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| Finsbury Park Events Stakeholder Group Meeting | | Action Notes |
| 08 October 2024, 6.30pm | | Online |
| Attending | | Apologies |
| Cllr Arkell | Chair, Cabinet Member | |
| Simon Farrow | Head of Parks & Leisure | |
| Sarah Jones | Events & Partnerships Manager | |
| Dan Wales | Senior Events Officer | |
| Chris Ellis | Finsbury Park Manager | |
| Alex Fraser | Tree & Nature Conservation Manager | |
| Cllr Claire Potter | Brownswood Ward, Hackney | |
| Cllr Sarah Young | Woodberry Down Ward, Hackney | |
| Bethany Anderson, Gina Harkell | Friends of Finsbury Park | |
| Cllr Heather | Finsbury Park Ward, Islington | |

| Who | Issue | Action | Responsibility | Status |
|--------------|--|--|----------------|--|
| Cllr Heather | Noted improvements in ASB management, and communication between FR, LBI and residents. | Need to keep the momentum going so improvements continue | SJ | Ongoing and embedded in future event planning |
| Cllr Potter | Emphasised the continued focus on vibration mitigation. | LBH to continue to work with FR to monitor vibration. Vibration report to be shared with group by mid-November. | SJ | Further discussions to take place in December meeting. Ongoing in future event planning. |
| | Wants change made to FR Premises Licence to include vibration mitigation within conditions | Amending the licence is harder to do. Will invite Head of Licencing to next meeting to explain more about the Licence. | SJ | Invite Daliah Barrett to next meeting to discuss licence conditions. |

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|-------------|---|--|---------------|--|
| FoFP | Raised concern around design of path from Stroud Green Gate and Oxford Road Gate, needs improving | LBH to work with FR to look at improvements needed, especially addressing the conflict between cyclists and pedestrians, and access to tennis courts. | SJ | Embed in 2025 event management |
| Cllr Potter | Need more wayfinding at main entrances for people to understand how they get through path / gate closures | General wayfinding signage within the park is to be improved, with a focus on those with dementia and how they find their way around. Will also look to improve temporary wayfinding signage during 2025 events | GKW SJ | Ongoing Embed in 2025 event management |
| Cllr Young | Isn't aware of Woodberry Down residents receiving Krank residents' letter. Also, some residents said they were unable to get through to residents' line. | Distribution maps of both FR and Krank residents' letter to be shared with stakeholder group. LBH to work with Krank to improve residents' line during events | SJ SJ | All group to feedback on distribution and suggest amendments to leafleted area. LBH to monitor residents' line in 2025. |
| All | Environmental Impact Fee - £38k available for all stakeholders to bid for. | Email expression of interest, along with budget breakdown of spend to sarah.jones@haringey.gov.uk , by 18 November 2025. | All | Decision will be made by Chair with groups notified at December stakeholder meeting |
| FoFP | Would like a full list of expenditure of the park for 2024 improvements | | SF | |
| Chair | Invite Pollution Officer to next stakeholder meeting to discuss findings in further detail | | SJ | tbc |

Next meeting:

Online – via Teams

Monday 9 December, 6.30 – 8.30pm

2024 Event Season Review

Finsbury Park

Finsbury Park Event Stakeholder Group – Tuesday 8 October 2024

Agenda

1. 2024 Event Season in Finsbury Park
 - 2024 Overview
 - Key Changes
 - Festival Republic (complaints, key changes)
 - Krank Events (complaints, key changes)
2. 2023 Key Issues for Improvement in 2024 and updates
3. 2024 Key Issues for Improvement in 2025
4. Finances
 - Income
 - Expenditure
 - Environmental Impact Fee
5. Stakeholder feedback

1. 2024 Event Season Overview

- Estimated that 370,000 people attended and enjoyed events in Finsbury Park
- The largest hirer in 2024 was Festival Republic, who hired 31% of physical space in the south side of the park
- The longest event duration was 23 days, which was the Easter Funfair operated by Manning’s Amusement.

| Event | Live event date | On-site dates |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Interborough Challenge | 10 th March | |
| Newroz Festival | 17 th March | 15-17 th March |
| Mannings Funfair | 29 th March – 14 th April | 25 th March – 15 th April |
| CRUK – Race for Life | 19 th May | 18 th – 19 th May |
| Runthrough Events | 16 th June | |
| Festival Republic | 5 th – 7 th & 12 th – 14 th July | 26 th June – 19 th July |
| Ball Out 3x3 | 27 th & 29 th July | 25 th – 29 th July |
| Krankbrothers | 2 nd – 4 th & 9 th – 11 th August | 25 th July – 16 th August |
| Ball Out 3x3 Final | 17 th & 18 th August | 16 th – 19 th August |
| Mannings Funfair | 21 st August – 1 st September | 19 th August – 2 nd September |
| Zippos Circus | 16 th – 22 nd October | 13 th – 23 rd October |

1. 2024 Event Season Overview – Festival Republic

- Classified as a ‘Major’ event if it has more than 10,000 in attendance
- Outdoor Events Policy states:
 - Finsbury Park can host up to 5 x 3-day weekends each year
 - No major event to take place during the school summer holidays
- In 2024, Finsbury Park hosted 6 major events days, The Wolfe Tones, Michael BiBi and Hozier as well as the three-day Wireless Festival
- Each day had an attendance of up to 45,000
- Build, break and rest days totalled 18 days
- Within the rest week, the Haringey Events and Music Teams in partnership with Festival Republic, staged two free community events, Haringey School Festival and Finsbury Fest, both of which were a success and well received
- Both community events will return in 2025.

1. 2024 Event Season Overview – Festival Republic Key Changes

Path Closure

- In collaboration with the MET Police and Festival Republic, the decision was reached to close the path that runs along the western side of the site perimiter to the general public (apart from park users accessing the skate park and tennis courts) during Wireless in order to combat the anti-social behaviour of a small ticketless minority who caused issues in 2023

Side Street Security

- Following reports that during Festival Republic's multi-event weekend of there being some key buildings and side-streets having issues with ASB in 2023, security was increased along Seven Sisters Road and in hot-spot areas reported in previous years to combat this, which did see a reduction in complaints in relation to ASB in 2024

Early Sunday Closure

- Due to the England men's team reaching the final of the Euros, the decision was made to closure the event at 7:30pm rather than 9:30pm as planned to avoid any crowd clashes that may have occurred with the match and event ending around the same time.

1. 2024 Event Season Overview – Krank Events

Increased Capacity

- Krankbrothers in 2024 increased their licenced number of attendees from 8,000 to 9,999 per day. Their premises licence stipulated they could host 6 event days at this level, however the park hire only permitted the promoters to host 5 days

Site Size

- In previous years, the Krank site footprint totalled about 5% of the park, however, to accommodate the larger capacity and also to implement new site protection measures, this was increased to 7%.

Site protection Measures

- In order to enhance protection of the site, a number of key changes were introduced including moving equipment away from trees and sensitive areas, installing a temporary 'ring road' around the site to keep vehicles off the grassed areas, mulching of tree bases in high footfall areas, putting protective flooring down around trees closest to the stage, installing barriers during build and break around trees to protect root systems during times of busy works and an independent onsite ecologist to ensure the park hire stipulations were being adhered to (as well as LBH events team and tree team being on site)

1. 2024 Event Season Overview – Complaints

- Festival Republic
 - Significantly down this year compared to 2023, especially vibration complaints
 - 148 communications ('24) compared to 297 ('23) – down by 50%
 - Majority of complaints made by Hackney residents
 - Vibration complaints significantly down on '23 – although still one of the main reasons for complaint
 - In 2023, half of the 222 complaints logged during the Wireless weekend were logged as vibration complaints. In comparison, in 2024 only 13 complaints were made in relation to vibration which made up 22% of the complaints made.
 - 2024 also saw a decrease in complaints made in relation to any form of anti-social behaviour compared to previous years.
- Krankbrothers
 - Krankbrother complaints in 2024 were on par with those received in 2023, nearly all were about on-site noise
 - 2024 saw an increase in noise complaints from Woodberry Down Estate, and some much further into Hackney.

2. 2023 Key Issues for Improvement in 2024 and updates

- Side Street Security Deployment
- Air Quality Monitoring
- Vibration Monitoring
- Ecology

2. 2023 Key Issues for Improvement – Vibration Monitoring

- Study commissioned by Festival Republic, to follow up on study carried out in 2023
- Aim was to:
 - simultaneously survey vibration at different heights, in multiple residential properties in the vicinity of the park, whilst also surveying vibration in the ground under the Front of House mixing desk as a reference to enable correlation of vibration events between the residential properties and measurements at the festival.
 - Seven locations were used – 4 on Seven Sisters Road, 1 each at Rowley Gardens, Green Lanes and Portland Rise.
 - Data used to establish vibration events at the residential properties that correlate with similar at the festival, and to extract non-festival related vibration events
 - Examine the vibration events at residential properties associated with the festival and compare guidelines from British and International standards for (a) adverse effects on structures and buildings, and (b) human response
- The full report owned by Festival Republic is due to be completed by mid-November
- The initial summary confirms that the data gathered reinforces the previous study
- Vibration effects from the events fall well below the threshold for structural damage to any of the properties measured

2. 2023 Key Issues for Improvement - Air Quality Monitoring

- 5 indicative automotive monitors now installed
- Measure two main pollutants:
 - Particulate Matter (PM 10 or 2.5) – solid material
 - Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) – gas
- 4 monitors originally installed end of June until end of Sep '23. Subsequently removed for re-collaboration. They were permanently reinstalled in May '24
- One monitor did fail (FP/04) so new monitor was installed at end of July '24
- Initially FP/04 was also in the wrong location (adjacent to SSR), so was moved further into the park so that air pollution from street vehicles wouldn't impact readings
- Fifth monitor (FP/05) was installed on 15 July '24
- Although readings can give us an indication of air quality, for best results we need at least 12 months' worth of readings to provide true reflection



2. 2023 Key Issues for Improvement - Air Quality Monitoring

- What they tell us so far...
- During periods of background monitoring (June – Sep '23 and May – June '24) average NO₂ concentrations recorded at location FP/04 exceeded the annual NO₂ air quality objective (aqo). This was in part due to monitor being located next to SSR and therefore directly influenced by vehicular traffic pollution sources. This was subsequently moved
- Apart from FP/04, all other monitors recorded average pollutant concentrations below their relevant aqo thresholds during the background monitoring periods.
- During the FR build, events and derig, the annual NO₂ aqo threshold was exceeded at locations FP/01 and FP/04 – the two monitors within the FR site. However FP/04 was placed too close to SSR which could account for higher readings.
- Location FP/01 continued to record exceedances of the annual NO₂ aqo during the Krank build, events and derig. The continuation of these could also have been affected by the funfair, although continued to exceed once events had stopped.
- NO₂ exceedance were also identified at FP/03 during the Krank events and derig. This is the monitor located closest to their hired space.
- Whilst there were no exceedances of the PM₁₀ annual objective at any of the monitoring locations, there was a singular marginal exceedance of the PM_{2.5} annual objective at FP/02
- When analysing the post-event season background monitoring, average pollutant concentrations were mostly in-line with the pre-event background monitoring period. However, average NO₂ concentrations at FP/01 continue to exceed the annual aqo. Further monitoring is needed to understand long term pollution trends.
 - Data taken from two other monitoring stations (Wood Green and Priory Park) show pollutant concentrations at these sites during the pre- and post-event background periods are broadly in-line with the measurements from FP. However, during build, events and de-rig pollutant concentrations at the two locations were generally lower.

2. 2023 Key Issues for Improvement - Air Quality Monitoring

Next steps...

- Monitors need to be in situ for a longer period to provide a much clearer picture of air quality levels
- Clear indication, that the events and their associated increase in use of vehicles and internal combustion generators within the park had an impact on the local air quality
- Further analysis will be done and discussions will happen with hirers to determine long-term action plans to look at ways to prevent the deterioration of local air quality, particularly focusing on the areas that recorded higher readings within the park
 - The installation of a mains power supply ongoing with FR
 - Increased use of electric vehicles
 - Ensuring vehicles not idling within the event space
 - Looking at vehicle access throughout the year

2. 2023 Key Issues for Improvement - Ecology

Krank Events

- Site area increased
 - Greater front of house space
 - Providing tracked internal vehicle route for build
- No idling policy enhanced
- Ingress of site vehicles improved, less waiting outside event area
- Contractors provided with enhanced ecological brief
- Krank Ecologist on-site monitoring
- Nature Conservation / Tree Officers on-site monitoring
- Enhanced tree protection
 - 3m area demarcated with fencing and tape
 - Oak tree fully protected with fencing to drip line
 - Trackway placed in higher footfall areas under trees
 - Key trees mulched in advance of events

3. 2024 Key Issues for Improvement in 2025

- Air Quality
 - Develop action plan with hirers to improve air quality
- Vibration Monitoring
 - Continue to work with Festival Republic to monitor
- Ecology
 - Continue to enhance protection where needed, and develop all year-round enhancements
 - Follow guidance issued around event management as biodiversity management plan is implemented
- Wet weather planning
 - Work with hirers to improve wet weather plans to avoid the use of woodchip
- Site hand back procedure
 - Develop and agree a three-stage handover strategy which will ensure site is cleared of infrastructure, and accountability is in place for handover and rectification works
- Improvements to Oxford Rd/Stroud Green Rd path
 - Further enhance signage and fencing perimeter to ensure less opportunity for conflict between cyclists and pedestrians

4. Finances – Income and Expenditure

- Income from events - £1.3m
- Planned expenditure for 24/25 includes:
 - Maintenance and management of Finsbury Park
 - Skate Plaza completion
 - Toilet refresh
 - Traffic management improvements
 - Accessibility improvements (inc signage)
 - Chess table installation
- Environmental Impact Fee
 - Total £38,193
 - Bidding open, submissions email to sarah.jones@haringey.gov.uk by 18 November 2024
 - Successful applications notified at next meeting on 9 December

5. Stakeholder Feedback

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