

# **Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder Group Meeting**

6pm – 8pm, Monday 17 April 2023

*Virtually via Teams or audio dial-in*

## **Minutes**

### **1. Welcome, introductions and apologies – Chair**

Attendees

**Chair (LBH)** – Cllr Hakata

**LB Haringey (LBH)** - Sarah Jones , Simon Farrow (SF), Dan Wales (DW), Andrea Keeble, Glynis Kirkwood-Warren

**Festival Republic** – Melvin Benn (MB), Claire Armstrong (CA)

**Highbury Community Association** - Sarah Potter

**Harringay Ward, Haringey** – Cllr Brabazon, Cllr Abuela

**Stroud Green Ward, Haringey** – Cllr Worrell

**LB Islington (LBI)** – Niall Forde

**Pedal Power** – Jo Roach

**Friends of Finsbury Park** – Tom Graham, Bethany Anderson (Edible Landscapes)

**Furtherfield** – Ruth Catlow

**Parkrun** – Lorna Stevenson

**London Heathside** – Jerry Odlin

**Ian Sygrave** – Ladder Community Safety Partnership

### **Apologies**

**LB Islington** – Cllr Woolf

### **2. Festival Republic Events – CA/MB**

FR gave overview of planned events for this year.

- 6 event days – 30/06 – Jamie T, 01/07 – Pulp, 02/07 – The 1975, 07-09/07 – Wireless
- Onsite 21 June, Break 14 July
- 4/07 – Local Artist Showcase – Finsbury Fest
- 05/07 – School children’s music event

Show times.

- Fridays – gates open at 1.30pm, music starts at 3.30pm, curfew 10.30pm
- Saturdays and Sundays – Gates open at 11am, curfew on Saturdays 10.30pm, on Sundays 9.30pm

Changes

- Upgraded barrier system at entrance using front of stage barrier.
- Adding second entrance for Wireless weekend – VIP Nation – at Manor House end.
- Internal buggy route to prevent vehicle movement within the park.
- One security contractor has been changed.
- In discussion with Access to Sport to use tennis courts again.

- All play and sports facilities inc skate park to remain open.
- Introducing new role this year – carriageway manager – to ensure pedestrian and cycle lanes remain open. Idling vehicles will be a significant focus, working with the traffic management team and will put more measures in place – dedicated person dealing with idling – using red/yellow warning system.
- New Community Liaison Officer – attending Hackney and Islington residents’ meetings.
- LBI have asked Haringey to clean Islington streets, instead of doing their own – FR to pay.

## **Stakeholder Feedback**

**Chair** – What was the cause of idling / issue on carriageway to make you employ a dedicated source? How many vehicles come onto site during the event, build/break?

**FR** – There is a need to have someone actively managing the idling. We’ll have cabins where drivers can sit and cool down instead of sitting in a vehicle with aircon running. Estimate about 100 vehicles per build/break day. The new carriageway officer can carry out some monitoring of vehicle numbers.

**FoFP** – Security vehicles moving around the perimeter fence is an issue.

**FR** – This will be done primarily with bikes, there should be no vehicles moving on the paths.

**Cllr Worrell** – Are perimeter boundaries going to look the same? Park feels unwelcoming to other park users.

**FR** – No intention to change the fencing. Heras will remain in front of play area and skatepark.

**FoFP** – Heras makes everywhere feel unwelcoming.

**FR** – The fencing is needed, and security is placed there to keep park users safe and event attendees out. Can commit to hand picking security and training them.

**FoFP** – Concerned about safety of skatepark as three sides are high, you can’t see into it.

**FR** – Will take that away and speak to the site manager to see what can be done.

**Cllr Brabazon** – what system of noise monitoring will be in place?

**FR** – Same system as have used before. Been working with audio suppliers to see if improvements can be made. Metral system enables FR to monitor both levels off and on site. No intention of reducing noise management within the park.

**Chair** – What kind of noise complaints were received? Hermitage and Gardens specific complaints.

**FR** – Have seen an improvement. 2019 – 49 noise complaints v 2022 – 15. Weather can have an effect, but development of onsite noise system has helped. A new audience sound level design was implemented (speaker system) to reduce impact on local residents with a dramatic improvement.

**HCA** – Cllr Heather would like feedback on environmental degradation, work programmes, how income is spent and how much is allocated to Finsbury Park. Cllr Woolfe would like to liaise with FR on issues such as ASB, lighting etc.

**LBH** – All income raised in the park is spent in the park. Large bulk of that is spent on dedicated team in the park, and auxiliary officers such as events team. Broadly generate £1.2m per year. £900k spent on looking after the park in energy bills etc then £300k spent on improvements. Will recirculate figures on expenditure and income. Re environmental degradation – Don’t have a baseline plan, but we are putting surveys into place before events which will be fed into Biodiversity Action Plan. Tri-borough meetings take place that cover ASB which Cllr Woolf is included in.

**FoFP** – Income covers events team?

**LBH** – Yes, the vast majority is paid for by FP income as most of their time is spent in FP dealing with events there.

**FoFP** – Does FR have an officer monitoring environmental effects on site at all times.

**FR** – We have a whole sustainability team monitoring activity – emissions, wet weather planning within the EMP – no environmental impact.

**LCSP** – Noise is one thing that drives residents nuts. The number of complaints falling, is unrealistic representation. Residents feel that complaining is pointless. Maybe permitted levels are too high – we can hear them, they're too high. Has there been a change in those delivering leaflets? How far north will they leaflet drop. Wrote to Licensing last year as they weren't delivered to all Ladder roads.

**FR** – Noted. We do encourage people to phone in their complaints. FP has the most restrictive noise limits compared to all other parks they work in. A new company being used this year to deliver leaflets, will confirm roads covered.

**FoFP** – Why Finsbury Park?

**FR (MB)** – Best location for music in London. Been using the park since 1990. By far favourite space. Environmentally the best location because of public transport links and well thought of for music.

**FoFP** – Disappointed rectification works to so long to carry out repairs.

**LBH** – They weren't done quick enough this year. Hold hands up to that.

**Chair** – FR take on all financial responsibility for damage. LBH are responsible for operational works.

**FoFP** – Events Team removed whips and tree branches were hacked off. How should he understand the public decency restrictions. They get huge amount of complaints about language being used. Be a bit more mindful, do everything you can.

**LBH** – There was no deliberate hacking of tree branches. Whips weren't removed by the events team. They were planted in wrong place and without permission.

**FR** – May be it's more of a conflict of understanding public decency. Am sure FoFP has seen the licensing conditions. All artists are requested to not be indecent.

**Parkrun** – Can you confirm all event dates, including set up and take down.

**LBH** – We will look at that and come to confirm.

### **3. Facilities Update – SF**

*See slides attached*

#### **Stakeholder Feedback**

**FoFP** – Want more money for the skatepark and wants to use all of the hard standing and wants guarantee that the hard standing will never be closed off while the events are on. When will the lighting be working and why is a boundary review needed. The community doesn't understand what's trying to be achieved with a boundary review.

**LBH** – Already providing £100k, there is no more money for the skatepark. The boundary review will look at the entire boundary as well as specific bits. Stroud Green entrance is the biggest attractor of crime in the whole park. Conflict between walking and cycling. Baseball field completely unused by those living at that end. Never going to change the railway boundary. So, lots of things to look at. Are there enough entrances to come in and out of the park...

**Chair** – The park belongs to all residents in Haringey. The boundary review is about listening to all communities and asking them what they think, especially those who don't currently have a voice.

**Cllr Brabazon** – Wants to have more conversations between officers and members about the park.  
**LBH** – Noted

**LSCP** – Perplexed as to where this boundary review has come from. Am pleased to hear it's been delayed, and we need to take the community with you. Needs to be proper, wide, genuine consultation.

**FoFP** – Want better communication from the council on everything. Would love to support LBH to trial some of the suggestions out to see if they work, or not.

**Chair** – Lighting has been a longtime coming but will be installed and working soon.

#### **4. Operational Update – SF**

*See attached slides*

##### **Stakeholder Feedback**

**FoFP** – (Tough Mudder) How can we say that no damage was done. Grass and the earth underneath the grass is crucial to our whole biodiversity. Soil damage is incredibly important. Do we have an environmental officer who monitors all events? Has any monitoring been done this year? Extreme weather – how are we going to factor in when we grant licences – has that been thought about. Do we have the ability to cancel if we had extreme weather?

**LBH** - We have a nature conservation officer who sees all event applications. Monitoring done last year and we're planning to do more this year. Was done on lighting project, nursery project, habitat survey done as part of the SINC. Biodiversity action plan will include a section on events. Series of five were commissioned and are being worked on now. Queens, Coldfall, Bluebell, Parkland, and Finsbury Park. End of summer. There are cancellation conditions in the ts and cs and we're working with our legal team to tighten these. Also planning is in the EMP.

**Cllr Brabazon** – Lessons to learn from weekend is to anticipate things when events are planned.

**Chair** – Tough Mudder has been in the park for several years. Multiple times it's taken place. The weather has turned and brought this into focus. We can't take the risk of allowing it to happen again.

**Parkrun** – Have issues when Krankbrother are in when people had to divert around the site because of the weather. Manning's site feels bigger, and their entry fee has gone up.

**LBH** – Site has remained the same since previous years. They do charge a small entry fee to stop trouble again, but no knowledge of it going up recently.

#### **5. 2023 Events in Finsbury Park - DW**

*See attached slides*

**Chair** – Would like site maps and build/break days included in information.

#### **6. Dates of next meetings – Chair**

**FoFP** – Need meeting to urgently discuss supervision of events. Also want replies to emails sent.

**Chair** – Will convene further meetings to review Tough Mudder and five-year agreement

# Finsbury Park Event Stakeholder Group

April 2023



# Facilities Update

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- Lighting –
  - this has been delayed due to the extended lead in terms of the columns.
  - Locations have been marked in the park
  - Columns are due to be delivered this week
  - We are working with the contractor to then determine the installation programme.
- Skate Park –
  - Consultation exercise is complete and has been written up and should be shortly shared with all. Next phase is to agree the design and final budget
  - Expect to go to tender in July and commence the build in September
- Boundary review –
  - Delayed the start of this feedback suggested that lighting needed to be delivered first.
  - Will start with stakeholder walkabouts which will be organised in May.

FINSBURY PARK S  
COMMUNITY ENGAGE

JANUARY 20

# Operational Update

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- Pesticide Use –
  - 27% of Parks and Greenspace are currently maintained pesticide free.
  - In 2023 we intend increasing this to 61% and that includes Finsbury Park going fully pesticide free!
- Environmental Impact Study –
  - In response to questions asked last year we are commissioning additional studies this year to establish a baseline for biodiversity in the park but also measure this after the events to understand any impact.



## Finsbury Park – Events Calendar 2023

Event	Event Dates	Build/Break dates
Cancer Research UK	21 <sup>st</sup> May	20 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> May
FP 5k, 10k & Half Marathon	11 <sup>th</sup> June	11 <sup>th</sup> June
Festival Republic	30 <sup>th</sup> – 2 <sup>nd</sup> July, 7 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> July	21 <sup>st</sup> June – 14 <sup>th</sup> July
Ball Out 3x3 Qualifier	22 <sup>nd</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	21 <sup>st</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> July
Krankbrothers	5 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> August	28 <sup>th</sup> July – 18 <sup>th</sup> August
Ball Out 3x3 Final	12 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> August	11 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> August
Funfair	18 <sup>th</sup> August – 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	14 <sup>th</sup> August – 4 <sup>th</sup> September
StreetFeast	5 <sup>th</sup> September	5 <sup>th</sup> September
Zippos Circus	4 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> October	1 <sup>st</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> October



