

Hastings Old Town Residents Association

December 2011 Parish News

Hastings Storytelling Festival - please see separate report

HIGH STREET – making it safe for everyone

Nearly 80 people came to our open meeting in the Stade Hall on 20th October. East Sussex County Council traffic engineers were also present and helped with the debate. The issues are complex and need careful consideration. The best future interests of this community need to be carefully balanced. It is not acceptable for any 1 individual or group to just say 'No' or 'I want'. We have a chance to work together and with East Sussex to secure a more pedestrian friendly space. If people are going to spend money in our shops and restaurants they enter all of them on foot. The High Street cannot be like a McDonalds Drive-Thru. Indeed part of its attraction is its components and style predate cars.

New Working Group

HOTRA is setting up a group to try to move the discussion forward. This will consider the High Street issues and also the whole of the Old Town. One current unknown is the impact of large numbers visiting the Stade and Jerwood Gallery, especially on Rock a Nore Road. This group will include representatives of residents, traders and the tourism businesses. It will report back on any conclusions and feed into the ESCC consultation on their proposals.

Playspace for Younger children

As well as pressing for the Pelham Playa multi use games area and sand volleyball court HOTRA has been asking for somewhere that our younger children can play. Currently the Foreshore Trust are consulting on the idea for a series of small playparks along the seafront. These would be welcome by local families and by visitors. We will also ask that our suggested Fitness Trail of Outdoor gym equipment be added to the package.

London Trader

Following a long, long period of monitoring, suggestions and advice by both Hastings Council and the Police it was finally decided to amend the license. The HBC Licensing Committee decided to reduce some aspects of the additional parts of their licence. The London Trader have decided to appeal against the decision.