

Notes from Sheffield Climate Alliance general meeting Tues 17th Jan 2017, at Quaker Meeting House

Present: Jenny Carpenter (Chair), Jenny Patient, Chris Broome (left after 30 min), Lauren, Jemima Perry, Aaron Thierry, Rick Watson (minutes), Nick Nuttgens, Bev Booker, Kaisa Pietila, Margaret Stone, Celia Mather, Robert Hardie, Anna Brook, Phil Daly, Julie Graham, Richard Souter, Christian Unger, Stella Mascarenhas-Keyes.

(Chris Broome unable to stay whole meeting so agenda prioritised for his input.)

Apologies: Sean Ashton, Kathy Aston, Kate Stott, Rachel Hope

1/ Sheffield City Region Plans. SCA invited to Vision mtg on 17th Feb, **Jenny C and Jenny P to attend.** The City Region plans are economic growth focused and to attract inward investment. Govt is not monitoring carbon budgets. Projects include proposed Sheffield/Manchester road tunnel. Chris B would like us to campaign against the tunnel. Since it has £6-8 billion budget, it was suggested to focus on what better use could be made of that figure e.g. our warmer homes campaign has similar proposed budget and the NHS is broke.

Partnering with CPRE/Friends of the Peak District a possibility, and Big Issue in the North a potential publicist.

2/ Climate Justice issues.

Our good contact at Islamic Relief is no longer with them. **Jenny P will pursue this through the Climate Coalition.** Chris described the talks SCA has given to Muslim Groups and would like to do one at Wolseley Road Mosque (Madina Masjid).

CACC Trade Union Group organising a National Conference 'Climate Refugees, The Climate Crisis & Population Displacement' 11/02/2017, NUT Conf Centre London. Jenny P attending. **Jenny P is contacting organisations working with refugees to encourage them to attend.**

Meeting on climate-related issues in Fiji 12/02/2017 (Sun 3-5pm) in Sprotborough – **Jenny C is attending.**

3/ Fracking.

a) Chris B reported that INEOS (mainly) and Warwick Energy (Penistone) have licenses for fracking, and in some areas are pursuing seismic testing in Sheffield region. No planning permission needed for this, only landowner's permission. Campaigning is focusing a lot on informing/persuading landowners not to allow testing, without which fracking can't happen. Chris is working on getting fracking specific content in Sheffield's new Planning Policy, which will be adopted next year. He is working from a FOE document.

Chris and Jenny P are meeting with Councillor Iqbal (Infrastructure) and Chris with his local Lib Dem councillor to push for this. It was suggested that waste water management, restoration bonds and EIA are all important inclusions.

Karen Garrett, a local parish councillor has offered experienced help with wording the document.

b) Report from Phil, Richard and Julie:-

Mosborough:- Clive Betts MP setting up meeting of Mosborough locals with INEOS, with no anti-fracking groups present. Campaigners are fighting for representation.

Eckington:- Ineos giving presentation 2-8 on Tues 31st Jan at Green Lawns Comm. Centre, Eckington, so anti-frackers organising one at same time at Marsh Lane Community Centre (St. Mark's Church). Eckington campaign membership grown from 93-2050 members in 2 weeks!

Beighton:- 18th Feb, 1-3pm, Beighton Lifestyle Centre. Anti-Fracking event. (See FFSY and FOE websites)

General – Say No to Seismic Survey A4 posters available

4/ Feedback from COP22, Marrakesh, by Rob and Kaisa. Both are Grantham Scholars from Grantham Institute for Climate Change, based at Sheffield Uni. Rob also attended COP 21 in Paris.

Kaisa reported: delegates very open, not held back by politics; Biodiversity, her specialism, not on the agenda at COP22.

Rob reported: He was very impressed by international motivation for progress; COP 21 had expected to be putting pressure on countries to deliver on promises from COP21 but since actions had been taken so fast this was not necessary, so COP22 less focused. COP21 very well organised, COP22 less so, so progress slower. Next year the hosts are Fiji but meeting in Bonn, where more focus will be on actual impacts

already happening.

R and K both felt that African nations were well represented.

5/ Feedback from sub-groups.

Food Group- members (Bev, Luise and Rick) Met with Burngreave Councillor and cabinet member Jackie Drayton. Positive meeting covering the following:

Food issues discussed: Sheffield Food Strategy; Sheffield Food Network and move to develop a 'Sustainable Food City' network in Sheffield; Real Junk food project; schools' procurement and reduction in dietary meat. General issues discussed: Green Commission and lack of Council Officer support – (imminent departure of Bernd Hoerman to new job in Freiburg, a great loss to all); Lack of specialist Climate Change/sustainable development officer in council team; Anti-fracking (our congrats to council for banning on council land, and Jackie reiterated their powerlessness over national policy; warmer homes campaign and Jenny P talking to Labour group; Lack of EMAS and Carbon reduction plan at the council (Specific request by Rick for conformation that SCC is not paying a government fine for not having a plan in place); Streets Ahead (Specific request by Rick for conformation that there will not be a reduction in bike lane mileage to save extra cost of keeping mature trees)

Divestment group now called South Yorkshire Fossil Free. Christian Aid divestment training 30/1 Manchester, first week in Feb, Leeds.

6/ SCA Programme of events 2017

- i. Climate Coalition 'Show the Love' campaign 7-14 Feb - SCA will use this to build links with other organisations who are part of TCC – **Jenny P/Lauren** stall at Crystal Peaks on 9 Feb, **Anna** linking with Patches of Peace event on 12 Feb. Plus lots of social media.
- ii. Peace in the Park- Sat 10th June. Planning meeting Wed 8th Feb, 7.30 at Beer Engine (behind Waitrose) – **contact is Anna.**
- iii. Trump Inauguration Protest- Fri 20th Jan, 5pm Town Hall, alternatively vigil 5.30 Tudor Square.
- iv. Ecumenical day event on Laudato Si Sat 25 Feb – hopefully with SCA stall (**Jenny C**)
- v. LGBT+ History Month event Sat 25 Feb run by Friends of Edward Carpenter – with SCA stall/song-writing activity – **Jenny P**
- vi. FOE Clean Air Campaign- Sat 28th Jan - putting up 5 diffusion tubes around Sheffield to collect air samples for analysis. Anyone can get a diffuser tube from FOE and submit it.
- vii. Tim Jackson has agreed to come to Sheffield to talk about 2nd edition of Prosperity without Growth in October – SCA aims to link with Off the Shelf, Festival of Debate and SPERI – **Jenny P**

Christian described the 'Clean Space' phone app for air pollution, and a non-battery sensor.

7/ Carbon Neutral University of Sheffield

Open Meeting: Thurs 26th Jan at 5pm, in Pool Seminar Room A85 in Richard Roberts building.

Retrofit Conference videos from 9 Nov will be online this month, with more info to follow. (£100 bill to SCA for this event returned to Christian who will cancel it).

10 Billion (People) Programme - events for students and public - see Eventbrite '10 billion people'.

Food event- Grantham Centre involvement in an event, at early planning stage. It was stated that GMO debates have been discouraged by Sheffield Uni!

8/ Meetings with Politicians.

a) Clive Betts MP (with SCA) – Good initial meeting with regard to Climate Change issues - supportive of SCA around warm homes and air quality, but areas of difference on HS2 and road tunnel. He is aiming to get an anti-fracking speaker at the Ineos meeting, and Jenny P put him in touch with David Burley. Interested in divestment both Parliamentary pension and SYPA (where he was the first ever chair, and set up an investment fund for local businesses.) Clive offered to speak on climate in a secondary school in his constituency, and encouraged us to hold a stall at Crystal Peaks shopping centre, which is an important local centre for many of his constituents.

b) Louise Haigh MP (with FFSY) – She met with INEOS and confirmed that SK38 (her Heeley constituency) is not of interest to INEOS. However, there is potential for sideways fracking into Heeley from neighbouring

areas.

- c) Nick Clegg MP – Anna and others had a good meeting with Nick Clegg
- d) Cllr Jackie Drayton (with SCA food group) – see Food Group report

9/ Future Meetings with Politicians.

- a) Mazher Iqbal, Councillor and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport, with SCA. Topics- Warmer homes, Fracking (planning policy).
- b) Paul Blomfield MP with SCA. 3rd Feb.
- c) Linda McAvan MEP with SCA Food Group Fri 20th Jan– to discuss: campaigning and implications of EU exit; agricultural policy implications of EU exit; climate change impacts of food, including meat production/consumption levels; food waste; CETA and other trade agreements.

10/ 'The Big Challenge'- regular item in Sheffield Telegraph. Jenny P reminded the meeting that individuals can contribute an article based on a set of questions about their organisation and their views of Sheffield (submission by Thurs for the following Thurs). This is also being excellently supported by Alistair Dempster of Sheffield Live radio, who interviews each contributor for his Sounz@boutright programme, broadcast 4-5pm on Thursdays. **Jenny P will circulate a fresh invitation to participate.**

11/ Next meeting: Tuesday 21 February 7-9pm at Quaker Meeting House