

3rd Green Action in Central Tottenham Meeting

Date, time and location: Sunday, December 10th, 2023, 1 to 3 pm. Lordship Hub Co-op.

In attendance: Dave (chairing), George, Saba, Stephanie, Pamela, Roxana, Will, Aroa. Joan joined briefly.

Agenda (hyperlinked to minutes):

1.	Dave introduces where we are, recap of previous meetings	1
2.	Monthly invitations to other groups to speak at Green Action meetings.....	2
3.	Will talks about Just Stop Oil and protests.....	2
4.	Discussion on recycling at the Hub and Council Parks.....	3
5.	Actions to reimagine how we use urban space (streets).....	3
6.	Other topics discussed	4
7.	Summary of actions per attendee.....	4

1. Dave introduces where we are, recap of previous meetings

1.1. The basics:

- Purpose of 1st meeting: to brainstorm ideas.
- Why the group exists: there're many networks in Haringey but no focused green action in central Tottenham.
- A WhatsApp group has been created, all actively involved in the group are welcome to join.
- There's a mailing list with about 40 people in it.
- Our intention is to open monthly meetings in 2024 with a speaker from another local group – to learn and build bridges. More on this below.

1.2. On Warm Homes Campaign:

- Intention to organise an action to hold a short “warm up” occupation in Wood Green Shopping City → Action did not happen
- A petition was sent to the MPs instead by local Friends of the Earth Groups

1.3. On Citizens Assembly:

- Interest in previous meetings (Tabi) to organise a Citizens Assembly just for Central Tottenham (there's one already existing for the whole of Haringey).
 - Meeting happened to follow up, but those most keen decided instead to support one in Waltham Forest.
- Will reports on the last Haringey Citizen Assembly:
 - Approximately 80 people.
 - Climate scientist speaking.
 - GP speaking about how climate change will affect primary care.
 - Breakouts in groups of 8 for focused discussions and thematic groups (ie housing).
 - Conversations largely about how we can adjust to the effects of climate change.

1.4. Tottenham Flower & Produce Show, September 14th, 2024:

- Intention to make a bigger event, a green fair.
- There'll be specific meetings to organise this event, get in touch if you want be involved.

1.5. Website:

- Now created as page within Lordship Hub website: <https://lordshiphub.org.uk/green-action-in-central-tottenham/>.

1.6. Luke Howard Weather Station:

- Set up in the Hub last year.
- Intention to use as educational resource. Contact Dave for written update and to support.
- Interest expressed on using it to help people understand the variance in climate (ie. Rain) year to year, for instance, and how it affects nature.

2. **Monthly invitations to other groups to speak at Green Action meetings**

2.1. Intention:

- Reach out more to the local community (leafletting, word of mouth) and engage attract a more diverse group of participants.

2.2. January meeting:

- Intention to invite Black Rootz (https://www.instagram.com/blackrootz__/).
- Pamela and Dave will liaise.
- Topic: what can people do, inspired by what Black Rootz is doing?
- Date: hopefully a Sunday towards the end of January.

(Joan joins us briefly at this point)

2.3. Who else could we invite to the following meetings?

- Trade Unions – Stephanie will coordinate.
- Talk about direct action and protest – Will (who is involved with Just Stop Oil) will coordinate.
- Youth Climate Groups – Joan will look into options.
- Schools.
- People from diaspora communities whose home countries are deeply impacted by climate change – Pamela thinks she may know somebody who might be up for it.

2.4. Debate – should we only invite people who are residents / working locally?

- “Locally” in this context is understood as Tottenham and Haringey.
- Reason for inviting only local residents: build close connections, avoid duplication.
- Reason for inviting people outside our local neighbourhood: learn from success stories and best practice in other areas that can be replicated here.
- Debate was inconclusive, at the moment priority will be given to local residents and organisations.

2.5. Resource:

- Friends of the Earth study on working with individuals in the oil industry:
 - Full study: <https://foe.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Oil-Gas-Workers-Report-Final.pdf>
 - Summary: <https://foe.scot/resource/offshore-oil-and-gas-workers-views/>.

3. **Will talks about Just Stop Oil and protests**

3.1. Latest developments:

- Just Stop Oil is a protest / direct action movement demanding and end to all new gas and oil drilling and extraction.
- 600 arrests in last month (from slow marches) but largely there’s been a media blackout.
- Last month: 1 big march + daily smaller marches.
- Deep impact of section 7 of the Public Order Act: people now being arrested for “which interferes with the use or operation of any key national infrastructure in England and Wales”. Now considering A + B roads key national infrastructure. Previously arrests were made using section 12

of the old Public Order Act, which gave senior officers the power to place conditions on a protest march. Discussion on curtailing of democratic rights.

- More info <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/oct/30/met-arrest-more-than-60-climate-activists-just-stop-oil-protest-first-use-powers-public-order-act>.
- Lots of people have been sent to prison on remand, waiting for trial.

3.2. Just Stop Oil now trying to broaden the movement:

- Goal remains to stop all new oil and gas extraction licenses.
- Call for as many people as possible to join, with diverse experience.

4. Discussion on recycling at the Hub and Council Parks

4.1. Current situation:

- Lordship Hub can't recycle.
- Main reason is Haringey Parks don't recycle – so even if they separated waste, it would all be mixed up by the Council when collecting.
- To find solutions, it's important to understand why for Haringey Council doesn't recycle in parks – ie at the moment people really don't separate correctly so the cost for them to sort the waste streams would be too high.

4.2. Actions:

- There's now a new green space strategy for the council – opportunity to restart conversations.
- Action: draft email, collect signatures, send to council – no person in charge of this yet – Aroa is happy to take on as a key step to activate the council around the action proposed below.
- 65 "friends of parks" groups in Haringey helped draft the new 15 year strategy – that includes ordinary recycling and green waste recycling.
- Action: we reach out to the council to roll out a campaign that builds on proven success stories to get the council to recycle – Aroa and Dave will coordinate.
 - In Lambeth, Hubbub's campaign reduced the contamination of street and parks recycling bins by 70%, whilst increasing the quantity of recycling by over 140%.
<https://hubbub.org.uk/in-the-loop>.

5. Actions to reimagine how we use urban space (streets)

5.1. Groups / existing actions that we can liaise with:

- Play Streets:
 - <https://new.haringey.gov.uk/streets-roads-travel/street-licences-applications/apply-a-play-street>.
 - <https://playingout.net/play-streets/what-are-play-streets/>.
- Street Parties – Saba has helped organise in the past and can share experience. There's a few each year in the Bruce Grove ward area.
- Tree Sponsorship <https://www.treesforstreets.org/haringey-councils-street-tree-sponsorship-scheme/>.
 - Related: Haringey Tree Protectors / Tottenham Trees.

5.2. Suggestion to start a "Reimagined Streets" tactical group within Green Action:

- What can people do at street level, and does that help us create a way of living that respects planetary boundaries? Reimagining how we use our urban space can activate people around green action.
- Ideas: play streets, collection + sharing bins + freecycle hubs...
- Links to local residents associations and street-based mutual aid groups.
- To action in new year.

6. Other topics discussed

- 6.1. Is there an opportunity to promote the work of the orchard in Lordship Rec, run by the Friends of Lordship Rec? Stephanie interested in moving this forward.
- 6.2. Acknowledgement that COP-28 is happening as we speak – deeply driven by the interests of fossil fuel companies instead of by the needs of humanity and nature.

7. Summary of actions per attendee

- Dave (chairing):
 - o Support – to aid coordination please cc in all the actions below.
 - o Weather Station – contact Dave if you can help.
- Stephanie:
 - o Invite a local representative from Trade Union to co-host one of our upcoming meetings.
 - o Explore how to promote what happens at the orchard.
- Pamela:
 - o Invite Black Rootz to January meeting (find date that works best for them).
 - o Liaise with potential diaspora member - invite to speak at one meeting next year about the impacts of climate change in their home country.
- Roxana:
 - o Work with Aroa to create a tactical sub-group around streets (TBC).
- Will:
 - o Liaise with Dave to find date for a “protesting” session in one of the upcoming meetings.
- Aroa:
 - o Type and circulate minutes of meeting.
 - o Follow up with Dave to try to develop campaign around park recycling with council: garner support, understand their pain points, provide constructive solutions that will be a win-win.
 - o Follow up with Saba to learn from her experience with street parties in Bruce Grove.
 - o Work with Roxana to create a tactical sub-group around streets (TBC).
- Joan:
 - o Look into possible representatives of Youth Climate Groups to come speak at an upcoming meeting next year.