

# Camp for Climate Action

## Glasgow Gathering

### 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2008

## Minutes

#### SATURDAY

#### Welcome and Housekeeping

Toilets, travel pool, food, etc.

Group agreement for facilitation?

- What would we would like in it?
- Lots of hand waving,
- Respect (listening to each other),
- Not repeating,
- Ok to get up in between sections of meetings

Where are we at?

Request to run through all the decisions we've made so far

- Climate Camp going to happen at Kingsnorth
- Day of Action against Agrofuels within the camp
- Mass action on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August
- Equal weight given to coal and biofuels –as appropriate
- Caravan going to the camp: running from Heathrow through London and then onto camp: Less than 70 miles

Land Group

- Land Group sent in short statement: The land group is formulating plans and working well, transport a key issue, and so regular shuttles are required to get people to and from the camp due to poor public transport links. Due to caravan there could be added challenges to securing the site. Email land group at [suggestions@climatecamp.org.uk](mailto:suggestions@climatecamp.org.uk)

Kingsnorth power station

- Announcement by E-on:
- E-on has employed the biggest PR company in the world since the climate camp talked about going to Kingsnorth.
- A lot of NGOs have backed campaign against Kingsnorth.
- Brand is at risk –they are anticipating this, and so launching new wave of green branding, and lots of community funding (Eg, scout huts).
- They are requesting that the decision to rebuild Kingsnorth is postponed till after the current (pointless) consultation: Carbon Capture Readiness Consultation

-It is thought that they have asked for decision to be postponed to firstly avoid knocking it down while we are present, and also to demonstrate they care about the consultation process.

-Secondly, they have entered Carbon Capture and Storage competition to trial Carbon Capture –the government has agreed to let them enter –but only half the power station would have CCS (that is if they even remain in the competition)

#### Questions

-What gov dept? The department for Business and Enterprise

-Has CCS been invented? Not commercially available till at least 2020

-Wider Climate Camp implications? FA cup sponsored by E-ON

-Can this be claimed at victory for climate camp that they have taken action in response to our decision? Between us it can be considered a victory.

-E-on, any other major sponsorships? Yes, a national cycle race: Tour of Britain

-CCS for whole station? No, they didn't even want the station to be Carbon Capture Ready

-Why have they postponed the decision? To avoid Climate Camp taking place as they are rebuilding. They are trying to wait to its cooled off. But we'll ensure it doesn't cool!

Try to rap it up. Any important points...

Need to keep ongoing camp? It is likely to happen at some point, whether climate camp or others.

Need to discuss this issue during networking time.

Confirmation that there is space to discuss this.

#### **Site Group**

Site group handover.

Past camps have been small group of people doing a lot, and getting very burnt out. Many of these people will not be there in the same intensity this year. Need new people to come forward.

A lot of the work is planned out already, it just needs people to do the work.

Why join the site group?

-Site group is essential.

-It has focus.

-It is central to the camp.

-Already worked out how to do it well.

-Non-violent non-scary role, in what might be a scary place.

-It's clean, safe, healthy, lovely.

What do we need in site people?

- Don't need people who are experienced, or just people who are going to do the heavy work.
- It is people with access to phone/internet, good communication skills, staying in touch with rest of site group.
- Just need people with some time they can allocate. Not difficult!
- A day a month would be great –more, even better.

Site co-ordinator from 2007 presents:

- key areas such as toilets, marquees, have had 'how to' guides written up on [www.atcoop.org.uk](http://www.atcoop.org.uk)
- You can just help for temporary period of time.

Key Areas of Site:

- Two/three people in co-ordination roles. None of these people around this year.
- Site design
- Finance specifically for site group: 2/3 of budget goes to site.
- Accessibility,
- On site communications: radio comms, etc
- Transport: drivers –may be semi-detached from site this year? Transport split into two: transporting passengers AND transporting site equipment
- Structures
- Kitchens –includes rocket stoves, water heaters
- Neighbourhoods: also again a networking issue. Site covers kitchen/practicalities
- Power: completely green. New people needed? Will need a few people more. Great opportunity to learn.
- Toilets.
- Plumbing: don't need to be a plumber, just the plastic screw together kit.
- Grey water: another issue visitors are interested in.
- Washing: showers, etc.
- Liaison: local councils, health and safety, etc.
- Tat Down. We've done well in this before. Organisation role.
- Recycling and waste: co-ordinating role. Done well on this in the past.
- Tool stores: best done by someone with own vehicle who can collect stuff during the year.
- Pre-camp space: workshop space, storing spaces: locating these spaces. Avoid central London this year: poor access. East of London.
- Site Office: looking after the crew: tea and coffee, etc. Mostly onsite job, but some work before.
- Training: for people to do work on site. Requires some skills

There is a Site File, also to handover: has all the contacts in, etc.

AT Co-Op: Activist Tat Collective

- ATC is NOT the site group. ATC does not do the work for the site group.

Definition of ATC read out:

*Statement on the relationship between the ATC and Climate Camp Site Group*

## Context

*We have drafted this statement to avoid confusion about the role of the Activist Tat Collective (ATC) which may have been caused by an overlap of people involved in Climate Camp and the ATC.*

*We want to make things very clear in order to avoid people involved in the Climate Camp organisation thinking that the ATC are interchangeable with their site group. We also do not want site group members to mistakenly think that the ATC will do work that is actually their responsibility.*

## Statement of Roles and Relationship

*1) The Activist Tat Collective is a separate and independent group from the Climate Camp Site Group. The ATC workers co-op is essentially an administrative, advisory and educational group. It is not an active site crew. Part of its role is to help expand the number of people able to do the tasks associated with large mobilisations through training. This is to help make the movement more sustainable. In order to do this several of its members have had to step back from active practical involvement in current campaigns, including Climate Camp.*

*2) The new 2008 site group is welcome to come to the ATC for support, advice, skillsharing opportunities and equipment provision. However the site group is expected to do all the 'on the ground' work and tasks involved in putting on Climate Camp 2008, before, during and after the camp. The ATC will NOT actually come and do the jobs associated with the event and they will not provide transport.*

*3) The ATC's other main job is to audit, manage and store equipment and make it available to groups that need it. The Activist Tat Collective exists to manage and provide equipment for several campaigns and this year it has a contract to manage the Climate Camp Equipment.*

Run through list of Site sub-groups to find volunteers

-All sub-groups gain at list one volunteer, some gain multiple volunteers.

Anyone who has queries, questions, about volunteering contact  
[site@climatecamp.org.uk](mailto:site@climatecamp.org.uk)

We are behind schedule this year, but we can work faster because of our experience from previous camps.

BREAK

## **Further Site Group**

Points

-Kids Space: isn't site, but part of well being.

-Kids space was run by different people 2006 and 2007.

-Person happy to continue this year.

-Neighbourhoods: Co-ordination to be done by process. (*NOTE: This was later changed, Neighbourhoods to form own working group*)

Brainstorm of site: discussion of things that were missed or were great.

-A chance to feed into site group.

-Noise of multiple workshops within the main marquee.

-Toilets, designed for giants –need to be smaller.

-Kitchen: separate group? Needs its own budget.

-Bits of site get very muddy. Need woodchip, or suchlike, as we are in a wetter area probably.

-Neighbourhoods must bring own chairs! Not steal workshop hay bales

-Improvements to grey water design needed: will be discussed in site meeting.

-Avoid rope boundary situation: hedges a better boundary. Response: can't grow hedges in time for camp

-Caravan: a lot of people won't be turning up before the camp begins: raises issues.

-Need to make it clear that we need people before the camp, encourage people to come : networking point!

-Need at least 200 on site, at a guess, in order to deal with police attempts to come onsite.

-Heathrow Event on Saturday, caravan sets off on Sunday –three days through central London- going through Kent. Arrive on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August. [Clarify dates]

-Caravan doesn't have to be huge. People can go for a day, and then go.

### **Announcements**

-Small run of flyers out for people to view: after feedback 10,000 will be posted out.

Give your postal address to the networking group. Email

[networking@climatecamp.org.uk](mailto:networking@climatecamp.org.uk)

-Caravan Group to meet over lunch.

### **Action reports**

- Newcastle action on dealership
- Tuesday: 40 people blockaded coal mine in Mid-Wales
- Abafor power station blockaded by people from Bath, Bristol, Oxford,
- E-on offices blockaded in Nottingham
- Glasgow: clowns awarded certificate to Shell for contribution to climate change.
- London: polar bears visited Mayfair showroom for Porsche.
- Another group did CCS spoof! Online.
- London WDM: Jesters gathered to laugh at John Hutton
- People and Planet built power station in parliament square, and burnt Climate Change Bills.
- Heathrow Flash Mob! 27<sup>th</sup> March. Loads of people turning up and revealing red t-shirt saying 'Stop Airport Expansion'. Lots of new people came along. Only surpassed by BAA's losing everyone's bags. –Outreach to workers took place as well. John McDonald MP has fed back to Abacus, who have come out against airport expansion.

- London Rising Tide played spoof game of football outside FA headquarters.
- Y and R headquarters occupied for four hours –PR company.
- Spoof action took place.
- 34 4x4s had tyres deflated –Mung Bean Trick.
- Money needed for Nottingham people’s fines from power station shut down.

Other points:

-Event page on Facebook: 400 confirmed, 500 maybe: on track to get a much bigger camp.

LUNCH

### **Days of Action Discussion**

Break up into small groups for discussion...

Group 1

- Fossil Fuels day: not as much focus as RBS day,
- Comedy was good
- Not enough media coverage
- Not to fetish direct action as a thing in itself, but as a means to ends: more strategy.
- BUT give young and newly formed groups something to plug into.
- Questions to be asked about actions: what do we want changed? Possibility of targeting specific companies in future.

Group 2

- Lots of actions
- Rising Tide gave support
- Local and national coverage –need to go beyond local coverage.
- But good local coverage was good.
- Timing was bad, because April Fools Day means newspapers concerned with other coverage: central news item, to which other actions can be linked.
- Flash mob useful for getting people from both ends of the activist spectrum

Group 3

- D-locks on pumps very good because they can’t be cut off due to sparks going off.
- Meeting for legal support afterwards
- Conclude that need for national press.

Group 4

- Worked well as local level mobiliser
- Concern about national level media coverage
- People got engaged after long time: in future, open meetings in advance to enable people to get involved.
- Specific group of people
- National media not essential to make it successful day of action
- Make it ‘not’ a joke, but serious and thus don’t do it on April 1<sup>st</sup>

Information on the future days of action at: [www.daysofclimateaction.org.uk](http://www.daysofclimateaction.org.uk)

-Movement building co-ordinated at the neighbourhood level.

Announcement: Direct Action Legal Training: Full Day for Grass roots action 3<sup>rd</sup> May @ Greenpeace, Canonbury Villas, London. [Paddy@planestupid.com](mailto:Paddy@planestupid.com)

Clarification of point of session: Network for Climate Action want days of action

### **Flyer Discussion**

- Not a 'for everyone' flyer: can attract people who are encouraged by police confrontation, but scare people who are not used to this.
- 'Do not Cross': there should be no suggestion that you shouldn't come to the camp.
- Lacks details in informing people,
- Too many negatives
- People found it funny. Might appeal to anti-authority people who are not yet political
- Should not encourage 'festival like atmosphere'.

### **Response**

- The camp did have a festival like atmosphere: should we not use this to our gain?
- Publicity cannot have details of everything in, but just raise instant attention.

- It is this flyer or we don't get fliers till May
- Can't write a new flyer till May
- Can go to networking working group time if you want to get involved.
- Or speak to people during tea breaks.

### **Mass Action Group**

- Mass action group formed, to speed up the mass action process (because previously it had taken up loads of time at camp)
- Mass action working group is a closed group... but will give proposals to wider group.

-Three Proposals for the gathering from the group...

1. That the aim of the mass action at Kingsnorth will be to shut down the power station, using diversity of tactics. The only limitation is our imagination.
2. Mass action group will collect research, ensure detailed reccies, produce materials, zines, etc. A decentralised model of organising for the mass action.
3. Despite non-violent nature of the camp, the police are incredibly violent: Conceive ideas to combat this. Eg: human shield of padded persons, with medics etc inside. People with padding have responsibility of breaking through police lines. Can fit into a diversity of tactics.

Worry about talking openly about too many tactics, because we can't then surprise police.

Clarify: that the three proposals are not in competition with one another.

Is the group closed? Yes, at this stage, but the group can be emailed.

- This should be wider group decision:
- It *is* a wider group decision, as it is in the proposals.
- How do we measure the success of a mass action?

Discussing tactics? Should we separate the tactic discussion from other things?  
 -We should discuss tactics, because we need to know the ideas.

- Questions for working groups?
- What has worked so far?
  - What have we achieved from it?

Person concerned with process:  
 -There was never an agreement to have a closed mass action group.  
 Response: it is still in the proposal stage, so break into smaller groups...

Split into smaller groups...

#### Group 1

- Mass consensus decision making inspiring, but tiring. Give time to consensus decision making process before and at camp, so people know how to get involved.
- Broad proposal: Mass Action Info point: info on where the process is up to, etc.
- Working as neighbourhoods more effectively. Engage neighbourhoods.
- Aims of mass action: to introduce new people to direct action, inflict economic damage, attract media.
- Mass Action group should: Research, recy, get resources: important!
- Felt very strongly that closed mass action group decision should be made by gathering.
- Discussed pros and cons of closed group/open group.
- Shouldn't be the role of the Mass Action group to choose action itself
- Find way of enabling people to join Mass Action closed group: but acknowledge problems with this –maybe allow people to join now and then close.
- Regional groups must be aware of networking plans

#### Group 2

- 400 people making decision is silly.
- Use of spokescouncils?
- London had too big an influence to deciding mass action: hijacked by outsiders.
- Big meetings can be as disempowering as empowering.
- This year we do something effective and not just symbolic.
- Pay attention to how people feel about the action, acknowledge there are different aims people have: eg raise awareness, economic damage.
- Mass action resolve around lots of small groups?
- How can we measure success with an action?
- No new coal power stations built in Britain.
- Good media coverage.
- Sense of victory.
- Mass occupation of Kingsnorth, whether or not we stop it.
- Closed group: but questions of how groups and individuals could bring proposals.  
 Could proposals be brought at the camp, or would it have to be before via email.

-Who would share action info. Action support or Mass action? How close will these groups work together.

### Group 3

- Consensus was very hard with the large group decision making at camp at Heathrow –yet there was consensus on the target
- On the day of action itself there was achievement. Blend of tactics and techniques used.
- Media mileage important but not the most important.
- Take care not to alienate sections of the population.
- The camp and the action represent different things, both positive.
- The camp became big media event, so this meant media attention for mass action wasn't so important
- State aims before action, in order to then measure success.
- Mass action working group: a split in the group over the benefits of both pre-planning and at-camp process.
- Mass action working should come up with suggestions, not dictates.
- Open process must feed into any closed mass action group.
- Took time to come to agreement on the remit

### Group 4

- Inspiring to see decision making process, and dishonest to put people in situation they are not sure of.
- The decision making should be simple because only one target.
- Email not secure way to plan action
- Action distracted from education and organising of camp.
- Wider remit for action support.
- Neighbourhood planning should be built on: this could be built on by mass action group.
- Reps from each neighbourhood.
- Both public process for those who turn up on the day, and closed process for those who are there during the camp in neighbourhoods.
- Does the closed group make the decision, or facilitate the decision?
- Quite clear mass action group believes decentralised action likely to be most successful –but concerns raised about those who will travel down for the day itself. 'Secret' plan will be announced in time for the police, but not in time for those coming along to the camp for action itself.

Three groups feel it is ok to closed group, so long as there was dialogue with wider camp. So need to address this issue first.

### Points:

- Suggestion that many affinity groups bring proposals to public process, rather than there being one single secret group. So we shouldn't have main mass action group
- Should have chance to join working group if it does exist.
- Half the proposed remit is coming up with the plan, which should be affinity groups, not official group.
- Starting at the wrong point: lets start with 'how do we organise mass action?' not 'do we need closed group?'

- Wouldn't want to stop mass action group doing what they are doing: they are doing to right thing.
- It will be down to how people respond to mass action group's ideas.
- 'Closed' mass action group

**Proposal: That the mass action group can begin research and reccying, and will bring proposals about their role and remit to the next gathering in May (in advance of the meeting)**

**-Consensus**

BREAK

### **Research Proposal**

Dan from York Uni introduced himself. He is originally from Rumania and has been involved in a campaign on opencast mining. He has carried out research on Rumanian direct action movements (e.g. how they use consensus decision-making, the internet etc), and wants to carry out similar research on the climate camp. He acknowledged that such projects can raise security concerns, and said that he would not record discussions or meetings without the explicit consent of those involved.

Dan was thanked for asking, and for his openness in explaining what he is doing, but that he was entitled to do research, and that it would be up to individuals to consent to participate.

**Consensus: fine for Dan to carry out his research on the basis proposed.**

### **Working Group Updates**

#### A) POLICE AND COUNCIL LIAISON

A rep from last years' group explained that only two people from that group who intend to be involved this year, and that it could do with more people. It is a group that has important functions both practically and in terms of PR. The roles are:

- (a) To liase with the Council(s) in the area (in conjunction with site practicalities): important for sorting out practicalities and good PR locally;
- (b) To liase with the police on behalf of the camp
- (c) To liase with the police on behalf of the caravan (the caravan group will probably sort out people to do this)
- (d) To have a support group for those liasing with the police (to relieve the stresses on the police negotiators).

#### B) FINANCE GROUP

There are budget proposals from the Process, Biofuels, Caravan and Networking groups. It was pointed out that not all the funding is in place, hence funding approvals are necessarily provisional on funds being raised.

##### *i) Process group*

This years' Process Group budget proposal is larger than previous years:

£300 for general expenses  
£300 for Gathering support  
£100 for fundraising  
£100 for the finance group  
£100 for setting up Riseup e-groups on behalf of all the other groups.  
Total £900

It was felt that £300 for sundry expenses was too much given uncertainties about the funds available. They could request more if need be. It was AGREED to reduce sundries to £150, and hence to approve a total budget of £750

### **Consensus**

#### *ii) Caravan working group*

Total expenditure is expected to be £5,700:

£500 for reccyng the route  
£700 for overnight venue costs (£100 per night)  
£500 for caravan decoration and display material  
£500 to produce a caravan leaflet / publicity material  
£3500 for food and additional accommodation

Of this, £1,000 has been fundraised, and £3,500 is expected to be recouped, by asking participants to contribute £5 per person per day to cover food.  
Hence the total contribution requested from camp funds is £1200.

It was requested that the caravan liase with networking over any leaflet or publicity material.

-It was pointed out that we need to approve the full £5,700 because, although it was anticipated that the net expenditure would be £1,200, the other £3,500 would need to be spent before it would be recouped from the participants – i.e. it should effectively be a loan.

-It was recognised that this loan could not be guaranteed although the caravan group would do its utmost to adhere to a net £1,200.

-There was one stand-aside on the grounds that the loan couldn't be guaranteed.

-It was agreed that finance and the caravan group should work out a finalised proposal for how to manage this risk.

#### *iii) Incinerator 'caravan' group*

It was recalled that one of the camp locations proposed at a previous gathering was a protest at a proposed incinerator at Newhaven.

-Although that proposal had not been adopted, the group proposing it were now keen to run a carnivalesque caravan from Newhaven to join the main caravan, either at Heathrow or further along on its route.

-The group requested £200 for publicity and decoration materials.

It was suggested that this is a relatively small amount which was reasonable, but it should be capped at this sort of level, because incineration was only a small part of the wider climate issue and it was not appropriate to put a lot of resource into activity which dissipating the main focus of the camp.

- In response, it was pointed out that the incinerator industry are getting away with permits to be counted a form of offset despite producing some particularly damaging emissions.
- It was also suggested that a £200 sum could fairly easily be raised locally, and that if we approved this funding request from central funds this could open the way for many groups to put in similar requests.
- If there is a group which is strong enough to put on the caravan, it should be strong enough to raise £200.

The proposal was not approved.

*iv) Biofuels working group*

The group is asking for:

£257 for 2000 A3 posters

£189 for 2000 A4 posters

£445 for 40000 fliers

£65 for 2000 leaflets

£200 for design

Total £1150

- It was suggested that it should be possible to get design for free.
- There was also concern at spending over £1K on publicity independent of the networking budget – should the two not be integrated?
- In response, it was suggested that the networking budget was proposed to be reduced by c£1K to compensate, also that the networking group had concluded that ‘dual messaging’ was not possible in practice, hence its preference was to have two separate publicity budgets for the main camp and the biofuels day of action.
- Publicity for biofuels would also include publicity for the camp.

A decision was deferred till the morning.

-Ale was drunk.

## SUNDAY

### Workshops

Workshops

- Speaker session needs more radical anti-capitalist speakers, rather than just the liberal left that doesn't represent us.
- Someone to speak from abroad
- Science workshop every day
- Themed days: eg, G8 day.
- Climate Justice in the South: carbon trading etc, broaden it into wider ecosystem destruction: could fit into themed days.
- Christian Aid: Global South knowledge. Campaign against the Arms Trade: climate change links
- Rather than themed days, have workshops thematically labelled
- Paul Rodgers: University of Bradford, war and climate change

- Practicalities: division of the main marquee bad for noise. Also, more space required for practical workshops
- Space for discussion movement strategy/international strategy
- Build bridges with other movements: eg Trade Union.
- Tony Benn: as ex-MP to speak as ex-minister of energy.

Workshop group's thoughts already

-Broad question every day that can be addressed both practically or intellectual, then can be drawn together at the end of the day with some form of plenary.

- Direct Action training and teaching of philosophy.
- What if we lose? Workshop
- How do we get more people involved? George Marshall, COIN.
- Question for the day?
- Invite some evil people.
- Gathering that decides the next stage at the camp itself.
- SmashEDO, green economics
- History/why of direct action.
- Discussion of anarchism
- Big plenary of both coal and biofuels.
- Role of women/feminism and climate change
- Workshops aimed at teenagers
- Repeat workshops
- Evening workshops will be part of the caravan.

### **Introduction to Working Groups**

All working groups introduced themselves, before breaking into working group time.

For info on working groups see website working group page.

### **Finance Issues**

(Small group, but all invited to attend)

Caravan Group Budget:

Travel	500	
Venues		700
Materials	500	
Publicity	500	
Food and additional costs	3500	

Total 5700

The Caravan Group will fundraise and generate income, which will be added to the Climate Camp's funds. The net cost to Climate Camp at any point in time will not exceed 1200.

**Approved**

## Networking Group Budget

We want to see a coherent strategy about printing before we approve the final figure for this. In the mean time we approve the following budget:

Printing	3000
Travel/Stalls	2000
Public Meeting	200
Web Hosting	100
Reaction Money	500
Sneezers Tour	1250
Total	7050

Networking will not be allowed to spend more than 40% of available Camp funds.

## Approved

### Agrofuels Day Of Action Group Publicity Budget

Posters	446
Fliers	445
Leaflets	65
Total	956

Not approved yet.

AT Collective Contract:

### Contract between AT Group & Camp For Climate Action

1. *That the AT Group henceforth takes over responsibility for the equipment that is currently owned by the Camp for Climate Action including responsibility for storage and maintenance.*
2. *That the AT Group in return guarantee to:*
  - (a) *to responsibly store and maintain the equipment in working order;*
  - (b) *ensure that it is available to the Camp for Climate Action free of charge, provided that:*
    - (i) *the Camp for Climate Action is liable for any damage or loss of said equipment while in its care;*
    - (ii) *the Camp for Climate Action is liable for costs of transport said equipment to its events;*
    - (c) *in so far as possible, and subject to clause 2 (b), to provide the equipment to other campaigning groups, prioritising those groups involved in campaigning*

*against the root causes of climate change and/or radical social change, provided that:*

*(i) the AT Group may charge a fee and/or deposits to recover costs of maintenance, storage or replacement and to cover future investment in equipment.*

*(ii) The AT Group assumes liability for dealing with damage and loss of equipment, other than normal wear and tear, while on loan or hire to other events.*

- 3. The AT Group will work in conjunction with future Climate Camps to in respect of helping supply and maintain equipment and provide training in so far as is possible, thus spreading the resources as effectively as possible and increasing the skills base of the movement.*
- 4. That this agreement is reviewed in Spring 2009 and made subject to any new conditions as agreed to by the parties, failing which all materials then in the possession of the AT Group originating in the Camp for Climate Action shall return to them.*

## **Approved**

Biofuels Group to be given provisional budget of £500 pending detailed strategy.

## **Approved**

## **Announcements**

A Networking subgroup for outreach has been developed to get Climate Camp info out beyond the usual suspects via an email asking if people would like to have someone from Climate Camp to give talks to groups. Trainings are being offered to enable people to speak about the camp, especially to people who came to the camp for the first time last year. George Marshall of Climate Outreach Information Network will be providing the training on how to communicate the climate camp issue to these groups. One is in London on Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Greenpeace office. Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May in Manchester. An invite to the trainings will be sent out on the climate camp emailing lists. It would be useful to have people from all neighbourhoods involved.

Workers' Climate Action are undertaking preliminary research with Heathrow workers to find out how the issue is being addressed in high emissions industries. Volunteers are needed especially those in West London who can go to Heathrow every now and again.

Please email process if you know that you are building a neighbourhood group as we need to know people are coming!! Networking will also be coordinating with neighbourhoods to get publicity out.

## **Gathering in June**

Brighton has shown some interest and Bristol will also be considered. Preferably in the first or second weekend in June. Details will be emailed out via the process group.

## **Feedback From Working Groups**

### **Kids Group Feedback**

- Report back from kids group
- Kids present letter to police asking them not to be violent
- Kids share ideas for activities for the kids' area.
- Including model power stations, facepaints, other ideas.
- Adults: lots of participatory activities, lots of kids' specific workshops
- Sub-kids group: for kids to active decision making in the run up to the camp, and also for teenagers as well.
- Needs more people for kids' space!
- Suggestion that letter from kids to police be sent to police and also to media.

### **Networking feedback**

- Networking team have 63 people on list but need everyone to do networking work and target local areas with publicity etc.
- Have engaged designers and are getting together concepts for publicity.
- Everything is ticking over nicely – publicity going well
- Materials produced will be concerned with the camp – are working with other groups eg caravan and biofuels, and where appropriate these things will be included as well.
- Networking are developing strategies for getting NGO's and local groups onboard – could do with tips and contacts to help with this.
- Website being revamped – should be done by May.
- Re: Will send out two emails – one to groups about having speakers at their events, one to network about training days will be run to train people to go out and do this.
- Need help from people in local groups to join up speakers and groups that need them regionally. Looking for regional coordinaters to help out with this.
  - o Or at least have people going back to the regional groups and letting them know about this.
  - o Get in touch with networking about this.

### **Process Group Feedback**

3 quick announcements:

- Working groups for next gathering should put together timelines for their main targets for the summer and camp, and details of what skills etc they need (for May gathering)
- Put out on network call for agenda items for next gathering – need to be on time and detailed (was a problem this time)

Feedback from today: neighbourhoods were going to be coordinated from within the process group, that now isn't going to happen. Will have a separate neighbourhood group.

Fundraising: Process are putting in applications but everyon should be doing their own, contact at [fundraisingATclimatecamp.org.uk](mailto:fundraisingATclimatecamp.org.uk) for ideas, to give your ideas, etc.

More large group facilitation training in London soon – details will go out by email.

### **Workshops Group Feedback**

- Meeting drew up a shopping list for environmental speakers – people can pursue this themselves via contacts etc.
- Points of potential conflict: Eg. Would we want someone like Tony Benn? Ie. Old fashioned left wing, trade union leaders? We have a lot of men on the list and more women would be very welcome.
- Basically asking for people to feed in to the workshops group what they want to see represented from the camp point of view – workshops have tended not to reflect the politics/views of the people involved, for this to happen they need feedback. Contact at workshopsATclimatecamp.org.uk

### **Action Support Group Feedback**

-Now exists (Yay!) will be coordinating with mass action group, once it is cleared up exactly what's going on with that group.

-Will run on a similar but improved version of last year – providing information and resources for those wishing to take action.

-Can people go back to their local groups and look for people who have done training for trainers, or are looking to do training for trainers – that was a problem last year because there weren't enough trainers.

Q: Can there be a place on the website for affinity groups to put up call outs for help with urgent actions?

- May be more relevant for Network for Climate Action, action support group are particular.

### **Biofuels group feedback**

- Working on publicity and distribution plans for day of action.
- Still an open group, looking for anyone who wants to get involved with publicity and action planning for Biofuels day of action...

### **Site Working Group Feedback**

-Reminding people to go back to their groups and remind people that we need more people to come to gatherings etc.

- Site are doing plenty of things but will mostly happen in the month before, but does need more people!

Q: Plugging into eco-village people?

### **Caravan Working Group Feedback**

- Been working on timings etc, info will go up on website soon.
- Accommodation etc info will be sorted by next gathering.
- Next meeting will be after London gathering.
- Caravan will feature a story narrated along the way about industrial capitalism, visiting historic sites etc.
- World Development Movement are going to help out with an event.
- Penny is working on a Putney debate – a forum for debating issues?

## **Kitchen Working Group**

- Most people involved with kitchens so far are based in Edinburgh so meetings are happening up there, it's coming along.
  - o Also some people from SouthWest will definitely get involved.

Nobody from police liaison, legal, medics, gate/security, wellbeing & tranquillity was here to speak.

- Suggestion is that if they don't exist by London we need to push forward getting them set up.
  - Wellbeing & action trauma support do exist, but don't do a lot before the last month.
    - o Should be brought up at London (10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> May) so people can join.

## **Cycle Rack**

1<sup>st</sup> point: Request for people happy to be interviewed for a research project (Lucy)

2<sup>nd</sup> point: Buddy scheme

- Networking idea for skill sharing: asking people who might not be very involved but have skills that could be useful.
  - Idea for people who are new to gatherings etc. to be paired up with a buddy to get them up to speed on what's going on with the camp so far and get them more involved.
  - Buddy scheme can be really helpful to avoid going over things again, and also getting people who haven't been involved in activism before.
  - Can we put out an email asking people who want to be involved with being a buddy for London gathering?
  - Q: Is buddy scheme meant to be more general than skills sharing?
    - o Separate things, but related.
  - Jazz hands for people who would get something out of a skills sharing session – lots
  - Jazz hands for people who could contribute their skills – less hands, but some
    - Q: Could skills shares be coordinated at working group level, getting working groups to make a list of the skills they need for next gathering?
      - o Also getting people to let us know what skills they have, then merging the two.
  - Quite different from training days, which are quite formal, could be a less formal thing.
    - Moving forward with it?
      - o Q: On buddying: is there a way that people coming to gatherings for the first time can be guided in the direction of their neighbourhood etc?
        - More points: can be intimidating for new people who don't know how to get involved with groups that are already quite strong and coherent.
        - Welcome tent worked well last year, but fell apart at neighbourhood level, buddying people at camp might be too complicated, but could work via affinity groups in neighbourhoods?
- Facilitation point: two different things – buddy system at camp, and buddy system for gathering.
- New point: can we trial this at the London gathering and see how it goes?

-New point: London neighbourhood had someone assigned each day to explain process etc, worked quite well.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> point, tended to fizzle out later on in the week, isn't top of priority list. Someone who turned up at weekend last year found it quite difficult to break into groups at camp.

- Suggestion: could we get the newsletter given out at gatherings etc?

**Important:** London neighbourhood approach worked very well, can we make sure that gets discussed again and maybe gets implemented?!

-Direct action training has been a problem because we've not had enough action trainers, particularly in neighbourhoods, which is a good level to start forming affinity groups. Action training should start before camp and be linked with the outreach work.

- Newsletter detailing process of gatherings, and where we're up to available to people on paper at welcome desk would be really useful. (Lots of agreement on that)

- Could be useful if it wasn't just based on the last gathering, but on the whole process, eg: we decided to go to Kingsnorth etc.

o Minutes man would be happy to take that on as extension of minutes work.

- Would it be useful to have a couple of pages for new people that tells them not just decisions but what climate camp is, how it works, decision making etc.

o Feedback on last year: got the hang of things by watching, but struggled in neighbourhood because it was either meetings which new people aren't confident enough to join in with, or people talking to their friends.

Proposal for action points on this:

- Having some sort of printed document about decision making and decisions up to this point, to get people up to speed at gatherings.

- To have a system at camp which works well to help people who arrive new, should be discussed at next gathering and get some people involved.

- Maybe an idea of FAQ's somewhere?

Reminder that we should all befriend new people who look lost, and be careful about using jargon that might be misunderstood.

**Agenda point for London:** Networking group had a discussion about information gathering (research) from new people at camp, needs more discussion – should be discussed more at London gathering.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Item: Kids!**

Several issues: some about kidspace and some about how kids and families are treated and engage in both camp and gathering communities.

- Last year the kidspace was quite an alienating experience, there was an antagonistic position with the rest of the camp, with people either asking for kids to come on actions, or borrowing things from kidspace.

o Kidspace wasn't seen as part of the camp, but as something separate, and that kids could be used in actions.

- Positive thing was that kids today had something to say, and not enough of that happens at the camp. Would be really good for people to bring their skills to the kidspace and get involved.

-There are a lot of strong feelings about people using kids on actions for 'tactical' reasons, might be good for gathering to make a clear decision on where we stand on this.

-DR: parents have responsibility for their children, and if they get involved in actions this should be ok.

- From someone who doesn't have direct involvement with kids it would be really good to have kids involved across camp and not just in kidspace – can be a really positive experience for kids and adults.
- New to the camp this year because last two years have been during Scottish termtime – has experience from G8 where kids were involved a lot. Was very positive experience but growing sense of people being reassured by presence of kids re; arrests etc. This gathering has had good accessible kidspace and should continue.

-Idea that kids should be around camp is positive – last year kids tended to be in kidspace the whole time because it was a safe space for them. Neighbourhoods need to take responsibility for making their spaces more child-friendly.

-Also would be really positive to recognise that kids can participate more within gatherings etc so that their voices can be heard more, it's a power problem that's being ignored.

- Potential action point: contact both workshop working group and neighbourhood working group to make sure they're aware of this issue and working on it.
- Issues of practicalities, kids eating breakfast earlier than adults etc.
  - o DR: Not a good idea to answer this problem with segregation of kids/parents, is an issue for the camp as a whole to address.
- Can be a bit of a gender split – not enough men involved with kids' stuff.
- Potential agenda item for London: A lot of people are unaware of the issues related to kids, could parents and kids do some brainstorming and make a wishlist of what they want, then take it to every working group and get them thinking about mainstreaming kids into the camp.

Potential Agenda item for London gathering: Point about London neighbourhood being too big, can be intimidating, meetings are unmanageable, could be divided into smaller neighbourhoods (discuss at next meeting).

-Issue of kids/parents being shushed by other people: because younger kids want to be with their parents and being told be others to get them out of the way is not acceptable.

- Important to look at the fact that kids are a part of our movement.

-Kids can be disrupting to meetings when they're difficult and stressful, but that's because there isn't adequate kidspace.

-We need to take collective responsibility for this.

### **Action points:**

-Making neighbourhoods more kid-friendly by bringing it up with working group when it's set up.

-Issue is relevant to every group so could we have this as an item at next gathering  
Parents should be able to make up a wish list of what they want/ need from camp.

-Ways of engaging kids are important – some people are going to go away and look at this.

-London gathering definitely needs a kidspace (ideally which isn't selfrun by parents, needs volunteers from the wider group).

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Issue: Non-financial support for anti-incineration group**

Basically, there was a request yesterday for \$200 funding for the anti-incineration group (which emerged from the caravan group), but they want to know how else they can be supported.

-Q: Is this Brighton caravan to be considered a part of the camp, or is an affinity group within the network (it was assumed that it was, and people have gone to other groups etc with it already)?

-Q: Are there issues that climate camp shouldn't/ won't be involved with?

A: Incineration is part of the climate issue, but this is a particular campaign among many.

-Process point: we might not be able to make such decisions here, it might need to go back to working groups etc.

-Is the problem because it's right at the end of the weekend and there aren't that many of us here?

-We are focused on climate change, but our tactical choice was coal, biofuels etc.

-These decisions were in many ways strategic: eg there's a specific plan at Kingsnorth, and specific legislation on biofuels. It's necessary because we're just not big enough.

-The choices for camp have been made, there's no issue of why one and not the other, we should be able to support other campaigns which are happening at the same time.

-Facilitation point: Can the people from networking take on board the request to be incorporated in the literature, and make that decision in communication with the person who proposed, rather than discussing it in this forum?

Yes, this seems to be agreed to as far as it goes.

-Question remains, can this caravan be part of the camp or not?

- Not the right forum for this.

#### **5<sup>th</sup> Point: Where to go/what next?**

Go round of ideas (on a flipchart).

-Proposal for this to be an agenda item at London meeting.

- Proposal to be more creative about how we think about the future – some kind of game to help get this into our consciousness – it's too often pushed to the end of the day because we're so busy doing things now.

- Important to retain the cohesion of the community even if there isn't a camp every year.

Point about using/doing research – it's not a priority for us because we're a direct action movement, and there's a bit of antagonism towards 'strategy'.

- It can be a problem.