



Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce: 28th October 2010

Attendees: 103 Speakers: Lesley Davis, Hastings & White Rock Pier Trust
Cllr Jeremy Birch, Leader of Hastings Borough Council

Lesley Davis (HWRPT)

- The Pier Trust is 100% positive and committed to bringing the pier back into operation.
- The trust's business plan is being updated to reflect recent events and a bid to the Heritage Lottery fund for £7.5m will be submitted once ownership is transferred to HWRPT.
- The current priority is to raise funds (£250,000) to secure the pier for the winter period. The problem is the bridge section which has no bracing and prior to the fire was supported by the wooden structure. Once the structure of the Pier is secured, the Pier Trust will be able to continue with their ten year development plan.
- HBC is still intending to CPO the pier from Ravenclaw and transfer ownership to HWRPT.

What can business do to support the trust?

1. Adopt a plank (£50 each)
2. Promotion of emergency fund appeal.

If you would like further information on the pier and the trust's progress, please contact Lesley on 07913 664163 or lesley@hpwr.co.uk

Cllr Jeremy Birch

Bexhill to Hastings Link Road is now one of 22 projects in a Development Fund of £600m. Local Authorities will be encouraged to bid in to the fund, outlining the economic case for the project and detailing any other local / private sector funding that can support the cost. Final decisions will be made by the end of 2011.

A21 Improvements have all been put on hold. The dualling of the Tonbridge to Pembury section will not be included in this spending review. All other improvements have been put on hold indefinitely.

Hastings Borough Council will face a 28% budget reduction over 4 years. These savings cannot be achieved solely through efficiency improvements. HBC have launched 'The Big Conversation' for all local residents to have their say.

Housing Benefit / London Overspill – as far as HBC is concerned there is no evidence of London local authorities block booking 'cheap' housing within the borough.

The Jerwood Gallery construction has begun and will be completed for September 2011

SAGA Insurance will be moving in to One Priory Square from January 2011, creating up to 800 jobs. Good news for the town centre and testament to the hard work of local partners.

Any Other Business

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