

Post Event Summary – 2023 Events

Community Benefits

- Soho House donated 362kg of food to The Felix Project, local branch at Park Royal.
- Festival Republic and Waterworks contributed a generous amount to the Trust's Crowdfunding Project – The Set to Stun Sci-Fi Exhibition.
- All festivals contributed to using London based suppliers, locally employed staff plus used plus huge amounts of accommodation booked for event staff and crew.
- Waterworks: Team Love partnered with Big Team CIC over both event days. Big Team actively works to diversify the people who create and contribute to festivals, by supporting 18-30 year olds from groups that are currently under-represented to forge their paths in the industry. Working with Bollo Brook Youth Centre (W3) they hosted a festival site tour and several placements and shadowing opportunities across the events.
- In 2023 there were more opportunities for residents to attend the events for free/discounted tickets, from family events to the concerts through resident ballots.

Community Communication

- We introduced a new and improved system for residents to contact the event organisers during the events. A dedicated resident noise and complaint line and only one number for all events: 0203 781 0001.
- The Resident Line is in operation during the Build and Break phases all major events.
- During Sound Checks and Live Event Days, there are x3 handsets dedicated to this number, that ring simultaneously, so we can ensure that all calls are responded to in good time.
- We have seen a reduction in resident complaints by 28% compared to the previous year.

Ingress & Egress

- Improved management of queues, routes and the A406 crossing.
- Greater use of other transport hubs to spread crowds both north and south of the park, Ealing Broadway, Kew Bridge and Gunnensbury to relieve the pressure and impact on Acton Town tube station.
- Festival Republic implemented a partial closure of Popes Lane to safely manage the larger crowds during egress.
- Improved communication with crowds during egress, use of loudhailers and PA systems.

Sound Management

- We appointed Vanguardia, an independent noise consultant, to carry out detailed sound mapping and modelling for single stage, dual and multi-staged events in Gunnersbury Park.
- A generic noise management plan for Gunnersbury Park was produced, detailing an optimised noise management policy that proposed voluntary limits on noise levels, advice and recommendations for site and system design for single stage, dual stage, and multi-stage events.
- The list of recommendations was shared with LB of Hounslow and published on our website.
- All major events agreed to a voluntary reduction on the off-site levels from 75dB to 73 dB.
- New measures were implemented to reduce sound and bass frequencies during the 2023 events. The number of complaints received decreased significantly from 2022 to 2023, despite the increased number of event days.
- Stage locations and orientations, Festival Republic's stage now points towards a less densely populated area (Gunnersbury Cemetery, Brentford Stadium, office buildings, warehouses).
- M4 flyover and Chiswick roundabout partly absorbing the sound from event sites.
- Improved sound system designs, with a focus on managing low frequencies.

Traffic Management

- Last year saw an increase in traffic management and stewarding along Popes Lane to further minimise taxi pick up / drop offs, including Gunnersbury Drive.
- The Community Liaison Representative visited residents on the first day of the events, plus cones were placed along the road/driveways.

Trackway Roads

- We replaced the aluminium trackway with a plastic alternative. This significantly reduced sounds heard by local residents in previous years and created less damage to the grass when the panels were lifted.
- Pedestrian Crossing Points were added along the trackway road last year, to make the park as accessible as possible during the events.

Toilets

- A new location for portaloos was identified behind Acton Town Tube Station, plus the addition of portaloos within the park to help reduce urination in streets.

Waste Management

- Improved litter management systems were put in place with regular litter picking of main ingress routes from the station to the event site.
- Full litter picks carried out post-egress on main routes to transport hubs.