

Minutes of a Meeting of the WNBR London Collective

Wednesday 10 March 2021

By Zoom Videoconference

(Action items in **red**)

Present: Barbara, Cy, Dave S, Dave W, Graeme, Harvey, Ken, Mike, Paul He, Pawel, Richard, Simon Mr, Ian, Sophie, Steve, Elbow

Apologies: Adam, Natasha, Keon, Phoebe

Activities and Dates

At the previous meeting we established fallback plans in the event that it is still unsafe to ride on 12 June. The Government has now announced a schedule of the earliest dates for relaxations of the Covid-19 restrictions. Outdoor gatherings for groups of over 30 people will not be allowed until 21st June 2021 at the earliest. We would not want to confirm a ride date until we know for sure, so it was concluded that we should plan to agree the date at our July meeting – hopefully to ride in August. The fallback date of 14th August is now our target.

This means that the contingency plan to hold another #NotTheWorldNakedBikeRide in June now becomes a confirmed plan. We should also be prepared for a virtual afterparty on ride day in case it is not safe to hold a real party.

The revised schedule is as follows:

- Wednesday 13th January, Extraordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 10th February, Extraordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 10th March, Planning Meeting
- Wednesday 14th April, Planning Meeting
- Wednesday 12th May, Meeting – ~~go/no go decision for 12th June~~
- Friday 4th June to Friday 11th June – #NotTheWorldNakedBikeRide activities
- ~~Saturday 5th June, Test Ride~~
- Wednesday 9th June, Meeting – ~~ride preparation or go/no go decision for 10th July~~
- Saturday 12th June, #NotTheWorldNakedBikeRide online events
- ~~Saturday 10th July – alternative ride date #1~~
- Wednesday 14th July – meeting – ~~debrief or go/no go decision for 14th August~~
- Saturday 7th August, Test Ride
- Wednesday 11th August - meeting – ~~debrief or ride prep or go/no go decision for 11th September~~
- Saturday 14th August – revised ride date and afterparty
- Wednesday 8th September – ride prep or debrief if required
- Saturday 11th September – alternative ride date [***SEE POST MEETING NOTE**]
- Wednesday 13th October – debrief if required

[* Post meeting note: 11th September will be 20th anniversary of the “9/11” terrorist attacks in the USA – so we should consider revising this fallback date]

It was agreed that the website, wiki and events should be updated and this decision should be widely circulated through press releases and social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc) - **Action: Cy.**

#NotTheWorldNakedBikeRide

The revised schedule means that we are planning for #NotTheWorldNakedBikeRide activities in June. These will be similar to the ones in 2020. We expect to promote safe individual activities in the week leading up to 12th June with an online event on 12th June. The sub-group considering these is meeting regularly – any further volunteers are welcome.

Everyone agrees everything that was done last year was successful and can/will be repeated. There should be variations in the content and some new activities.

Ken is planning to go ahead with the pre-ride flag-making party and maybe link that to an online session.

Ken will talk to a protest band he knows – they were interested in performing at the flag-making party and on the ride.

Mike will talk to musicians Mobius Loop.

Dave S suggested a Friday deadline for the competition and getting allcomers to vote for the winning entries; prizes, an award ceremony – ie make it more of a big event on the day.

Sophie suggested using the free basic plan of Sli.do for voting, polls, quizzes etc. Mentimeter might also be suitable.

Steve agreed to a suggestion that he might be able to have guests on another WNBR Bowers Marsh ride this year as up to 30 people will be able to meet for recreational activities

Action: Everyone to add suggestions and views to the online google “brainstorm” document. Of particular value will be suggestions for people to involve (with contact details if possible).

Afterparty

Dave S reported that he has not heard from Brixton Jamm and Magic Garden has lost its licence for an inadvertent infringement of lockdown rules. He will continue to seek clarification.

As we have now re-set the target date to 14th August, this needs to be communicated to potential venues – **Action: Dave S.**

Ken is in discussion with a venue that is supportive but would need permission from its board of trustees. While the venue thinks the trustees would be sympathetic to the Flag-making party, they are less optimistic about an afterparty.

If we do not go ahead with a real afterparty we should organise an online afterparty, which proved successful last year.

Potential start points and leaders

Hyde Park: No discussion as nobody from the HP start team was present.

Accessible start: Ken has been discussing this with potential participants; there is a lot of enthusiasm in the disabled community, although it is more difficult to get people to act as stewards as many people (including disability sports groups) expressed discomfort with being around naked people, even though they understood they could be clothed. Health and Safety concerns supporters might have were discussed. Ken did not feel it was an issue – he has explained how people would be kept safe eg, in the middle of the pack, disrobing together just before the group takes off, dedicated marshals for the group.

There was a suggestion that accessibility and the accessible ride (including the need for more volunteers to help with it) could be a topic during #NotTheWorldNakedBikeRide. Ken said he would be happy to talk about his journey into WNBR. He can also supply publicity pictures to be posted to encourage participation/support.

Ken approached groups who supply cycles to disabled people and only Bike Works has responded so far. He is continuing to pursue this.

Potential participants want to know the distance and the speed of the ride. Ken will be able to go out in 2 weeks to start looking at route options. **Action: Ken**

Dave S volunteered to be a marshal with the accessible ride.

Marshalling

No work on revising the guidance yet.

Given the changed timescale, we might see if the First Aid training could be later in the year. **Action: Harvey**

Police Liaison

Of the emails sent to the police bodies there was only one response received - from City of London Police confirming receipt of the email. It is important to have open communications channels. Points made were: there are three different jurisdictions – City, Metropolitan and Diplomatic; need to get

into their diary so that random police encountered will know it is a sanctioned activity. Announcing our revised timescale is a good excuse to contact them again. *Action: Ian & Ken*

Next meeting

The problem with the next meeting being hosted on a different platform was circumvented when Harvey offered his Zoom services. Zoom instructions will be sent out closer to the date.

AOB

- Cy has a draft article about the ride going into Bike-Mag.com.
 - Elbow asked about publicity channels. We summarised the success of Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Cy has an outstanding action to make our Instagram account multi-user.
 - Harvey reported that a member of the public has been convicted of abusive behaviour at the Clacton ride in 2019. We also discussed some other occasions when the police have intervened to protect WNBR.
 - We discussed problem photographers. Tips for dealing with unwanted photographic attention included: turn your camera/phone on them; wear mirror sunglasses – they will be in the picture and may be reluctant to use the photos.
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