

## Minutes of a meeting of the WNBR London Collective

Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024

by Zoom Videoconference

**Present:** Barbara, Cy, Dave W, Eccentric, Harvey, Ian, Joe, John, Mike, Norm, Ray, Simon Mr, Sophie

**Apologies:** Dan, Dave S, Natasha, Roberto, Willoh

(Action items in *red*)

### Flags, seat covers and other merchandise

Norm has been building an Etsy site for selling WNBR items online. He will handle the sales and postage. He has also identified how to take money using an app for sales at WNBR locations including starts and social events.

Norm shared proof graphics for the seat covers, water bottles, badges and key rings. The meeting provided feedback and discussed the materials being used. Some changes were agreed. He also plans to experiment with iron-on designs for flag making.

**Action:** *Agreed that Norm can proceed with procurement of 1,000 seat covers plus 100 of other items.*

### Potential Start Points

**Hyde Park** management responded with an offer to meet us in May. We said this is too late. As agreed in the previous meetings and originally set out in the meeting of 10th May 2023, we will now escalate this into a formal complaint.

**Action:** *Cy, Dave S, John and Dave W to pursue.*

We will now confirm the alternative start at **Wellington Arch**. We also agreed to consider **Marble Arch**, which is not within the Hyde Park boundary and was used for the ride several times in the past. This would help spread the numbers. Note that the fallback assembly area for both of these would be Park Lane southbound.

**Clapham Junction** will run as usual.

**Croydon** is confirmed. The revised route is subject to change.

The **Deptford** venue remains uncertain. The landlord accepts the idea of renting to the new tenants but things are moving slowly. We don't know when we'll know. Until it is sure, we will not list Deptford as a start for 2024.

**Action:** *Sophie will continue trying to make arrangements with the new tenants.*

Eccentric has identified a new East/North-East start at **Hackney-Wick**. We will have exclusive use of the Thingy Café. The venue will be available for socialising, eating and drinking before the ride. The hire terms will include a minimum spend, so we should encourage people to arrive early and spend money.

**Action:** *Eccentric should work with Joe to wrap up the deal and ticketing in consultation with our treasurers.*

No further update on **Kew Bridge** which should be running as last year, led by Elle with assistance from Ian. Confirmed that the info should indicate meeting at the bottom of the stairs.

**Regents Park** should be running as usual, led by Simon Mr with support from Harvey. We noted that the fallback for this start would be by using the small roads that go east towards Albany St.

**Tower Hill** is expected to run as usual.

No further update on the **Accessible Start** which will be led by Willoh.

### **Police liaison**

Dave W circulated a draft submission for review. We need to update this for the new Hackney Wick start and the possible Marble Arch start. It should also include Deptford in case we can use that start. We also need to add a route for the onward ride to the afterparty.

**Action:** *Eccentric to draft route from Hackney Wick. Dave W to update.*

### **Afterparty**

Dave S sent in an update. The Ministry have said they cannot accommodate us. Phantom Peak is now the best option. They have reduced their fee quote to £1500 with a £3000 minimum spend. A further discount of £500 would apply if the spend is over £5000.

We also need to sort out the entertainment and advertise it as a show to counter the criticism that past afterparties have looked like a hang out for naked men. Naked Cabaret were keen to work with us last year. Other suggestions were collected for entertainers and music.

The venue is near Canada Water's Overground, Underground and Bus Station so we should encourage people to travel by public transport. We also need to plot a cycling route for people travelling on bike from the ride's finish. This should be added to the police submission.

**Action:** *The Afterparty team (Dave S, Simon Mr, Willoh and Eccentric) will continue to pursue arrangements.*

### **Pre-ride social & flag making party**

There are two suggestions on the table – the Thingy Café (as used for the Hackney Wick start – see above) and Hanway Social near Tottenham Court Road tube station. The meeting discussed the locations, facilities and costs. It was agreed we should use Hanway Social.

**Action:** *Eccentric and Dave S to set it up*

### **First Aid Training**

Eccentric has narrowed down the options to just one affordable provider. They now say they could not use Dave S's flat or have it clothing optional. It would be for 12 attendees. We need to have more than 12 people confirming they would go to ensure it is value for money. We should agree a date and approximate location then use the marshals' WhatsApp group to gauge demand. We might also seek a way to encourage actual attendance – maybe they pay the fee and we refund it if they attend.

**Action:** *Eccentric.*

## Security

MK is keen to get us to commit to staffing, timing and locations. We are not ready to commit as there remains uncertainty about the start details.

## Palestine

WNBR London does not get involved with causes outside its own themes, but we do try to avoid conflict with other activities on the streets of London. It seems likely that the Palestine Solidarity protests will still be active in June. We would not wish to be in the same place at the same time as these large-scale protests. Sophie will draft a communication to the campaign(s) involved to open a comms channel.

**Action:** *Sophie*

## Next Meeting

Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024. Chair: Dave W, Minutes: Cy.

## WNBR London Calendar 2024

Wednesday, 10 January 2024	Collective Meeting
Thursday, 08 February 2024	Collective Meeting
Thursday, 14 March 2024	Collective Meeting
Thursday, 11 April 2024	Collective Meeting
Thursday, 09 May 2024	Collective Meeting
Saturday, 01 June 2024	Test Ride
Wednesday, 05 June 2024	Pre-ride Meeting
Thursday, 06 June 2024	Marshals' Briefing
Friday, 07 June 2024	Briefing Video Available
Saturday, 08 June 2024	Ride Day
Thursday, 13 June 2024	Debrief