

Finsbury Park Usage and Event Stakeholder Group

Background

In January 2014 a new outdoor events policy was approved after consideration by the Councils Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committee. As well as amending the policy for all outdoor events that take place in parks in the borough it was agreed that a new group be formed from local representative organisations to widen the input from residents and local business into the event planning process.

The group has now met on three occasions and includes the following organisations from Haringey, Islington and Hackney:-

1. Chair – Cabinet Member for the Environment
2. Friends of Finsbury Park
3. Stroud Green Residents Association
4. Highbury Community Association
5. Manor House Development Trust
6. Haringay Green Lanes Traders Association
7. Finsbury Park Trust
8. Finsbury Park Tenant Representative
9. Ward Councillor – Stroud Green
10. Ward Councillor – Haringay
11. Haringey Parks & Leisure Services
12. Haringey Licensing Officer
13. Metropolitan Police Service
14. Officer – Hackney
15. Officer – Islington

Since the last meeting the Ladder Community Safety Partnership has asked to join the group.

The key roles of the stakeholder group divide into five main areas:

1. Providing comments on proposed events within the park
2. To review and comment on initial and final draft event management plans for major events.
3. Monitoring the delivery of major events and providing feedback to all event organisers post event.
4. To identify lessons learnt from the annual programme of events and agree recommendations for improvement.
5. To review the implementation and propose amendments to the policy annually as set out in the Outdoor Events Policy 2014.

The stakeholder group will specifically focus on:

- Event management arrangements for each major event
- Provisions for non event goers
- Communication and information
- Setup and Takedown periods
- Minimising public nuisance

- Overall Programme
- Lessons Learnt

The stakeholder group will comment on the overall programme and those parts of each major event management plan directly affecting residents, local businesses and park tenants. Comments will be used by Parks Officers to inform either contractual arrangements or inform the view of the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) in relation to licensable activity which is part of an event.

The group has both fed into the planning process but has also shared its concerns about the most recent event which was the Arctic Monkeys Concerts which took place on the 23rd and 24th May. A summary of the key points is set out below.

- There were no issues at Stroud Green School / Faltering Fallback pub and the precautions we took worked well.
- The additional litter cleaning undertaken, by Hackney, Islington, Haringey and SJM worked much better and was tweaked between Friday and Saturday to improve this further.
- Additional toilet provision outside the fence line in the park worked well and this was tweaked between Friday and Saturday, there was still a level of public urination but this was much reduced.
- Additional toilet provision inside the fenced area was provided as agreed, including additional urinal provision on the blank walls and this worked very well.
- Crime was significantly reduced from 180 reported crimes last year to around 35 this year (final figures still being collated)
- The council and the police increased the resources to reduce the incidences of illegal street trading and they were also joined by officers from Hackney. The joint operation will result in a number of fixed penalty fines and prosecutions as well as the seizure of goods.
- Skateboard ramp was outside of the event area this year
- Oxford road gate was locked on Friday at 4pm as agreed, but was reopened by persons unknown and subsequently re-secured, locked on Saturday at 4pm and remained locked. Posters added for locking time.
- Access during the build up was better managed with segregation of the foot/cycle and vehicle traffic.
- The communication with residents and stakeholders was much more comprehensive, although some roads still seem to have been missed by the promoters leafleting company.
- Noise disturbance was higher with the wind carrying the sound out of the park and seem to depositing it back down on people at least half a mile away. Sound disturbance within the immediate vicinity was reduced. This was the main concern raised in complaints to the council.
- The egress plan worked much better, however there was a limited escape of concert goers from the Hornsey Gate on Endymion Road into the local area on Friday Night and there were also a number of fence jumpers on Saturday night. The vast majority of the crowd leaving via Seven Sisters Road. A small proportion also left via Manor House Gate as planned.
- Traffic disruption was reduced by around 45 mins as the additional capacity of the First Capital Connect trains enabled the crowd to get away quicker and the roads were reopen again by 11.45pm.
- On the Friday night there was an issue with amplified noise continuing backstage after the event this matter has been dealt with via the Licensing Provisions and Hire Agreement.

- We did have some heavy periods of rain and this has lead to some damage on the main bandstand field. There was also some tarmac damage in a couple of areas. All will be repaired at the hirers cost.
 - SJM have swept all the paths and a team of gardeners are addressing some of the smaller areas. A contractor will be on site on Monday 2nd June to undertake, scarifying of the grass area, topdressing, fertilisation and seeding. (after Wireless we will also undertake some compaction relieving works)
 - We had our green flag judging during the event set up period and this appears to have gone well and the judge was interested to see the diverse range of things going on in the park. We will hear the results at the end of July during Love Parks Week.
 - The arrangements for disabled drivers visiting the parked but not going to the concert worked much better this year.
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- The introduction of the Councils event hosts this year help in providing people with local information and guidance as well as assisting with the ingress of people to the park.

The next Major Event is the Wireless Festival which will last for three days from the 4th-6th July. Set up begins in the park on Wednesday 25th June and they will exit the park by the 11th July.

A follow up meeting of the Events Stakeholder Group will take place later in July for the group to provide their feedback to the organisers and the council.

Simon Farrow

Head of Client Services



Dear Resident & Local Business,

I am writing to confirm our plans for the Wireless Festival 4th, 5th & 6th July in Finsbury Park. Firstly thank you for your feedback so far and we're looking forward to working in the community on a successful event this summer. Below are details of our plans that we've developed with TfL, The Metropolitan Police, the Council, First Capital Connect, London Ambulance Service and other statutory bodies. We weren't involved in the Arctic Monkeys concerts but were on site reviewing these and feedback from them has been included in these plans.

If you have any questions or concerns leading up to or during the event please don't hesitate to contact us prior to the event at FinsburyPark.residents@livenation.co.uk or on show days please call **02071952012**.

Residents Information Line, Community Response & Contact Details

During the event we will have a Community Response Team, which includes event management, cleaning and security staff who are able to respond to any issues we see or are identified by the local community. Our residents information line is **02071952012 (operational show days only)** and our operators will take details of the request / complaint and contact the appropriate department or contractor to action a response. During the show or at any point in the build up you can also contact Haringey Council on 02084898232 or their out of hours noise complaint line on 02084890000.

Sound Checks / Operating Hours / Headliners & Capacities

Date	Potential Sound Check	Doors	Music	Curfew	Headliner	Attendance
Thur 3 rd July	18:00 – 19:00	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Fri 4 th July	10:00 – 11:00	12:00	13:30	22:30	Kanye West	45,000
Sat 5 th July	10:00 – 11:00	12:00	13:30	22:30	Drake	45,000
Sun 6 th July	10:00 – 11:00	12:00	13:30	22:00	Bruno Mars	40,000

On Thurs 3rd July we'll need to check our sound systems and set the noise levels with the Council, this will cause intermittent noise between 16:00 – 18:00.

Parking Restrictions

What roads will be affected and when?

On all days of the event the following parking controls will be in operation within the London Borough of Haringey. Implementation of the Finsbury Park, B & C CPZs 08.30 to 20.30. Extension of the operational hours of parking control from 18.30 to 20.30 in the following roads:- Wightman Road, Umfreville Road, Warwick Gardens, Railway Approach, Woolastone Road, Roseberry Gardens, Warham Road, Atterbury Road, Devon Gardens, Pemberton Road, Cyprus Close, Rutland Gardens, Mattison Road, Salisbury Road, Essex Gardens, Duckett Road, Kimberley Gardens, Grafton Gardens, Cavendish Road, Cleveland Gardens, Stanhope Gardens, Burgoyne Road, Chesterfield Gardens, Portland Gardens, Doncaster Gardens & Sussex Gardens.

And extension of the operational days and hours in the following roads;

18.30 and 20.30 on Friday 4th July, 08.30 and 20.30 on Saturday 5th July, 08.30 and 20.30 on Sunday 6th July

Alroy Road, Conningsby Road, Endymion Road, Lothair Road North, Lothair Road South Tancred Road, Venetia Road, Green Lanes, between the Hackney borough boundary and Endymion Road. This means on the days and times listed above, vehicles must not park in any residents/business parking bay on these roads unless they display a valid Green Lanes CPZ (GLA & GLB) permit or visitors' permit.

For Islington, the Finsbury Park Concerts are very popular events and attract large crowds. Although we are encouraging everybody who attends the concerts to use public transport we are putting in place further parking controls to ensure that the lives of our residents are not disrupted by additional traffic.





The controls, which will be similar to those in place on Arsenal match days, are to act as a safeguard for residents. There will be additional enforcement patrols as the controlled parking hours will need to reflect arrival and departure times of concert goers. There will be no cost to those who already have a residents parking permit. There will, unfortunately, be road closures so that the venue can be emptied quickly, efficiently and above all, safely. We do not plan to divert traffic along residential roads and all signed diversions will be on A-roads. We also aim to keep duration of any closures as short as possible. To this end Islington are working with their colleagues in Haringey, Hackney, TfL and the emergency services to minimise any disruption caused by these events.

Parking restrictions within the London Borough of Hackney will remain as is, with no additional controls during this event. The Council would like feedback from residents on whether their parking ability was impacted during this event. Please email consultparking@hackney.gov.uk for all feedback.

Road Closures

Seven Sisters Road (between Hornsey Road and Green Lanes) and Stroud Green Road (between Seven Sisters Road and Tollington Park / Upper Tollington Park) will be closed between 22:00 - 23:30 on Friday & Saturday and 21:30 - 23:00 on Sunday. This is to ensure the safe egress of public leaving the park.

The roads will be closed at all junctions joining Seven Sisters Rd between Hornsey Road & Green Lanes covering; Portland Rise, Brand Close, Alexandra Grove, Queens Drive, Wilberforce Road, Finsbury Park Road, Blackstock Road, Rock Street, Isledon Road, Coleridge Road, Yonge Park, Medina Road, Beriman Road, Thane Villas, Newington Barrow Way, Sonderburg Road, Durham Road, Pooles Park, Playford Road & Fonthill Road.

The roads will be closed at all junctions joining Stroud Green Road between Seven Sisters Road and Tollington Park / Upper Tollington Park covering; Wells Terrace, Morris Place, Lennox Road & Perth Road.

If the road closures affect access to your property marshalls will be in place to facilitate residents' access.

Will the concert affect public transport?

Unfortunately yes, the road closures listed above will have an effect on the Buses as they will have to be diverted. On Friday & Saturday, Finsbury Park & Manor House stations will be heavily congested from 22:00 as a large number of the customers attending the concert will use these stations. On the Sunday night the show finishes earlier so these stations will be heavily congested from 21:30.

What measures are being taken to stop people parking in the residential areas surrounding the park?

Concert visitors have been advised that there is no parking in the area around Finsbury Park and they should plan their route using public transport. Cones and signage will be positioned at the entry roads to surrounding residential areas to reinforce the restrictions on concert traffic parking. CPZ match/event day parking controls will operate as necessary.

Impacts on the Park itself & Build (commences 25th June) and Breakdown periods (ends 11th July)

We appreciate that it's not just the event itself that causes an impact on the park and the local community. We have arranged our build and breakdown periods to cause minimum disruption to the regular users of the Park; details of the phased occupation and routes through the Park are on the attached map. We will protect trees from damage throughout our use of the Park and put down ground protection for heavily traffic flow areas, ground protection will also be





installed at all major toilet blocks within the site. There is a more detailed information section regarding this on the Council website www.haringey.gov.uk/finsburyparkevents

Oxford Road Gate

On the 4th, 5th & 6th July Oxford Road Gate will be closed from 4pm and the park will be closed to all public vehicle's and parking – with the exception of disabled badge holders and permit holders.

Local Schools, Public Nuisance & Egress

We will only have a single main entrance to the site (through the Finsbury Park Gate), which will reduce the number of people around the Oxford Rd entrance. Oxford Rd and Endymion Rd will not be used as an end of night egress route in our plans (although could still be used as an emergency egress route) with all the audience being sent out onto Seven Sisters Rd at the end of the night. We have been in regular contact with both Stroud Green Primary School & Islington Arts & Media School to discuss our plans and have funded school music lesson programs at both of these.

We have 24 toilets located externally to our site, in major areas of queuing and public congregation. Teams will clean Seven Sisters Rd (and other roads marked as blue on the map) at the end of the day and stewards will be in place to manage the egress and queuing at the end of the night.

If you have any questions or concerns leading up to or during the event please don't hesitate to contact me on the below email address.

Yours sincerely,
John Probyn

Chief Operating Officer, Live Nation
FinsburyPark.residents@livenation.co.uk



