

# Hampshire Climate Action Network

## Notes of six-monthly get-together 14 October 2017

**Present:** Andy Molloy, Anton Page, Carol Bartholomew, Christine Holloway, Gill Hickman, James Martin-Jones, Malcolm MacInnes, Mark Hancock, Martin Biermann, Martin Heath, Rick Kimber, Serena Coombs, Sheila Peacock, and Tom Brennan (last couple of items only)

**Tip of the day:** You can get magnetic paint for your walls, so you can use magnets to put up flipchart pages.

### 1. Climate change and children - ideas from discussion:

- Gill Hickman gave out copies of “The New Forest Clarion” a “newspaper” with stories about the good and bad effects of climate change. It was written by children from 4 to 16, at schools. Six sponsors. Including FoE New Forest, paid for it - three of which didn’t want publicity! Gill is a teacher and she offered a PowerPoint for schools.
- Others might replicate what she did. Gill will offer help to other areas
- Fund by asking your HCC Councillor to give money from their pot - or Crowd-Funding works because it gives copy
- How to get into schools?
  - Use the Pope as the way into Roman Catholic schools
  - Eco-Church as a way into Protestant schools
  - Find a parent-governor
  - use Eco-Schools
  - Climate change is required subject at Key Stage 3 + 4 so tell them it’s tailored to the National Curriculum

### 2. Gov. policy

The Gov. has published ‘Clean Growth Strategy’. This goes up to 2032. The commitments in it are good but *not enough* to comply with the requirements of Climate Act and it lacks *actions*.

The Gov has dropped energy standard for new housing, and have changed their approach to reducing emissions from heating our under-insulated existing housing. Instead of making the gas supply less polluting by increasing the proportion of gas that comes from anaerobic digestion, they have. Andy Molloy and Mark Hancock agreed to write an explanation of the implications of moving towards a hydrogen base to brief us all to take this up with our MPs.

#### What should we do?

- Sign up for weekly briefing from Carbon Brief- excellent
- Identify easy steps for under-resourced and over-stretched council (esp. officers) to take

- Write to MPs to say:
  - it is not good enough
  - press for inclusion in Local Gov. planning policy/SPDs
- Carol will address Kit Moorhouse, her MP

### 3. The psychology of climate change - why do people have such feelings against wind-power (and cyclists)

#### Ideas from discussion:

- Feelings come from a psychologic view of domination instead of sharing/living in nature
- the fossil fuel industry spends £millions to fuel opposition to wind etc.
- read “Nudge” (at <https://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0ahUKewi51I-H36rXAhWJKMAKHTgKDbUQFggzMAA&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.researchgate.net%2Ffile.PostFileLoader.html%3Fid%3D53abe564cf57d7df1e8b45f4%26assetKey%3DAS%253A273548994646025%25401442230571326&usg=AOvVaw0OVZrtfncCZFESGbBqixH4>) whose author Richard Thaler has just won the Nobel Prize)
- what politicians believe that people believe is often wrong

#### What should we do?

- work out where the feelings of opponents come from.
  - Some reasons are rational:
    - wind turbines seen as “industrialising the countryside/beaches”
    - overtaking cyclists is stressful
    - there is real financial value in transport and electricity, so people who benefit from the current system will oppose change
    - people manipulate the system to make profit - e.g. Bullington Cross was rejected for wind power then permitted for fracking!
  - but some reasons are illogical:
    - why are opponents so angry while climate change activists are anguished?
    - inertia to change - anti anything e.g. changing the waste collection schedule
    - people feel responsible for the countryside
- we need to get alongside people’s emotions -people act from their feelings, not from logic
- create common ground
- appeal to people’s sense of responsibility

## 4. Energy use in Hampshire / use of renewable energy

Martin Heath explained that Hampshire Renewable Energy Co-op has done a study ([Renewable Energy Production in Hampshire.](#)) which shows:

1. How much energy is used in Hampshire?
2. What we use this for (heat 40%, moving things round 40%, gadgets 20% - which shows that energy isn't the same as electricity)
3. How the people of Hampshire are stepping up to our responsibilities to hit national targets (badly -only 1.8% of Hampshire's energy is from renewable sources)
4. Where that renewable energy come from, broken down by District
5. How much is spent buying this energy? - how our money leaves the local economy (and the UK tax system).
6. What renewable opportunities are available in Hampshire:
  - a. Wood
  - b. Tide
  - c. Some wind
  - d. And solar (especially on large roofs)

### What should we do?

- present this to your local council - showing the impact on the local economy
- press for solar on school roofs - HCC will fund panels on schools
- press for solar on commercial roofs
- suggest to MPs that commercial buildings should have lower taxes if have solar power
- support increase in stamp duty on sales of houses with low EPC
- contribute ideas about future of Hampshire-wide action e.g. through Hampshire Renewable Energy Co-op The community energy industry is dormant so Hampshire Renewable Energy Co-op is reviewing its future. It may develop a campaigning arm - to take part, go to their AGM.

## 5. Air Quality

### News

- Everyone is interested in air quality
- BREATHE logo/name available to all to use (see
- Client Earth is taking legal action to argue that the Gov. Air Quality Plan is inadequate.
- FoE material is very good, scientific
- FoE sample tables
  - Can average over time
  - Use to trigger in-depth study
  - FoE provide very good guidance on how to use

- **Oxford City Council** has the first ever plan to close city centre to petrol and diesel.
- **Rushmore:** FoE did a report, then the Council set up a committee.
- **Southampton:** also taking action.
- **New Forest:**
  - Will the Clean Air Zone in Southampton include New Forest?
  - Head teachers are very keen to measure air quality outside schools
  - Lyndhurst monitored 74.9 outside schools
  - New Forest should publish their monitoring results on a website, so they can be used to campaign
  - NFDC now on FoE map
- **Winchester:**
  - HCC and the district Council are developing a Movement Strategy
  - WinACC has carried out four pollution polls to gather public opinion
  - Despite having facts on pollution and facts on public opinion, and on trade, and having an Air Quality Action Plan, still not taking effective action
- **Basingstoke**
  - Did one month of detailed monitoring
  - Wrote report and took it to discuss with Basingstoke and Deane Council portfolio-holder
  - Basingstoke and Deane Council criticised their technical approach
  - Had a meeting with Councillors on panel, with a FoE speaker
  - Basingstoke and Deane Committee on Environment will discuss the report at next meeting
  - Basingstoke and Deane Councillor promised to increase monitoring and raise awareness
- **Romsey:** Anton is considering an electric bike and car event (Roger Mumford, Lewes Transition Town)
- **Black Water Valley** put monitors around Michael Gove's area and got good publicity

### What should we do?

- We should all reply to consultation by our House of Commons Committees have relaunched a joint inquiry into the Government's plans to reduce air pollution which they've described as a public health emergency. .  
Comments required by 9 Nov:  
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/environment-food-and-rural-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2017/improving-air-quality-launch-17-19/>
- When technical issues are used to criticise findings - e.g. time of monitoring; how far monitor is from the road - show we have as much technical expertise as the Council
- Better to focus on banning petrol and diesel cars than all cars
- Particulates - very complicated! Anton looks into it

## 6. Funding opportunities

Andy Molloy Andy has a list of 28 funds for good work in community on energy which he will share. It includes:

- Local Infrastructure Fund (held by the local council). Andy suggests asking for a loan to a community for energy-saving or renewables scheme)
- AVIVA has a community energy fund - please vote before 20 Nov. for Andy's Scout Hut in Basingstoke
- NESTA for organisations who are volunteer based
- Renewable energy can cut costs to (for example) Dial-a-Ride

### What should we do?

- We need to get money so we can do things - including paying people to do things
- Interns should be paid for
- Let's tweet and Facebook and email whenever we need each other to vote
- We can also consider joint bids for joint projects

## 7. Future of Hampshire Climate Action Network

- We will use the abbreviation HampshireCAN rather than HCAN
- We will meet every 4 months, so that someone who misses a meeting doesn't have to wait a year
- Rotate meetings to more venues - so the next should be in Southampton
- WinACC will take responsibility up to next meeting
- The next meeting agenda will include future structure including these questions:
  - Should we have a steering group?
  - Do we want email groups for special interests
  - Joint grants?
  - Organising meetings / chairing
  - HCAN Facebook page

**The next Hampshire Climate Action Network meeting will be on Saturday 10 March 2018 10-12.30 at Freemantle URC 257 Shirley Road, Southampton SO15 3HS (thanks Mark!)**