

## March 2017 Parish News

### Old Town surgery - move to Rock a Nore - Petition update

Originally HBC had hoped to discuss this Change of Use at the February Planning Committee meeting. As all of the relevant HBC documents were not available it has been deferred - hopefully to the March meeting. This has allowed extra time to collect signatures. By Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February HOTRA had delivered forms signed by 1,094. Thank you to all who have signed. At the time of writing we have not been advised the closing date for further petition forms.

### HOTRA Subscriptions

Please drop your subs into Phil White's letterbox at Eight and a Half Exmouth Place OR to Nelson House Antiques in the High Street. Please include your name, address and email address if you have one + £10 of course. Membership cards are now being issued.

### East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service

Amber Rudd MP has obtained an answer to Old Town concerns about a smaller size fire appliance. The letter points out that they do have a specially adapted Land Rover. [ This was bought over 12 years ago following a HOTRA campaign by the way ]. All other appliances are big and wide and cannot access all parts of the Old Town. These appliances carry a vast range of equipment so some thought has to go into the design. However Kent, Devon and Cornwall already operate a number of these smaller appliances.

The ESF&RS reply is somewhat disappointing as they do not anticipate delivery of 1 appliance for Hastings + 1 for Brighton. The awful Marine Parade fire took place in 2015. There could be a delay of nearly 4 years.

### Waste Collection

Keir are still failing to fulfil their contract in the Old Town. Every Monday since November they have 'missed' either household waste or recycling waste. This contract is paid for from Council Taxes. In normal circumstances there would be some penalty for breaching the contract. As Hastings Council collect residents money they should be able to secure a decent service. Fly tipping in West Street, and at the top of Croft Road adds to the problem. Some meaningful action is long overdue.

### HOTRA's 2017 AGM

Please note that this is provisionally booked for the Stade Hall on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May. More details nearer the event.