

Minutes of SNBA Committee meeting 6.15pm at Sunstone Weds 31 May 2007

Present: Rosanne Berry, Michael Sinclair, Bridget Pedgrift, David Rowley, Ian Aarons, Sarah Graham, Hamdy Shahein, Ricky Catwell

1. **Apologies:** Angela Sheeran, Tonya Cavanagh

2. **Minutes of last meeting**

Approved

3. **Communication**

Rosanne felt that email communication between committee members has become very sporadic. Ian committed to preparing the agenda for each committee meeting a week in advance of every meeting, in order to focus people's minds.

Action: Ian

4. **Wedge**

Michael and Ricky felt that Wedge should be giving back something in kind to the SNBA, in the way of a rebate. Other committee members disagreed, and felt that Wedge would never consider such a thing. Michael will speak to the business manager at Wedge.

Wedge will host a stall at StokeFest on June 10th promoting the card and the businesses which have signed up locally - there are now 32 sign-ups in Stokey.

5. **Police meeting**

Sean Wheelan, the new Crime Prevention Officer is keen to host a meeting for local businesses on Monday June 25th at Abney Halls. Michael to confirm with Hassan. **Action: Michael**

Once the date and venue are confirmed, Bridget will prepare handouts to do a local business drop (members and non-members). **Action: Bridget**

On the night, David will man the door and ensure that everyone signs in. Michael to ask Hassan if he'll run a bar. **Action: Michael**

Copies of old SNBA newsletters to be made available, and Michael to do a short spiel to encourage new sign ups for the SNBA.

6. **Christmas 2007**

Committee keen to repeat and improve on last year's events. Bridget emphasised that more people need to be involved, and that each event needs to have someone who will take responsibility for making it happen.

Ideas that were discussed and are still up for grabs:

Carol singing - assign dates and times for a fixed venue, eg outside fire station - maybe two different nights, one with the church choir and one with the Hackney Singers?

Santa - stick to just Saturdays, perhaps last two before Xmas? Only in Farmers' Market or in shops as well? Photos / consent forms? Ask for donations for the SNBA? (this is contentious - some felt donations should be for charity). Need to speak to Kerry at Farmers' Market.

Readings in Bookshop - Sarah wants to do again as they were very successful - perhaps two Sundays before Christmas, from 2pm on each day. Suggestion that we have Santa there too so kids can get their photos taken? Sarah to speak to Jo. **Action: Sarah**

Late night shopping - meeting agreed to canvass members re doing three late nights in a row in the week running up to Christmas, rather than one late night each week for three weeks. Bridget will email members. **Action: Bridget**

Mulled wine - the pubs did not really embrace the free mulled wine idea last time, so it was

agreed not to pursue that one. Meeting discussed having mulled wine to pass out at the carol singing sessions - maybe use the Fire Station's kitchen facilities? **Action: David**

Xmas tree - Size of tree was discussed. Meeting discussed re lights to go on it. David offered to pay for electrical connections if necessary. David to speak to Angela to get contact name from the Fire Station, then discuss with them: lighting the tree, also to ask them re using area in front of the tree for carol singing sessions. **Action: David**

Poster - to be discussed at future meeting. Simple poster advertising each activity, with specific times, dates and venue.

Xmas street lights - Andy Cunningham of StreetScene at the Council to be invited to the next committee meeting, to discuss additional Xmas lighting. **Action:**

Bridget

7 AOB

Fair Trade - Hamdy mentioned that he cannot source any Fair Trade suppliers for chocolate bars etc. Bridget to pass him the email address of the Fair Trade woman at the meeting at Yum Yums. **Action:**

Bridget

Carpet damage from road works - Michael to follow up, as no reply received to his letters.

Action: Michael

Councillor Khan - Hamdy is a personal friend of the new Speaker, and has told him about the SNBA - Khan has offered his services to us if he can help in any way. Hamdy is involved in organising a mini- and half-marathon with Cllr Khan for Hackney. More details to follow at future meetings. Michael mentioned that the 3rd Fun Run in Clissold Park will take place in September.

Jamie Carswell - Bridget to speak to him re the meeting with council staff he was supposed to set up some time ago. **Action:**

Bridget

Parking - Ian to follow up on business parking permits which cover the whole borough - they currently cost £800, which is prohibitively expensive for businesses. **Action: Ian**

Wilmer Place Car Park - Bridget to chase up Willy Hauptman re the sign at the entrance to the car park which features the tariff for private parking, not for the council machines.

Rosanne to speak to Atique.

Action: Bridget and

Rosanne

Meeting asked if Heidi is willing to take back the red route and parking lobbying

Stoke Newington Bookshop - Sarah advised that the bookshop's 20th birthday party will be announced shortly.

Hamdy announced that he has become an Ambassador for Human Rights. The meeting warmly congratulated him.

Ged - David reported that Ged is resigning from the committee due to family commitments. Bridget has received an official resignation email from him. The committee thanked him for his contributions to date.

Dates of next meetings:

Mon 2 July 6.15 at Sunstone

Mon 10 September 6.15

Weds 3 October 6.15

AGM will be the evening of either Monday 24 or Tues 25 September 2007. Venue tbc (Rosanne to speak to Frank at the Coach and Horses)

Action: Rosanne