

Safety Advisory Group for Wembley National Stadium

Minutes of the meeting held in Board Room 2, Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley HA9 0FJ on Tuesday 7 November 2017 at 10am

Present:

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| 1. Chris Whyte (CW) | Brent Council (Operational Director) – Chair |
| 2. Pol Exeter (PE) | Brent Council (Community Protection) |
| 3. Paul Richards (PR) | Brent Council (Transport) |
| 4. xx | Brent Council |
| 5. xx | Brent Council (Minutes) |
| 6. xx | London Ambulance Service |
| 7. xx | Sports Grounds Safety Authority |
| 8. xx | British Transport Police |
| 9. xx | British Transport Police |
| 10. xx | Metropolitan Police |
| 11. xx | London Fire Brigade |
| 12. xx | TFL |
| 13. xx | Wembley Park |
| 14. xx | WNSL |
| 15. xx | WNSL |
| 16. xx | WNSL |
| 17. xx | Tottenham Hotspur FC |
| 18. xx | Tottenham Hotspur FC |

Agenda Item No.	Item and Comments
1.	Introductions
2.	<p>Apologies for Absence:</p> <p>xx Brent Council</p> <p>xx Brent Council</p> <p>xx Metropolitan Police</p> <p>xx Metropolitan Police</p> <p>xx Metropolitan Police</p> <p>xx British Transport Police</p> <p>xx London Fire Brigade</p> <p>xx London Ambulance Service</p> <p>xx Wembley Park</p> <p>xx SSE Arena</p> <p>xx Chiltern Railways</p>
3.	Accuracy of minutes of last meeting on 14 September 2017 - the minutes were accepted as being accurate.

<p>4.</p>	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>a) Item 5c regarding traffic congestion – PR reported that he had met with the Leader and plans had been drawn up to deal with traffic congestion. PR had also met with xx at WNSL to discuss the matter. A number of locations would need staffing and letters would go to residents week commencing 6 November and the scheme should be up and running soon.</p> <p>b) Item 13 regarding Police led CT security reviews of football stadiums - the initial review was yet to be finalised.</p> <p>Action: PE to work with LE and JE to update WSAG on the Police led CT security reviews of football stadiums at the meeting on 23 January 2018.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Spectator safety issues that arose at the following recent events:</p> <p>a. Metropolitan Police – no issues</p> <p>b. London Fire Brigade – no issues</p> <p>c. London Ambulance Service – there had been cardiac arrests at the last 3 events on 25 October, 1 November and 5 November. Good liaison with WNSL had ensured good management of these cardiac arrests and good outcomes.</p> <p>d. British Transport Police – no issues except those that arose at the THFC v West Ham on 25 October on the Bobby Moore Bridge and Olympic Way and these had been dealt with by the BTP. A post-match incident following the THFC v C Palace game on 5 November was being investigated.</p> <p>e. LBB Emergency Planning – not present</p> <p>f. LBB Transportation – there had been some problems at the THFC v West Ham game on 25 October on Olympic Way</p> <p>g. Transport for London – there had been problems with crowd management around Wembley Park station that were being discussed as a separate agenda item 6.</p> <p>h. Chiltern Railways – not present</p> <p>i. LBB Public Safety – issues regarding Olympic Way crowd management to be discussed as item 6 on the agenda.</p> <p>j. SGSA – no issues</p> <p>k. WNSL – LB reported that at the NFL games on 24 September and 1 October that new security arches had been successfully trialled with excellent feedback and flow rates were good. Clear bag policy had also been adopted and would be considered going forward.</p> <p>The THFC v West Ham game on 25 October had been a very tough night with substantial public disorder and a cardiac arrest on the outer concourse pre-match. The Police and the Response Teams had worked well together. Inside the stadium there was a significant public order issue on the inner concourse during half time which the Police & Response Teams dealt with and there were</p>

	<p>extra Police officers inside the stadium throughout the event. The Police had reinforced segregation lines. WNSL thanked the Metropolitan Police for their support. CW asked about an issue with the segregation netting between the two sets of supporters. LB said that West Ham supporters had attempted to breach the netting by kicking it but did not breach it.</p> <p>I. THFC – no issues</p> <p>m. Wembley Park – there were concerns around the clash of the THFC v Liverpool match at Wembley Stadium on 22 October events and the Teen Award at Wembley Arena on the same day. In the end, the clash was managed re were no issues.</p> <p>n. There were no significant spectator safety issues at the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • THFC v Swansea 16/9 • THFC v Barnsley 19/9 • NFL Baltimore v Jacksonville 24/9 • NFL New Orleans v Miami 1/10 • England v Slovenia 5/10 • EE Wembley Cup 7/10 • THFC v Bournemouth 14/10 • THFC v Liverpool – 22/10 • THFC v Real Madrid 1/11 • THFC v C Palace 5/11
6	<p>Olympic Way Crowd Management Plan</p> <p>Following on from crowd control problems with fans getting to Wembley Park Station CW asked JS to give an update on Olympic Way crowd management. JS had spoken to xx of the BTP, who agreed that British Transport Police would provide resources for the next few games but would not provide the crowd management resources long term and therefore a long term solution is required. JS agreed to set up a meeting between WNSL, BTP & LUL to seek a long term solution</p> <p>PE said that at the Real Madrid match on 1 November he observed that due to their authority two BTP officers could do the job of ten stewards. LE said it is a difficult job for the stewards. There was a need to recognise that it is a hard job for the stewards and they need good communication skills.</p> <p>CH said that THFC fans now know short cuts to the stadium and emphasised the importance of good signage being in place to encourage fans to use correct routes to the station. CW said the stadium hosts a business and residents meeting monthly and some businesses were unhappy that fans were being redirected.</p> <p>PR said that the Metropolitan Police now have cameras in Olympic Way.</p> <p>CW thanked JS for taking lead to resolve the matter.</p> <p>Action: JS would speak to xx at the BTP regarding BTP crowd management on Olympic Way and would update CW of the outcome and CW would update WSAG.</p>
7	<p>Structure Chart showing new Operations Director and Board Member with specific responsibility for safety at WNSL</p>

	WNSL reported that new personnel were in place and that the certifying authority had been notified and as recruitment continues they would ensure that the certifying authority was informed of updates in personnel.
8	<p>WNSL action plan and timetable for implementing recommendations in recent Annual Safety inspection Report and Structural report from Mott Macdonald</p> <p>WNSL would submit this to the Certifying Authority in due course.</p>
9	Significant planned structural or operational changes at the stadium - none noted.
10	<p>Forthcoming events</p> <p>England v Germany Friday 10 November 2017 Attendance: 75,000 GA doors – 18:30; Kick Off – 20:00; Finish - 21:45</p> <p>England v Brazil Tuesday 14 November 2017 Attendance: 75,000 GA doors – 18:30; Kick Off – 20:00; Finish - 21:45</p> <p>THFC v West Bromwich Saturday 25 November 2017 Attendance: 70,000 GA doors – 13:30; Kick Off – 15:00 Finish – 16:45</p> <p>THFC v Apoel FC Wednesday 6 December 2017 Attendance: 75,000 GA doors – 18:15; Kick Off – 19.45; Finish – 21:30</p> <p>THFC v Stoke City Saturday 9 December 2017 Attendance: 70,000 GA doors – 13:30; Kick Off – 15:00; Finish – 16:45</p> <p>THFC v Brighton/Hove Wednesday 13 December 2017 Attendance: 70,000 GA doors – 18:30; Kick Off – 20:00; Finish – 21:45</p> <p>THFC v Southampton Tuesday 26 December 2017 Attendance: 75,000 GA doors – 11:00; Kick Off – 12:30; Finish – 14:15</p> <p>THFC v West Ham Saturday 30 December 2017 or Sunday 31 December 2017 - to be confirmed – see item 10c below. Attendance, GA doors, Kick Off and Finish to be confirmed</p> <p>FA cup 3rd round - 5,6,7 January 2018 – to be confirmed</p> <p>THFC v Everton Saturday 13 January 2018 Attendance: 70,000 GA doors – 16:00; Kick Off – 17:30; Finish – 19:15</p> <p>FA cup 4th round - 26,27,28 January - to be confirmed</p> <p>THFC v Man Utd Wednesday 31 January 2018 Attendance: 70,000</p>

	GA doors – 18:30; Kick Off – 20:00; Finish – 21:45 Ticket sales restricted
10b	<p>PE asked WNSL about stewarding as in early December there would be a lot of games. JE said that steward numbers were always above recommendations and that for Boxing day extra stewards had been booked.</p> <p>PE asked about the two international games on 10 and 14 November and he was told that away team allocations were at about 500 & 6000 tickets respectively but both games were considered low risk.</p>
10c	<p>THFC v West Ham Saturday 30 December 2017 or Sunday 31 December 2017</p> <p>CW said that the proposal for the THFC v West Ham game to move from Saturday 30 December 2017 to Sunday 31 December had drawn objections from WSAG.</p> <p>LB said that the Premier League had spoken to the different agencies. BTP have agreed to support the game on 31 December but London Underground Ltd discussions were still on-going. LB said subsequent discussions had considered a cap of 60,000 attendance max and 14:15 kick off time. Discussions are ongoing.</p> <p>CW reported that Chiltern Railways said they would have difficulty supporting an event on New Year's Eve.</p> <p>If WSAG objects then WNSL would adhere to the judgement and would not hold the game. However, it was acknowledged that the Premier League are working hard to persuade stakeholders to support the proposed fixture change.</p> <p>For LUL NK said that they would be operating a service akin to a Sunday service with no enhanced Event Day operations. They could not provide an event day operation at Wembley Park and other stations without significant knock-on effects on the planned New Year's Eve services.</p> <p>MPS and BTP would have issues if there were problems with LUL staffing, Wembley Park, Baker Street, Kings Cross, Liverpool as well as Wembley Park station would be affected. Discussions between the Premier League and LUL were taking place.</p> <p>LB said that WNSL had two plans in place at the moment for both 30 December and 31 December.</p> <p>Action: LB said WNSL will continue to seek a definitive outcome as he appreciates all parties need to get on with planning for the event. Any updates will be passed to CW to update WSAG.</p> <p>Action: CW would update WSAG regarding final agreement regarding the game on either 30 or 31 December 2017.</p>
11	<p>Development around Wembley National Stadium with spectator safety implications / Quintain</p> <p>SM said that works on Olympic Way should be completed early in 2018.</p>
12	<p>Any other business</p> <p>a. PR gave an update on road works on Wembley High Road outside Brent House. Sewers were blocked and works were on-going to replace piping and</p>

	<p>would last for about a month. There could be potential for some disorder with fans going to Wembley Stadium. PB said on event days that road users should avoid Wembley High Road. On Sunday 5 November there had been quite a few issues around the Tesco roundabout area and until repairs had been completed another member of staff would be put there for other events.</p> <p>b. LE – The SGSA have published their response to the consultation on the wider definition of safety. Among other things, Certifying Authorities would need to include conditions on security and the safety of all persons (including staff, stewards etc) attending events at the sports grounds in the safety certificate.</p> <p>c. JE asked for an update on the communication link along Olympic Way and ownership. SM said that zone 1 doesn't work and would be replaced by Wembley Park who were working with Alvin Wakeman at Brent Council and there would be a link for the Council and WNSL. It was currently being tested and a completion time for the zone was hoped for around March 2018 and the new system should greatly improve communications. PR asked how it would be broadcast and SM said it would be via the control room in the stadium. NK said it would be good to get messages quickly back to the stadium.</p> <p>d. JE had attended an SGSA meeting to discuss persistent standing and they would be looking further ways to address the problem. LE said it had been looked at and consideration was given to different ways to tackle the problem and encourage good practice. JB said THFC fans have been informed of the Club's intolerance to persistent standing.</p> <p>e. JB said he wanted to thank everybody for their continued support for THFC.</p> <p><u>Action:</u> PE, JE and SM to discuss communication link on Olympic Way.</p>
13	<p>Dates of future SAG Meetings</p> <p>23 January 2018 @ 10.00 hrs</p> <p>24 April 2018 @ 10.00 hrs</p>