

**Minutes of SNBA Committee meeting 6.15pm at Sunstone
Weds 16 April 2008**

Present: Rosanne Berry, Julian Korosec, Bridget Pedgrift, Michael Sinclair, Anne Wilkinson, Ricky Catwell,

1. **Apologies:** Hamdy Shahein, Ian Aarons, Sarah Graham, Fae Graham

2. **Minutes** of meeting of 12 March 2008 were approved.

3. The meeting welcomed **Cristina Loureiro**, police community support officer from the Stoke Newington Central team, and thanked her for showing interest and wanting to attend a meeting to familiarise herself with the workings of the SNBA..

4. Plastic bags

The meeting welcomed Andy Lambert, from Bring your own Bag, a movement set up by local residents who want to encourage the public to move away from single-use plastic bags. To this end and to create awareness, they will create a washing line on Church St outside William Patten School on Saturday 17 May, from 10am-1pm, during which time they will encourage local shoppers to swap their plastic bags for a reusable, recyclable cotton bag, courtesy of Hackney Council. The waste reduction officer at Hackney Council is Ander Zabala.

Also welcomed as a guest was Tia Mazhur who works with a wholesale bag-making company K+S Packaging (<http://www.kspackaging.com>) based in Tottenham - as well as making plastic bags for supply to the retail trade, they also recycle plastic. She explained to the group how recycling plastic works, and how alternatives to plastic bags such as paper or cotton can also be detrimental to the environment in various ways.

There was an interesting discussion with Tia and Andy coming at the same problem from different directions - the two of them agreed to speak further about how they might work together. It was interesting to hear that Ander Zabala's suggestion for getting rid of the plastic bags which might be collected on 17 May is to send them to China for recycling, whilst Tia's recycling machine is only a few miles away in Tottenham!

It was also interesting to learn that there is no regulation on what constitutes 'bio-degradable'. As long as a bag takes less than 500 years to degrade, it can be deemed biodegradable, but the amount of degrading factor that is added when a bag is made can vary dramatically - one bag may take 50 years to degrade, the next one 150 years.

For info - Fresh and Wild going plastic-bag free from 22 April.

5. HEN (Hackney Enterprise Network)

Michael reported that their role has been suspended by Hackney Council for the moment - update to follow at next meeting.

6. Website

Bridget and Rosanne to meet with Stephen for training on inputting and updating information. Committee members should register on the site asap so we can start encouraging other members to register - go to <http://www.stokeybusiness.com>

Action: Bridget and Rosanne

7. Stokefest

Sunday 8 June confirmed. Michael mentioned there may also be a mini music festival in September in Clissold Park.

8. Gyrotory

Fae will distribute and follow up the questionnaire which has been circulated to committee members for comment. It will go to all businesses who will be directly affected by any changes to the one-way system, ie those on the A10. Julian felt it should also go to businesses nearby, ie at that end of Church St and on adjacent streets.

Action: Fae

9. Stokey map

Sarah will report on this at the next meeting.

Action: Sarah

10. Membership

Lemon Monkey has now joined the SNBA and has been promised a radio. Angela is dealing and will issue a revised contact list to all radio users.

Action: Angela

11. Nando's

The meeting discussed the campaign against Nando's/chains coming into the area and agreed that it was not the SNBA's role to take a stance on this - individual businesses will have their personal views. At present the alcohol license has yet to be granted for the premises and the Planning department has received many letters of objection. Anne agreed to find out from Tony (organiser of the campaign) what the general feeling is amongst traders.

12. AGM

Still on for Tues 10 June. Michael to speak to Ilhami about using the basement room at La Sera.

Action: Michael

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tues 27 May 6.15pm at Sunstone