

# **Camp for Climate Action National Gathering**

## **31<sup>st</sup> January to 1<sup>st</sup> February 2009**

### **East Oxford Community Centre, Oxford**

#### **SUMMARY OF DECISIONS**

##### **Strategy**

1) In 2009 Climate Camp will highlight the fact that the failed economic system has caused climate change and that proposals to use similar systems at COP and elsewhere are doomed to fail. We will actively oppose these attempts and promote alternatives.

##### **Convergences**

2) To have a big get together of some kind, with the aim of broadening and strengthening our movement.

3) That there is a Convergence Working Group.

4) To hold this event during the summer school holidays (unless the next gathering has a very good reason not to)

5) We will hold a camp on the edge of, or inside, London. The Camp will target the economic system, via the City, Heathrow airport, and/or other London targets. Key elements of the camp will be: an autonomous zone that we control, but also the flexibility to use other nearby buildings so we don't have to build all our own infrastructure from scratch. We recognise that having another major event in the South East could raise issues for groups elsewhere in the country, and so the Camp encourages those groups to send in proposals for any support they might need for their own regional camps or convergences, or for alternative events.

##### **E.ON F.OFF**

6) Security concerns being met, the Camp for Climate Action agrees that the E.ON F.OFF! website will launch a pledge which will read as follows (with tiny word changes to be made by the E.ON F.OFF group): 'If eon try and build a new coal power station at Kingsnorth, I will stop it'

7) On the 26<sup>th</sup> February we organise an E.ON FACE OFF Direct Action warning day. E.ON FACE OFF takes on organising along with other working groups.

8) There will be an E.ON FACE OFF working group set up.

9) If Kingsnorth gets the go ahead there will be an emergency summit two Saturdays afterwards, organised by the EON FACE OFF working group.

10) The camp reinforces its support for a social space in Kent with the financial backing of £9000 which will hopefully be fundraised back for the camp.

## G20

11) We agree to do an autonomous action at the G20. A small group can get together to sort out the details.

12) Climate Camp pledges to target the Carbon Markets on April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Eve of the G20, with a Camp in the City

13) That we set up a G20 working group to implement proposal.

14) G20 Working Group Budget:

Fixed Costs: £1,500

Props: £1,500

TOTAL: £3,000

To be passed on the proviso that the G20 Working Group actively fundraises the money back.

## Finance

15) Only once the goals for 2009 have been agreed can budgets be allocated. Once the goals for 2009 are agreed, all budget proposals for 2009 should be considered together and all finance decisions for 2009 should be revisited.

16) Finance process guidelines:

-Where possible all finance proposals must be submitted both the gathering collective AND to the finance group by the time of the agenda submission deadline.

-All gatherings should set aside an open finance meeting, facilitated by the finance group, where all financial decisions should be considered together. These meetings should be recorded in the main gathering minutes, and fed back to the wider group.

-Each working group should send a representative to the parallel finance meetings.

-Part of the Gathering Summary, attached to the minutes, should include a full summary of financial decisions. These should be complete with figures and any other important details.

-Only gathering agreed working groups should be making financial proposals.

## **FULL MINUTES**

### **SATURDAY**

#### **Welcome and Introduction**

- Housekeeping
- Agenda overview
  
- Photographer wants to take pictures (freelance, trying to document Climate Change activism around the world)
- Facilitator asks group if there are any objections to pictures being taken.
- PROPOSAL: That pictures not taken of meetings, people can opt in outside meetings. AGREED.
  
- Map is going up on wall trying to map out local groups –add the details of your local group, or correct existing details.
  
- Explanation of Facilitators role and Consensus process.
  
- Group Agreement made.

#### **Feedback from Neighbourhood Gatherings**

- Every neighbourhood has had a regional meeting so should have information to feedback, following their discussion of proposals.
  
- Roll call of all neighbourhoods –all present except Wales!
  
- DEVON (6 people)  
Discussion of Proposals. General feeling: go back to Heathrow. Return to Community. Building connections with community very important.
- Strategy and Principles: agreed with much of the aims and principles, but not the strategy put forward.
- Weren't sure on the Finance Proposal: looking for clarification this gathering
  
- SOUTH COAST (7 people)  
-Multiple camps round the country to target different issues. Limit this to East West North South. Bring four issues into public domain.
- Big public actions good, but not replacement for the camp.
- Urban Convergence: practical difficulties with squats, etc and police. One brown field site possible!
- G20 mobilisation and Copenhagen both had strong support!
- Strongly opposed to all said from Finance Group.
  
- OXFORD (15 people)  
-Go round. Discussion of proposals so far.
- No more rural camp –drain on same people's energy.
- But rural camp good for media coverage.

- Urban Convergence: people most strongly favoured this. Felt it was a good opportunity to outwit the police.
- Suggestion that we do a rural/urban thing at the same time.
- Suggestion that target should dictate what we do.
- Concern that we were neglecting Kingsnorth Campaign.

#### LONDON (30-40 People)

- Really good idea to build movement, and summer event would be helpful.
- Mass direct action also a good idea!
- Lots of energy for rural camp next to the city! Proposal for this has been made and will be fed in.

#### WESTSIDE (30 people)

- More explicit about politics
- Want to have urban convergence, and Bristol are doing this. Keen on multiple camps/convergences.
- Linking up with the Welsh Climate Camp

#### WALES (Not present at this stage)

#### NOTTINGHAM

- Cambridge (15 People?)
- Energy from spectacular actions. Energy for Caravans
- Mixed energy on Heathrow. Not as single target.
- One urban convergence stronger agreement than multiple camps.
- Link with economic crises, and enable things to move onto Copenhagen.
- Not to become “Green Butterfly” –maintain commitment to previous targets.

#### WEST MIDLANDS (5)

- Doing more things –eg Climate Camp on Tour
- No one in favour of just one camp –emphasis on different things.
- No clear singular preference –pros and cons of lots of things.

#### NORTH WEST (8)

- No strong feeling against or for any of the specific proposals.
- But overall feeling that we need to change tactics.

#### YORKSHIRE (15)

- Against multiple camps –energy would dilute.
- Relatively interested in Copenhagen and G20, but concern that G20 is too soon.

#### SCOTLAND (16)

- Energy for something to happen in Scotland or the North.
- Urban Convergence popular –change of tactics beneficial.
- Would the thing in Scotland be a separate process? Ongoing discussion!

#### **Presentation of Proposals not included in main discussions**

#### Workers and Community Solidarity

-Workers' Climate Action Proposal: No one to present!

-Unsustainable Industries Proposal: Attempt to do workers led transition. Workers in Carbon Intensive industries are important allies but are understandably suspicious of us given previous slogans, etc we've had. Start working

-Our Politics Proposal -Aims to take forward the stuff we discussed in Bradford, to put it into a concrete proposal.

-Roger seeking to minimise discussion and get the issue sorted as simply as possible. Wants to take temperature check of how people feel about the drafted proposal.

-Concern that there wasn't time to digest –people can speak to Roger for more info and to give feedback.

-Temperature Check to be postponed till after lunch.

### Proposals on Specific Targets without specified form

-Eglington Toll –Proposer not present.

-Carbon Trading –Carbon Trading is the natural bridge between economic crises and Copenhagen. Financial crises –market has crashed, yet still same absurd logic being applied. In Copenhagen Carbon Trading has been proposed as one of the most prominent 'solutions'. Carbon Trading has been presented as a solution. Allows us to take a broader critique of economic systems. Location: London! Where much of the carbon trading deals are being made.

### Discussion of Aims

-Wasn't originally in agenda, but was felt important we consider

Presentation from Climate Camper:

-2009 critical year –sets out framework for how gov and corps are going to deal with Climate Change. Crises of capitalism has now occurred –serious shift in outside world from when Climate Camp first began. Also to consider where Climate Camp came from –to do a Climate Camp outside Drax to kickstart movement against Climate Change. Now the amount of things happening in the direct action movement has changed.

-In summary, things have shifted both internally and externally.

-Do we now need a change of tactics?

-We need to think about WHY climate camp has worked, and if we are to change or get rid of these things, we need to make sure this is done well and for good reason.

-We've made big and difficult decisions collectively, and we've then stuck together

-We've said things no one else is saying: explicitly anti-capitalist!

-We've not claimed to have all the answers, been about ongoing popular education.

-We have also been very confrontational

-We've embraced positives

-We've taken direct action –we have to do it, no one else will.

- A Proposal on Strategy is heard: -Emphasising concern that we need to decide strategy before tactics.
- When we discuss tactics we need to think about our strategy.
- Aims and objectives could be: stopping runways, replacing capitalism, etc
- Proposal contains a specific strategic proposal –but is more keen to emphasise that there must be a specific strategy of some sort –that we agree collectively.
- Hopes that when we discuss tactics, these considerations will be made.
- Split into small groups –discuss aims
- Should stick to aims? Not objectives for now
- Aims are more broad: eg, we want to overthrow capitalism.
- Objectives are more specific –things we want to achieve/see happen
- Strategy, then is the means to how we achieve objectives.

Small Group Feedback about aims:

- Bring to the fore the link between activism and climate change, build a skilled UK movement, and build a fantastic international movement.
- We need to think more about how we do this.
- Not allow the environment to be second behind economics; critique the current focus on maintaining the economy and “friendly capitalism”.
- The crisis doesn’t stop us taking action – it can be a great moment to start or increase action, and stay ambitious.
- We need to strengthen the local groups.
- Address climate change in a way that is “tangible”, by keeping coal and aviation in the new mix.
- Get media coverage.
- Co-ordinate with whatever G20 stuff happens.
- Keep it fun.
- Re-enforce the positive alternatives.
- Target political as well as economic targets.
- De-legitimise current thinking on carbon trading, green economics etc. Build links with the labour movement and the environmental justice movement.
- Copenhagen: Are we going to persuade people to do things differently, or to say “yahboosucks to you”.
- Make the movement more visible, and keep space within it for “pragmatic” people.

- The build-up of events is a good idea.
- Decentralised actions at open casts and airports will encourage neighbourhood development.
- Movement building and outreach.
- We don't want another "Make Poverty History".
- Build up momentum to Copenhagen.

### **Presentation of Main Proposals**

#### 1. Having Another Climate Camp

- Is this the best thing that we can do? It is audacious, visual, inspiring, media friendly, spectacularly autonomous. People who are new to the process love the idea of having another Camp, it's all the old hands who don't want it. Lets do one and get even more people involved.
- One amendment is to keep the community parts of the Camp, but not have a mass day of action. The day of action would be dispersed, and much harder to police.
- A second amendment is that if we have a Camp, it should be on the Greenpeace land at Heathrow. (The point was made that the Greenpeace land is very small).

#### 2. Urban Convergence

- Building permanent sustainable communities is the only way out. So; we should go to disadvantaged communities, make links, look for invitations to run a convergence. This may take a long time, so the proposal for this year is that we have a Camp in a city area (in a park, or on waste ground).
- Return to Heathrow: The idea is not to have a Camp, but to go to Sipson and do education, sustainable living and the other things we're good at, and then have a day of action to shut down Heathrow.
- Rural camps have been amazing, but they put a lot of pressure on people. In the city, we can use multiple venues and run our usual stuff. The city will be easy to get to, harder to police, less infrastructure will be required. We will need to rethink how we organise and create a sense of community. No big single target – small multiple targets. Using green spaces in a city.

#### 3. Multiple Camps and Convergences

- A city convergence drawing in diverse people (in Bristol), and other things happening such as an on-the-road Camp, a rural Camp. We are ready to do this.
- Multiple Camps and a Climate Caravan linking them together and joining the zero carbon caravan to Copenhagen.

#### 4. Days Of Action

-Some of the things we do can be done elsewhere, such as workshops. Running a mass action from a Camp minimises participation and effectiveness. So: We should focus on spectacular actions – how do we do this without the police getting in the way? Decentralised actions are one way, we need to find a way to do some of the things that the Camp used to do, particularly training. The G20 is the G7 plus Russia plus 12 big developing economies. The meeting is in Watford. We could; shut down Heathrow as the “leaders” arrive, a Reclaim The Streets kind of thing nearby, a Rush on the meeting site, or “something small”. We could start at the Bank of England with “Financial Fools Day”.

#### **Lunch**

#### **Pros and cons discussion**

A ‘rotational’ style of facilitation is used, giving every group a chance to discuss the pros and cons of each of the four main ‘genres’ of event (urban convergence, rural camp, days of action, multiple camps and convergences).

-Proposal: that a fifth group is formed to discuss aims and strategy –this is agreed!

Room splits into the small groups.

Feedback from facilitators from each section:

-Rural Camp: It seems that we don’t want to organise a big “whole organisation” Camp. We might get involved in other Camps including a Welsh Camp, a Bristol Convergence and Copenhagen. The story of a big Camp has been told; the police, media and ourselves would be in well known territory – this isn’t a good thing.

-Urban Convergence: There are great opportunities, but also great challenges. More and easier access to a variety of targets, easier engagement with people who wouldn’t come to a rural Camp. One possible model is having a lot of bases from which we operate; renting and borrowing space rather than squatting – we want to avoid alienating people. “Adopt an Activist” might be a possibility in the future, but not this year probably. There is a blurring in distinction between urban and rural somewhere like East London – here’s a possible new definition: a Camp is on grass, a Convergence is in buildings.

-Days of Action: People were excited about this – it has the potential for a wider window of success. They can also augment other things, acting as continuity between other events. There might be a lack of coherence, a lack of participation, a lack of narrative, so they shouldn’t be the main focus of Climate Camp’s work - Days of Action should be happening in neighbourhoods anyway. There was some discussion about having a mass day of action; could we train, do media lead up and follow up easily without a Camp? The media shouldn’t be our major tool – we rely on our hype too much, and this effects the shape that our actions take.

-Strategy: What tactics fit into our aims? Movement building has been well covered, so the concentration turned to: How to link the financial crisis to the climate crisis – building our critique into everything that we do. Stuff involved in this included building international links, connecting business to politicians as the joint problem, and drawing attention to the carbon markets, which many NGOs tacitly support. Could we actually win in Copenhagen? We risk losing track of small local groups if we concentrate on these big questions. We should say what success at Copenhagen would look like, rather than just saying it's rubbish – we risk marginalizing ourselves. The myth that only agreements between governments and business can save us from climate change should be challenged.

-Is there a consensus that we can agree to focus on “false solutions”?

-Needs further discussion.

### **Spectrums**

Copenhagen – there was a lot of people at the high input end of this spectrum, but quite a few people in the middle and at the low end.

Convergence/Camp – a lot of people at the high input end, quite a few in the middle and not many at the low energy end. Generally more squashed at the high end than for the Copenhagen option.

Spectacular Action – A lot of people at the high end, a lot in the middle and again not many at the low end. Similar in shape to the Convergence option. G20 was mentioned.

Spectacular Action (G20 Specific) – A lot of people at the high end, a lot in the middle and again not many at the low end. There was a feeling that we could start the year with a bang.

Then – a focus spectrum: Economics focus, or otherwise? There were a lot of people at the economics end. Not many in the middle and only one at the other end.

We decided to have two minutes of silence to calm ourselves down. This turned into 1 minute and 15 seconds of silence because we were too keen.

### **Further discussions**

-There was a lot of people interested in having a strategy around economics. The proposal for discussion: This year Climate Camp focuses its energies on saying that the economy isn't working, markets can't deliver and they won't stop climate change. We should start by focusing on the G20 meeting (with a big, spectacular action), build up events into the autumn and then do actions or a camp at COP15.

We need to agree the basic ideas here, and empower a small group to sort out the final wording. We agree to this. The second thing we need to do is agree on the actions:

Spectacular action at the G20: Can someone else do it? Can we commit to “spectacular”? There is already some organising around G20 going on. We don’t need to agree the details now – lets just keep it autonomous from fluffy NGO nonsense.

**We agree to do an autonomous action at the G20. A small group can get together to sort out the details.**

### **CONSENSUS!**

Autumnal build-up: There was some difficulty in coming up with a proposal. It was suggested that we talk about Copenhagen first, since that what we’d be “building up” to. We are also more likely to get progress on Copenhagen in the time left (about 45 minutes). So, a bit of a random discussion eating the time before dinner and beer..... The G20 and COP15 are the “bookends” and between them we have the message that there is another way. We need groups of people to talk about both these things, as well as a group of people to talk about how we build the movement in the time between. We can’t keep talking in one huge group about this – it doesn’t work.

The previous small group fed back with a Proposal.

### **PROPOSAL:**

**In 2009 Climate Camp will highlight the fact that the failed economic system has caused climate change and that proposals to use similar systems at COP and elsewhere are doomed to fail. We will actively oppose these attempts and promote alternatives.**

**There were two stand asides.**

### **CONSENSUS!**

We broke up into four small groups: G20, COP15, Movement building, Existing projects we are involved in.

## **SUNDAY**

### **Finance**

Member of the finance group presents.

### **Finance Report**

The Financial Report for 2008 was presented (find attached at end of document). It will be returned to for formal approval at the March Gathering.

### **Finance Proposals**

-The finance proposal relating to the Space in Hoo, in which it was said the finance team would resign from their positions should the agreement to rent a space in Hoo go ahead, was described by Finance as a ‘total fuck up’.

-This related to miscommunication within the finance team, as the proposal was only in draft form and only represented the views of one member of finance. Other members (including the treasurer) strongly disapproved of the proposal.

-Specifically, it was noted that the decision that Last Chance Saloon would remove its contribution to the Camp was completely irrelevant, as Last Chance Saloon had agreed it would not be giving any funds to the central Climate Camp account anyway.

-At this point, a statement from Last Chance Saloon was read out to the gathering by the treasurer of Last Chance Saloon:

### Last Chance Saloon

*The Last Chance Saloon is a festival bar and information space that is run at the Big Green Gathering. It came into existence 3 years ago when the Sumac Centre in Nottingham was asked to run a bar in the campaigns field that raised money for a green campaign. We joined together with other climate campers to run an amazing cowboy themed bar that raised both money and awareness for the climate camp as well as running daily workshops on climate change.*

*The LSC crew are all volunteers and all profits from the bar were split equally between the Big Green and climate camp. In this way, it has raised thousands of pounds, and has been one of the biggest fundraisers and outreach projects of the climate camp.*

*This year we have been asked to run the bar again by the Big Green Gathering. We have decided that the funds raised will be divided between the local grassroots groups that put on the climate camp, rather than going into climate camp central funds. This decision was based around the fact that the climate camp is now an extremely successful fundraiser in its own right, and we would like to give the money to smaller climate change action groups who struggle to get money.*

*We wish the climate camp every success this year, and hope that people still see us as a key support for the climate change direct action movement. We need volunteers to run the bar, and if you want your group to get some money off us, get involved! We are looking for local climate action campaigns groups to come forward and identify themselves as needing money. They can do this by email to [lastchancesaloon\[at\]riseup.net](mailto:lastchancesaloon@riseup.net)*

### *Other points:*

*The CCA finance group put in a proposal which stated that the Last Chance Saloon was going to refuse to give its money to the climate camp if the Climate Camp went ahead with spending £12,000 on renting an office near Kingsnorth. This is not the case as the decision has already been made to give the money to the grass roots groups behind the camp. There must have been some miscommunication that gave the finance group this idea, and we apologise for the confusion.*

*Also: we understand that the climate camp is talking about running a workshop space at the BGG, and we would very much like to talk to the people involved so that we can work together - please get in touch by email: [lastchancesaloon\[at\]riseup.net](mailto:lastchancesaloon@riseup.net)*

-Instead of the original finance proposal focusing on the space in Hoo, therefore, an alternative proposal was put forward dealing more generally with the Camp for Climate Action's financial process for 2009.

#### **PROPOSAL:**

Only once the goals for 2009 have been agreed can budgets be allocated. Once the goals for 2009 are agreed, all budget proposals for 2009 should be considered together and all finance decisions for 2009 should be revisited.

#### Clarifying questions:

-Could the finance representative elaborate on the problem and misunderstanding that occurred?

-Response: Explanation of the finance team: that there are two treasurers (one main treasurer) and two others who were signatories to the account, gave advice on big decisions but weren't involved in the day to day administration. It was one of these latter signatories who submitted the proposal, without the consensus of the full group. There was miscommunication as some believed it to just be a draft proposal.

-What does a 2009 decision mean? Eg, where do the E.ON F.OFF decisions made in the September to December 2008 period fit in?

-Response: It means any budget agreed for spending in 2009. This therefore includes those E.ON F.OFF finance decisions.

-The idea behind this is that the January gathering will be making large decisions affecting the fundamentals of the Camp's activity, and this means we therefore need to revisit our financial goals and priorities in this process, possibly changing previous priorities in light of new plans, possibly not.

-Someone states that they are confused because surely considering those financial proposals means reconsidering our strategic decisions that informed such financial proposals? Person believes this to be a nightmarish idea.

-Further question added asking to clarify whether it is the Space in Kent that needs to be reconsidered?

-Response: Largely so, yes, as this is the biggest chunk of money being proposed.

-Question relating to the process for the day asked: are we coming back later this day to take this process forward?

-Amendment to proposal that we "review money decisions" after priorities as alternative wording.

-Concerns raised that we should move on and just go with original proposal.

#### **PROPOSAL RESTATED:**

**Only once the goals for 2009 have been agreed can budgets be allocated. Once the goals for 2009 are agreed, all budget proposals for 2009 should be considered together and all finance decisions for 2009 should be revisited.**

**-CONSENSUS!**

A second proposal is put forward, this time from the Process Group, in dialogue with the treasurer. The context is given that the Proposal has been made in light of the confusion recent finance decisions have caused. It aims to ensure we have a process where financial decisions can be made in the most sensible, thought out and democratic way possible.

**PROPOSAL:**

-All finance proposals must be submitted both the gathering collective AND to the finance group by the time of the agenda submission deadline.

-All gatherings should set aside an open finance meeting, facilitated by the finance group, where all financial decisions should be considered together. These meetings should be recorded in the main gathering minutes, and fed back to the wider group.

-Part of the Gathering Summary, attached to the minutes, should include a full summary of financial decisions. These should be complete with figures and any other important details.

-Only gathering agreed working groups should be making financial proposals.

Clarifying questions are taken:

-What's the difference between a finance proposal and any other proposal.

-Response: a finance proposal involves money!

-How does the finance meeting work?

-Response: it happens in parallel with the main plenary sessions at the national gatherings. The finance group will always be present, along with representatives from working groups making finance proposals and any other interested people who want to be involved in the decision making process.

-It is important to note that the finance parallel meetings are 'open' to all to attend, and if a significant proportion of the gathering wants to be involved in making a particular financial decision then it will be held in the normal plenary discussions.

-Questions as to the logic of this process.

-Response: It has been how we've done it in the past few years, and has proved hugely successful. What has not been successful at all is holding finance discussions in the main plenary sessions, as most people are not interested in the financial details.

-Concerns are raised that the proposal may restrict activity, as often spending does need to be urgent in reaction to urgent decisions made. For example the G20 group needs money straight away and has only formed at this gathering –therefore can't go through the formal process if it is to succeed.

-Response: Of course these situations do occur from time to time and will keep occurring. However, the guidelines are set to be aspiration. Every working group should attempt to get budgets in on time, however there can be flexibility within this framework.

Amendment proposal: That we say “where possible” in relation to the guideline stating that finance proposals need to be submitted by the agenda deadline.

Further amendment proposal: That, instead, we say “late budget submissions can only be considered by Process Group in consultation with Finance Group. There is no guarantee they will get in.

-Member of Process Group raises the point, for the sake of information, that we need to acknowledge this does give Finance and Process mandated power. People may be happy with this, but it needs raising.

-We need to err on the side of realism and accept that proposals will not always be in on time, but that it is good to agree an ideal.

-We have a tendency to over- bureaucratize and worry about details. This proposal just sets out a general philosophy that people take a responsible attitude towards financial matters.

-Doesn't this mean that finance decide the strategy?

-Response: No!

-Proposal to leave out second amendment, and stick with the original minor amendment of inserting “where possible” into the proposal.

-Addition put forward that “Each working group should send a representative to the parallel finance meetings”.

-Broad agreement to the inclusion of this addition.

#### **PROPOSAL RESTATED:**

**-Where possible all finance proposals must be submitted both the gathering collective AND to the finance group by the time of the agenda submission deadline.**

**-All gatherings should set aside an open finance meeting, facilitated by the finance group, where all financial decisions should be considered together. These meetings should be recorded in the main gathering minutes, and fed back to the wider group.**

**-Each working group should send a representative to the parallel finance meetings.**

**-Part of the Gathering Summary, attached to the minutes, should include a full summary of financial decisions. These should be complete with figures and any other important details.**

**-Only gathering agreed working groups should be making financial proposals.**

**-CONSENSUS!**

#### New finance team

-The finance team is in the process of handing over to a new team, while being on call for support.

-A treasurer has been found in Oxford, who will give it a try for the next couple of months.

-The new treasurer needs a assistant for a low maintenance role involving being on hand to sign cheques, and also offer support and advice to the treasurer.

#### **Continuation of Our Priorities discussion**

##### Introduction

Facilitator presents how the session will work:

-The gathering will split down once again into the four main project groups. These being E.ON FACE OFF!, A convergence of some sorts, Copenhagen, and G20.

-Each group has different pressures and timeframes, and is therefore being asked to address a series of questions to proceed through. If they find answers to the questions, and can form clear proposals, then they can feedback these to the main gathering for large group consensus. This process of splitting off and feeding back will continue throughout the morning, enabling people to move from group to group as they may take interest or have concerns with how another groups' discussions are shaping.

-It is noted that people may wish to prioritise G20 for the time being, as practically speaking it is the one that needs to most urgent work. People may decide to reflect on this when making the decision on where to spend their time.

-Questions for the G20 group:

1. What are we going to do? (Clear proposal needed)
2. What is the process for making it happen? (Eg: working group)
3. Budget.

-Questions for the Copenhagen group:

1. How do you take a proposal forward?
2. What happens before/during/after?

-Questions for the Camp/Convergence group:

1. Is this going to happen?
2. Needs an abstract proposal (to agree in principle)
3. Needs to talk about fleshing out.

-E.ON F.OFF group:

- Already ongoing work being done.
- Bring another further proposals to the gathering.

-Proposal from individual to change convergence to more general “movement building”.

-Comment that all discussed in small groups should be linked to the strategic proposal agreed Saturday:

*In 2009, Climate Camp will highlight the fact that the failed economic system has caused climate change, and that proposals to use similar systems at the Copenhagen Climate Summit and elsewhere are doomed to fail. We will actively oppose these attempts, and promote alternatives.*

-Proposal that there be a group to consider how things are going to be linked together

-Response: that this will occur as part of the ongoing feedback and discussion within the large group.

-Comment that we need to think about the ‘national convergence’ as a large group.

-Response: this will also happen through the feedback process, which will allow for proposals and discussion.

-Comment that we need to think about how the publicity over the year as a whole is going to work. How do we narrate the year?

-Response: This will be taken on by the networking group, and can be discussed during working group time.

Project groups split off.

First Feedback

G20 Feedback:

-It is a given that it will address money and climate change given the nature of the event, and will therefore fit in with the strategic decision made on Saturday.

-The Emissions Exchange Building mentioned as possible target.

-Combination of fluffy/spiky formed part of discussion.

-Two to three people are keen to put in a lot of work.

-Many more people are prepared to put in work part time.

Camp/Convergence/Movement Building Feedback:

-Formed a vague proposal to bring to the gathering, and is now looking at moving onwards to discuss the fine detail within the context of such a proposal.

-Would like the gathering to agree to this initial proposal now, so the group can feel confident any further detailed work they do is not going to be to no avail.

**PROPOSAL:**

**To have a big get together of some kind, with the aim of broadening and strengthening our movement.**

**CONSENSUS!**

Copenhagen Feedback:

-Suggestion that it is rooted in the already existing International Group.

-One proposal is to hold a training during the year about issues of Copenhagen, with a specific emphasis on Carbon Trading.

-Discussions are continuing.

E.ON FACE OFF Feedback/wider group discussion:

-A Direct Action Pledge is being proposed, partly as an outreach tool.

-Discussed holding another day of action. The idea behind the day of action is a serving "Direct Action warning" notices to companies involved or considering becoming involved with the building of Kingsnorth.

-Also talked about expanding "Show E.ON The Red Card" campaign that has so far taken place at London based football matches, but could take place at any FA tournament games across the country.

-Need consensus on the basic principle to launch the direct action pledge

-Concern that there are major security implications for putting peoples' names out who are prepared to take direct action.

-Response: The names themselves wouldn't be public, but would be held incredibly securely.

-What about the Heathrow pledge? How will the Kingsnorth pledge fit in with this?

-This hasn't been resolved, but it is noted that the Heathrow pledge hasn't happened yet.

-No consensus to be tested for now. Needs further discussion.

-Facilitator urges those with concerns about the E.ON F.OFF feedback to join to group, in order to contribute to the discussion.

The room splits into the small groups once again.

### Second feedback

#### *E.ON FACE OFF Feedback/large group discussion:*

-It is incredibly exciting that we have come up with such a unique and amazing project through the climate camp process!

-‘Pledge’ and ‘Direct Action warning day’ form the main proposals to be put forward to the gathering.

-Concern raised with pledge: that we are not just having a pledge but actually taking direct action at the same time.

-Group needs more ‘action support’ folk.

-Developing the social centre idea is another key issue. There is a feeling that some people have been working very hard on this proposal, and they need to know whether there is support for it.

#### PROPOSAL:

The Camp for Climate Action should launch a direct action pledge on the E.ON FACE OFF website, with the proviso that security concerns are met.

#### PROPOSAL:

E.ON FACE OFF Direct Action warning day: telling all the companies that if they get involved in Kingsnorth they will be a target for Direct Action.

-The group has been thinking about dates to implement this proposal.

-There was also consideration about how the day can be used to build workers solidarity alongside the direct action warnings to companies.

### Copenhagen Feedback/discussion

-Training days for Carbon Trading and wider Copenhagen issues a key priority for the time being.

-Thinking about how Copenhagen action will be framed: "Last chance for system to sort it out. If not join us!"

-PROPOSAL: To hold a training weekend on issues of Copenhagen and Carbon Trading.

### Convergence Feedback/discussion

-Not much to report back, as the more detailed 'fleshing out' still very much in process.

-There has been consideration of the Bristol Convergence and how this will relate to the Camp process, if at all, as well as the Cymru Camp.

### Discussion of Proposals brought forward

#### PROPOSAL:

Security concerns being met, the Camp for Climate Action agrees that the E.ON F.OFF! website will launch a pledge which will read as follows (with tiny word changes to be made by the E.ON F.OFF group): 'If eon try and build a new coal power station at Kingsnorth, I will stop it'

-Concern: How will energy will be put in to make this happen? There's already been people working on the campaign, but how will this expand outwards (beyond London).

-How will the pledge be implemented? There isn't detail given as to this question in the proposal as it stands.

-Response: Join the E.On F.Off group to get involved.

-Comment made on the need to focus on wider Climate related issues and understand how we reduce emissions as a whole. Not just focus on one power station.

-Response: That this isn't relevant in the context of this proposal, as the proposal has come out of a Camp for Climate Action agreed campaign to put focus into Kingsnorth.

#### **PROPOSAL RESTATED:**

**Security concerns being met, the Camp for Climate Action agrees that the E.ON F.OFF! website will launch a pledge which will read as follows (with tiny word changes to be made by the E.ON F.OFF group): 'If eon try and build a new coal power station at Kingsnorth, I will stop it'**

## **CONSENSUS!**

Discussion on the Direct Action warning day proposal:

- It aims to be both a direct action warning day, as well as doing outreach to workers.
- It is possible to do it before or after the G20, but it has to be before May because this is when the decision about Kingsnorth is very likely to happen.
- The E.ON F.OFF group thinks that a February option is best.

## **PROPOSAL:**

On the 26<sup>th</sup> February we organise an E.ON FACE OFF Direct Action warning day. E.ON FACE OFF takes on organising along with other working groups.

-Concern: it should be done after G20 because we need to focus on building for this. Don't want energy/arrestable numbers compromised.

**-NO CONSENSUS!**

-Those who have stood aside are encouraged to go over to the E.ON F.OFF group in order to incorporate their concerns into the detailed discussions.

## **PROPOSAL:**

Climate Camp pledges to target the Carbon Markets on April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Eve of the G20, with a Camp in the City

-Is there a process to move this forward into action?

-Response: Yes, there will be working group time later, and the G20 project group is already mapping out details.

-How does the "Camp" component work?

-Response: It's a camp in a very loose sense –exactly how this will look is yet to be devised.

-Is this the only action/event that Climate Camp is doing for the G20. What about April 2<sup>nd</sup> itself?

-Focus will be on April 1<sup>st</sup>, but other events may happen as discussions and planning continues.

-Idea was to take the camp “brand” to the G20 in the city –doing a camp is what we do best and what we are best known for!

-Concern that we are being confrontational before we’ve explained the issues fully, about the complexities of Carbon Trading and why it is so wrong.

-Concern that it might pre-empt doing something better.

-Concern about the ‘camp’ –do we have to put ‘camp’ in it?

-Response: ‘Camp’ is largely symbolic. It won’t be a full Climate Camp. Quite what scale we are talking is still being decided. It will embody the aesthetic of a camp.

-Marketing the event: we are going because of the economy. The story is going to be told before we arrive at the event through our publicity and media work.

### **PROPOSAL RESTATED:**

**Climate Camp pledges to target the Carbon Markets on April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Eve of the G20, with a Camp in the City**

**-One Stand Aside**

**-CONSENSUS!**

### **PROPOSAL:**

**That we set up a G20 working group to implement proposal.**

**-CONSENSUS!**

Group Time.

Third Feedback

*E.ON FACE OFF feedback/discussion*

-It was decided within the group that February 26<sup>th</sup> would be the best day to hold the Direct Action warning day.

-This addresses the concerns raised previously about it taking away energy from the G20, because it is not going to be a big day of action: very unlikely to have any arrests.

-It needs to occur sooner rather than later, however, as the FACE OFF needs to keep up the pace.

-What is the significance of the date?

-Response: It's the Coal Awards, featuring such awards as Coal Personality of the Year.

-The local group (KCAM) already have events planned for that day, and are very excited.

-Information point: There's a Climate Rush event that day.

-Response: This was known, and it is thought that the Direct Action warning day is not intended to be a National Day of Action on its own, but to piggy back other actions going on.

**PROPOSAL RESTATED: On the 26<sup>th</sup> February we organise an E.ON FACE OFF Direct Action warning day. E.ON FACE OFF takes on organising along with other working groups.**

**-CONSENSUS!**

**PROPOSAL: There will be an E.ON FACE OFF working group set up.**

**CONSENSUS!**

**PROPOSAL: If Kingsnorth gets the go ahead there will be an emergency summit two Saturdays afterwards, organised by the EON FACE OFF working group.**

**CONSENSUS!**

*Camp/Convergence feedback/discussion*

-There has been group consensus that there will be some form of urban/rural camping 'thing'. Further details still to be plotted out.

PROPOSAL

That there is a Convergence Working Group.

-Concern about process –make sure that proposals about what the convergence should be are open and decided by the wider group.

-Concern that they should not make the decision, but it should be with the wider gathering.

-Response: That the working group would only be trying to move the process on, not make the decisions.

-Concern that we should only form working groups with work to do.

-Response: That they want to be a working group and therefore should be, as they are already doing work.

## **PROPOSAL RESTATED:**

**That there is a Convergence Working Group.**

## **CONSENSUS!**

### G20 feedback/discussion

-G20 Working group is going to meet two Saturdays from now in London (February 14<sup>th</sup>)

-They are asking neighbourhoods to meet to discuss the G20 in the meantime, and then send at least one representative to the national working group meeting in London.

-Budget is being put together over lunch.

-The exact location is not figured out –and will be returned to after lunch.

-Someone raises concern that February the 14<sup>th</sup> clashes with the FA Cup match –lose potential action!

### General

-We need to make decisions on some things today in order to allow for time to plan, for example if we are to have a convergence of similar size to last year.

-Energy needs to focus on Convergence, as this is the only critical decision left.

-Specifically on the timing of the convergence –ie Summer or beyond?

-How are working groups going to work?

-We're moving beyond task based working groups into project based working groups: how does this work? Separate time for both types to meet?

-Shouldn't worry about change

-Change is good.

## **Lunch**

## **Announcements**

-Legal update.

-Next gathering: 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> March in Nottingham.

-Activist TAT Collective

- Loads of TAT for actions
- Go to website for information
- Marquees: skillshare planned for May.
- Can do skillshare on various things: get in touch!
- FA Cup: London has been going to games and doing outreach/brand damage!
  - Simple and effective!
- 26<sup>th</sup> February: UK Coal Awards: Climate Rush Event: get involved!
- Techno-Fix report by Claire at Corporate Watch available from Corporate Watch
- Response: It's amazing!
- New Internationalist: copies available, and please consider subscribing!
- Late August: news sent in via text that there will be an Irish Climate Camp
- Much applause!

### **Ongoing Discussions**

#### What will the Convergence be?

- Dates for various other summer events are given:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> week: Big Green Gathering
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> from last week: Earth First Gathering
  - Last weekend August: big Animal Rights Gathering
- Also bearing in mind the fact there will be an Irish Climate Camp late August.
- Notting Hill Carnival is 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>: Should avoid as well?
  - Although, practically the fact that Notting Hill Carnival is one massive policing event and we are another could prove useful for us.
  - Proposal to have it Notting Hill Carnival weekend?
  - In September: isn't there a governmental planning meeting for Copenhagen? Could be useful with dates.
  - Response: It's in New York: we can't all go to New York!

- Hold it before schools and universities go back.
- What about holding it in October Half term?
- Response: No good for university students as they don't have half terms.
- Response: They don't do anything at uni anyway!
- Response of boos and cheers ☺
- When are the school holidays? We can't do it away from the school holidays.
- Proposal: Weeklong event during the school holidays.
- Need to narrow it down now, as people book up time and logistical issues.
- Is the summer holidays preferable?
- As a point of information they are mid-July to beginning of September.
- We can have a movement building event in October?
- Response: Again, concerns about parents and university students.
- Which event suits a beautiful summer.
- Can't decide date without deciding form.
- Response: We can decide rough date.
- Last chance saloon is in August?
- Response: Not giving any money anyway so doesn't matter if they are before or after.
- Response: However, can't be during Last Chance Saloon/BGG as this would be a bad clash, and also ATC are supplying the BGG.

### **Continuation of discussions**

- What needs to happen?
  - G20 needs to have project time.
  - Convergence: needs time agreed.
  - Budgets: Space Group and interim budgets.

### **Timing of summer event**

## PROPOSAL

To hold Climate Camp's big summer event during the summer holidays

-A few Stand Asides

-Both don't see the point in discussing before we know form

-Birthday concerns

-Other people raise concerns following this.

-Proposal is retested for Consensus. This time there are many more stand asides so there is no consensus.

## **PROPOSAL (AMENDED):**

**To hold this event during the summer school holidays (unless the next gathering has a very good reason not to)**

**-1 Stand Aside**

**-Need to agree properly as people need to book up their summer**

**-CONSENSUS!**

## Budgets

The Space Group:

-There was a decision taken about spending money, which would rent a space. This decision has since come under review and a lot of scrutiny.

-Space budget was approved, and if we need to change our mind we need to do it now to avoid leaving the group in limbo for any longer –either Climate Camp funds it or the money can be sought elsewhere.

-Request for update on Space Group.

-Response: They have been looking at properties in Hoo Peninsula. They have been looking at particular towns, and been to meet local activists who are very excited and enthused by the project. It can be used both for climate camp activities/trainings/etc and also for local community events.

-The decision to have the Space was not just 'oh, let's set up some social centre', but was actually considered (over lengthy discussions) to be a strategically useful thing to do. It shows the government that we are ready to take action, in conjunction with other tactics to the same ends such as the direct action warning day and direct action pledge.

-Could money not be recycled? Ie: the rent is paid for by Climate Camp but the Space seeks to actively fundraise in order to put as much of the money as possible back into central Climate Camp funds.

-A consensus decision shouldn't be gone back on.

-There needs to be overpowering reasons not to go forward with the decision made at a previous gathering.

-For now, the budget stands.

-Finance Group: not happy about not being consulted in advance about such a major decision.

-Could fundraising not be part of the group's remit from now on?

-Concern: Do finance have overriding say on our matters.

-Response: No! There are procedures that were not followed in this instance, with regards to proposals being submitted in advance, etc.

-If we ain't got no money we can't spend it.

Project Group time.

### **Convergence Decision**

#### Convergence

##### PROPOSAL:

We will hold a camp on the edge of, or inside, London. The Camp will target the economic system, via the City, Heathrow airport, and/or other London targets. Key elements of the camp will be: an autonomous zone that we control, but also the flexibility to use other nearby buildings so we don't have to build all our own infrastructure from scratch.

-Concern: that people may have already left thinking this wouldn't be discussed again.

-Concern: that people from the North are more likely to have left, and we are proposing a South East event for a third year running.

A straw poll is taken to see how many people are still present from the North. Quite a few still are.

-Point raised from convergence group that we need to get agreement today if we are going to make it happen.

-We're not committing ourselves concretely to an idea, but agreeing in principle the vague parameters of idea.

-We can say that the January Gathering came to consensus on this idea, and we invite proposals for the next gathering.

-Request to test for consensus on proposal.

#### PROPOSAL RESTATED:

We will hold a camp on the edge of, or inside, London. The Camp will target the economic system, via the City, Heathrow airport, and/or other London targets. Key elements of the camp will be: an autonomous zone that we control, but also the flexibility to use other nearby buildings so we don't have to build all our own infrastructure from scratch.

Many concerns in the room.

-Concern that the direct action element is vague –if there is not direct action the person wouldn't be keen for it. It would not be a good use of Climate Camp resources and time

-Response: Everyone wanted there to be direct action, but people were unsure as to what form the direct action would take.

-Why does it need to be agreed right now? Can't people respond with specific proposals next gathering

-Worries that it is South Centric: we need everyone to be involved up North as well.

-Convergence group acknowledges that it will only work if people from across the UK get involved and are enthused.

-Let's agree we do this unless something else shit hot comes along next time. This way we don't exclude other ideas absolutely, but have moved the process on.

-This is an outline proposal only.

-The proposal moves us forward.

-This gathering is the best gathering to decide something in, because it is the most democratic gathering we're going to get. This is due to neighbourhoods having been consulted on all proposals before this gathering.

-Support from other groups in the UK in real time and energy is vital.

-Let's say that "We recognise that this puts the Camp in London" as part of the proposal.

#### PROPOSAL (WITH ADDITIONS):

**We will hold a camp on the edge of, or inside, London. The Camp will target the economic system, via the City, Heathrow airport, and/or other London targets. Key elements of the camp will be: and autonomous zone that we control, but also the flexibility to use other nearby buildings so we don't have to build all our own infrastructure from scratch.**

**We recognise that having another major event in the South East could raise issues for groups elsewhere in the country, and so the Camp encourages those groups to send in proposals for any support they might need for their own regional camps or convergences, or for alternative events.**

**-4 Stand Asides:**

- Concern already expressed**
- Not concrete enough to support**
- London centric**
- Concerns over action specifics**

**CONSENSUS!**

**Budgets**

**PROPOSAL:**

G20 Working Group Budget

Equipment £1500

Publicity £1500

TOTAL £3000

-Concerns raised with people leaving (though there is still a sizeable amount of people in the room)

-Concerns with the size of budget.

-Suggestion that it gets passed on the proviso that there will be fundraising on the day of action.

**PROPOSAL (AMENDED):**

**G20 Working Group Budget**

**Equipment £1500**

**Props £1500**

**TOTAL £3000**

**To be passed on the proviso that the G20 Working Group actively fundraises the money back.**

**-CONSENSUS!**

-Request that we minute that we don't want to review the Space Budget

-Response: that we don't minute this, because there is no need.

-Response: that we do need to minute it so it doesn't get returned to yet again at future gathering.

-Response: that we shouldn't minute it because person has major problems with the Space budget as a whole.

-(Minute taker throws pen in air!)

**PROPOSAL:**

**The camp reinforces its support for a social space in Kent with the financial backing of £9000 which will hopefully be fundraised back for the camp.**

**-1 Stand aside: doesn't agree with the entire decision.**

**-CONSENSUS!**

**Final Business**

-Comment: fundraising is very important!

-Every year we all need to take on massive personal responsibility for all avenues of fundraising.

-Thank you to Albert for donating a printer to the Climate Camp.

-Next gathering is 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> March in Nottingham.