



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

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COMMUNITY GRANT RECIPIENTS CONFIRMED

BY CLLR. PETER SELBY

Uckfield Town Council is delighted to confirm the recipients of its 2026-27 community grant funding.

As ever, the Town Council received a large number of applications to the grants programme, all from worthwhile causes. We would firstly like to thank all organisations who took the time to fill out our application forms, and for their cooperation as we migrated to an online system this year.

Members agreed to allocate funds to 23 organisations for 2026-27, with individual grants ranging from £274.75 to £2,338.

The full list of recipients is available here:

<https://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/council-services/community-grants/>

How does the programme work?

Our grants programme is held annually and gives organisations in our town the opportunity to apply for additional funding. The welfare of the community depends greatly on the tireless work of these organisations, who, in turn, rely on financial assistance.

Our allocations reflect both the projects each organisation has committed to for the financial year and how clearly their application outlines the use of funds.

The funds therefore have to be used for work delivered within the Uckfield parish during the 2026-27 financial year.

Impacting the next generation

It is very encouraging to see many grants being made to organisations that include young people. I am an older member



of the Uckfield Chess Club, and I find it inspiring to see so many younger players join up, and how well the teams perform in the Sussex League. As an example, the team's success has made their costs more expensive, travelling across the county to compete. As the team's results show, this is money well spent (although cheaper petrol would help!).

Uckfield Town Council, and I am sure all readers, wish these organisations well for the forthcoming year and hope that the grants make a real difference for them. Well done to them all!

Contact us through:



admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk
@uckfieldtowncouncil

WHAT'S INSIDE

- UTC Building Portfolio Update
- Weald on the Field 2026
- Annual Meetings Update
- Upcoming Meetings



BUILDING PORTFOLIO UPDATE

BY THE MARKETING & COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

Uckfield Town Council is responsible for managing a number of buildings across our parish.

In total, 10 buildings are under our ownership, with the majority requiring day-to-day management, while others have long-term leaseholders. Being of different ages, shapes and sizes, these buildings all present different challenges and opportunities.

The Facilities & Compliance Manager, James Hollingdale, is tasked with managing these sites. Over the past four years, his role - and the Council's priority - has been elevating the buildings to ever-changing industry standards. Heavy focus has been placed on compliance and maintenance, preparing for the increased usage of these buildings as our town's population size grows.

In the 2025-26 financial year, there were several large projects that took place across our sites. While this is not an exhaustive list of all the work that took place - or indeed of all our sites - some of the highlights are explained here.

The Civic Centre Uckfield

Our HQ, AKA The Civic Centre, houses the Town Council Offices, Luxfords Restaurant,



and seven function rooms.

Work within the last year has included:

- Replacement solar panels fitted;
- Council office refurbishment works, including the creation of a new reception space;
- New HDMI boxes fitted in the Green Room, Ashdown Room and Council Chamber;
- Decorative works to all rooms for hire and the purchase of new tables for our ground floor spaces;
- 'Green' results returned for our fire safety procedures following a visit by East Sussex Fire & Rescue.

The Source



Based directly opposite the Civic Centre, The Source is home to Uckfield Foodbank and, on the second Saturday of each month, the Uckfield Farmers Market.

Works in 2025-26 have included:

- Additional CCTV added to cover a wider area around the building;
- A new electrical board installed in the Luxfords Field box to support the additional CCTV camera;
- Pillar lights added to the bottom section of the path alongside Luxford Field Car Park, and cages added to protect the pillar lights;
- A new EV charging point installed.

Victoria Pavilion

Alongside our long-term leaseholders, Sussex Support Service CIC, on the building's first floor, we house changing rooms for football and cricket, and Tea Rooms for hire, on the Victoria Pavilion ground floor. To support these activities, recent work has included:

- Repairs to the workshop door;
- New external toilet signage installed;
- Electrical works undertaken to the changing rooms;
- Fire door replacements installed, varnished and labelled;
- Redecorations to the ground floor area;
- A new boiler system installed;
- A new footpath installed around the Pavilion to ensure the safety of pedestrians and users;
- Roof tiles replaced;
- Three collapsible bollards installed to increase security.

The Signal Box



During 2025-26, we have been actively pursuing a long-term lease with an external organisation for the Signal Box, next to Uckfield Railway Station.

Various works have taken place to strengthen the structure of the building to prepare it for re-let, and to preserve this important piece of heritage for the future.



Snatts Road Chapel

Sitting at the entrance of Snatts Road Cemetery, the Chapel is currently the subject of discussions with a potential new leaseholder.

West Park Pavilion

With long-term leaseholders in place, our main role at West Park Pavilion is working with tenants to ensure regulatory compliance.

We are currently undertaking feasibility work to look at the expansion of the pavilion for increased capacity and community facilities.

Foresters Hall

Another great site for exercise groups, parties and social groups, Foresters Hall is based in the heart of New Town on Harcourt Road. Recent upgrades include:

- New Wi-Fi installed;
- Redecoration works following fire safety works.
- A new air source heat pump and hot water boiler system installed;
- The defibrillator box upgraded in partnership with the Uckfield Lions Club.

Keep up-to-date!

To see updates from our sites, follow the Uckfield Town Council Facebook page.

To view our rooms for hire, search www.civiccetnreuckfield.com/room-hire/

WEALD ON THE FIELD 10TH ANNIVERSARY

BY THE TOWN CLERK



Mark the second Saturday of August in your calendar, as on **Saturday 8th August**, we will be celebrating the special 10th edition of Weald on the Field.

Always a big day in Uckfield's events calendar, WOTF is a fabulous day festival happening on your doorstep. In keeping with the initial idea for the

festival way back in 2016, Weald on the Field celebrates all things local, with Sussex's finest live music, street food, and beverages from local vineyards, distilleries and breweries. There will also be plenty of local stallholders offering crafts and produce to take home. The event will take place on Luxford Field from 11:00am until 7:00pm.

This event has grown from strength to strength since 2016 and last year saw the largest turnout yet.

To celebrate the big 10, we're bringing back several bands from previous years that rocked the field. Live music will start at 12noon and we have a special children's attraction opening the event, so watch this space and see you there!

ANNUAL MEETINGS UPDATE

On 15 April, members of the public were invited to attend the Annual Town meeting held in the Weald Hall of the Civic Centre.

Highlights of the annual report for 2025-26 were presented by Chairs of the Council's committees and the public asked questions covering a variety of topics. A full review of the meeting will appear in next month's edition of The Voice.

To view the annual report, visit our website at: <https://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/key-documents/>

On Monday 18 May 2026, the Town Council will hold its annual statutory meeting. Here, the council will elect its Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the year ahead, and appoint members to committees and working groups.

This meeting is held in public and will start at 7.00pm, within the Council Chamber of the Civic Centre.

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

TUES 5 MAY	- GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 11 MAY	- PLANS
MON 18 MAY	- FULL COUNCIL (ANNUAL STAT)
TUES 26 MAY	- ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE
MON 1 JUNE	- PLANS

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Councillor Soapbox
- Annual Town Meeting Review
- Mayor's Recap of 2025-26
- Weald on the Field 2026 News
- East Sussex County Council Election News