

Stoke Newington



Business Association
Tel: 0870 777 7622

Thank you for joining the Stoke Newington Business Association, and welcome to our first newsletter.

Mission statement: The SNBA has been set up to act for and on behalf of businesses in the local community, to enhance the shopping environment and to help the area to continue to prosper. It lobbies on issues relating to the business and residential community.

Area covered: Stoke Newington High St and Stoke Newington Church St and surrounding roads, bordered east at Stoke Newington Common, west at the end of Church St, north at Manor Road and south at Amhurst Road. This area may be extended in the future.

First General Meeting

This took place in November 05 at the Old Fire Station in Leswin Road, attended by SNBA members and potential members, who voiced their concerns about local issues. Representatives from the Police attended, as did Russell Jones from the Safer Shops scheme and Roger Blake from Hackney Council Highways Dept - all responded to questions.

Current issues:

The following are issues which are currently being focused on by the SNBA - if you have other issues you would like to discuss, please contact one of the committee members.

Parking/CPZ

SNBA has established an ongoing dialogue with Hackney Council Parking Services regarding controlled parking

Newsletter No. 1

January 2006

in Stoke Newington. Primary concerns are the lack of business bays, cost of business permits, lack of pay and display, varying costs of pay and display, poor parking signage, the need for business visitor vouchers. So far the Council has erected parking signs on the High St and Church St, changed the tariff in Wilmer Place car park to allow parking per hour and part thereof, and reduced some 4-hour P&D bays to £1.20 per hour. Please contact Heidi Early at Early Bird on Church St with your comments.

Police

The local area now has its own police Safer Neighbourhood foot patrols. The unit taking responsibility for local businesses is headed up by Sgt Robinson - he and his team can be contacted on 020 8721 2922, or 07879 603037. Please keep these numbers handy. This unit will be carrying a radio which links in to the shops who are part of the Safer Shops Scheme (see later article). It has been suggested that all businesses keep a concise record of any crime which takes place on their premises, however minor, which can then be passed to Sgt Robinson every month - the local police seem to be under the impression that crime amongst businesses in Stoke Newington is very low, when the truth is that offences often go unreported.

Waste/Refuse Collection/Recycling

Contact with the Council was made regarding both domestic and business refuse being left on the streets during working hours. It was agreed that council reps will investigate further, in liaison with the SNBA.

Recycling for businesses is an issue which is on-going - there are currently no facilities for businesses to have goods for recycling collected by the Council.

Recent Hackney Council Business Survey

Thank you to those of you who took the time to complete and return the Council's business survey. SNBA was represented at a recent Council meeting of the Hackney Regeneration Committee at the Town Hall in Mare St, where there was much discussion about how the Council can help in improving the environment for shoppers, to encourage people to spend money locally.

The problems of parking inevitably were raised, but further issues like litter, graffiti, lighting, pavements, planting, benches etc were also discussed, alongside talk of BIDs and Town Centre Manager schemes.

A full report with recommendations will be issued in Feb, which will be available to SNBA members - please contact Bridget at BoredOnBoard if you would like to read it.

Safer Shops Scheme

Around twenty shops on Church St and the High St are involved in a new two-way radio initiative to help discourage crime in local shops. The radios are linked to a central CCTV control room, which is manned by the police. There will also soon be two more CCTV cameras along Church St, making four in total, with several more on the High St.

In Brief:

Festival lighting - the SNBA successfully lobbied to reinstate the festive lighting along the length of Church St as well as the High St.

Phone mast - the SNBA lent its support to the successful campaign opposing the installation of a phone mast on top of the Fire Station on Church St.

Murphys/Water - The Business Association has been liaising closely with Murphys and the Water Board, and both have been very accommodating in respecting requests over drilling times etc. SNBA will endeavour to keep you posted on future plans for digging up our roads.

Committee Members

Any of the following can be contacted regarding the SNBA:

Chair	Atique Choudury	Yum Yums
Vice Chairs	Michael Lewis	Sunstone
	Ian Aarons	Phillips
Secretary	Richard Fontenoy	Beaucatcher
Treasurer	Rosanne Berry	Rosa's
Members	Angela Sheeran	BoredOnBoard
	Vicky Hamilton	Hamiltons
	Heidi Early	Early Bird
	Julian Korosec	GK Locksmith
	Gary Bridgewood	Violin Shop
	Ricky Catwell	Affinity
	Teng Tung	Barracuda
	Sarah Graham	SN Bookshop
	Emmanuel Otu	Mesclun
	Bridget	Pedgrift
BoredOnBoard		
	Ilhami Oskan	La Sera

Membership of the SNBA is now over 70 businesses, and is still growing. There is strength in numbers, so the more you can encourage your neighbours to join, the more powerful we can be as a lobbying force. You can contact any of the above for further information, in person or by email or telephone (see contact numbers at the bottom of the page). We need your ideas and your involvement.

Lastly, **BEWARE:**

Several local businesses have been caught out in recent months by a scam carried out by a tall white man in his thirties. He has succeeded several times in tricking staff into handing over cash, ostensibly with the OK of the boss, who he claims to be talking to on his mobile phone as he enters the premises. He is clearly very convincing, and often knows names and circumstances which are relevant to that particular business. If you suspect you have come across this man, please call Sgt. Robinson's team and give as full a description as you can (contact nos. on page one).