

Sheffield Climate Alliance - Minutes of the meeting held 16 May 2017

Meeting held at the Diamond, Sheffield University, from 8pm- 9pm

Present: Jenny Carpenter, Jenny Patient, Richard Souter, Chris Broome, Will Buswell, Aaron Thierry, Anna Brook, Nick Nuttgens, Christian Unger, Michael Bayley, David Garlovsky.

Apologies: Lauren Jones, Julie Graham.

1. Matters Arising from April minutes

a) Chris had been in touch with Madina Masjid (Wolseley Rd Mosque) to ask about having an event there, but had concluded that this was not a good way of reaching people at that venue. Leafletting/petitioning at prayer times is a better way forward and had led to contacts in the past. Christian pointed out that the President of the CNU student society is Muslim and would be a good contact, and reminded us about the Imam who is part of the University chaplaincy. Chris to get contact details from Christian.

2. Event/campaign reports

a) Buried Sunshine event 5th May

This was an enjoyable event and had received good feedback.

b) CNU Changing Systems not Lightbulbs event 13-14 May

Student action is important and powerful! It is important to follow up actions and create momentum. David suggested organising a conference which starts from action instead of information. The CNU event has led to collaboration with Lisa Hopkinson of Transition Chesterfield / Chesterfield Climate Alliance who was involved in the Zero Carbon Britain research by CAT.

c) Anti-fracking campaign

Sheffield against Fracking have held their AGM and elected a committee, which includes Julie and Bev who are also on the SCA committee.

SCA and anti-fracking groups will have stalls at Going Greener at Crystal Peaks event on Saturday 20th – Christian offered to help.

Chris has been talking to Sheffield Council about planning policies re fracking. There were various news updates: Ineos would not now be surveying in Sherwood Forest/Clumber Park. The planning application is in for Marsh Lane (Eckington). There was a disappointing letter from Natascha Engels which is on Facebook.

SCA will support SAF stalls over the summer, rather than run our own at many events.

d) Divestment Campaign

See campaign report at end of these minutes. Have local MPs signed up to Divest Parliament?

e) Food and Climate campaign

They are finalising their pull-up banner in time for their stall at the Food Festival at the end of May.

f) Climate Jobs campaign

See campaign report at end of these minutes.

g) Youth outreach group

See campaign report at end of these minutes. They hope to do air pollution work with schools, and are in contact with Maria Val Martin at UoS. Will mentioned the UoS 'Discovery Nights' which could be a helpful link.

3. Forthcoming events/plans

a) Air Pollution event Thurs 15 June

Richard explained that 6 volunteers would travel by different means for the same journey using air pollution monitors and compare results – more volunteers welcome.

b) Peace in the Park Sat 10th June

There will be 12 stalls in the Climate Zone, and Anna is organising a cross-festival Treasure Hunt that will encourage people to visit different areas. Workshops will be more drop-in activities than last year, plus various activities being planned with Woodcraft Folk. More volunteers needed – contact Anna.

c) General Election

There is a blog on the SCA website with a suggested letter to MPs. Hustings are happening at the Uos, SHU and St Marks Church. Jenny P will produce analysis of manifestos for Sheffield Telegraph and Sheffield Live.

d) 'This Precious Earth'

This musical performance at Sheffield Cathedral will not now take place in May but is hoped to happen on Sun 8 Oct, coinciding with the ZCY weekend event.

4. Fundraising

Anna gave a report on current actions and plans. An initial letter has been sent to some potential grant funders. An encouraging response has been received from Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust. They want to fund work of national significance related to justice – Anna and Jenny P to continue working on a proposal.

Local Giving is active and we'd welcome more regular donations – encourage your friends.

An event themed 'Climb for the Climate' is being explored by Lauren and Jenny P with help from Sarah of Sunshine Pizza and Matt Heason of Cliffhanger Festival. Christian mentioned another contact for this from CNU.

5. Next meeting will be on Tues 20th June 7-9pm at Quaker Meeting House

SCA Campaign Reports from May

Campaign: Food Group

Meetings coming up: – please email for details

General contact details: Food[at]sheffieldclimatealliance[dot]net

Campaign: Divestment / South Yorkshire Fossil Free!

Who is involved?

Sean Ashton, Milagros De La Cruz, Janet Milton, Janet Paske, Kate Stott, Dinah Ward, Brian Webster

Report on recent activities:

Sean, Kate, Dinah, Kathy and some friends from People and People were on the Moor for a couple of hours on Saturday morning, 6 May, to collect signatures for our South Yorkshire Pensions Authority petition. Natalie Bennett, Green Party candidate, was able to join us for a while. Our two large inflatable dinosaurs attracted attention of passers-by along with our recently acquired skills in modelling balloon dinosaurs. Sean and Kate were in Doncaster at Clock Corner doing the same the following Saturday.

We co-ordinated and managed the refreshments table at the Buried Sunshine fund-raiser on 5 May, where we raised over £90 in return for flapjack, polenta cake, fig rolls and vegan quiche.

Across the three activities over 90 signatures have been added to our petition in May so far.

Aims and tasks for next period:

- Planning our summer activities – which festivals are we going to be at. We'll be taking the dinosaurs, balloon modelling and other craft activities – with the purpose of starting conversations about our campaign and gaining more petition signatures
- Re-engage with Cllr Ben Curran, now that he's part of SYPA board. On-going contact with Jane Firth, SRI officer at SYPA – keeping her updated with divestment news.
- Make contact with groups and individuals in Doncaster, Rotherham and Barnsley – specifically to find potential campaigners who live in wards where SYPA board members are councillors.
- Further training, if possible, on 'making the most of a surgery with your elected representative' from Divest Parliament team.

Meetings coming up:

- Group social on Wednesday 17 May – we're going to the performance of 'In at the Deep End' by Mikron Theatre at Grimesthorpe Allotments, starts 6.00pm
- Next campaigning meeting of the group on Wednesday 31 May 2017 upstairs at the Blue Moon Café, 5.30-7.00pm (we meet fortnightly)

General contact details: Gofossilfree[at]sheffieldclimatealliance[dot]net

Campaign: Anti- Fracking / Sheffield against Fracking

Who is involved? Julie Graham, Bev Booker (SCA contacts) plus new committee elected May 2017

Meetings coming up:

- Crystal Peaks 'Eco Week' stall on Sat 20th May

General contact details: nosheffrack[at]yahoo[dot]co[dot]uk

Campaign: Climate Jobs

Who is involved?

Jenny Patient, Lauren Jones, Jenny Carpenter, Celia Mather, George Coiley, Richard Souter, Aaron Thierry, Chris Broome.

Report on recent activities:

We have produced our own report to respond to the Sheffield City Region Vision, to show how climate jobs can help achieve the objectives. We met Prof Heather Campbell in connection with this.

Aims and tasks for next period:

- After allowing for a response from Heather Campbell we intend to circulate our 'Sustainable Vision' report to key friends of SCA in different sectors, and to request their feedback and endorsement.
- We are looking at a short study visit to Nottingham to understand better their Energy company and transport programmes.

Meetings coming up: Tues 13th June 7-9pm – contact us for venue details. We meet on the second Tuesday each month.

General contact details: climatejobs[at]sheffieldclimatealliance[dot]net (monitored by Lauren)