

# Rottingdean Means Business Event

## 13/02/14

Notes made by Cathy Taylor

### **Presentation by Tony Mernagh**

Digital industry growth – New England House

Two thirds of university graduates stay on in Brighton, local school leavers can't compete. 46% of the work force are graduates, third largest outside London

Brighton is attractive to large companies but there is nowhere to put them

Lots of office space but needs gutting and upgrading

Wages are poor in Brighton and 33,000 residents leave the city every day to work elsewhere

Local employment does not pay enough to live on

House prices are 8.8 times earnings which is 42% higher than anywhere else outside of London

Deposits are out of reach

This fact is holding back the Brighton economy

**Rottingdean's** strengths and weaknesses are different from Brighton's

A259 is a problem especially the bus lane

Need to campaign for better bus services

What do we have to offer people?

Lobby B&HCC to make more of Rottingdean eg Visit Brighton

The future is tourism which needs to be encouraged

### **General Comments**

Need help with costs of improving signage

Need to improve links with the Marina especially along undercliff

Transport links need improvement

Development of Black Rock into a Conference Centre would benefit this side of the city

South Downs National Park – how do you get people there?

Visitor centre needed

Heather Butler reported that the Village Survey had 188 responses out of a population of 2500 and 1500 homes.

- 1) Traffic, lorries travelling from A27 down through High Street to turn left towards Peacehaven. Air quality at both ends of the High Street is poor due to funnelling
- 2) 72% valued open spaces but sited problems with dogs and litter
- 3) People opposed to St Aubyns development
- 4) Encourage more trade, better parking, more variety of shops, improve transport links to Ovingdean and Lewes
- 5) Need more family housing and starter homes and affordable homes
- 6) Overdevelopment concerns some especially backyard development
- 7) Extra facilities are needed especially GPS, additional play centres
- 8) Disabled access to Park Road wcs and narrow pavements
- 9) Section 106 money to be replaced by Community Infrastructure Levy