

Hampshire Climate Action Network

Informal notes of meeting 20 June 2015

Present:

Richard Blackman
Mark Hancock
Eleanor Hill
Chris Holloway
Sue James
Malcom MacInnes
Sam Salmon
Bob Whitmarsh

Apologised:

Andy Molloy
Charles Burns
Esme Vivien
James Martin-Jones
Karen Barratt
Martin Heath
Peter Richardson
Ray Cobbett
Sheila Peacock

1. Discussion on how to engage people

- “The Burning Question” by Berners-Lee has good graphs.
- Use Diplo blocks to create 3-d histograms to show people (for example) how much emissions come from different activities. Good for children and scientists (Mark will send photo and description)
- Cool Communities – WinACC handbook on which to base EcoGroup discussion groups, launching in December 2015
- Help people see where the cold spots are in their house (using thermal camera)
- Don't waste time on the unconcerned – focus on getting the “inactive but concerned” to be active
- Maybe Twitter and Facebook have more impact than going to a meeting or a demo in the modern world – see for example the huge readership of the Pope’s tweets about his encyclical *Laudato Si*
- Green Fair offers a way to engage with people. To get the most benefit, consider:
 - A lucky dip
 - A lucky dip and an unlucky dip – one with the bad effects of climate change, the other with things we love, and people are chosen randomly to be in the west and the lucky dip, and the developing world and the unlucky dip
 - Global Justice stall idea with card that accesses sweets but also tells a story
 - Ask people to all bring and take
 - Everyone likes fluffy toys (you can get from the car boot sale)
 - Lure kids to spend time so you can talk to parents
 - Building blocks
 - Punch and Judy presentation
 - Quiz
 - Pledges on bunting / tree of promises / wall of promises
 - Collage where people cut things out and stick them up
 - Global Justice monopoly game on energy

- How to involve young people?
 - People want social interaction at events, so need to have peers there
 - People who come will reflect the organiser of the event – so get a young co-ordinator
 - Younger people need to feel they own it
 - Separate meetings for younger people might work – or will there be enough people?
 - Student Union involvement helps, but goes in terms
 - age groups tend to come through in waves
 - women in 20's, 30's and 40's are a potential wave
 - involve young mums who have time in the day and want to talk to each other
 - times of meetings make a difference
 - get young people to bring their friends

2. Influencing public opinion and politicians to achieve the best deal at Paris

a) What's going on?

- Only one candidate who responded to the HCAN survey of election candidates was elected; their press release wasn't published
- Mass lobby on 17 June was attended by 9000 people with over 300 MPs
- National demos will be on 29 November 2015
- Does anyone know which Twitter stream is giving news about the Paris conference?

3. Influencing public opinion and politicians to achieve the best deal at Paris

b) What will we do?

- The people at the meeting will form a co-ordinating group to encourage marches on November 29 in each large place in Hampshire (Southampton, Portsmouth, Winchester, possibly Alton, anywhere else people want to) to their railway station (check engineering works – otherwise to wherever the coaches meet). Some people continue to the London demonstration, others can demonstrate locally
- Singing raises spirits and has an impact. Can we sing?
 - WinACC has a poem <http://winacc.org.uk/news/2015-06-09/love-poem-paris> in search of a tune - and
 - Mark will send the Quaker song
 - or look at this https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s9g_Ucr4twQ&feature=youtu.be
- WinACC is collecting eminent people and local people to sign a letter to local MP/Amber Rudd / David Cameron – others could do the same
- WinACC will invite people across Hampshire to the launch of Cool Communities on 5 December

4. Stronger together

We should:

- retweet each other's tweets

- @winacc
- @portsmouthcan
- Basingstoke Transition network
- Transition Southampton
- And like each other on Facebook
 - Portsmouth Climate Action Network (page and group)
 - Winchester Action on Climate Change
 - West Hampshire Greens
 - Hampshire Equality group
- And share news about each other's events
 - Will someone volunteer to set up a HCAN website so we can all put our events onto it?
 - Will someone volunteer to set up a HCAN Facebook page so we can all put our events onto it?
 - We then put events onto our own sites where relevant

5. How make one's Council follow law that all developments must have a sustainability appraisal and environmental impact assessment

- Take the Council to court for not following national planning law
- Ask for simple summary of the planning documents
- LGA, Ombudsman, MP
- Find a local who is a town planner and can explain the best way ahead

6. Influencing

We want to provide the other side of the picture to the Tax-Payers Alliance. One way is to offer to pay more Council tax to spend on things that are important to us. So please reply to Hampshire County Council consultation about priorities for cuts <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/spendingreviewsurvey> before 6 July 2015

The 'Shaping Hampshire – Spending Review Consultation' asks how the County Council could find £98m from April 2016 onwards.

Tell the Council that they must make climate change their top priority, and focus their spending on cutting carbon emissions.

Many steps would save money, or at least cost nothing:

- encourage schools to put solar PV on their roofs - paid for by the community
- encourage commercial renewable energy developments (instead of attacking wind power)
- end support for fracking
- install renewable sources of electricity and heat whenever HCC buildings are improved
- always prioritise the needs of walkers and cyclists above car-drivers when designing road schemes

- lobby for more rail investment
- revoke their cuts to public transport

We need to convince them that there are votes in climate change.

Please respond yourself, and put this link into your mailings

7. Next event

Agreed to have another meeting in 6 months

Mark will book venue for 7 November – maybe at Repair Café?