

SNBA. Minutes of the Meeting on 5th May 2009.

Present: Rosanne Berry, Anne Wilkinson, Michael Sinclair, Hamdy Shahein, Sarah Graham, Ricky Catwell and Robbie Richards.

Apologies were received from Guy Smith, Fae Graham, Ian Aarons and Bridget Pedgrift.

1. **Minutes of the Meeting** of 7th April 2009 were approved.
2. **Proposals for work to Church Street** - Andy Cunningham of Hackney Council's Street Scene attended the meeting to present proposals for 'upgrading' Church Street, and Councillor Louisa Thompson also attended. A separate report is attached, which will be sent to all SNBA members. Consultation will take place in June and work is expected to start in August 2009.
3. **Lamp-posts** - Before the presentation, the committee expressed their disappointment at Hackney's recent action in replacing the lampposts without any consultation and in apparent disregard of conservation guidelines. AC said that it was a matter for the whole borough and that therefore SN was not consulted in particular, and also that the Conservation Area Committee did pass them. The lampposts had to be replaced in order to ensure that regular maintenance could be carried out and replacement parts were available. The lamps were also said to be more efficient as the light is directed downwards.
The committee also pointed out that Living Streets would have preferred the posts to be put closer to buildings and Robbie Richards asked why they could not have been attached to the buildings. Ricky Catwell also asked why shop-fronts couldn't be modernised if modern lampposts were being allowed.
Michael Sinclair asked that in future the Business Association should specifically be consulted about proposals so that they could speak for all traders. AC confirmed that in this instance the BA was being informed before the formal consultation period.
4. **Shop-front trading** – the issue of A boards and outside tables was also raised with AC, who said it was not part of his area, but he knew that the rules and regulations were being revised for the whole of Hackney, and SN would be treated in the same way as everywhere else in Hackney as far as licences were concerned. He would try to put the right people in touch with the committee.
5. **AOB** – RR asked what plans were being made for extra traffic and parking once the Assembly Rooms were in use. LT said she would find out. RR would attend the next meeting to talk about 'Stoke Newington First' and the new website.
LT would try to arrange for the Dalston Town Centre Manager to attend the next meeting to explain what possibilities might be available to us in future.
LT confirmed that the sign to the car park had been sorted out.
Anne Wilkinson reported that she had been interviewed for the 'Visit London' website to talk about the variety of shopping and eating places in Stoke Newington.
6. **Date of next meeting** – 2nd June 2009, at 6.15 at Sunstone.