

April 2009

Newsletter



# Hurstpierpoint Tenants & Residents Association

## *WILLOW TREE HUB*

On Wednesday 6th. May the Community Partnership has to make a decision which will affect you all.

As most of you are aware, the partnership with the HTRA have been working to install a family centre on Willow Way. We currently have £107,000.00 secured against a new building at the end of Willow Gardens but to complete the project to an up and running state we need a further £293,000.00 for which bids have been made to many funding bodies, but the current government financial state is slowing things down and an estimate of a further 9 months is optimistic in finding the money.

In the past three weeks another option has become available that would mean that we could open in about 12 to 14 weeks with the monies that are currently held secure. The Kave lighting warehouse at number 15 Western Road is the other option. It is in site of the Rowans & Maples and the South end of Willow Way and is also nearer to Kemps & Weald Close, so the decision that we have to make is to wait and stick to the plan for Willow Gardens or take the Kave warehouse, refurbish it and open in about 3 months. There will be exactly the same facilities as in the original building, it will just be in a different place. If you have any strong feelings on this matter please will you ring the chairman of HTRA on 01273 835718, otherwise we will make the decision on your behalf. The time pressure does not allow us to do anything else as the owner of the building is only giving us until May 6th. to decide.

**THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO AFFECT THE PROJECT  
SO PLEASE, IF YOU HAVE STRONG VIEWS, LET US KNOW.**

It is also very clear that we may well need volunteers to run the café much sooner than expected IF we go ahead with Kave. There are many things to consider and it is by no means a foregone conclusion.

## EVERY CHILD MATTERS

The advisory staff from the Every Child Matters family centre group, who will be working in the Hub, wherever it is, are due to start work in late June or early July. If the Hub is not ready they will start work in the lobby of the village centre, and the outreach bus will also begin to operate around the local area. So the family centre provision, in part at least, will definitely be available by the beginning of July. The Hurstpierpoint Community Partnership in conjunction with the HTRA have arranged this facility as a matter of urgency to help anyone who is part of our community



## THE NEW BENCH

You may have noticed that at the entrance to Willow Way there is a new bench. This has been installed by the Tenants & Residents Association with a grant from O2 and sometime in the near future we are hoping to completely re-furbish and give the entrance to Willow Way a new outlook. This will probably take place at the same time as the WSCC start to revamp the verges and paths throughout the estate. We are arranging the grants for the entrance to Willow Way but the WSCC are paying for all the verges and footpaths, and a new road surface. This is all from lobbying that the HTRA have done over the past 2 years.

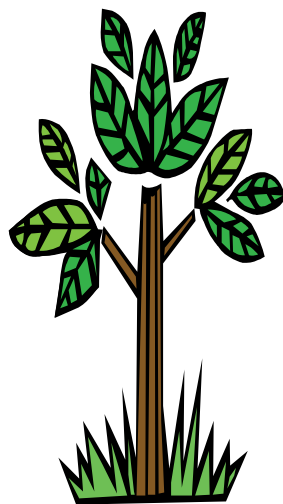
## NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING PANEL

Our chairman has agreed to chair the NPP. This panel, starting on 5th. May at the village centre has the instruction to set the policing priorities for the local policing team every 12 weeks from now on. If you wish to be involved, have a complaint, a suggestion, or need to make an indirect report to the police on where you feel the police efforts should be concentrated in the next quarter, please come to our meeting in the Village centre at 8pm. on 5th. May, or if you wish to remain anonymous with your suggestions or any other kind of information, ring 835718, speak to Norman, who will pass anything on without names, or references to where that information has come from.

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## *WE NEED YOU*

The HTRA is moving into a new phase of existence with the needs of the Willow Tree Hub coming more to the fore and also as you will see in the adjacent paragraph our need to represent tenants is becoming bigger and greater almost every day. All we ask is your response one evening a month to help with the decisions that we are making and beyond this, any involvement that you have is entirely up to you. ANYONE, no matter what age group is welcome, drinks & refreshments are provided, the only proviso is that anything said at the meetings is strictly confidential, so once again if you can give the last Wednesday evening in the month, whether you be a tenant, home owner or lodger, but are willing to help please ring Norman or Heather on 01273 835718.



## DOWNLAND HOUSING

Over the past 5 years the HTRA have made representations to Downland on behalf of Tenants with faults, maintenance and disputes and we have always been working on the tenants behalf. Now Downland, as we knew it, has gone, although the office at Norris House is still to be the area office it is now going to be little more than a reference point. All rent matters have been moved into Affinity central office in London, leaving only what they term as tenant management in Haywards Heath. It is now Downland only in name, and barely a small sub office of Affinity. It is now more important than ever that if something is wrong in your tenancy and you do not get an immediate response from Rydon or the Downland contact centre you must contact us as soon as possible. We will deal with your problem confidentially, and we will try to help, but you MUST contact them first.