

May 2019 Parish News

Wonderful News about the Isabel Blackman Centre

Hastings Council decided on 12th April to register the IBC as a Community Asset. HOTRA applied for this 8 weeks ago. This result gives interested parties a 6 month moratorium that prevents the sale or a new lease being issued by ESCC.

Sincere thanks to the HBC Planning team for their help and decision in our favour. There will now be a need for significant expressions of support from various sections of the local community.

First Big Step

We need to secure access to the building to enable activities to take place. A letter has been sent to Lewes asking them to be gracious so that a range of provision can be made. This will not be limited to meeting the needs of Older Citizens. They will be a priority but there are a significant number of other groups who need a base to work from. A working group of local charities and others including Hastings Seniors Forum have been meeting together to plan what happens next.

The HOTRA Annual report will contain much more detail. This will be delivered to all Old Town letterboxes at the end of April.

HOTRA agm Thursday 9th May 6.30 for 7.00 in Stade Hall

Please come along and add to the debate about the IBC. The meeting will start with the usual Accounts, Reports and Elections. *[All officer and committee posts are elected each year. If you want to stand please let Dick Edwards know by 7th May]*

SUBSCRIPTIONS

This year it is proposed that from 1st January 2020 the rate should be £12 per person. It is nearly 10 years since subs were put up,

AND have you paid yet for 2019 ?

Guest Speaker

After the agm fixed business Penny Shimmin the ceo of Sussex Community Development Association will talk about their history, current work, and plans for the future.

S.C.D.A. have been running the service at the IBC for the last 4 years.

During that time the standard of what was provided was very high. Many members of staff had worked there for over 20 years.

On 29th March there was a celebratory lunch to mark the closure of the Centre.

The Mayor of Hastings Nigel Sinden spoke. Over 70 users came along and there was a strong sense of commitment to try to keep meeting and sustain friendship.

