Hampshire Climate Action Network

Saturday 23 July 10.00 am-12.30

Minutes

Present:

Karen Barratt	Winchester
Carol Bartholomew	Test Valley FoE (Andover and Romsey)
Charles Burns	Portsmouth FOE
Phil Gagg	WinACC
Cathy Guy-Murrell	Blackwater Valley Friends of the Earth
Mark Hancock	Transition Southampton
Alison Hewitt	Yateley Climate Action Network (Hart)
Christine Holloway	WinACC
Sue James	Havant Climate Alliance
Danny Lee	PeCAN, Petersfield, E Hants
Malcolm MacInnes	Basingstoke & Deane Transition Network
Emily Murrell	Winchester
Les Murrell	Rushmoor
Sheila Peacock	Basingstoke
Ann Spencer	Winchester
Anne Stephenson	Fareham & Gosport FoE
Linda Wain	Oakley,

Apologies: Liz Batten, Caroline Dibden, Wilf Hardy, Martin Heath, Kerry Hickman, Eleanor Hill, Nicky Judd (Action Hampshire),

1. Global and national context incl. Extreme heat; Cop 27; net zero scepticism in the conservative party. Right wing press seeing campaigners as 'woke'. How do we keep climate high on the agenda locally and nationally in the current UK political environment?

A focus on Ecocide? Sheila mentioned a useful Quaker debate about arresting climate wreckers under the Statute of Rome which is linked to the International Criminal Court. https://www.stopecocide.earth/faqs-ecocide-the-law

Malcolm is working on a checklist of answers to climate deniers which he will share when ready.

Sue recommended the BBC2 Series Big Oil vs the World.

Need to get geared up again for COP27.

Spell out what people can meaningfully do; look at alternative futures. HCC 2050 "newspaper" showing good and bad version of 2050 was a good example from a decade ago.

2. Local work

2.1 Green Weeks 2022

Green Weeks are being planned in the national Big Green Week of 24 Sept - 2 Oct in Andover, Basingstoke, Fareham, Havant, Winchester. Most areas are operating a devolved approach, by encouraging local groups to take action.

Action for all: decide if people from other areas can attend your virtual events, and if so (a) put onto HCAN Facebook page and (b) tell HCAN to tell others on the mailing list.

Useful materials from the Climate Coalition.

Suggested involving schools. "Letter to the Future" recommended by Blackwater Valley FoE; Winchester FoE hadn't found it useful. Sue has put ideas for schools and faith groups together on the Havant Climate Alliance website - feel free to copy.

Action for all: Share ideas about who you have invited with Carol (hcan@winacc.org.uk).

2.2 Retrofitting

Hampshire County Council is working with Parity Projects (a driving force behind the creation of 'one stop shops' in Oxfordshire and London) to convene key actors and propose county-wide long-term solutions to recommend how to support homeowners and landlords in Hampshire. Parity Projects would like to meet HCAN groups to share initiatives and discuss how to pull together to accelerate the decarbonisation of homes in Hampshire.

Action: Chris to organise Parity projects to find a suitable date for those who are interested.

4. Across the area

4.1 Latest data from BEIS (Government Department of Business, Energy and Industrial strategy) - What BEIS data tells us and how we can use it

Phil Gagg showed graphs and charts for Hampshire that he derived from BEIS data published 30 June 2022.

Danny suggested that Phil add more about the need to do more to increase nature-based solutions (noting that this means a strategy which will be much wider than existing Biodiversity Action Plans, which were written to comply with Europe about how to increase biodiversity and do not address climate change).

Phil will circulate a sample email to Councillors, and an updated version of his presentation with explanatory text.

Action for all: each group is encouraged to send Phil's document to their HCC Councillor asking for a meeting to discuss it. They may also want to do the same with their MP. Also worth copying letters to HCC climate lead - Jan Warwick.

Action for all: Anyone who wants to produce similar charts with information about their own local authority area should contact HCAN@winacc.org.uk to be put in touch with Phil.

4.2 The "County Deal" – HCC is still hoping to submit a proposal to UK Government to create a "big Hampshire" including all local unitaries plus districts - see appendix 1 to Item 6 at Public Pack) Agenda Document for Cabinet, 07/12/2021 which gives the latest public prospectus.

4.3 Campaign for Hampshire Pension Fund divestment

Hampshire Pension Fund intends to say that it wants no more than 1.5 degrees of heating, instead of under 2 degrees, following recommendations from local campaigners. They have also made it clear that they will divest from companies that do not respond to engagement, and that they want to put more of their capital into green projects. The report on this shift and summary of response to their consultation is at https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeId=189 and a slideshow about the responses https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s97663/2022-07-28%20RI%20policy%20App%202%20Consultation%20Summary%20Report%20Final.pd

Action: Chris will suggest that the Hampshire Pension Fund Divest campaign might find a more positive name, replacing "Divest" with something about good investments.

Emily made people aware of the 'Make Money Matter' campaign which relates to all pension schemes and emphasises the need to for Pension funds to have metrics on progress and targets.

4.4 Hampshire County Council

Action for all: Anyone in HCAN who wants to join our interest group for influencing Hampshire County Council should email hcan@winacc.org.uk and ask to be added to the mailing list. The last HCC Expert Forum on 8 June was more encouraging than previous meetings.

4.5 Transport

- Bus consultation – deadline 24 July.
- Solent Transport will soon launch a Bike share scheme (electric and pedal) – covers only Isle of Wight, Portsmouth, S'ton and district in S Hampshire, Plans for 27 docking stations from August. More at https://www.solent-transport.com/solent-bike-share/
- Local Transport Plan 4 – **Phil** will send people the link as soon as HCC publishes the results of the consultation. He is concerned that key messages may need reinforcing.

4.6 Southern Water consultation about recycling water from effluent.

Sue explained that Southern Water proposes a recycling plant near the waste water plant in Havant and from there, treated water will be taken to the new Havant Thicket Reservoir and via new pipelines to taps around S Hants. The process is unproven, with huge financial and carbon costs and residents have many concerns about the water quality and location as well as the effect on the reservoir which was not approved for this. Nitrates, phosphates and drug residues are all concerns. SW is already holding 'consultations' without having produced data on costs and effects so it needs challenging by 16 August.

Action for all: It's an important consultation and so please get as many people as possible to take part. Responses from groups especially useful. Links to the

consultation and to a new website which explains the issues: https://havantclimatealliance.com/2022/07/22/southern-water-consultation/

4.7 Community Infrastructure Partnership -Together for our Planet

Cathy Murrell will chase the CEO of Hart Council for Voluntary Service, who hasn't responded to Sue about setting up the promised meeting to talk about how we can help her engage non-climate voluntary and community organisations on climate action (maybe emails have gone into Spam?). This was arising from our April meeting (minutes at https://www.winacc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/2022_04_30-hcan-mins.pdf)

5 HCAN internal

5.1 Membership – People agreed that it made sense to ask for voluntary annual donations from any group joining HCAN now that a collecting tin doesn't reach attenders by zoom, and that £20 was a reasonable suggestion (mostly to cover the cost of meeting venues). **Chris** will try to set it up so that people can either make a transfer by BACs or request an invoice.

5.2 Directory of speakers – it was agreed not to pursue this suggestion unless there were a volunteer to pull responses together.

6 Future meetings

Next meeting 15th October, to be hybrid. **Actions: Chris** will provisionally book the same Winchester venue, but **others (e.g. Havant, Southampton)** will explore whether they have a suitable venue which can do a hybrid meeting and is near a railway station.

The date of meeting after that will be 21st January 2023.