Hampshire Climate Action Network 30 April 2022 - Minutes

Present (includes people only present for part of the meeting

Phinna Brealey	Alton Climate Action Network, East Hants
Bob Clifford	Basingstoke Cafe Sci
Martin Heath	Basingstoke Transition Network
Kerry Hickman	Basingstoke Transition Network
Malcolm MacInnes	Basingstoke & Deane Transition Network
Cathy Guy-Murrell	Blackwater Valley Friends of the Earth (Hart & Rushmoor)
Sue James	Havant Climate Alliance (HCAN convenor)
Danny Lee	PeCAN (Petersfield Climate Action Network) East Hants
Mark Hancock	Southampton co-chair Transition Wind turbine engineer,
Carol Bartholomew	Test Valley (Andover and Romsey) FoE (HCAN convenor)
Chris Holloway	Winchester Action on the Climate Crisis (WinACC) (HCAN Chair)
Phil Gagg	WinACC Transport Action Group
Steve Hallet	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Caroline Dibden	CPRE Hampshire
Caroline Winchurch	CVS Hampshire CIP Project (CEO of Hart Voluntary Action)

Apologies

Gwen Collins	Eastleigh
Mary Wallbank	Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh
Anne Stephenson	Fareham & Gosport FoE
Les Murrell	Hart
Mark Howell	Hart, Church Crookham (next-door to Fleet) specialist in heat
Wilf Forrow	Havant Climate Alliance & Hampshire Green Travel Network (minutes)
Charles Burns	Portsmouth FoE and Rail Future Wessex
Maggie Lippiett	Twyford, Winchester
Wilf Hardy	Green Travel Hants

1. Local action

People shared information about activities and ideas in their areas.

2. Hampshire-wide action

2.1. CPRE

Caroline Dibden emphasised CPRE's interest in working with HCAN groups, especially on planning:

- a blog from National CPRE about planning and climate change: https://www.cpre.org.uk/opinions/theres-a-climate-emergency-and-the-planning-system-is-not-helping/
- CPRE London work on how urban green space can not only help with climate change, but also health and wellbeing: https://www.cprelondon.org.uk/news/an-agenda-for-the-next-mayor-of-london/

- the Cool Carbon Network at the University of Berkeley, lots of useful tools and publications (albeit very USA based); the paper below shows (with helpful graphs) that the single biggest influence that local authorities can have on climate change is to encourage urban infill, discourage car dependent sprawl: https://coolclimate.berkeley.edu/scenarios

Danny Lee told people about East Hants's new Climate Change and Sustainable Construction Supplementary Planning Document with which PECAN had been involved, and which he believed could make a real difference: https://easthants.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s20169/App1%20EHDC%20Adoption%20CC%20SC%20SPD%20FINAL.pdf

2.2. Councils for Voluntary Service project

Caroline Winchurch, Chief Executive of Hart Voluntary Action, explained how the Councils for Voluntary Service across Hampshire want to do more on the climate emergency. (Councils for Voluntary Service– CVS for short – are independent umbrella bodies which support voluntary and community groups in their area. There's usually one CVS per district plus one for Hampshire, though some (e.g. Community First Wessex) covers more than one district.

CVS climate activity includes:

a) welcoming community climate groups into their membership. They offer various useful services, from lists of funding sources to template policies to equipment loans etc (it varies from one to another)

b) encouraging more traditional voluntary organisations to think about how they can cut their organisation's climate footprint

c) getting information out to the people who use services of traditional voluntary organisations – e.g. telling old people at lunch clubs about advice on saving energy

The CVS together, under the name Community Infrastructure Partnership, have a National Lottery grant from the Together for the Planet programme to co-ordinate community-led research on how to respond to climate change challenges. They will create and coordinate Action Learning sets involving local community organisations to generate ideas and priorities for the local charities and groups. They will also develop a Hampshire Environmental Network to help the charities and groups to share ideas and learning and to take action to respond to green and environmental issues.

They would like to make contact with HCAN members.

Caroline will set up a zoom meeting and publicise it for interested HCAN people to join her for a discussion about what how we might get involved, and to tell her about what we have learnt about what does and doesn't work.

If your organisation is interested in being involved with the HEN, contact:

Action Hampshire www.actionhampshire.org
Basingstoke Voluntary Action www.bvaction.org.uk
East Hampshire support@cfirst.org.uk.
Fareham support@cfirst.org.uk.

Gosport Voluntary Action www.gva.org.uk
Hart Voluntary Action www.hartvolaction.org.uk
New Forest support@cfirst.org.uk.
One Community www.1community.org.uk
Rushmoor Voluntary Services www.rvs.org.uk
Test Valley (incl Andover & Romsey) www.unityonline.org.uk
Winchester support@cfirst.org.uk.

2.3. Hampshire-wide action with HCC

HCAN convenors Carol Bartholomew and Sue James reported on their 25 April meeting with Hampshire County Council's portfolio-holder on the climate, Cllr Jan Warwick, and senior Climate Officer Chitra Nadarajah.

The meeting had been disappointing, with the main message being that Chitra could see no role for HCAN except to publicise HCC's flagship climate projects, the Greening Campaign and Community Energy South. They did suggest that it might be useful to tell the next Expert Forum meeting about Green Week plans.

It seems likely that HCC will invite the CVS group to join the Expert Forum.

We might focus on developing relationships with various HCC departments instead of trying to do so centrally via Chitra's team. WinACC already has constructive relations with the HCC Transport officers and members; a deputation from HCAN to the Hampshire health &Wellbeing Bord persuaded them to add Climate to their priorities even before HCC declared an emergency; and recently, Children's Services has been prompted by the children they work with to do more on the climate.

HCAN reps at the next meeting of the HCC Expert Forum on 8 June should make these points in the conversation under the agenda item on the Expert Forum:

- recognising that Chitra and her team don't cover transport and waste, these topics should be in the remit of the Forum - it's not aimed at supporting Chitra's team but the whole HCC work on the climate
- is it really the task of Forum reps to be a channel for messages from Chitra to their networks? If so, can we share minutes? And can they tell us clearly when they want something shared?
- we'd like a small cross-sector group to discuss and agree the Expert Forum agenda

Chris Holloway reported that the small working group convened by Ben Anderson of Southampton University to consider whether to organise a Climate Assembly for Hampshire or a larger area had decided that the work involved would be a waste of time unless we believed that the relevant decisionmakers would take the recommendations seriously. So they are now proposing to hold different workshops focusing on different aspects that would interest HCC, starting with the role of the business community.

2.4. Community energy initiatives

Catriona Cockburn from Petersfield is setting up a community benefit company provisionally called Energise South Downs to stimulate and support community energy schemes in the South Downs National Park. Alton may be interested in such a scheme. WinACC in Winchester may get involved. Martin Heath from Basingstoke is in touch with them all. Get in touch if you are interested.

2.5. Campaign for Hampshire Pension Fund divestment

Please encourage as many people as possible to respond to Hampshire Pension Fund's own short survey to support their proposal to reduce investment in fossil fuel (more at https://www.winacc.org.uk/hampshire-pension-fund-wants-your-views-on-divestment/, including sample reply).

2.6. Farnborough Airport Expansion campaign

Farnborough Noise is a group concerned with noise and pollution from private jets flying out of Farnborough Airport, and the new flightpaths impacting residents in the surrounding area. Blackwater Valley Friends of the Earth is asking everyone who is concerned about airport expansion and climate change to write to their local Councillor and/or MP . Please circulate the link to their petition and encourage people to sign: https://www.change.org/p/jeremy-hunt-mp-stop-the-noise-and-environmental-harm-caused-by-farnborough-airport?signed=true

3. Formalising the HCAN structure

At the last meeting, we agreed to create a membership scheme for groups, with a mailing list open to groups and individuals.

More details for those who are interested are at https://www.winacc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/hampshire-climate-action-network-changing-tor.docx

The revised terms of reference https://www.winacc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/hampshire-climate-network-terms-of-reference-draft-2022_04_30.docx were approved subject to any comments received before 30 May 2022.

You can see the old terms of reference adopted in October 2020 at https://www.winacc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/hampshire-climate-network

4. Local Transport Plan 4

Hampshire County Council (the transport authority for the county area) is asking what we think of their draft Local Transport Plan. More, with suggested responses to the survey, at https://www.winacc.org.uk/about-us/action-groups/transport/local-transport-plan-4/. Please encourage people to respond.

HCAN will co-host a meeting on this, with WinACC and Green Travel Hampshire on Saturday 14 May, 10.30 to 12.00 at St Peter's Parish Room, Jewry St, Winchester SO23 8RY. More here https://www.winacc.org.uk/transport-for-the-next-decade/ . To join remotely by zoom email transport@winacc.org.uk for the link.

5. Directory of speakers

Sue James will create a list of speakers - groups or people. She will consider how to share it and how to require feedback to check the quality of speakers on the list. Please send all suggestions or offers to hcan@winacc.org.uk

6. Future meetings:

- 23 July – hybrid; zoom and in person. Chris Holloway to book suitable venue in Winchester.
- Date of meeting after that – to be decided.

News items not discussed

1. COP27

The COP26 Coalition is preparing for COP27 in Cairo and has a new name: the Climate Justice Coalition. Find out more including details of their launch meeting on https://cop26coalition.org/what-next/)

2. Useful examples of local action from FoE

How local councils are acting on climate | Climate Action (takeclimateaction.uk)

3. Green Jobs

The Campaign against Climate Change has run a series of webinars on transforming our economy and creating green jobs to go with their book on Green Jobs.
See https://www.cacctu.org.uk/climate_jobs_meetings