

July 2019 Parish News

Isabel Blackman Centre

East Sussex Seniors Association have written to ESCC about the closure of the centre. In their reply county hall have noted the concerns about the impact on the vulnerable elderly clients. They are aware that HOTRA has succeeded in registering the building as a Community Asset through Hastings Council. They also say that they would welcome a bid from HOTRA at the appropriate time for the future use of the building.

The working group of voluntary bodies plans to

- agree a set of articles of memorandum [joint agreement of future use];
- draft a robust Business plan that identifies clear income streams;
- seek detailed information from ESCC about running costs etc;
- clarify what money is needed and when by;
- launch an appeal.

Smaller Fire appliances

East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service have offered to meet with residents to discuss their current plans. We will try to arrange an open meeting as soon as possible.

Hastings Council and the new Refuse contract.

There were no tears for Kier when due to poor performance they lost the work. The new contract started 29th June. Residents know full well how difficult it is to collect rubbish in the Old Town. More money is to be spent and improvements will follow. Key concerns that need to be resolved are

- does the new contract cover all Old Town streets and twittens ?
- how will faults / oversights be quickly fixed ?
- what are the priorities for street sweeping?
- will the beach be cleaned on a daily basis - at least during the summer ?
- who will monitor performance and ensure 'value for money' ?
- will all commercial activities be checked to ensure that they are paying for independent waste collection ?

Subscriptions

At the agm it was agreed to increase subs to £15 per person, starting in January 2020. BUT have you remembered to pay for 2019 ? If you have forgotten then please pay your £10 by cheque or cash as soon as possible. Put this in an envelope with your contact details - including email - and mark the envelope HOTRA. Then drop it in Phil White's letterbox at Eight and a Half Exmouth Place or leave it at Nelson House Antiques opposite the Electric Palace.