

**ETAPE CYMRU DEBRIEF MEETING
ROOM 1 ERLAS CENTRE
THURSDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 2012**

Present:

Phil Harrison	WCBC – Emergency Planning Manager (PH)
Geraint Jones	WCBC – Emergency Planning Officer (GJ)
Paul Osborne	WCBC – Environmental Health (PO)
Toni Slater	WCBC – Public Protection Service Manager (TS)
Amanda Davies	WCBC – Marketing and Promotions Manager (AD)
Claire Tokarczyk	WCBC – Assets & Economic Development (CT)
Darren Green	WCBC – Environment (DG)
Peter D Jones	WCBC – Network & Infrastructure (PDJ)
Raymond Smith	WCBC – Performance & Improvement (RS)
Tim Towers	Denbs C C – (TT)
Ruth Williams	Denbc C C – (RW)
Harriet Marlow	Human Race – (HM)
Jo Dytch	Human Race – (JD)
Gareth Morris	Human Race – (GM)
Nick Rusling	Human Race – (NR)
Sgt Jane Thomas	North Wales Police – (JT)
Sgt Mark Jones	North Wales Police – (MJ)
John Edwards	Steward – (JE)
Jerry Valentine	Human Race - (JV)
Joanna Barnett	WCBC – Minute Taker

Apologies:

John Thomas	JTM Signs
Daniel Lucy	St Johns Ambulance

Welcome and Introductions:

Phil Harrison (PH) welcomed everyone and introductions were made. PH gave reason for meeting – a debrief following the Etape Cymru Cycle Race which took place on 9th September 2012. PH said it had been a successful event overall but there were learning outcomes from the pre planning and implementation of the event.

PH introduced Raymond Smith (RS) as facilitator of the debrief. RS explained that this should be an objective meeting and requested that everyone capture their thoughts and views in 2 stages – Planning (prior to the event) and Implementation (the actual event) under the headings of People, Props/Kit, Infrastructure, Location, Welfare and Other.

RS issued post-its to enable everyone to write down their comments and categorise them on the wall sheets, asking what they thought was good about

the event and for any improvements which they thought could be made. He also displayed the feedback from last year's exercise for comparison.

RS then asked for any key issues and thoughts to be discussed.

Planning:-

The consensus of opinion was that there had been an improvement in the - planning aspect of the event. PH suggested that the Events SAG be separated from the Planning Group for next years event.

Implementation:-

With regards to the actual event the main topic was communications and how this could be improved upon, with the suggestion of the investigation of alternative communications systems. PH said that communications should be improved across the board and Toni Slater (TS) agreed that this was imperative. AD, who was on the residents line, said that back-up was needed due to the volume of calls. Paul Osborne (PO) said a range of solutions and options should be considered.

The farming community was then discussed, as a number of stewards had received comments from farmers in respect of closed roads etc. Nick Rusling (NR) said he recognised the need to liaise in more depth with the farming community. PH suggested the NFU as a source of help in establishing land ownership and Toni Slater also suggested enlisting the help of Animal Health Officers. Ruth Williams (RW) suggested engaging in the help of a Welsh speaker when liaising with farmers.

Amanda Davies (AD) said she felt there was a danger of focussing on the negative points whereas the majority of the issues were dealt with professionally and effectively. She also said that there is no promotion budget for this event and feels that there should be a dedicated budget for this to be a greater success in future.

NR said that the success of this event was due to a team effort and thanked everyone for their support. He informed the group that all participants had been asked to score the event between 1 and 10 based on their likelihood to recommend the event. These results were analysed and resulted in the highest scoring event of the year for Human Race. He referred to a document entitled 'Post Event Heights' which included statistics about the economic benefits to the region. The estimated spend over the weekend was £140,000. JV said we should publicise the success of the event.

GJ said that 80% of this year's entries had not taken part last year and hopefully this years success would encourage them to enter again.

NR stated that HR have looked at various venues for next year but that they favour Bangor on Dee as it has proved so successful with all concerned. Llangollen Pavillion could be an option but this would cause huge disruption to Llangollen, especially the Horseshoe Pass. HR would need full support of DCC to sell this to the local businesses, this process could take years.

JE asked about the impact on Llandegla Bike Centre. NR said they had visited the centre during this current visit and that they hope to work with the centre to ensure that they benefit from the event. Registration for the event is held there on the Saturday to raise awareness of the Centre.

PH spoke about the SAG for the next event, saying that early planning is the key and suggested a January start. This gives time to test and rectify the Emergency Management Plan for robustness.

PH also suggested that more stewards be used but that Human Race should also consider paying for more Police support. Stewards can only advise whereas the Police have the powers of enforcement. Sgt Jane Thomas (JT) said that the areas are too big to cover by the Police and suggested sectioning the route so that areas can be reached appropriately and quickly.

AD summed up the meeting by saying that the event requires support by both authorities through a co-ordinated approach. PH reiterated the need for an early SAG.