

Minutes of Sheffield Climate Alliance / SCACC Meeting, 21 April 2015

Quaker Meeting House, St James Street, 7-9pm

Present: Jenny Patient (minutes), Jenny Carpenter (Chair), Michael Bayley, Joan Miller, David Burley, Celia Mather, Sean and Gen Ashton. (Chris Broome, Kate Stott and Jon Baker joined the 2nd half of the meeting.)

Apologies: Liam, Janet, Lauren, Chris T, Karen, Anna, Margaret.

1. Climate Coalition Mass Lobby of Parliament, 17th June

SCA will support this lobby by publicising it and supporting people from each Sheffield/South Yorks constituency to travel to London. **Jenny P will add a link to our website and talk to Christian Aid about the transport they are organising from Doncaster/Sheffield.** There will be lots happening in London from 1-4pm and a rally afterwards.

We would also like to organise a lobby meeting in Sheffield for MPs (and councillors) - this idea had been well received by Hope for the Future and by the Climate Coalition, so we would discuss some more with them and aim to involve faith groups in organising for this. We need to decide the timing - it could be the same week, or later in the summer.

Hope for the Future want to prioritise lobbying MEPs as they seem to have more power than MPs to affect policy.

2. National Climate Jobs conference in Sheffield 19th or 26th Sept

The Campaign against Climate Change Trade Union Group want to organise a national conference in Sheffield to feed back from an International Trade Union Congress climate meeting in Paris in mid-Sept. This would be aimed at activists whether from unions or not.

Jenny P, Celia, Janet and Margaret Stone had met Martin Mayer and Bob Jeffery from Sheffield TUC, and they were supportive of this conference and wanted to help us publicise to and attract trade unionists. **Anyone interested in joining the organising group please contact Jenny P.** We would produce joint publicity with STUC, linking to climate justice - e.g. see the new climatejust.org.uk website on climate poverty.

3. Other events in the run-up to / during / after the Paris Climate talks

On 28-29 Nov there will be events round the world to link with the start of the talks and the arrival of various pilgrimages (e.g. Rome to Paris, led by Yeb Saño) and bike rides (e.g. London to Paris). The COP starts on Mon 30th Nov and the mass mobilisation in Paris will be on 12th Dec.

- Sheffield Sings Out for the Climate are taking the lead on organising a candlelit vigil with singing on Sat 28th Nov at 6pm, and trying to get other cities and towns to join in.
- We have heard that 350.org may organise another People's Climate March event in late September - this may clash with the Climate Jobs conference so we would consider our plans based on that.

- On 4th July the Climate Games are planned, and May 29th - June 2nd will see Reclaim the Power camp at Didcot, Oxfordshire.
- It was suggested that the first Autumn statement of the new government would be an important time - probably around end October.
- There is a commitment to keeping climate movement momentum going after Paris - with FoE holding a People's Assembly on Climate Change in January, and a decentralised action planned for March.

4. Stalls at events in Sheffield this summer

We agreed we should produce a postcard with a specific 'ask' for councillors and MPs, that we can ask members of the public to complete at events this summer - it would be good to link this to the publicity of the September conference, with matching info leaflet and campaign postcard each with hard-hitting facts about climate jobs.

Jenny to co-ordinate text and design for the leaflet/postcard.

Jenny to take offers of stall co-ordination at the following events, and to book each when a co-ordinator is found:

- Sharrow Festival Sat 13th June
- St Mary's Family Festival Sat 27th June
- Lowedges Festival Sun August
- Peace and Craft Fair, Sat Nov

5. Pensions Meeting on Tues 19th May

This meeting with a speaker from ShareAction is on our regular meeting date, so we agreed to meet informally as well on Weds 20th at the Red Lion pub to catch up with other campaigns. The meeting on 19th is open to anyone interested, but will be a chance to develop specific plans for our campaign with South Yorkshire Pension Fund (part of the Local Government scheme).

Janet to check if the full leaflet is available for download from the website and to send a publicity email round the full list.

6. Meeting with Julie Dore. leader of Sheffield City Council.

Assuming no drastic changes on May 7th, we expect to meet Julie Dore and her cabinet members for Environment and Economy on Tues 12th May, to strengthen our relationship, review progress and set out new ambitions for action on climate change. We want to align on the social justice aspects of climate change and show the economic and social benefits of a programme to tackle emissions, in line with what other cities around the world are tackling, and the presentation made by Andrew Gouldson to the Green Commission, which highlighted the higher than expected carbon reductions from insulation programmes and the benefit to the NHS in savings from addressing fuel poverty.

Sean offered to research the role of the University Technical College in training for the low-carbon sector.

7. Green Commission

Chris B reported back on this evening's Green Commission meeting, which had also included 'The Blue-Green Dream' (integration of sustainability) and ITM (energy vector company).

Chris also updated on conversations and correspondence about strategic renewable energy issues in Sheffield, and some of the barriers to progress.

Further Green Commission hearings in public on 12th May, 18th and 30th June, and the submission deadline for evidence will be no earlier than 30th June.

8. Other Events

Climate Change Hustings at St Marks Broomhill on Tues 28th April 7pm.

Leafletting communities about fracking for the next 3 weekends, and public meetings in Bawtry on Thurs 14th May and Hatfield on Sat 16th May.

Jenny to ensure these events are publicised.

9. Next Meeting: Tuesday 19 May, 7-9pm, Quaker Meeting House with speaker from ShareAction - all welcome. Plus informal pub meet on **Weds 20th May 7-9pm** at the Red Lion near SHU (venue tbc).