

Minutes of a Meeting of the WNBR London Collective

Wednesday 13 January 2021

By Zoom Videoconference

(Action items in *red*)

Present: Adam, Barbara, Chas, Cy, Dave S, Dave W, Harvey, Ian, Keon, Luigi, Mike, Natasha, Paul He, Phoebe, Richard, Simon M, Steve, Tim

Who's who – introductions and welcome to new participants

Treasurers' Report for 2020

The overall loss for the calendar year was around £300.00, which was only to be expected as we had been unable to ride. Income from donations was £216 and we also drew down £70 PayPal balance from 2019. The #nottheworldnakedbikeride activities and prizes cost around £160.

The main expenditure was the fee of £420 for the Brixton Jamm afterparty. As the event did not take place, we should get it back or possibly re-use the payment for this year's afterparty. Brixton Jamm has not responded to any attempts to contact them. Action: *Dave S will keep trying to sort out the Brixton Jamm payment.*

The move to a new website following the hijack in June last year has led to some costs. The meeting approved the payment of fees for the new domain and the printing of new handout cards with the updated address.

Dave S asked if there was a possibility of having a credit card as this would protect payments. Currently we only use debit cards unless someone pays personally and reclaims the expense. We do not know if we would be qualified to hold a credit card. Action: *Richard to investigate whether we can obtain a credit card.*

Constitution

In September 2019, we spent a great deal of time debating proposed changes to the constitution. As an action, members were asked to make suggestions for consideration at this meeting. An updated and simplified set of proposals was shared for consultation prior to the meeting. The objectives were to:

- prevent a hijack of the meeting
- have the power to exclude people if their presence is considered unhelpful by the team
- recognise the ability to raise donations through the provision of goods or services (eg memorabilia and the afterparty)
- recognise that meetings can be wholly or partly online.

Ian was keen to ensure any funds were only to be used to support our mission and should have no element of personal gain. Cy believes this is already clear in the constitution. **Action: Ian and Cy to consider if further text should be added to cover this.**

An updated version of the proposals is appended to these minutes. The formal constitution will be circulated for approval at the next meeting on 10th February 2021, which is called as an Extraordinary Meeting to enact the revised constitution. **Action: Cy and Ian to finalise changes.**

Election of Officers

Proposals and volunteers were sought for this year's treasurers and any other officers of the collective. There was no new volunteer. The meeting agreed unanimously to re-appoint Richard, David S and Cy as treasurers.

Potential start points and leaders

Last year we agreed to announce the provisional ride date as 12th June 2021, as the second Saturday in June is the usual timing for the ride. The meeting agreed to stick with this as a provisional target date. With the pandemic still raging we have doubts about what lies ahead, so we cannot yet confirm details for the ride. With that in mind, we should also start planning for alternative #nottheworldnakedbikeride activities, which were very popular last year.

We also recognised that we might need to modify the ride to make it safer (as we had proposed but not done last summer). Adam from IBikeLondon described how IBikeLondon had adjusted their rides, which have continued during the pandemic. The rides have rolling start and finish with no gatherings. The rides are slow so wearing a mask wasn't a problem but that, over time, the masks disappeared as people did not like them.

The following agreed to do starts:

- Mike confirmed he would lead **Clapham Junction**.
- Ken was not present but had confirmed he would lead **Victoria Park**.
- Ian confirmed he would lead **Kew Bridge** again, but he needs someone else to help.
- Natasha confirmed she would lead **Tower Hill** with the help of Steve. It is also a preferred start for Keon and Paul He.
- Dave W confirmed he would lead **Croydon** and Derek (the owner of the start location) is enthusiastic. Dave W is rethinking the route as it currently goes past a mosque and will need to be changed to avoid it.
- Richard S, Simon Mr, Harvey and Phoebe would like to handle **Regents Park**.
- Sophie was not present but had confirmed the Matchstick team would do **Deptford**.
- It was unclear whether we have enough leaders to handle **Hyde Park**. Luigi had left the call but we assume he would wish to do it. Natasha wondered whether it should be abandoned as it attracts troublesome crowds. It is the preferred start for music bikes so Adam agreed to see if IBikeLondon could provide marshals. **Action: Adam to check with colleagues.**

We discussed the timing and criteria for go/no go decisions. We would probably apply a similar approach to last year, ie a minimum of 4 weeks from decision to ride date – hence the final decision for 12 June would be the May meeting unless there was an emergency showstopper such as changed Government rules. Each month's meeting would be the cut off for the next month's potential start date.

Marshalling – guidance, training and briefing

Last year we had planned to look at guidance, training and briefing for marshals. Paul He can help with written material. Simon Mr will help but will be busy once theatres reopen. Keon can apply his video editing skills. Sophie was not present but she and Cy should be able to contribute thinking from last year. **Action:** *Paul He, Simon Mr, Keon, Sophie, Cy to consider what to do.*

It is time to refresh the optional first aid training for marshals to make sure each start has at least one certificated first aider. **Action:** *Harvey to investigate organising first aid training again.*

Royal Parks and Police Liaison

Richard agreed to handle the Royal Parks again.

Ian and Ken had volunteered to do Police liaison last year and will help again this year, although they would like someone else to be involved. We have correspondence and briefings from previous years, which Cy can locate. **Action:** *Ian, Ken and Cy to work out how to take this forward.*

Afterparty

This year we need to organise a good afterparty, provided it is safe to do so. In terms of pandemic impacts, a party is likely to be less safe than a ride, so the afterparty is more likely to be cancelled – therefore our arrangements need to be flexible and cancellable. **Action:** *Dave S to look into venues.* We should check all those we have approached previously (Brixton Jamm, Vinegar Yard, Magic Garden, Testbed1/Doodlebar, The Vaults, Eklektik/Old Paradise Yard, Waterloo Action Centre, B'acino, Metal Works, Esquires Coffee Balham).

Simon Mr said he could do the producer/director role until the theatres re-open and he will be busy. Keon can help with party arrangements.

We should also be preparing for an alternative virtual afterparty. Last year this was very successful. Interested parties could include Cy, Mike, Phoebe, Natasha, Dave S, Simon Mr and Sophie.

Social Media and web presence

Cy is happy to keep leading in these areas, but we should try to have at least three people involved with each channel. The website can currently be updated by Cy, Mike, Steve and Pawel. Facebook can be updated by Cy, Mike, Rob J and John K. Twitter and Instagram are usually handled by Cy, but some others know the passwords. Phoebe volunteered to help.

Any Other Business

The old web domain was bought for five years, so we cannot try to re-acquire it until 19 January 2023. Noted that any items showing the old website name need to be replaced or scrapped.

We need to protect our online assets, so everything should have more than one keyholder.

Bodypainting – everyone was very keen to have more body painting and decorations. Barbara felt this would also help encourage more women and younger people. The only starts with indoor facilities are Croydon and Deptford, which have good bodypainters. It is harder to organise sessions at the outdoor starts, so it was suggested that official body painting, glitter (eco friendly) venues before the ride would be a good idea. Action: *Steve volunteered to look at the guidance on our website to include more content about how to do bodypaint, eg methods, materials, suppliers, designs, templates.* Natasha thought it would be good if we could we acquire and supply some cheaper body paint.

Post-meeting updates

- Sophie confirmed she would lead on Deptford and organise bodypainting again.
- Ken confirmed he would lead on Victoria Park. He is also keen to organise options for people with restricted mobility. He also offered to organise a flag making party.
- Adam confirmed that there are IBikeLondon marshals who are interested in helping to marshal at Hyde Park.
- A draft for the 2021 handout card is posted on the London WNBR Facebook group.
- WNBRLondon.UK domain has been renewed for five years.

Proposals for changes to the WNBR London Constitution – 18 January 2021

Updated following WNBR London meeting on 13th January 2021. Further revisions agreed at the meeting are shown in red.

Section	Reason a change is required	Proposed Changes or Additions
4.1	There is a real risk of hijack because a person disagreeing with the collective could unexpectedly bring enough friends to outvote the other members.	Add text: To be able to vote at a meeting the Member needs to have attended any two or more previous meetings in the preceding twelve months. (nb this two-meeting test is the same as the existing test for the ability to call meetings in 4.2)
4.2	Replicate that clarification in s4.2	Officers or any Member who has attended any two or more previous meetings in the preceding twelve months may call meetings as deemed necessary...
4.3	Recognise that meetings can be online.	Add text: Meetings can be conducted face-to-face or by web conferencing or a combination of the two.
6.	Recognise other income streams	Change title to: GRANTS, DONATIONS AND OTHER INCOME
6.3	(new sub-section) adds other legitimate ways we raise funds	WNBR-London is also able to raise donations through the provision of related products and services, for example, memorabilia, seat covers, and afterparty tickets. In all cases, such items should be appropriate to the WNBR mission - promoting positive messages and minimising environmental impact.

Section	Reason a change is required	Proposed Changes or Additions
9.	<p>In past years we have had real problems where someone’s behaviour or activity has had a severely negative impact on the mission. The current constitution provides no ability to exclude people except when it concerns financial or constitutional matters. People who want to damage WNBR would be able to attend and vote.</p>	<p>Change title to: DISCIPLINARY MATTERS AND EXCLUSIONS</p> <p>(nb an exclusion is not a disciplinary matter – it is simply to say the Collective does not want that person to be on the team)</p>
9.4	<p>A new sub-section to deal with, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Someone who is argumentative or behaves badly such that their conduct during meetings or other activities impedes progress or drives away good people. • Someone who tries to divert, subvert, hijack, or impede the mission through their actions • Someone whose known interests or attitudes are such that they would not be welcome. <p>These are all actual problems we have faced recently.</p> <p>nb We already have “Officers” as defined in the constitution. Current Officers are Richard, Dave S and Cy. Officers are voted for annually.</p>	<p>Members are expected to support the objectives of WNBR London as described in s2.1.2. If any prospective or current Member appears to exhibit behaviours or attitudes which hamper the pursuit of those objectives, they can be excluded from meetings either by a majority of Members in a secret ballot at a meeting, or by the consensus of all Officers if action is required before a meeting is held. In the event that the Officers exercise this power, the decision must be ratified at the next meeting. In exercising this power, Officers and Members do not need to establish any fault or wrongdoing by the excluded person. The basis is that the presence of the person is considered to be not conducive to the pursuit of the objectives. If necessary, this power can be exercised during a meeting such that the Member is asked to leave.</p>
4.3	<p>Include reference to new 9.4</p>	<p>Revised text: ...subject to paragraphs 9.3 and 9.4...</p>