



# THE UCKFIELD VOICE

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thevoice

## COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS TO RESTART

BY MARKETING & ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

Uckfield Town Council is pleased to announce that applications are now being invited for our Community Grants 2026/27 scheme.

Each year, subject to available funding, the Town Council awards grants to local voluntary groups, charities, and community organisations whose work benefits residents of Uckfield Parish by supporting services, facilities, or activities. In the 2025/26 round, a total of £22,778.62 was awarded to numerous organisations across Uckfield through this scheme. In addition, the Council continues to support key services via service-level agreements, with funding to Wealden Citizens Advice and Wealden Volunteering.

### How to Apply

Applicants must complete the official grant application form and provide all supporting documentation.

Applications will open in November 2025 (exact date to be confirmed) and must be submitted by the deadline, which is expected to fall on Sunday 18 January 2026.

Completed applications should be emailed to [grants@uckfieldtc.gov.uk](mailto:grants@uckfieldtc.gov.uk) or dropped off at the Civic Centre, Uckfield, addressed to



UCKFIELD PROMS ON THE PITCH SATURDAY 10TH JULY



EAST SUSSEX HEARING

UCKFIELD COMMUNITY ORCHESTR

the Grants Officer.

Applicants are advised to review the Grant Programme Criteria to confirm eligibility, required supporting information, and scoring criteria.

### Decision Process & Payment

Applications will be assessed by the Finance Sub-Committee, followed by ratification by the General Purposes Committee. Grants are awarded at the Council's discretion and depend on the availability of funds.

For full details, including example award levels from the 2025/26 round and the full list of grant recipients, please visit our Grants page: <https://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/council-services/town-council-grants-2025-26/>

If you have any queries about applying or wish to request the application pack in an alternative format, please email the Town Council or call 01825 762774.

Contact us through:



[admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk)



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



**Uckfield Town Council Grants - 2026/2027**

Over **£170,000** distributed since 2019

**45+** groups helped since 2019

### WHAT'S INSIDE

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## REMEMBRANCE SERVICE INFORMATION

This November, there are several opportunities in Uckfield to come together in remembrance and to honour those who have lost their lives while serving their country.

This year, Remembrance Sunday will take place on Sunday 9 November 2025.

### Eugene Seghers Memorial

At 10:30hrs on Sunday 9 November, a short ceremony of remembrance will be held at the Eugene Seghers Memorial, located outside the Highlands Inn in New Town. This act of remembrance pays tribute to Eugene Seghers, a heroic Belgian fighter pilot who, in July 1944, sacrificed his life by diverting a German doodlebug away from Uckfield, saving many local lives.

### Annual Parade and Service

The annual Remembrance Parade and Service will take place at The Church of Holy Cross, Uckfield, on Sunday 9 November 2025, beginning at 15:00hrs. The parade will form in the 10-hour Luxfords Car Park from 14:15hrs, and will then begin its route at 14:35hrs, proceeding along Civic Approach, the High Street, and Church Street on its way to the church. The Uckfield Branch of the Royal British Legion welcomes participation from ex-service personnel, local dignitaries, the Uckfield Squadron of Air Cadets, and members of the Scout and Guide



movements. Residents are warmly encouraged to line the route to show their support and pay their respects.

Following the service and the laying of wreaths at the War Memorial, the parade will reform and return to Luxfords Car Park via Church Street, the High Street and Library Way.

The Mayor of Uckfield, Councillor Karen Bedwell, will take the salute as the parade passes.

### Armistice Day

On Tuesday 11 November at 11:00hrs, a short service of remembrance will be held in Belmont Lane, beside the War Memorial in Holy Cross Churchyard, marking the precise moment the guns fell silent in 1918.

### Donations and Poppy Appeal

Uckfield's annual Poppy Appeal is now underway, with poppies available from most local shops, supermarkets, the train station and the Civic Centre.

If you're unable to get into town but would like to support the appeal, donations can also be made online through the Royal British Legion's website at

[www.poppymap.org.uk](http://www.poppymap.org.uk)

In 2024, the nationwide Poppy Appeal raised £51.4 million, which was an increase of £1.1 million on top of the 2023 total. Uckfield plays a small but mighty part in this effort, with all funds going to the Royal British Legion's work in supporting the Armed Forces Community.



## LATE NIGHT SHOPPING 2025 PREVIEW

As the festive season approaches, Civic Centre Uckfield comes alive with a host of special events throughout December. Whether you're looking to shop, dine, or simply soak up seasonal spirit, there's something for everyone.

### Late Night Shopping

A highlight of the calendar is Uckfield Late Night Shopping on Friday 5 December 2025. As the town's High Street is closed off to traffic, the Civic Centre becomes a hub of entertainment and community cheer. Right outside the building, Universal Dance and Happy Me Dance will perform live, bringing festive routines and seasonal flair to lift spirits and draw in crowds.



Meanwhile, local community groups, including Kings Church and Baptist Church, will present 'The Nativity', giving passers-by a charming trip back to the story of the first Christmas. Inside the Civic Centre's Weald Hall, we're thrilled to bring back a family favourite: rollerskating sessions throughout the evening. After last year's success, the rink returns, with two hour-long slots (6:00–7:00pm and 7:15–8:15pm). All tickets are offered at £7.50. Skates (child size 8 to adult 12) and safety pads will be provided by GYSO Roller Discos, whose experienced team will oversee a fun and safe experience.

### Christmas Events

But that's not all. The Civic Centre also hosts a series of Christmas Lunches, available from 5 – 20 December in Luxfords Restaurant, giving families and friends a warm place to gather over delicious seasonal fare.

These will be available from Tuesday to Friday every week, with bookings available for groups of any size. Bookings must be made in advance in person at Luxfords Restaurant, or by calling 01825 747791. Later in the month, theatrical magic continues with A Cinderella Panto, Uckfield Theatre Guild's festive pantomime scheduled for Friday 12 and Saturday 13 December. Three glittering performances will show a unique Uckfield spin on the classic fairytale, adored by audiences of all ages.

In the build up to the big day, Luxfords Restaurant hosts its annual Festive Afternoon Tea on 20 December, offering a cosy seasonal treat with tea, treats and holiday ambience. Plus, there will be live music from Rosie's Retro Rhythms. From live dance to roller disco, stage performances to seasonal dining, Civic Centre Uckfield is putting on a festive calendar full of joy, entertainment, and community spirit. Don't miss Late Night Shopping on 5 December – bring your friends, family, and festive cheer, and be part of the magic!



# HALF-YEARLY TOWN COUNCIL ROUND-UP

BY HOLLY GORING, TOWN CLERK



Staff and councillors are working hard to ensure we continuously improve our facilities, and look to the future, not just today.

We hope residents can see that we're pushing forward to make improvements to our large asset portfolio, consisting of built and green assets. Each year, we set many priorities for delivery in addition to our day-to-day work, and staff have already made excellent progress.

### Green Spaces

Important work carried out this year includes a regular programme of tree surveying and ecological appraisals on our ancient woodlands.

Investments have been made in a new artificial cricket pitch, mobile goal posts at Victoria and Harlands football pitches, the fully upgraded play area at Victoria Pleasure Ground, and new play equipment at Hempstead Road.

An application has also been submitted to the Football Foundation to seek funding towards the installation of a second 3G pitch within the town. Floral displays were expanded to include Tesco roundabout, and new contractors were found for this year's festive lights.

### Asset Management

Notable work includes the refurbishment of the Town Clock, the replacement of defibrillators and a new bleed kit installed at the Civic Centre. We have obtained a sound and clear external audit of our accounts to 31 March 2025, upgraded water supplies and fire safety measures within our buildings, and improved drainage near Ridgewood Village Hall. There has also been decoration of Foresters Hall and Foresters Chapel, while a further 5\* rating was achieved for Luxford Restaurant's food hygiene.

### Community

We have worked with Wealden DC and East Sussex Highways to respond to the dangerous building and see the High Street reopen to two-way traffic.

Our community grants programme has seen over £50,000 of funding support local organisations, and we have hosted several community events this summer. For more information on the work we do, please visit [www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/](http://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/)

## 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 3 NOV	- GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 17 NOV	- PLANS
MON 24 NOV	- ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE
MON 1 DEC	- FULL COUNCIL (DRAFT BUDGET)
MON 8 DEC	- PLANS

### COMING NEXT MONTH

- Councillor Soapbox
- Mayor's Christmas Message
- Plans for 2026
- Last Month in Your Council

