



Hastings Community Network Elections and HVA Membership Renewal- Time is running out!!

Is your community group a member of Hastings Voluntary Action (HVA)? No? Then join now, it's easy and its free!

What will you get out of being part of the Hastings Community Network?

Once you are a member group of HVA you can vote and stand as a candidate to represent community and voluntary groups as part of the Hastings Community Network. You will have

- a more democratic system for representation of voluntary and community groups
- opportunities for productive networking and collaboration.
- a vehicle for communication and consultation with other community and voluntary groups.
- More opportunities to increase your skills and confidence.
- Increased knowledge and understanding of issues affecting local communities.
- Representatives elected by you to raise issues with and take forward to strategic partnerships.
- 4 large networking events a year, to inspire you and help with problems you face.
- The scope to reflect and promote diversity and equality with other Hastings groups.





March 09

Many voices...One community

Strengthening our voice

This is the first time voluntary and community groups in Hastings will have a real say on who represents them at strategic and partnership bodies so don't waste it! This first election is happening between March and May and is *not* the same as local Council elections which are also happening in May. Our election is different because it is all about ensuring community and voluntary groups have real opportunities to influence decisions that affect the lives of communities in Hastings.

If you want to vote for representatives or be a representative, you **have** to be a member of Hastings Voluntary Action so it is crucial that you join or renew your membership as soon as possible. You can download an HVA membership form and a HCN Data Collection form from

www.hastingsvoluntaryaction.org or
www.hastingsbme.org.uk

Call Fran or Habibah for help and to out more.

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