

Hastings Old Town Residents Association

Www.hotra.org.uk

August 2011 Parish News

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN THE HIGH STREET

Our petition grows strongly. If you have missed it you can also sign on line. Go to www.hotra.org.uk. A special newsletter will be distributed to all Old Town households in September. This will outline some of the ideas. We are planning an Open meeting in October so a free discussion can take place.

LICENSING

Hastings Council have advertised for a licence to sell alcohol in the new Stade Hall between 09.00 and 24.00 everyday. HOTRA will be opposing this application. There are enough premises that sell drink already. At our meeting last October this issue was discussed and there was clear opposition. Among other activities the Hall will be used for activities for young people, the Arts and Education in the broadest sense. It should be an alcohol free zone. Police resources already cannot cope with drink related problems at various times so why add to the problem. Hastings Council should know better, especially as the new community based charity that will run these facilities in future is about to be formally established. That group have not asked for this.

The Old Town has the highest concentration of licences premises in East Sussex. Elsewhere the costs of the Barwatch scheme are met by the licensed trade. Only in Hastings are the costs met from the public purse. Add to the picture the Police costs and the costs to the NHS and you can see why HOTRA is opposing. Significantly Hastings Council will be applying to Hastings Council for permission. We have asked for a copy of the application but been refused. No listening to the residents concerns !

OPEN GARDENS 2ND JULY

Congratulations to the kind Old Towners who opened their delightful gardens. Many people came who do not often visit the Old Town. £6,000 was raised for St Michaels Hospice. Brilliant effort.

TUESDAY 2ND AUGUST Coffee morning at Garden Cottage, Croft Road 10. – 12. £3 - proceeds to Giles Duly – a triple paraplegic – and O.H.P.S.

STORYTELLING FESTIVAL 8th – 20th November.

There will be 2 strands to the work. Strand 1 in childrens centres and schools. Strand 2 in community venues across the town. Up to 10 Storytellers will be needed. An application has been made to the Arts Council for some of the funding.