



THE UCKFIELD VOICE

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thevoice

FALL IN LOVE WITH UCKFIELD'S OPEN SPACES

BY DAVID HALL, UCKFIELD LOCAL NATURE RESERVES SUPPORTERS GROUP

There are many wonderful green open spaces around Uckfield. It might be for a healthy, brisk walk or a relaxing stroll to enjoy the beauty of nature.

Whether it's in one of the two Local Nature Reserves (LNR) (West Park and Hempstead Meadows) or another of the delightful wooded areas (Boothland Wood, Nightingale Wood, Millennium Green, Lake Wood, Views Wood). There are many types of walks and a wide variety of flora and fauna to see.

You may just want to walk as part of your healthy lifestyle. In addition, to learn more about the wildlife around us, there are guided nature walks organised in the West Park LNR by the Uckfield Local Nature Reserves Supporters Group (ULNRSG), looking at the seasonal changes across the year.



Residents on one of the guided walks

Wildlife of note abound in the area

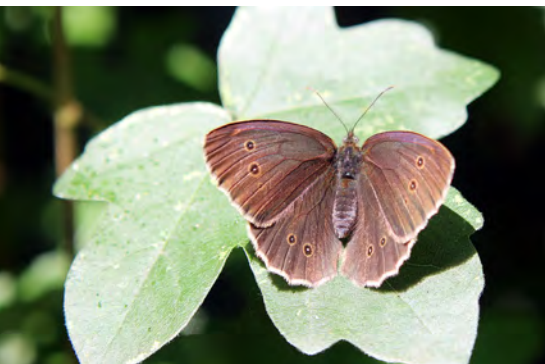
These include several species of orchid, frogs, snakes and other reptiles, many butterflies and birds including many woodland visitors and raptors such as buzzards, which are making a healthy comeback. Why not see for yourself and take a walk!

Uckfield Local Nature Reserves Supporters Group

To join the ULNRSG please visit: www.facebook.com/groups/UckfieldLNRSG or for more information email: ULNRSG@gmail.com

Contact us through:
admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

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



©David Hall: Ringlet butterfly from West Park LNR

WHAT'S INSIDE

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UCKFIELD TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS

This year sees elections take place for both Uckfield Town Council and Wealden District Council.

Wealden District Council

Wealden District Council will be holding an election on Thursday 2 May 2019 to enable householders to vote for suitable candidates to fill 45 District Councillor seats across the entire district, with five seats available within Uckfield town across four district ward areas:

Uckfield East

1 seat

Uckfield North

1 seat

Uckfield New Town

2 seats

Uckfield Ridgewood and Little Horsted

1 seat

Uckfield Town Council

Eligible Uckfield residents will be able to vote on the same day for the Uckfield Town Council Elections. The Town Council has 15 Town Councillor seats and residents will be asked to choose suitable candidates to fill the positions within their ward area.

The Town Council electoral boundaries divide the town into five Town Ward areas:

Uckfield East

3 seats

Uckfield North

3 seats

Uckfield West

2 seats

Uckfield Newtown

4 seats

Uckfield Ridgewood

3 seats

Are you interested in becoming a Councillor?

The Notice of Election will be published by Wealden District Council's election team on Monday 18th March 2019. Nomination papers for potential candidates are invited from this date until the deadline of Wednesday 4th April at 4pm. Completed nomination papers must be submitted to Wealden District Council's election team by this date and time. Nomination packs will be available to collect from the offices at Wealden District Council or Uckfield Town Council.

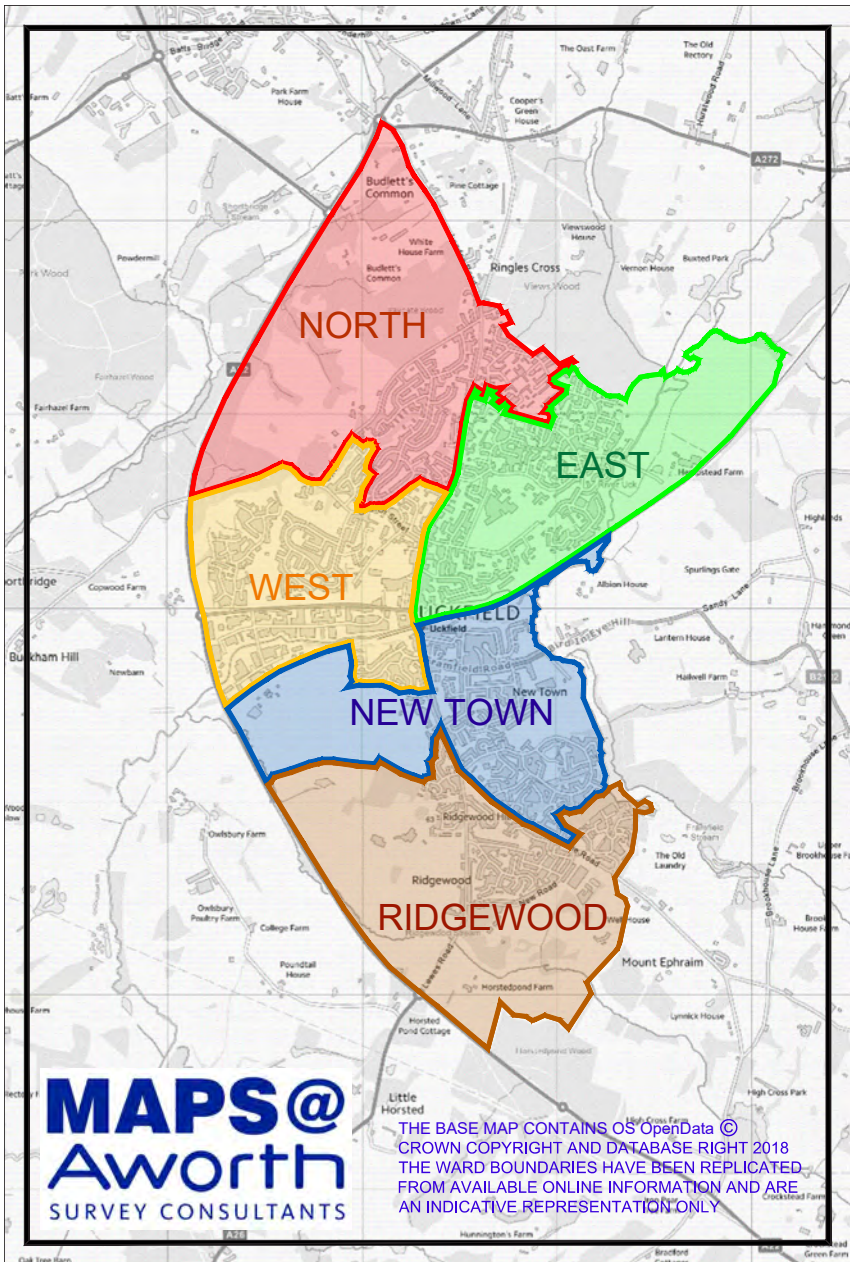
Voting in the election

If you are eligible to vote, you will receive a polling card through your door. This provides key information on your local polling station i.e. where you can vote on Thursday 2 May 2019. If you wish to find out if you are on the Electoral Register, request to receive a postal vote or view the Wealden District Council Ward boundaries, please contact the Elections Team at Wealden District Council at elections@wealden.gov.uk or 01892 602417.



UCKFIELD TOWN COUNCIL WARDS

Revised for May 2019 Election



LAST MONTH IN YOUR COUNCIL

Members of Uckfield Town Council were pleased to receive another positive report from the Internal Auditor early January, which indicated that the Town Council's finances and governance practices were sound and well maintained.

The Town Council receives a number of interim audit visits throughout the year by an Internal Auditor before undergoing a full audit at year end, which includes a review of the Town Council's end of year accounts, by both Internal and External Auditors. These services are delivered by external companies, independent of the Town Council and ensure that we continue to work along the right lines and work accurately and transparently for our residents.

Budgets and Priorities

On 14 January 2019, Uckfield Town Council set its budget and priorities for the new financial year (2019/20). The budget saw an increase of 2.63% on its precept from that recorded in 2018/19. This is £4.12 extra per annum for the Council Tax Band D household which works out at 34p extra per month. Council staff have made reductions in expenditure across all service areas. Unfortunately, changing demands, increasing utility costs, reductions in parish support grant and the need to support our partner organisations and

community groups within the Uckfield area, has resulted in a slight increase.

Annual Plan

You can view the Town Council's priorities for 2019/20 and beyond on our website at: <http://www.uckfieldtc.gov.uk/Annual-Plan-and-Priorities.aspx>



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Full Council agendas and minutes can be seen at Uckfield Library. If you wish to ask a question at a meeting, on items

on the agenda, it is advisable to submit your question beforehand to allow a full response to be given at the meeting.

MON 11 FEB	– PLANS
MON 18 FEB	– GENERAL PURPOSES
MON 25 FEB	– FULL COUNCIL
TUES 26 FEB	– ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE
MON 4 MAR	– PLANS
MON 25 MAR	– PLANS

All questions should be directed to the Town Clerk - admin@uckfieldtc.gov.uk

COMING NEXT MONTH

- Mayor's Message
- Annual Town Meeting date
- Calendar Competition 2020

