Hampshire Climate Action Network

Notes of Meeting 5th June 2021

Summary of important action points

Work with Schools

If you want to join the HampshireCAN Schools Interest Group emails, tell Sue James by emailing HCAN@winacc.org.uk.

Hampshire County Council Climate Emergency and Expert Forum

If you wish to join the HCAN HCC interest group to help influence HCC policies email HCAN with your request.

Green Travel Hampshire

This developed from the previous HampshireCAN Transport Interest Group. If you would like to join this group email us at HCAN.

Southampton Airport Expansion

This has now been given the go ahead by Eastleigh Council. AXO Southampton have set up a Go Fund Me fund raiser for a Judicial Review.
https://www.gofundme.com/f/soujr?utm_campaign=p_cp_display&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer

Planning for COP26

All green events can be used to promote COP 26 and put political pressure on the Government and explain Political Action to visitors to events.

Please film people Singing for the Climate as part of your activities, to form Hampshire-wide publicity. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGgBtHolO4g

The Young Christians Walk from G7 in Cornwall to Cop 26 in Glasgow is passing though Hampshire 23rd-26th July. There are opportunities to support of join in:
https://www.yccn.uk/

Marcha Glasgow: Spanish XR are marching from Portsmouth to Glasgow for COP 26. Nicky the English speaking contact wishes to get in contact with XR, Friends of the Earth and other link minded organisations. For more information contact email: marchtoglasgoweastcolumn@gmail.com

Future meetings

Saturday October 3rd 2021. Venue or Zoom to be decided.

Saturday January 29th 2022.

Full minutes

Present:

Philippa Brealey	Alton Climate Action Network
Malcolm McInnes	Basingstoke Transition Network
Danny Lee	E Hants - Petersfield
Gwen Collins	Eastleigh
Anne Stephenson	Gosport
	Hart
Sue James *(HCAN Coordinator)*	Havant
Anna Mellor	New Forest Zero Carbon Alliance
Mark Hancock	Southampton
Charles Burns	Portsmouth
Carol Bartholomew *(taking minutes)*	Test Valley
Jill Scracee	Test Valley
Eleanor Bell	Winchester - Hursley
Mags Lippiett	Winchester - Twyford
Chris Holloway *(chairing)* Phil Gagg David Knight	Winchester Action on Climate Change
Caroline Dibden	CPRE

This meeting was held on Zoom, and some were only there for part.

1 Local Work

1.1 Reports from local areas

Groups are advised to publicise their events on HCAN Facebook page.

Basingstoke: ***Basingstoke Transition Network*** is pushing for the new Manydown housing development to be built to Passivhaus standards. Sustainability Day on 25th Sept.

East Hants: *Alton Climate Action Network* has an Eco Fair planned for July 11th with music, sculpture, BioBlitz and more. All welcome.

Petersfield Climate Action Network: Looking for a project officer for the Retrofit Project and a new Trustee. They are having a stall at the Farmer's Market, holding a youth meeting and awaiting HCC website launch on orchards and verges.

Gosport: *Friends of the Earth* are sending a deputation for Gosport's Climate Action Plan and a stakeholders' forum is being set up by Gosport Council. A Greening Campaign has started. Events are being organised to highlight COP 26.

Havant: Havant Borough Council is promising a Carbon Action plan very soon. The group has been very busy with trying to get plans for Havant Reservoir modified but the plans have now been approved.

New Forest: *The Zero Carbon Alliance* is bringing Parish Councils and Community groups together. There is a Greener Brockenhurst Day on 10th July.

Southampton: A plant swap is being organised including a milk float visiting those who can't get out to the event. Planning is taking place for biodiversity corridors

in Southampton. A Climate Emergency has been declared via the church. Southampton Voluntary Services are bringing Green Groups together.

Test Valley: Test Valley FOE is involved in Andover Vision and Romsey Future and has been asked to send representatives to 4 meetings with the working party for the Climate Emergency Action Plan review. Andover Vision is hosting Andover Climate Day of Action on Friday 25th June, an online and physical event including Green groups, Community organisations, schools and businesses. The Environment groups have been involved in planning the day as well as having stalls on the High Street.

Winchester District: ***Twyford*** Green Fair 17th July.

Twyford Eleanor explained there is a Greening Campaign, they are working on buses and hedges – see Hedgelink from the Tree Council.

WinACC: Retrofit Project underway with Petersfield. Events being planned for Green Week. WeCAN project linking smaller groups across the district, funded by City Council and Rotary.

M3 Junction 9 survey/questionnaire re-widening: the new design is worse than current design. The climate crisis means we should not be building any new roads. Winchester City Council is interested in lowering air quality limits (i.e. improving standards.)

CPRE: Caroline reported CPRE are working on a Hedgerow Report and are responding to Local Plans.

1.2 Follow up from Local Elections

Winchester still has a Lib Dem majority. WinACC is talking to Councillors about which actions will do most to reduce carbon emissions and to encourage them to focus on the most important things.

Basingstoke held an online Green Hustings and will continue to work with Councillors across the parties.

SECA had sought Climate Action Pledges from candidates before the election and those who have now won seats need to be talked to again to urge them to take action. SECA website: https://seclimatealliance.uk/about/#:~:text=The%20South%20East%20Climate%20Alliance%20%28SECA%29%20is%20a,set%20up%20to%20share%20ideas%20and%20coordinate%20action.

E Hants HCC Cllr Oppenheimer has now joined HCC Transport Committee.

1.3 Neighbourhood Plans

CSE have produced resources for Neighbourhood Planning in a Climate Emergency. A guide to policy writing and community engagement for a low carbon neighbourhood plan. Community engagement is key as there will be a referendum: the guide explains the work needed to involve the community and the process of including renewable energy into the plan.
https://www.cse.org.uk/downloads/reports-and-publications/policy/planning/renewables/neighbourhood-planning-in-a-climate-emergency-feb-2020.pdf

Wind turbine guidance:

https://www.cse.org.uk/downloads/reports-and-publications/community-energy/planning/neighbourhood-planning-wind-guidance.pdf

1.4 Work with Schools

If you want to join the HampshireCAN Schools Interest Group emails, tell Sue James by emailing HCAN@winacc.org.uk.

1.5 Report from Andover Trees United

Neither Wendy Davis or Liz Scrace was available to present the report from Andover Trees United. Carol is a volunteer with the group. Building on the work of the last 10 years where 10000 children have planted 10000 trees supported by the whole Andover and villages community, developing a new strategic plan for the next decade is under way. The following statements represent the combined aspirations of the ATU community (consultation 2020).

● To establish ATU as an exemplar of community conservation and environmental education

● To create a flagship town for urban greening Through the collaboration and engagement of the local community and other stakeholders (local, regional, national), continue to manage and care for the Diamond Wood for nature and for learning. To continue to plant trees and invest in the development, monitoring and management of local green spaces, thereby creating a tapestry of connected ecosystems to increase biodiversity and climate resilience.

● To engage with the whole community through conservation, the arts, social events, nature-based activities, workshops, and education and, in so doing, to educate, inspire and raise awareness of local, national, and international climate and sustainability issues

● To engage creatively with nature, to develop skills and aid physical and mental wellbeing

● To continue as a sustainable, community-led, grass roots environmental organisation and to grow in capacity, delivering accredited training programmes that connect people to nature To achieve replication of the 'Trees United' model in communities across the UK, starting with TVBC.

● To combat climate change and environmental degradation by empowering present and future generations of environmental leaders through education and positive action. For further information about our current work and achievements over the past decade visit https://www.andovertrees.org.uk/

Harmony woods is a public area but if you wish to join an event or a work party please join via the website.

2. Hampshire County Council Climate Emergency and Expert Forum

Martin Heath and Phil Gagg represent HCAN at the HCC Climate Expert Forum; Anne Stephenson and Les Morrell attend as members of Friends of the Earth, and James Miller from XR.

If you wish to join the HCAN HCC interest group to help influence HCC policies email HCAN with your request.

Reporting from discussion at the HCC Interest Group, Danny felt that some good work is being done and progress in cutting the County Council's own carbon emissions. We have not seen committee reports or papers showing the evidence base for decisions or procedures on how decisions are made so the Forum cannot accurately comment on some of the proposals and plans to cut carbon emissions.

Part of the problem in measuring carbon emissions, setting targets, and monitoring if targets have been reached arises from differing methods of gathering data both historically and currently.

Action: A request to be made to ask to see relevant papers and reports in advance of the meeting.

Councillors and officers need training because climate change is a fast-moving extensive topic which needs to be considered in all Council decisions.

Action: HampshireCAN Interest Group to see if training is in the Climate Emergency Action Plan and if it is being delivered.

Cllr Jan Warwick, Climate Lead for HCC is now in the Cabinet.

Action: Chris Holloway will write to Cllr Warwick to say how pleased we are that she is now in the Cabinet, and we would like to invite her to meet with a small group from HCAN to discuss the main issues.

3. Transport

3.1 Green Travel Hampshire

This developed from the previous HampshireCAN Transport Interest Group. If you would like to join this group email us at HCAN.

3.2 Southampton Airport Expansion

This has now been given the go ahead by Eastleigh Council. We should hold national Government to account to uphold their Climate Emergency Declaration of 2019 and not expand airports.

Update since the meeting AXO Southampton have set up a Go Fund Me fund raiser for a Judicial Review.
https://www.gofundme.com/f/soujr?utm_campaign=p_cp_display&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer

3.3 Bus Back Better

A new Dept of Transport initiative means that transport authorities (HCC, PCC, SCC) need submit a Bus Improvement Plan by 30 October to secure funding for buses. HCC need to coordinate with community services and bus services crossing the borders in and out of Hampshire.

WinACC is writing to Cllr Rob Humby at HCC to say this is a big opportunity to improve public transport.

Additional info on WinACC website. https://www.winacc.org.uk/better-buses/

3.4 Clean Air Day 17th June 2021

Clean Air resources are available all year round from
https://www.cleanairhub.org.uk/

4. National Campaigns

4.1 Planning for COP26

All green events can be used to promote COP 26 and put political pressure on the Government and explain Political Action to visitors to events.

Sue James will invite people to an extra HampshireCAN meeting regarding planning events for COP 26. Further info: https://www.winacc.org.uk/global-climate-conference-cop26/

Please film people Singing for the Climate as part of your activities, to form Hampshire-wide publicity. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGgBtHoIO4g

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Marcha Glasgow: Spanish XR are marching from Portsmouth to Glasgow for COP 26. The first three days they will walk though Hampshire starting around 29th September/1st October. Their plan is to get involved in any actions and events or publicity arranged alongside when going through towns and villages and to welcome walkers to join them on their local stages of the walk.

Nicky the English speaking contact wishes to get in contact with XR, Friends of the Earth and other link minded organisations.

For more information contact email: marchtoglasgoweastcolumn@gmail.com

If you would like the original email with attachments, please email HCAN.

4.2 The CEE Bill

The Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill was drafted by scientists and ecologists and tabled by Caroline Lucas as a more robust alternative to the Environment Bill and includes a series of measures designed to reverse climate and ecological breakdown.

A coalition of Winchester groups have been promoting this bill with events and a video.

4.3 The Environment Bill

This is the Government Bill to replace European legislation. Sue reported Flick Drummond MP had been contacted to ask for sections to be more strongly worded. The proposed amendments were voted out. The Bill seems feeble compared with EU legislation.

8. Future meetings

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