCE

BY HOLLY GORING, TOWN CLERK

Works have been underway on the road network leading into and within Uckfield during the summer of 2024.

What's happening?

The improvements to Uckfield Bus Station have been scheduled for some time, but various legalities over land ownership and access delayed the project. We were pleased to see works commence on 5 August and see improvements not only for service users, but also for the bus companies and local residents.

Works are due to run until 4 October 2024. During this time, a temporary drop-off and collection point was set up by Windmill Feeds for three weeks whilst the bus station was fully closed.

Bus station improvements

The improvements will see two new bus shelters, with free wi-fi, real time passenger information, and a planted living roof.

A new cycle shelter will be installed and the highway and pavements will be resurfaced, using the same materials as the High Street. There will also be space provided for up to four stationary buses at any one time. New crossing points will be installed, along with new street lighting, seating and signage.

We know there have been numerous requests for a public toilet to be sited at the bus station. Finding the right location and provision to meet a range of needs means this will take a bit longer. Therefore the Town Council will be working with East Sussex Highways to



identify a suitable location for a Changing Places toilet in the town.

Copwood Roundabout works

The works on the **A22 Uckfield Bypass** are scheduled to complete on 13 December.

Contractors are delivering the planning obligations associated with the Ridgewood Farm development to widen the access points onto Copwood roundabout to improve traffic capacity and pedestrian safety.

Works are taking place overnight with three-way temporary traffic lights between 19:00 hours and 06:00 hours. The temporary traffic lights will be suspended on the nights of the Uckfield Carnival (7 September), Lewes Bonfire (5 November) and Late Night Shopping (6 December). For further updates on the works, stay tuned to our social media channels.

Contact us through:
admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk
[@uckfieldtowncouncil](https://www.uckfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk)



WHAT'S INSIDE

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WEALD ON THE FIELD 2024 HIGHLIGHTS...

Weald on the Field, Uckfield's free family festival organised by Uckfield Town Council and Food Rocks, returned for an amazing day of entertainment on Saturday, 10 August 2024.

Marked by beautifully sunny weather on Luxford Field, the eighth year of the annual festival was supercharged by some incredible live music acts from Uckfield and the surrounding areas, as well as some outstanding food and drink stalls.



Rocking the main stage were **The Carnaby Brothers**, **The Offbeat**, **Dynamite**, **R.E.D.** and headliners **Fat Freddie & The Queens**, all of whom put on a thrilling display with something for all ages amongst the audience. In the intervals between these bands, **Jimmy Van Lin - A.K.A. The Funky Fiddler** - played a hugely impressive four sets with hits ranging from Elvis Presley to crowd favourite 'Sweet Caroline'.



Elsewhere on the field, a capacity crowd kept themselves suitably refreshed with the wide array of food and drink options available.

With local cider, beer, gin, cocktail and soft drink options, plus plenty of tea, coffee and pastry temptations, and cuisine including Taiwanese, Nepalese, Greek, Mexican and locally-sourced BBQ burgers and sausages, everyone was left with full bellies.

With many of these vendors selling out by the end of the day, it sounded like they had a great time too!



There was great children's entertainment with a bungee trampoline that was busy all day, as well as the classic 'hook a duck' competition and teacup rides, plus plenty of toys and sweets on sale.

At the top of the field, a huge number of local businesses, charities and organisations ran stalls too, and were joined by a wide array of crafts stalls, selling all sorts of great creations.



... AND EVEN MORE PHOTOS!



Overall, it was one of the most successful Weald on the Field editions in its eight-year run to date.

Uckfield Town Council would like to thank the supporters of the day, chiefly **Uckfield Chamber of Commerce, Lawson Commercial and Eastbourne Motoring Centre.**



A huge thanks goes to our additional supporters **Freedom Leisure, C.J. Thornes, Crusader Vehicles, Lawson Queay, the Co-Operative Funeralcare Uckfield and Vince Taylor Tofts.** And a huge thank you goes to **Michelle Wallis** for her amazing photographs!



We look forward to next year's festival on Saturday, 9 August 2025, which we hope will be even bigger and better again!

ALLOTMENT CONFERENCE 2024

On Wednesday 11 September, Uckfield Town Council hosts the 2024 Allotment Conference.

This annual celebration of the work of allotment holders offers an update on the Town Council's policies and gives an opportunity to announce the winners of the 2024 Allotment Competition. Prizes will be handed out and examples given of what all plot holders can do to boost their chances for further awards in 2025.

Allotment reps from all five sites will also offer updates on specific news from each location, and there will be speeches about the fun and enjoyment of managing plots with family members.



WHICH COUNCIL DOES WHAT?

Above Uckfield Town Council, two layers of local government deliver the services we use on a daily basis. Here is a guide to who is responsible for what in our area.

East Sussex County Council (ESCC)

ESCC have responsibility for a number of statutory services. They look after children and families through adult social care and children's services, and support vulnerable young people. ESCC also delivers education and library services, for example the Uckfield Library.



East Sussex Highways contracts Balfour Beatty to maintain the highways, pavements, and verges alongside the work of ESCC to maintain public rights of way, and public transport. ESCC additionally handle bus pass and blue badge applications, run Registrar services, and run the Maresfield recycling centre.

Wealden District Council (WDC)

A key service provided by WDC is housing; supporting the homeless, providing housing options, independence in the home, and advice to tenants and landlords.

WDC manage the contract for household waste and recycling collections, as well as street cleaning. As the local planning authority, they determine residential and commercial planning applications, and applications for works on trees or wooded areas with preservation orders. They also draw up the district's Local Plan.

WDC collect the district's council tax and business rates on behalf of the precepting authorities, and support residents with housing benefits and discretionary payments.

Shared Environmental Health Services handle enquiries relating to licensing, food health and hygiene, noise, pollution control, pest control and contaminated land.

Like ESCC, WDC own a number of assets including the Luxford (3hr and 10hr) and Regency Close car parks, as well as Uckfield Leisure Centre.

For more information on services in your local area, please visit:
<https://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/council-services/>

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Agendas and minutes can be viewed on the Town Council website at <https://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/agendas-and-minutes/>. Meetings are held in

person in the Council Chamber at The Civic Centre and all start at 7pm. All questions should be directed to the Town Clerk at:

admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

MON 2 SEPT	- ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE
MON 9 SEPT	- FULL COUNCIL
WED 11 SEPT	- ALLOTMENT CONFERENCE
MON 16 SEPT	- PLANS
MON 23 SEPT	- GENERAL PURPOSES

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Health and Wellbeing
- Allotment Conference 2024
- Community Orchard
- Last Month in Your Council