Hackney Wick Cultural Interest Group

Minutes of the meeting held Friday 13th April 2012

Held at: Stour Space, Fish Island, E9

***“Helping to establish a permanent, sustainable, creative community in Hackney Wick.'***

**In attendance:**

(WC) William Chamberlain – Smokehouse Gallery and CIG chair

(TS) Tom Seaton – Counter Café

(JM) James Morgan – Hackney Pearl

(MW) Marek – Floating House Production

(JP) Jim Previtt – SPACE Studios

(JMi) Jay Miller – The Yard Theatre

(DE) Daren Ellis – See Studios

Bread Collective – various members

Hackney Wicked – various members

Braziliality – various members

**Authorities:**

(EE) Esther Everett - LLDC

(HL) Hannah Lambert - LLDC

(IF) Ian Freshwater – LB Hackney

**Apologies:**

MUF

Simone Williams

**Previous actions addressed:**

1. *Content for Wick newspaper being addressed – will include local landowners feature. Open call for writers and journalists; please speak to Daren!*
2. *Wick Community Centre open day / final works took place on 21st April.*
3. *BW now focussed on 4 walls project, post Games.*

**Outstanding actions:**

1. ***Made-in Directory to be presented to the group by MUF.***
2. ***Future meeting to be held at the White Building – June TBC.***
3. ***Are full Terms of Reference to be drawn up i.e membership? To be reviewed April 2012?***
4. ***Mapping of infrastructure and interventions to be circulated prior to the Games.***
5. ***OPLC grants projects to be outlined in full at future meeting.***
6. ***If Hamlet Industrial Estate provide electricity, concern re cost and vandalism. Obstacles still to be addressed – will follow up later date.***

**A) LLDC Update**

OPLC was responsible for development, management and maintenance of the Park post Games. The London Legacy Development Corporation came into being from the 1st April 2012 and will see the transfer of staff and powers from OPLC to LLDC. New e-mail address is @londonlegacy. It does see an extension of land and planning powers to include Hackney Wick and Fish Island – covering the previous LTGDC boundaries (which itself as an organisation is wound down with its powers transferred to LLDC). This includes the Wick Hub Scheme.

LLDC will be moving offices to a site within Westfield at the start of May.

**ACTION – A further update on Wick Hub Scheme going forward will follow at a future meeting, now it falls under LLDC jurisdiction.**

**B) The Yard and local signage way-finding:**

The Yard has been closed for 5 months, with planning well underway for the new season. Reopens on 28th April. First show is entitled ‘If what I hear is true’. July will see a series called ‘Theatre of Great Britain’ where 12 small shows have been programmed, focussed on 21st century Great Britain. September will see another festival entitled ‘Hell is a place on earth’ with a focus on faith and belief.

New website is now live; we would love to see you all. Tickets are £9 and £4 Tuesdays.

One thing to flag is local signage. Basically, no-one can find anything in Hackney Wick! It is a nightmare when we need people to arrive on time – we have put up signage of our own but it never lasts for long.

This would seem to be an appropriate cause for this group to champion collectively. The borough boundary is not helpful, with the station in Hackney.

**EE** – We have been working with TfL, regards legible London scheme. It is still supposed to be implemented – outlining every Yard etc. They told us about a year ago that they now had funding to deliver. We were expecting an update…. LBTH ? It may not pinpoint every business but Yards and Streets should be clearly signposted.

If it is not, what other approaches could we take before the Games?

**IF** – Almost certain to be temporary Games-time signage but this will not pinpoint local landmarks. Will we have an opportunity to manipulate this?

**JM** – Larger map is needed at the station, at the underpass. Within Perspex?

**JMi –** At the very least, Yard Typlogy highlights identity and opportunities to explore. Preferably before 27th July?

**JM –** What if businesses sponsored some type of map? No signage is frustrating!

**DE –** As part of this summer’s Wick newspaper, we hope to include a map within this. Why not an artists commission to draw something here? Q – Network Rail?

What other alternatives? Downloaded map? A Smartphone App?

**WC –** What funding? LLDC? Opportunity to access LTGDC yards?

**Action – LBTH to feedback on Legible London scheme. Updates to follow on other developments (Newspaper map, temporary Gamestime issues, LLDC).**

**Action – LLDC tender process for possible funding towards Newspaper – now put back until May. WC to update.**

**Action – Volker Highways to redo necessary works outside The Pearl, including sign reset.**

**Action – IF to investigate nature of temporary 2012 signage and opportunity to shape that.**

**Action – Maps on private land / within private businesses to be investigated, funding by sponsors, advertisers and local businesses? To tie in Wick newspaper option?**

**Action – To top agenda at next mtg.**

**C) Bread Collective:**

Group of illustrators, animators, sculptors and film-makers – 8 in total. Last week were based in Wales, shooting a video for a knitwear company. Project here in Wick is LLDC funded delivering a typographical mural project working with you to run workshops etc with young people in the community to gather their experiences, which in turn will influence the murals; hopefully, to be located on White Post Lane. We hope that this can also assist the latter agenda of way-finding.

We are keen to retain industrial and other local signage asthetic so any contacts, let us know!

Hopefully, will also tie-in to Community Centre reopening?

We hope it will help with identity of place, moving away from its current state.

**Action – Wicked recommended discussion with Jack Brown re his community work.**

**D) Crate**

New café, micro-brewery and pizzeria on the groundfloor of the White Building in Queens Yard from the Counter Café crew. Packaging, branding and furniture were all designed locally. Should be open in around 5 weeks.

**AOB:**

**MW –** Floating House are moving to Mile End to deliver BW Floating Market, as a product to take root during 2012 and open opportunities thereafter. Market as a hub for activity. A more commercial approach but not leaving the arts behind.

**ACTION – Speak to Marek re floating stage opportunities as part of this.**

**Wicked** – No festival 2012 but a series of events that will highlight and showcase arts in the Wick. Curated and specific gallery shows, education and development programmes, film showcase and festival – broadening out, but with a strong arts development focus.

**ACTION – Wicked to outline further activity at the next meeting**

**ACTION – Speak to IF re opportunity to get involved in Mabley Green element of Torch Relay day on 21st July.**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING – FRIDAY 11TH May – VENUE – The Yard Theatre (TBC)**