



August 2019

Dear Supporters,

I am writing to give you a summer update on what we've been up to. Most of our energies over the past months have been devoted to increasing public awareness of HCO now that we are officially a registered charity (of which more later). We have taken space in the new monthly, Hassocks Life, and our thanks to Jonathan Soper (HCO Trustee) and to David Tingley (Hassocks Life Editor) for arranging terms which have enabled us to regularly put HCO updates into every home in the village at a much reduced cost.

This year we have:

- Introduced a trial of a Village Discount Card aimed at encouraging villagers to support our local shops who provide essential services especially to those less able to travel further afield.
- Continued to support the much loved May Day event run by Michelle Binks and the Village Market managed by Catriona Hawksley. Both help to reinforce the sense of community.
- Continued to stage the Star Cinema, coordinated by Liz Edmunds and supported by a great team of volunteers which returns after the summer break with Stan & Ollie on September 20th. As usual doors open at 7pm and the film starts at 7.30. Tickets (on the door) are £4.50 (£4 concessions). Wine, tea, coffee, soft drinks available. Raffle with great prizes. We hope to see you there.
- Supported a revitalised and very popular Bike and Fun event with many thanks to Pippa Crouch for taking over the organising.
- Colin Wilsdon, Stan Lacock and Will Clayton have continued to run the Community Bike Hire at the railway station. Colin could really do with some more help on the management side – do please get in touch if you are interested: enquiries@hassockscommunity.org.uk. 01273 844920 or 01273 842489.
- Planted up village planters and maintained the displays at Grand Avenue and outside the Dry Cleaners and Keymer Parade.
- Collaborated with HKD Transition, the Parish Council and WSCC to put the first large rain garden into Adastra Park, followed by a second in Adastra Avenue, to help combat local surface flooding. We also worked with HKD to maintain the 'leaky dams' in Lag Wood.
- Undertaken a major upgrade to the Millennium Clock on Hassocks Infants School, enabling the clock to function for many more years with just a minor annual service.
- Continued to work with the Railway companies to improve services. Our thanks to Catherine Cassidy (HCO Trustee) for her hard work on this.

Returning to HCO's charity registration; after more than two years of perseverance plus the invaluable help of pro bono lawyers, we finally had the good news that your organisation is now a fully recognised and registered charity. This means that we can now complete the merger of HAA and HCP into HCO. If you pay by Standing Order you don't need to do anything, but if you pay by cheque please reflect our name change in future cheque payments.

Finally, we are always looking for volunteers and supporters – you'll see us at the village market on the 4th Saturday of most months so come and say hello if you would like to find out more, and please help by spreading the word.

With kind regards,

Erika Woodhurst-Trueman, Hon Sec.