

Sheffield Climate Alliance meeting – minutes for Tuesday 20th June 2017.

Present: George Coiley, Luise Hunt, Jenny Carpenter (chair), Aaron Thierry, Richard Souter, Dave Garlovsky, Sean Ashton, Neil Parry, Bob Banks, Kathy Aston, Jenny Patient, Lauren Jones (minutes), Andrew Oldfield.

Apologies: Chris Broome, Anna Brook, Julie Graham, Kate Stott, Janet Paske, Bev Booker.

1. Matters arising from previous minutes

All covered by this agenda.

2. Campaign Group reports:

a) Anti-fracking/Keep It In The Ground: No official report received from Sheffield Against Fracking, but Richard went to the last meeting and confirmed that SAF would be having stalls at Sharrow Festival on the 1st July and Stannington on 8th July. Reclaim the Power are encouraging a big presence at Preston New Road in Lancaster during July and will have many activities on as part of this, plus Friends Of The Earth will be hosting their network meeting in Sheffield on 5th July. Lauren added that she is attending the media training run by 'Seeds for Change' on 24th June and also hopes to engage with local groups in Clowne and Barlborough as INEOS start public consultation for seismic testing nearby.

b) Divestment: Several people from the Divestment group are planning to attend the 'Reclaim the Power' site at Preston New Road on 14th July. [<https://reclaimthepower.org.uk/fracking/rolling-resistance-2017/> and <https://reclaimthepower.org.uk/fracking/july-timetable/>]. The group will also be having a stall at Banner Cross Methodist Church Eco Open Day.

c) Climate Jobs and Warm Homes: The 'Sustainable Vision' report written by the team in response to Sheffield City Region Vision has gone to Prof Heather Campbell, but not yet had a response. The team are also taking the lead in organising the Zero Carbon Yorkshire weekend 'Make It Happen' event in October and are looking to have a short study visit to Nottingham to understand better Council involvement with their Energy company and bus/tram systems.

d) Food: Luise ran a stall working with other groups at Sheffield Food Festival and had a quiz, the 'Banana game' from CNU, leaflets and the food banner which lead to some good discussions with people. The group would consider taking similar activities to other events. Currently the Food banner has a permanent home at Central Library to make the public think about the issues. On the 10th July, there will be a showing of the film '**Wasted! The Story of Food Waste**' <https://wastedfilm.com/> and Luise is also hoping to attend one of the Community meals for Eid.

e) Youth: Lauren has made a start getting resources from Greenpeace and Friends of The Earth. The next meeting will be Wednesday 28th June. (Please email Lauren at eulalatennis@hotmail.com for future details).

3. Guest presentations

a) Air Pollution – presentation from East End Quality of Life Initiative

Neil Parry explained that his work with 'East End Quality of Life Initiative' engaged with other groups and advised the 'Sheffield City Council Air Quality Team', after they received funding from DEFRA in 2003. Originally known as 'Tinsley Forum and Community Health & Transport Project', it has monitored air quality in Sheffield for almost 10 years and uses diffusion tubes to measure levels of

nitrogen dioxide. Health issues that have been shown to be made worse by air pollution include cardio-vascular disease, strokes, various forms of cancer, respiratory diseases and more recently has been linked to cognitive effects on the brain including dementia and neurological degeneration, low birth weight and reduced fertility. Neighbourhoods with high particles (Nitrogen Oxide and Particulate Matter - NO₂ + PM_{2.5}) are more likely to have residents with Cardio Vascular disease. In 2015, the Sheffield Health and Wellbeing Board concluded that in using 1% of the national figure to estimate early deaths in Sheffield due to air pollution, this would see the expected number of premature deaths rise from the previously quoted figure of 500 to between 600 and 800 premature deaths (based on NO₂ and PM_{2.5}). The health cost attributed to air pollution in Sheffield was estimated to be £540 million. In 2016 there were various diffusion tubes around the city that showed real 'hotspots' and 40 of these hotspots had over 40 NO₂, with Arundel Gate Interchange the highest at 74! However, to show accurate results of air pollution the monitoring needs to be done over a period of 5 years as 'levels will go up and down' and an average of this is more likely to be undisputed. A question was asked if a study into the health of taxi drivers who are often based at Sheffield Station has ever been done, Neil replied no but may be an idea for the future and has engaged with Sheffield Taxi Trade Association in the past. DEFRA published new plans to tackle air pollution at the end of December 2015, with particular focus on 38 zone plans including 'Sheffield Urban Area'. [<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/air-quality-in-the-uk-plan-to-reduce-nitrogen-dioxide-emissions> and [<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/air-quality-plan-for-reducing-nitrogen-dioxide-no2-in-sheffield-urban-area-uk0007>]. **Action;** Neil to send presentation to Lauren and Lauren will liaise with Neil about further work including with the Youth group.

b) Sheffield Creative Action for Peace (SCRAP)

Bob Banks from SCRAP explained what the group do - they plan on attending 'Arms to Renewables' event in London on Wednesday 6th September, as part of a week of protest against the DSEI arms fair from 4th to 10th September. SCRAP are building a structure that will 'convert' from a weapon to a wind turbine. SCRAP would like to collaborate with SCA on this if we are interested, it was agreed that Lauren would attend a SCRAP meeting to discuss. A workshop to build the structure is taking place on Saturday 6th August at Heather Hunt's house – all are welcome, please email Lauren at eulalatenis@hotmail.com for details. **Update:** As Lauren was unable to attend on 22nd June, she is liaising with Heather and Bob and hoping to report a bit more at next meeting.

4. Reports on events

a) Collaboration with 'Regather Cooperative' to show 'How To Let Go of the World and Love All the Things Climate Can't Change' film

As part of 'Festival of Debate', Anna and Aaron worked with Regather for the film to be shown on 18th May. (It's by Josh Fox who directed 'Gasland' and 'Gasland Part II' and covers many of the different topics within climate change). Aaron introduced the film and after the discussion at the end, attendees were encouraged to take part in the 'inspiration' sheets, thinking of aspects that may inspire them to take more action. £64 was collected for SCA funds on the night plus tickets sold online through Eventbrite, Anna is checking the payment system for these.

b) 'Peace In The Park' festival

SCA had a stall in the Climate Zone along with Sheffield Against Fracking, Sheffield Renewables, Global Justice Now and other groups. Aaron ran the stall on the day and said there was good interest in the Divestment campaigns and other work and the 'Climate Connections' game worked very well!

Thanks to Aaron, Chris B and George for staffing the stall and to Anna for her work running the Climate Zone.

5. Forthcoming plans

a) Post-Election and 'Speak Up!'

Jenny Carpenter initiated a brief discussion on feelings about the General Election and our approach during the campaign. We agreed that despite clear manifesto differences, there hadn't been enough mention of climate change in the news. Jenny P wrote 'The Big Challenge' column for Sheffield Telegraph outlining each manifesto relating to climate change, and the main points of this featured on 'Sheffield Live!' radio presented by Jenny P and Lauren. (Thanks to others who contributed).

Jenny is working to get constituency activists to invite MPs to events already going on for 'Speak Up', e.g. Luise plans to invite Gill Furniss to an Abbeyfield Park event.

b) Campaign Against Climate Change meetings

Because of a People's Assembly demonstration on 1st July, the CCC steering group AGM and the Trade Union group AGM are postponed until September. Lauren will notify the new date and this means we will be looking at hosting a CACCTU meeting in November not September.

Because of lack of time remaining at this meeting, it was agreed that the topics of 'Climb for the Climate', Tim Jackson event and ZCY weekend event and 'This Precious Earth' music event would be deferred until July meeting.

6. Next meeting: Tuesday 18th July, 7 to 9pm Quaker Meeting House.

Also committee meeting: Monday 3rd July, 7 to 9pm at Kate Stott's house.