



# THE UCKFIELD VOICE

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thevoice

## WHAT'S ON AT UCKFIELD LEISURE CENTRE

BY WILL HUGALL

Uckfield Leisure Centre is an invaluable resource for our town, offering facilities for residents of all ages to get active.

The site is owned by East Sussex County Council and serves two purposes; providing sports facilities to Uckfield College as well as for community use. The site is leased to Wealden District Council, with this lease being extended to 2042 following a recent agreement. Freedom Leisure operate and manage the centre on behalf of Wealden District Council. Freedom Leisure is a not-for-profit charitable leisure and cultural trust, now entering its 25th year of managing Uckfield Leisure Centre.

The council's contract with Freedom Leisure is in place until March 2027.

### How can I get active?

Uckfield Leisure Centre offers a wide range of sports and activities for the local population to get involved in.

Their swimming pool hosts informal sessions, as well as swimming lessons, aqua aerobics, and flume sessions.

Their indoor exercise sessions include yoga, pilates, body balance, cycle and HIIT, while their on-site gym offers equipment for those of all abilities.

Their sports hall plays host to several sports, and 5-a-side football bookings can be made for their adjoining 3G pitch.

More details are on Uckfield Leisure Centre's website: <https://www.freedom-leisure.co.uk/centres/uckfield-leisure-centre/> or on the Freedom Leisure app.



Photo: Getty Images

On Saturday 7th March, Uckfield Leisure Centre hosts an Open Day, with no booking required to try out their facilities. Free sessions include swim assessments for children, 30-minute taster classes in their studio, and float & flume for families. Elliot Key, Uckfield Leisure Centre's General Manager, said: "I am proud that we offer something for everyone in our community. Our swimming pool, complete with a fun flume running at weekends, is a real family favourite. Alongside this, our swim school gives children the opportunity to learn a vital life skill in a supportive environment. In addition, we run a GP referral programme alongside dedicated Parkinson's classes, ensuring we support health and wellbeing at every level. "At Uckfield Leisure Centre, our goal is simple: to improve lives through leisure and create a welcoming space where our whole community can thrive."

Contact us through:



admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk  
@uckfieldtowncouncil

### WHAT'S INSIDE

- Our Parks Plans
- Annual Town Meeting Date
- Update on Crowborough Training Camp
- Uckfield Eco Expo

## COUNCIL STEPS IN TO SUPPORT OUR PARKS

BY WILL HUGALL

Since being introduced in November 2022, Our Parks sessions have proven to be a hit in Uckfield, with many residents taking advantage of free outdoor exercise sessions.

Our town's beautiful green spaces have played hosts to Bootcamp and High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) sessions, with Uckfield drawing more visitors for these than any of the other sites they have been provided in Wealden.

Funding for the programme has come from various sources, including firstly the Fields in Trust Active Spaces Programme. More recently, Wealden District Council were able to secure a funding agreement with East Sussex Public Health to expand the sessions across the district.

However, this agreement expired at the end of the 2025 calendar year, leaving a gap to fill until the end of the 2025-26 financial year.

### Where do we come in?

Following the meeting of Full Council on 12 January 2026, Uckfield Town Council is delighted to announce that it is part-funding the continuation of Our Parks sessions at Ridgewood Recreation Ground until at least 31 March 2026.

This decision will support the two weekly sessions, which take place on Wednesday



and Saturday mornings, to go ahead as usual. It will also give sufficient time to Our Parks' 'Coach Parker' programme to be fully established, with suitable volunteer(s) identified.

We have been working closely with the founder and CEO of Our Parks, Born Barikor, throughout this process and are encouraged about the possibility of sessions continuing beyond April 2026.



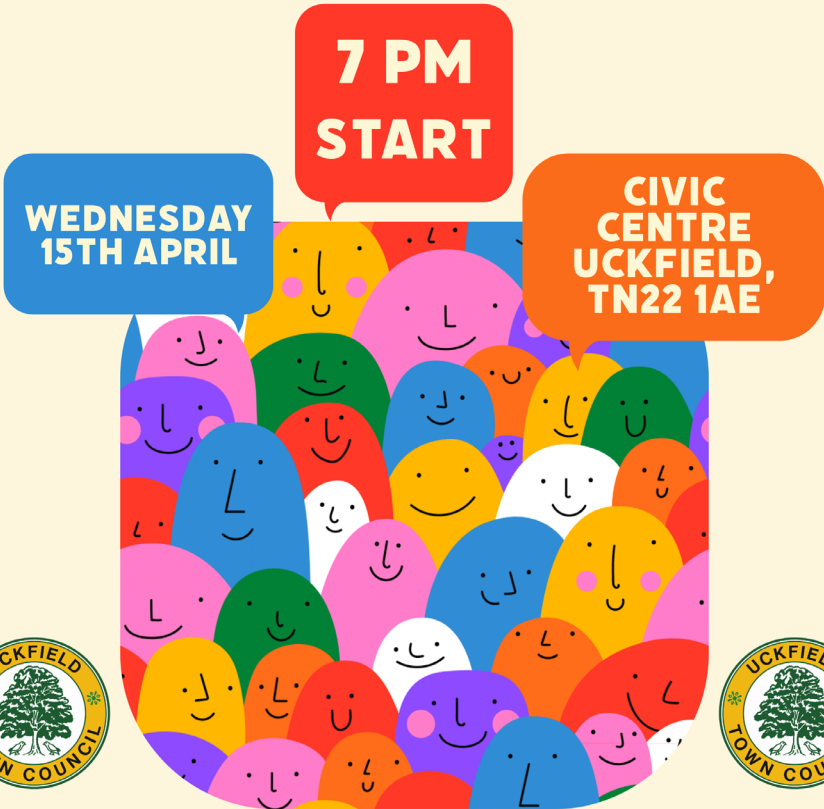
### How can I get involved?

To join an Our Parks session, the process is very simple.

First, head to the Our Parks website here: <https://ourparks.org.uk/borough/ridgewood-recreation-ground>

From here, you can view all of the weekly sessions, with Bootcamp sessions on Saturdays and HIIT sessions on Wednesdays - both starting at 9:30am. Book your place at the session for FREE via the website, and then turn up to the sessions for a perfect 60-minute pick-me-up!





# Annual Town Meeting

All Uckfield residents encouraged to attend  
More info at [www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk](http://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk)

## UPDATE ON CROWBOROUGH TRAINING CAMP

BY HOLLY GORING, TOWN CLERK



Photo: Gareth Fuller/PA Wire

Uckfield Town Council has been persistent in its communications with the relevant authorities to obtain updates on the Home Office's plans for the Crowborough Training Camp. Communication from these authorities has been extremely limited with the

Parish/Town Council sector.

We have been making the case for increased engagement with authorities at our level, and will continue to remind those involved of the importance of maintaining a steady and transparent stream of information.

To find out the latest information, please visit our webpage, which signposts to updates from the Home Office, Sussex Police, Wealden District Council and Crowborough Town Council. This can be accessed here:

<https://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/community-safety/>

We will keep this page updated as soon as we hear more from the relevant authorities.

## UCKFIELD ECO EXPO RETURNS

The Uckfield Eco Expo is back on Saturday 21 March 2026!

This environmentally-friendly exhibition provides local residents with the opportunity to learn more about the latest initiatives and technologies for the home and outdoors.

You can speak to representatives on a range of matters from electric cars, solar panels and heat pumps to eco skincare, nappies and wipes. There will be something to help everyone think



about the small changes they can make to our area and the world. This free event takes place in the Civic Centre Uckfield's Weald Hall between 10am and 2pm.

## 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 sent to the Town Clerk at: [admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk)

MON 2 MAR	- ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE
MON 9 MAR	- PLANS
MON 16 MAR	- FULL COUNCIL
MON 23 MAR	- GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 30 MAR	- PLANS

### COMING NEXT MONTH

- Councillor Soapbox
- Town Council Building Portfolio Review
- Annual Town Meeting Reminder
- Community Grant Recipients Announcement