

Minutes of a Meeting of the WNBR Planning Collective

Held at the Royal Festival Hall, 19:30 Thursday 30 March 2017.

(Action items in *red*)

Present: Alexia, Cy, Derek, Harvey, Kiran, Luigi, Paul, Rachael, Sheridan, Simon

Minutes:

Actions from the previous minutes were picked up in the agenda items as below.

Official approvals:

Kiran reported that she has no feedback from the police yet, but she is not concerned as that is to be expected. Royal Parks have been positive and helpful. The fee to close Hyde Park start for us will be £50 plus VAT this year. There was no feedback on Regents Park.

Route options:

Natasha and Cy had made a test ride and circulated a paper on options for possible routes through Southwark to Elephant & Castle from Tower Hill. The meeting agreed with their recommendation – to make a brief visit to Southwark via London Bridge and returning on Blackfriars Bridge rather than riding through E&C.

Agreed – we have adequate support to include Hyde Park (led by Luigi and Kiran) and Regents Park (led by Paul and Alexia, possibly with Sheridan and Rachael). **Action:** Ask John to set up these as Facebook events.

We do not yet have volunteers for Clapham Junction. **Action:** Ask John if he has suggestions to find leader and marshals. Otherwise we will not try to run Clapham Junction.

An interesting suggestion was made for consideration next year – to have a short route for slow riders.

TfL roadworks are expected on Westminster Bridge and surrounds (including Forum Magnum Sq) to facilitate the new cycle lanes. This is not likely to prevent the ride passing by, but may mean that it is impractical to stop on the Bridge or in the square. Waterloo Bridge and Belvedere Road/Jubilee Gardens were suggested as potential short-stop muster points instead.

All route options will be considered and confirmed at the test ride as usual.

Constitution:

One issue was raised with the proposed constitution. The word “event” is not appropriate and might cause difficulties with establishing our right to ride. The fact that it is a “protest” is important to underscore our rights. It was also suggested that being an established “procession” gives us a right to ride on a regular basis. Combining those points, a suggestion was to refer to it as a “processional protest”.

We discussed whether to include statements prohibiting skaters and runners, and requiring everyone to be fit enough to keep up and have clothes to change into if they cannot complete the route. As the ride is on public roads, we cannot ban people from accompanying us, but we might improve the guidance on wiki etc. The constitution might, however, emphasize that we bear no responsibility, accountability or duty of care for people travelling with us who are not accepting our guidance.

Ride Communications:

Derek reported the estimate for one week's rental of 12 radios. This would need to be funded from donations, whilst leaving enough funds for road closure charges and the creation of promotional items such as flags and flyers. Two weeks hire would exhaust our funds. We will continue to look at alternatives, but the 1 week hire seems to be the best option.

Email and Web presence:

Cy has been investigating the functionality of our email and web channels. He circulated a paper in advance. Web pages are being maintained. Our main email channels do not seem to be working. **Action:** Cy to liaise with Rob (Southampton) over improved routing, preferably to provide actual mailboxes rather than just forwarding services.

We are also concerned that access to important channels might be lost where only one person has the password and/or admin rights. It was agreed that three or more people should control each one.

Action: Increase admin access as follows:

- Facebook pages – John, Cy, Derek, Paul
- Twitter – John, Simon, Paul
- Yahoo – John + tbc
- Main email address (london@wnbr.co.uk) – John, Derek, Cy

Flags and leaflets:

We agreed that flags and leaflets have been valuable in the past and we should try to do something this year.

We preferred the leaflets that are handed out on the ride to explain its purpose rather than the advanced publicity ones, which are hard to deploy effectively. **Action:** Paul will ask Graham if he can help with printing.

Everyone should think about who can produce flags. Alexia wondered if we could borrow some from Brighton as long as we rush them back for the Sunday.

Next meeting: 7:30pm Last Thursday of April (27th) in the Royal Festival Hall – seating area by the side entrance near the statue of Nelson Mandela.