

HOTRA, East Hill House 13 Tackleway Hastings TN34 3DE

June 2009 Newsletter

AGM

Over 60 people attended. Michael Foster MP presided with his pleasant good humour. After the usual reports and elections there were 2 speakers. Lee Browning from the Probation Service outlined the Community Payback scheme. Work should start happening this month on plans for very welcome upgrades to All Saints churchyard, the East Hill steps and many footpaths around the Old Town. Our much enjoyed second speaker was Bill Wickins talking about his early life and growing up in Hastings.

Membership

Cards will be delivered to paid up members over the next few weeks. If you have not yet paid then please put £5 together with your address in an envelope marked HOTRA. Drop it in Nikki Port's letterbox at 17 High Street or leave it at Butlers Famed Emporium.

Licensing Review

Hastings Council are holding a review of 6 premises in George Street and the impact they are having on residents lives. Some Friday and Saturday nights the huge numbers of people are not easy to control. Customers wander from bar to bar and it is clearly difficult to monitor the behaviour of some individuals. It is a familiar tale that it only takes 2 or 3 people to spoil it for everyone. HOTRA is supporting the most affected residents whose lives are repeatedly disrupted.

Stade Amusements

Many people are annoyed by the appearance of the new big ride. The simple, annoying truth is that once HBC allowed their tenants to put a fence around the whole enclosure their ability to control developments was severely reduced.

Butlers Gap Chess Square

The work to improve this important open space is already underway. HBC are repairing / replacing the broken paving and seating. A new storage cupboard for the chess pieces is being built. [The key for the cupboard is kept at the West Hill lift].

Some of the children at Torfield School will soon start working with an artist to produce designs that will be included. Leigh Dyer our talented local metalsmith is now working on designs for new railings and the exciting stainless steel figures.

Torfield Allotment Party

This will take place on Sunday 19th July. Tickets cost £8 for an Indian buffet – they will be on sale from the beginning of July. Don't miss this highlight of the social scene in the Old Town