

**Hastings Old Town Residents Association**  
**Minutes of the AGM Held on 13 May 2016**

**Attendance** Amber Rudd MP presided. Cllr. James Bacon was congratulated on his appointment as Councillor. 65 people were present. Apologies received from Cllrs. Peter Chowney and Dawn Poole.

**Minutes** of the 2015 AGM were approved.

**Reports**

**Accounts and Membership:** Phil White presented the Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016. Thanks to Dirk van Dijk for auditing the financial details. These were approved by the meeting. Current membership stands at 189 including new members, highest number since 2010. Thanks to Phil for his hard work.

**Chairman's Report:** Dick Edwards presented his previously circulated report which included:  
Fire safety in the wake of the Marine Parade fire in August 2014  
Rocklands Caravan Park  
High Street improvements  
Old Town Hall Museum  
Parking throughout the Old Town.  
Broadband speeds  
Urbanisation Award to Hastings Old Town.

**Elections** The following were confirmed in post for the coming year: Chairman - Dick Edwards; Treasurer - Phil White. Jill Bradley resigned as Secretary, and was presented with a bouquet of flowers and thanks for her hard work on behalf of HOTRA. She thanked the meeting and paid tribute to the hard work of Dick Edwards and all the Committee. Management Committee: S Hawley, A Novotny, E Stevens, B Nicol, R Stevens, R Platt, S Pitkanen. Co-opted: Cllrs D Poole and J Bacon also attend. Examiner of Accounts Mrs P Port. If anyone is interested in taking over as Secretary or joining the Committee please contact Dick Edwards - all are welcome.

**Any Other Business**

A question from the floor concerned congestion at traffic lights in Rock-a-Nore Road. ESCC are not planning any alterations.

Dr Craig Namvar reported contracts have been exchanged for the move of the Old Town Surgery to the former Ice House in Rock-a-Nore Road. The Planning Application will be submitted at the end of May. Better facilities (dental and optical practices, gym, pharmacy etc.), massive car park (incl. disabled parking) and good premises will attract new doctors and smaller practices to join. Thanks to Craig for his update.

Old Town Portal which publicises weekly list of events is proving very popular, and Satu Pitkanen would like others to be involved. If you can help please contact her on [satu@oldhastings.uk](mailto:satu@oldhastings.uk)

The AGM business concluded at 7.30 p.m.

Guest Speaker **Michael Foster** DL, High Sheriff of East Sussex. Dick Edwards presented Michael with a "New Sheriff of the Old Town" badge on behalf of HOTRA amidst much applause. Michael gave a fascinating talk on his post of High Sheriff of the Bailiwick of East Sussex, Brighton and Hove. It is a Royal appointment, held for a year, and his responsibilities include Returning Officer for Parliamentary Constituencies, attending Mayor-making and charitable events, and establishing contacts with those who can benefit the Old Town.

The meeting closed at 7.50 p.m.