

# Camp for Climate Action

## UK Gathering, Manchester

### 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> May 2010

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# Key Decisions

## Gathering

Tweeting is allowed, but the Climate Camp twitter should only tweet things that are consensus decisions or clearly discussion points. Individuals tweeting should exercise caution when making personal tweets. People should be careful not to be obtrusive to the meeting when tweeting.

## Financial

That we fund travel from a Scotland activist (£76)

£1,200 for Outreach Group to pay for flyers, posters, etc

Glastonbury budget (fronting money pending mass fundraising at event): £1,400

Site (interim budget): £5000

We give £2000 from UK Camp for Climate Action funds to the Cymru Camp

We hold a 'Teach In' in Leeds on the 17<sup>th</sup> June, open to all but funding at least 2 people from each neighborhood to participate. The funded persons should then put on a regional outreach event/workshop.

Climate Camp centrally funds the cost of two people from each neighbourhood if required to go to national gatherings, to break down the discrepancies in neighbourhood involvement. This is in addition to the travel pool. This is an interim measure, while discussions about our process continue.

## Summer Event

We go to Edinburgh this year between the 18<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> August.

We set aside the Monday as a day of action against RBS

We will be setting up a site in an open space (ie not a building) for more than two days.

People are encouraged to arrive on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> for open set up day, in order to start training and taking action on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>. Take down will be on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> And Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>. In addition, there will be a site take on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>, publicized to our existing network. The key days put out in our publicity will be Friday 20<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>.

## International

That facilitating connections should be part of the international group's remit.

Climate Camp responds to the Global Call and Glasgow Call for action, publicizing and week of action on 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> October.

# Minutes in Full

## Saturday

### *Introduction*

Introduction to the Facilitation Team, practical information about venue, etc.

Feed in from Lewes Gathering:

- Several options were put forward for what we focus on.
- These became narrowed down to five areas for focus: RBS, BP and Tar Sands, Workers Solidarity, Regional Aviation, and Coal.
- Extensive discussions led to the focus being narrowed down to the Royal Bank of Scotland.
- It offered many opportunities, including the chance to do an event outside of London.

Running through planned agenda:

- Saturday: Most of the day will be spent discussing the RBS action. There needs to be discussions about what form it will take, discussions about messaging, working group time.
- Sunday: A few small proposals, Climate Camp Cymru, feedback from International working group time, and Strengthening our Network.
- Are people happy with this agenda plan?
- Yes!

Call out for mediators in case of conflicts that may emerge during gathering.

- Mediators on standby.

Twitter:

- There have been concerns about twitter raised at and since the last gathering, from different points of view.
- Twitter is a micro-blogging tool, where people can 'follow' tweets from and about Climate Camp.
- The Climate Camp Twitter account has done very well, and been listed as one of the top climate change twitter accounts.
- It has been used at gatherings to keep those not present up to date with developments.
- At the Lewes gathering Twitter was suspended from use as people felt we were making sensitive decisions that required good liaison with Scotland, and therefore wanted to be careful we didn't convey we'd made concrete decisions we hadn't actually made.
- Since the gathering, there have been concerns raised about not having twitter at gatherings.
- What do we now agree?

Comments on Twitter:

- Surely phones should be off anyway, for the sake of security.
- Response: No, that hasn't been agreed and these are open gatherings.
- There is a difference between people twittering personally and people twittering from Climate Camp.
- Suggestion that there is caution if people choose to twitter personally.

## **PROPOSAL:**

- **Tweeting is allowed, but the Climate Camp twitter should only tweet things that are consensus decisions or clearly discussion points. Individuals tweeting should exercise caution when making personal tweets. People should be careful not be obtrusive to the meeting when tweeting.**
  - **Four stand asides:**
    - **Reasons already stated**
  - **CONSENSUS!**

## Funding Scotland activists:

- The decision to go to Edinburgh was only agreed pending a conversation with Scotland, and a lot of work has gone into this process since the Lewes gathering.
- It was felt that it was vital that Scotland had a presence at this gathering, and one member of the Scotland Climate Camp has come down.
- A proposal was submitted to fund them.

## **PROPOSAL:**

- **That we fund travel from a Scotland activist**
  - **No Stand Asides**
  - **CONSENSUS!**

## ***Royal Bank of Scotland***

### Feedback of the Royal Bank of Scotland process so far:

- Following the decision at the Lewes Gathering to focus on RBS, there was an enthusiasm to go to Edinburgh to the headquarters for a range of reasons.
- It was agreed that this should only take place after we've spoken to Scotland, learning the lessons from the Swoop.
- It was agreed a Getting Things Going should form to begin visioning what we want to see happen in the summer.
- Process Group took on initiating contact with Scotland, with the outcome that Scotland Climate Camp pulled together a meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> May to discuss their response to the proposed Edinburgh event. Process Group also publicized an open agenda meeting in London on the 16<sup>th</sup> to form the Getting Things Going Group.
- There has been some preliminary work done on thinking through some messaging questions, reserving essential tat that may or may not be required, and looking into questions of form. However, it was not a decision making meeting. That work needs to be done at this gathering.

### Feedback from Climate Camp Scotland:

- The decision made was to stand aside as Climate Camp Scotland. In addition there is a group of individuals, some of which have worked on Climate Camp Scotland before, who are keen to work on the project.
- Context:
  - At the Kingsnorth Camp, Scotland and Newcastle Barrio created the Camp for Climate Action Scotland in order to be more autonomous.
  - We held a camp at Mainshill Solidarity Camp that summer, and since then a lot of people

- have been working on anti-coal projects.
  - The Camp has not been meeting as such since, but in response to the decision a meeting was pulled together in Scotland on the 16<sup>th</sup> May.
  - There were seven activists, coming from a multitude of perspectives.
- The meeting decided to stand aside from Climate Camp Scotland being part of the process for two reasons:
  1. Political reasons: There is a difference of styles and tactics between the Scotland and England Camp. The Camp in England does corporate media focused actions, whereas Climate Camp Scotland has been developing community-led campaigning and action (Like at Mainhill).
  2. Logistical: Turnout at the meeting showed that there is not likely to be the people power to commit.
- Meeting was held with seven activists, all coming from different perspectives.
- Stood aside for two reasons: 1 Political: different of style and tactics between the Scotland Camp and the England Camp. It was seen as corporate media focused action versus community based action. Most people in Scotland keen to follow the community style action, like they've done at Mainhill. 2 Logistical: Turnout of the meeting showed that there is not likely to be the people power to organise.
- Statement from Scotland:
  - *What follow are the reasons why Camp for Climate Action Scotland has taken a different track from the UK process previously and have informed its recent decision to “stand aside” on the proposal from the Camp for Climate Action UK.*
  - *The Camp model is no longer working effectively to promote/facilitate environmental direct action.*
  - *The mass media spectacle is not very strategically effective at building a social movement for environmental justice.*
  - *The dominance of one national campaign risks taking energy away from other campaigns/actions.*
  - *The strengthening of local and regional groups and the exploration of other strategies is limited by the main focus on hosting national camps.*
  - *The process of de-centralising climate camp has been limited by a lack of support and recognition from UK climate camp.*
  - *The climate camp process is very bad at responding and learning from issues/concerns that people and groups raise.*
  - *The climate camp has too many egos, too much informal hierarchy and doesn't really any longer represent the politics of many who have been involved previously.*
  - *From the CCAS stand-aside decision a new group has formed to work on the RBS campaign in Scotland and would provisionally like to offer help on the ground if the UK climate camp network decides to come to Scotland to do a camp/action at RBS HQ. The creation of this new group in no way negates the issues that were raised by CCAS and the concerns raised are shared by some. This new group is small but is made up of people who have been involved previously with the camp and RBS stuff and are all based in the Central belt of Scotland. The RBS campaign group are well up for it and are currently working on outreach to address the capacity issue. So stand aside from CCAS, and wavey hands from the RBS campaign group but would like some clarity on what is needed and how to work together and an attempt to address the points that have been raised by the CCAS stand-aside.*
- There are people who want to work on this, but it's not people who have previously worked on

- logistics, etc. Those that have previously been involved in this
- Keen to link in other struggles in the campaign group. They'll hold a meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> June to make decisions
- Keep Camp for Climate Action Scotland free to do the kinds of activities the group is keen to do. It is dormant at present, but it is therefore as a useful tool for the future. This is why it won't give its name to something.
- Newcastle Feed in: they are keen to work on stuff, perhaps doing an event there in the run up.

#### Comments on process:

- Agree with everything Scotland has said, so not sure how we move on from here.
- Discussion group in London was having a wide ranging conversation, not just talking about a Camp.
- We are working on the premise that we have a national focus.
- We need to discuss both whether we go
  - Do we want to focus on RBS?
  - Do we want to go to Scotland?

#### Key reasons why they've chosen to stand aside:

- Doing things differently: community led focus.
- Logistical: unclear who will do leg work to make Camp happen.

### **Splitting into smaller groups**

#### **Feedback**

##### Group 1:

- We should focus on RBS as a target: change to talk about climate justice.
- Where would we be as a national process if we drop this?
- We could be seen to be jumping on a bandwagon.
- Should we go to Scotland? We should be careful because it is not all of Scotland that are concerned. But if we do go we need to take on board the concerns.
- Need a site group set up.
- Edinburgh as an outreach opportunity is too good to miss.
- Questions about who it might attract: would it be more committed people if coming all the way to Scotland? Less people?

##### Group 2:

- What concrete aims we aiming for? Too media focused?
- RBS: Unlike our previous targets, their activities take place all over the world.
- RBS is involved in a lot of stuff we don't like, so there's a chance to address
- Practical points: decision has been made by our process, and it is May and so if we go back on this decision it doesn't give us a lot of time to do anything else.
- Concerns about exactly what we're doing: tactics.
- No action we do is going to be perfect.

##### Group 3:

- Collectively organising two or three events across the UK. Concerns if the only thing we do is

go to Scotland.

- Make sure the action was antagonistic and direct, not just for media reasons.

#### Group 4:

- Worry that we would be seen as a lobby group.
- However, it does tie a lot together and let's us express lots of different issues.
- A lot of work has gone into it, so turning back now might be an issue.
- A big no no in terms of RBS and Scotland. It is the territory of NGOs and liberals, and could be the death of Climate Camp.
- It is a negative campaign, focusing on what we don't want.
- Issue with Scotland having stood aside.
- Not many people engaged nationally: not that many people here. Can we make decisions and have enough capacity?
- Is it about building a movement or a spectacular action?
- Maybe we should recognise that it is not the best place to do more radical things.
- Great to bring lots of new people, so we can't just say this tested model is rubbish.
- We need to look at our aims, and see there's maybe other ways to do things outside UK gatherings.

#### Group 5:

- RBS could be the way we unite lots of issues.
- Scotland? We good strengthen Scottish Activism, lots of great opportunities: eg Edinburgh Festival (but concerns with Festival as well: ie we might appear like a Festival by going to a Festival)
- Far away, but nowhere is that far away in the UK!
- Logistical worries for Scotland, with them not having that much support.
- Bringing people together.
- Energy around our target.
- Whether or not doing a summer event in Scotland would help or hinder local activists.
- In conclusion, lots of concerns but also lots of energy as well.

#### Summary of what's happened:

- Groups 1, 3, and 5 seemed to agree that we do want an RBS focus
- 2 and 4 had pros and cons for this.
- Concerns with RBS: Negative, reformist lobbying, doesn't fit into the Where Next? Process, and jumping on a bandwagon, too much media focus.
- Positive with RBS: Don't want to go back to the start,
- No group decided either way on the Scotland issue
- Concerns with Scotland RBS: Need to deal with local concerns, negative impact on the fringe itself
- Positives with Scotland RBS:

#### Comments:

- Are we revisiting decisions made in Lewes?
- If there's no energy this doesn't matter.
- We've press released it already!

1<sup>st</sup> spectrum line, energy for RBS:

- General good amount of energy to focus on RBS. Most people at 'keen' end, some middle, a couple at 'not keen' end.

Energy to go to Edinburgh:

- More people moved to middle, a large group also at 'keen' end. A few at 'not keen'.

Comments:

- Camps are what we do well.
- Need to get out of London up North
- Edinburgh's really nice.

From the middle:

- Torn, because we could take energy away from amazing stuff happening in Scotland at the moment.
- We made the decision but pending decision from Scotland, and they've stood aside.
- Concerns about the form it will take.
- It make sense to go to Edinburgh, but don't want that to be the only thing we're doing.
- Flawed to have a UK wide camp: based on lessons from Site Crews,

From the other end:

- If there is a tactic for movement building then great, but if there's not there's other things I could be doing.
- Scotland has stood aside: we shouldn't be “messaging with their space”.
- Nationally organised camps have run out of steam.

Moving forward (plenary)...

- Have we got energy to hit RBS both regionally and nationally.
- Suggestion of splitting to Edinburgh and London.
- We can go where we like: we're allowed to go where we like.
- There are people who have been thinking about what kind of camp we should be having.
- Different forms came out of different possible aims. We can create something unique to serve whatever purposes we choose and avoid big training.
- Important not to create a dichotomy between community level stuff and big spectacular stuff.
- Still valid to have something that is a national focus.
- In the Scotland meeting it was assumed it would be a camp, and this led to the decision to stand aside. People keen to get involved are stepping up in Scotland, and would be disappointed if there isn't anything in Scotland. It could help Scotland campaigns.
- At least two people from ATC training said they'd be up for getting a site crew (*this was later revealed to be 20*)
- We need to move to discussion of form before moving forward, so people know what they are agreeing to.
- Some of the discussion hinges on what we're doing, while some on 'Are we going to Edinburgh?'
- Splitting up and having multiple targets may not be possible. We should think really creatively and fluidly about form. RBS is not a boring issue, but we get really great opportunities to

engage with people.

- Don't think we should panic that there's not many people here. People will jump on board when there is something to do and work towards. Lots of great people here already.
- Lets not do a Camp, but there does need to be some form of convergence space (unless people plan to commute).
- Challenge Days: with packs including exciting 'everything you need to know' stuff.
- Community led: it is, but in a global sense, working in solidarity with communities across the world.
- Need to feed in site stuff.
- Site: deal with it collectively.
- We should be proud of the fact that it IS a spectacle when hundreds of activists come together. This is an achievement that we have created this over the last four years.
- It sounds NGO and not exciting, but we're going to do something radically different. Let's not talking about focusing on RBS, but talking about using it as a hook to talk about loads of other stuff.
- People can do actions on the way to Scotland, and back down again.

Moving forward: need to test for consensus on whether or not we're going to Edinburgh this year, before talking about form.

#### **PROPOSAL:**

- **We go to Edinburgh this year between the 18<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> August.**
  - **Stand Asides**
    - **Stated reasons already.**
    - **Putting energy into Wales Camp so can't personally commit**
  - **CONSENSUS!**

#### ***What form does it take?***

What ideas have been generated at the RBS meeting?

- Mission Days: each day has a different focus for action. Scottish coal + Tar Sands
- Urban Convergence in Edinburgh, stripping down to the bare bones of our needs.
- Week long teach in.
- Publicly march off to RBS headquarters.

Ideas for form (shout out):

- No big red button, but we can make our own big red button.
- We could rent a site, in order to train and prepare for action.
- Bikes could be used.
- We need to find balance between education and sustainable living.
- Excitement about the site itself.
- What level of policing will there be in this post-G20 era?
- Massive industrial complex, with lots of infrastructure nearby
- Lots of big green spaces in the middle of the city, but need to careful how you interface with community.

- Could we use the platform of a Camp to develop and template for mass action, and that do the first one, so we can, in future, do free standing ones more successfully.

More ideas:

- Could condense it down to smaller range of dates.
- Think about mass action, etc.

Questions for small groups:

- Urban/rural
- Actions: Mass action or other?
- Timing: week long?

Group 1:

- Action camp: actions outside of the camp infrastructure – living camp eating/sleeping, with workshops which focus on us, our politics and action training. Blackheath didn't have enough actions. Different focuses each day eg coal, teach-ins outside camp.
- Infectious actions. Really successful when we find action ideas that can spread.
- Looking at decentralised actions. Not just the headquarters.

Group 2:

- Mass actions great for new people. New people may not jump straight into affinity groups.

Group 3:

- Mass action and should we have one? Some thought yes, some thought no.
- Flat pack actions: has been hard to do in the past, as finding affinity groups is difficult.
- Enthusiasm for Challenge Anarchy formula: lots of agreement on this.
- A single target or theme, like Tar Sands, and then groups autonomously organise to take action around tar sands on a particular day.

Group 4:

- Good time to do creative things. Need actions to be confrontational, in addition to theatre, etc.
- Positive vibes
- Time to affinity groups to organise mass actions, so they can plan before they rock up to Edinburgh. Learning lessons from Blackheath.

Group 5:

- More to feed into next section
- Bit of both was wanted, but we are concerned more with what the space will do.

Group 6:

- 'Teach Ins'
- Themed mission days.
- Not just wanting to be part of the Edinburgh Fringe programme
- Do we build up to a big day on the headquarters.

Synthesis:

- Lots of energy for 'a bit of both'

- People have noted similar concerns

Feedback: What kind of Camp are we looking at?

Group 1:

- Didn't discuss timing at all.

Group 2:

- The HQ is rural. It makes sense.
- City could be great for getting people involved, but how do we distinguish ourselves from the festival?
- Squatting buildings? Some enthusiasm, but others are concerned with this because how do we link up?
- Concern that it was like a festival. We may just become a literal festival act if we are in the City among the Festival
- Less official opening time: Wednesday to Wednesday to include what?
- Should be in view of RBS headquarters if we are rural.

Group 3:

- Lowest preference would be a rural field.
- Squatting is the way to go.
- More energy for squatting buildings or parks perhaps.

Group 4:

- We need to be there for around 4 or 5 days.
- We'd have to have some form of convergence space or camp.
- Though Camp is predictable, it is more media savvy.
- Talked about squatted buildings.

Group 5:

- Proposal: that we rent a rural site to be a specifically action training and planning space.
- Reasoning:
  - Don't expend energy defending site
  - Effective well thought out action
  - Accessible Camp, nice space, great for getting people along to.
- Proposal to be brought back after lunch.

Group 6:

- Strip the site back to just what we need.
- Could enable more urban spaces
- Noted problems with Urban Convergence.

## ***Edinburgh Presentation***

A presentation was given about the geography of Edinburgh City Centre.

## Lunch

### Spectrums

How 'hot' should this site be? (Hot being a site near somewhere significant, not hot somewhere safer)

- Spectrum is very evenly spread.
- Hot end: Don't see the point of going if it's not.
- Middle: Trust the Land Group for the location.
- Middle: Safer space can be launch pad for smaller spiky actions.
- Low: The Camp is there to keep us fed and watered and therefore it would be a drain of energy to constantly defend it.
- Low: If the Camp is the action it would be doing what has been done before.
- Hot End: If you're in safe space far away it drains energy too: travelling for actions.

How do people feel about squatting over renting?

- Spectrum begins with most middle to high end.
- Low: The principles of squatting are more inkeeping with our principles, and
- High: Renting will provide space for training, etc.
- High: Police are less powerful than they used to be.
- High: The Tories are going to make trespass illegal, so we've got to fight this (**Everyone moves to High end in response to this**)

Rural, Park, or Buildings: triangle spectrum

- Very few at extreme of rural. Very few at extreme of Buildings. Vast bulk of people in park, or between park and rural.
- Building side: Change what Climate Camp is about, and makes a point about squatting.
- Park: Buildings can be a logistical nightmare, but somewhere in the city would be good.
- Rural: Love the countryside, hate the city.
- Park: Can attract people to 'have a go' if there's confrontation afoot.
- Rural: Concerns about getting sucked into the Festival atmosphere. Nothing said yet to convince against this.

4 point spectrum:

- Mass versus dispersed action: Bulk of people either in middle or dispersed end.
- Coordinated versus non-coordinated: No one a far end of Mass action.
- Common Ground: towards coordinated smaller groups, but also small to medium (flexible).

Temperature check on Challenge Anarchy Day.

- A lot of high up with some middling.
- This is a strong steer.

Process proposal:

- We need to decide whether we do something coordinated, and there seems to be a strong steer towards this. Therefore, let's formulate a proposal. Let's stick together for now, and then make out into groups to tease out details.
- Site and action could be tackled in separate groups
- Site group has discussion and action group has discussion?
- Small groups have discussion, to get something more concrete?

Agreed process:

- Small groups in areas of focus:
  - Theme days/Mission days
  - Challenge Anarchy/Small and Co-ordinated.
  - Mass action

## **Feedback from Small groups**

Mission Days:

- Coordinated small group actions
- PROPOSAL: Camp framed around going out and doing actions. Teach out: going out into the city. Another one would be on a theme, potentially arrestable but not necessarily. Final day focused on the RBS HQ.

Mass Action:

- Started talking about actions on all the branches, but that moved onto the HQ: with a Bailiff the Bank style thing.
- PROPOSAL: Seige on the HQ, but not to draw energy away from anything else.

Challenge Anarchy:

- “RBS Bank Holiday” on the Monday
- Need a space with good transport links, etc.
- HQ could be a part of this.
- Concern about conspiracy charges in the organisation.
- Could also target open cast mining, and other fossil fuels that RBS is funding.
- Lots of space for people to develop their own actions.
- Think Great Rebel Raft Regetta, rather

Synthesis:

- It all fits onto a calendar, but it could be too much.
- If you're arrested on Friday, you stay in prison till Monday.
- It's too much.
- You can't do too many, because once you start doing something energy continues to build. So,
- Important to up the anti early on.
- The energy may be dispersed if we focus early on in the week.
- In Copenhagen we had way too many action days, people arrested too many times. Pre-announced actions: it would be good if we could find a way to not pre-announce what our actions are. Sending people into a police barricade is demoralising.
- How can all of these things tie into RBS: all of these things are systemic. Need to keep focused on how we tie these things together
- One problem lies if the police arrest people at the branches then you can't do the HQ the next day
- flat pack action: some energy has been put forward
- really don't think that challenge anarchy will work if there's also a mass action
- Process points?

- Don't know if we need to make a decision now. We could call at Bank Holiday on the Monday and then the rest can be decided later. To be able to announce something would be good
- Factually clarify: isn't it an anti-bank holiday?
- Holiday from RBS. It's not a Scotland Bank Holiday for RBS
- We have a choice between the HQ and the branches. It has implications for the message about what RBS is doing. We need to make that decision
- One of things about our proposal was it wasn't limited to branches. Targeting companies that are directly funded by RBS
- How much time do we have? Maybe we're close to some decisions. Maybe we spend some more time going back to the decisions about the location and the duration. Or we've got no more time in which case we just stop.
- We are eating into time for our message and politics
- What are the crucial things we need to decide at this gathering? We need to set up working groups and especially work out who is going to organise a site.
- Would be good to decide the day of action today.
- Mass action does take some organising. We could decide to do a day of action at the camp. Affinity groups who are up for doing challenge anarchy could go away and do things as long as they've got a couple of spokes staying at the camp working out the details of the mass action and everyone can come back.
- Challenge anarchy is just a different way of doing a mass action.

#### **PROPOSAL:**

- **We set aside the Monday as a day of action against RBS**
  - **Two Stand asides (reasons given already)**
  - **CONSENSUS!**

#### Further comments:

- Should be mass action, but haven't had a proper discussion
- Concern that it's looking quite familiar. A week long camp followed by a day of action
- I kind of think we think did a spectrum line and we got quite a lot of support
- I think we should leave this now and come back to it. We're opening up a lot of questions which we don't have time to go into
- The decision was basically made and we just need to move on
- I'm in favour of co-ordinated mass action but that's not precluded by that decision

### ***Considerations of Site***

#### Spectrum: 24 hours to 7 days?

- No one at far extreme of 24 hours
- Three at around 2-3.
- Vast bulk in middle to longer end.
- Comments:
  - 4-5 days: Needs longer than 2 days for effective action, but don't want to grind people down.
  - 4-5 days: 7 days plus day to get there and day to get back: 9 days, too long in terms of work, etc.

- 2-3 days: We can afford to do something more confrontational.
- Longer end: two days set up, two days planning, days of action, then take down = 7 days.

How luxurious do we want camp to be? (One end traditional style, the other end G20)

- Large swath in the middle. None at G20 side. 25% between middle and traditional end. A couple at far end of traditional.
- Comment: If there was bare minimum we'd be more focused on action.
- Comment: Neighbourhoods could take on a lot more of the site crew work. Devolve this responsibility.
- Comment: Less energy put into Camp the more time for action, but people need to be comfortable for action.
- Comment: Exciting reasons for RBS is to make links with other people who don't work on Climate Change, and therefore the stripped down version might destroy our ability to do this.

### PROPOSAL:

- **We will be setting up a site in an open space (ie not a building) for more than two days.**
- **No blocks or stand asides**
- **CONSENSUS!**

### PROPOSAL:

We hold a Camp for seven consecutive periods of 24 hours, Wednesday to Wednesday, including set-up and take-down

- Stand aside:
  - Process
  - 7 days to long
  - We're doing what we've done before (a few)
  - Too many stand asides

Comments about doing what we're doing:

- Need to be more action focused.
- We're not making links with people.

Discussion:

- We are watching ourselves making good decisions.
- We haven't just done a week camp, we've done other things. We shouldn't feel like we're stuck.
- Ideal summer event was KN, it was tough but we won. KN was a tenable model for us, but untenable for the police.
- Britain now has an English (Tory) government, and Metropolitan Police not popular in
- Sometimes we try and ask all the questions and do everything in one week. We keep coming back to the need for radical action and entry point coming together.
- "I'm not standing aside": it would be good to move on.
- Every year we do we a camp because we can do it, and then we do a mass action. Every year people put in loads of energy into a Camp, but we've lost people due to this. People are no longer here that used to be.
- Can't people just come for part of the Camp?
- We can cut down on structures but if it rains.

- Trying to address the issue of burn out, but the debate about what's missing. The problem is we're a small group.
- Part of it is that we are worried about capacity issues, we don't know who is up for what.
- Really important to be careful of the histories we set in stone. People have burnt out, but we have also been getting stronger in terms of the model. People have rotated around. We need to not fix this negative history, because it is only one side of the story.
- The aim is what matters. We should get to the site discussion.

## ***Working Group Time***

Get into temporary working groups:

- Legal
- Action Support
- Outreach
- Site
- Workshops??? (Doesn't meet yet)

### **Feedback**

Site:

- 20 people signed up to email list. 15 people at the meeting just now. No one has volunteered to be a site coordinator.
- Thinking of it like Drax Camp
- Need to hear back from WG about what their technical needs are.
- Detailing marquees, expecting to use
- Three kitchens, as opposed to neighbourhoods
- Same amount of work no matter how long the Camp.

Outreach

- Contacts within each neighbourhood to do stuff on the ground.
- Budget proposal has been formulated
- Need more people

### **PROPOSAL**

- **£1,200 for Outreach Group to pay for flyers, posters, etc**
  - **CONSENSUS!**

Action Support:

- Couldn't discuss much as there isn't yet a remit to work towards.
- Need more experience to work with training, etc.
- Think realistically what can be done in ten weeks
- Needs a remit.

## ***Next Gatherings***

- No venues confirmed
- Proposed dates: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> July and 31<sup>st</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> August

## **Sunday**

### ***Finance Proposals***

#### **PROPOSAL:**

- **Glastonbury budget (fronting money pending mass fundraising at event): £1,400**
  - **CONSENSUS!**

#### **PROPOSAL:**

- **Site (interim budget): £5000**
  - **CONSENSUS!**

#### **Camp for Climate Action Cymru:**

- Has decided it will have another Camp to focus on coal.
- It went to Ffos-y-Fran last year. It was great but it needs to learn lessons especially with regard to Action Support.
- This year an event in Cardiff followed by a stripped down protest camp event will take place.
- Meeting in a fortnight where decisions will be made about specifics.
- Would like to request money from Climate Camp (£2000)
- Question: Will this be seed money or...?
- Response: It will be seed money.
- Question: Broader question as to the process for fundraising for UK components of Climate Camp: Scotland, England, Wales. Is the UK the funds for the others? Is this ok?

#### **PROPOSAL:**

- **We give £2000 from UK Camp for Climate Action funds to the Cymru Camp:**
  - **CONSENSUS!**

#### **Comments on budgets:**

- Do we do audits/know where many is spent?
- Response: Yes, these budgets are unusual in that they haven't had a breakdown attributed to them, as they are emergency budgets to get things going.
- Working groups should prepare fuller budgets for the next gathering.
- There is space to talk about budgets later.
- Need to discuss the relationship between the different UK camps at some point.

#### **Do other working groups need money?**

- Action Support didn't discuss finances yet, as need more steer from the gathering as to what they will be doing this year.
- Media will need money later, and will put budget together soon.

## ***Duration of Camp/ RBS summer event***

- Could we hear feedback from site?
  - 15 people attended site meeting, 20 people keen to work on site from ATC training
  - Duration of Camp makes no difference to Site crew, as it is the same amount of work.

PROPOSAL: Spend 7 days focusing on RBS in Scotland

- Amendment: with 2 day set up and 1 day take down in which all are involved

Discussion:

- Take down took a week last year, need more time
- 3 or 4 days for take down and set up
- We can decree people to get involved in take down and set up: set up pattern of activities to stop people dropping off.
- Site group is thinking about how to get everyone involved
- Are we planning to swoop on the site – worked at Blackheath where set up was built into first day. Seems implicit in proposal.

Do we decide dates for publicity? Or actual activities for days of camp?

Outreach/publicity need dates by today.

- Talking about dates rather than form – this can be decided later
- Urgency for getting dates. We could advertise it as a swoop, perhaps only mention one day set up

PROPOSAL RESTATED

- Spend 7 days focusing on RBS in Scotland
  - Three Stand Asides
  - Bail date unable to attend for duration
  - Rather have a shorter period of time
  - No active consensus.

Moving forward:

- Can some people make another proposal?
- People who think its too long step aside come up with another proposal
- Anyone passionately defending 7 days? We could just test on 5 days
- Scotland' long way to go, so worth it being longer.
- Site difficult to do, so needs 7 days to make it worthwhile
- 7 days allows more people time to get there
- Are we doing this in the wrong order? We should decide action then plan camp around that.
- Response: totally agree with that point, what is the process for taking forward discussion about action? Could we prioritize that before length of camp. To me its more important than messaging discussion.
- Can we test for consensus on 6 days?
- Just a random number of days not useful
- If dates may change, easy to shorten rather than lengthen
- Can we address suggested process points
- Process points: 1) group to go away and develop proposals 2) give agenda time to action/

duration discussion

- To come to a collectively reasoned decision must come to a decision on action but we need dates at this late stage.
- Process proposal: Quick break to flesh out duration proposal then move into messaging discussion which will led into discussion of form.
- TEMPERATURE CHECK: Positive

**5 Minute break.**

## ***RBS event messaging discussion***

Purpose of session:

- Key ideas to steer media and publicity not word-smithing

Aim:

- to create an prioritized list of ideas

Structure:

1. Hear back from 'Getting things going' meeting
2. Discuss what a key messages is
3. Hear back from last years messages
4. Small group discussion / spectrum lines

What are key messages?

- 3 phrases/ soundbites/ ideas to get get out in all media possible
- Blackheath camp: economic system, false solutions, people can do amazing things together

'Getting things going' feedback:

- RBS simple focus for complex messages
- Concerns we would be seen as a lobby group difference between anti-capitalist and anti-fossil fuel stance
- Must communicate complexity in accessible way

Key ideas:

- Capitalism
- Radical economics: talk about alternatives
- UK coal: RBS invest in mines (lots in Scotland)
- Indigenous peoples rights:
- Workers rights
- Misuse of public money

Trying to find space for this diversity of messages to attract broadest range of people.

**Breakdown into small groups**

**Feedback from small groups**

#### Group 1

- Banking and financial system as a whole causing climate change and RBS being a key example
- Alternatives like community/ democratic control
- Open cast in Scotland
- Public ownership of RBS good outreach opportunity

#### Group 2

- Funding climate change with public money, 83% public owned
- Use of words: Industry works, Oil Bank of Scotland, crisis

#### Group 3

- More radical and different to NGOs
- Ecology – tar sands, coal, carbon footprint
- public money not used in public interest – public service cuts to pay for banks
- Need for a new economics

#### Group 4

- Dismantling capitalism – brings in lots of subheadings

#### Group 5

- Screwing communities local/ global -
- Public ownership – subsidized not nationalized the banks
- Positive alternatives
- Concern: this will bring out state/ anti-state argument

#### Question:

- Do we want to create a space for discussion/ questioning or push our solutions. This will affect nature of event?

Synthesis of key emerging messages.

#### Temperature checks of key messages:

- Misuse of public money (outreach hook but raise questions) – medium
- There is ecological destruction built into the mechanics of the banking and financial system – high
- Radical economics: democratic and community control – high
- Make link is with open cast mines and affected communities in Scotland's – high
- Indigenous rights Tar sands international solidarity – medium

#### Comments:

- Re-phrase public funds misuse to get more support
- Stay away from 'dis-invest in fossil fuels' frame.
- Happy for public fund to be used as a message but must be careful – leave to media team to develop
- Link indigenous and UK open cast mines together in one point about communities being screwed

## ***Teach in/newspaper***

Came out of 'getting things going' meeting

### **PROPOSAL:**

- **We hold a 'Teach In' in Leeds on the 17<sup>th</sup> June, open to all but funding at least 2 people from each neighborhood to participate. The funded persons should then put on a regional outreach event/workshop.**
  - **CONSENSUS!**

Newspaper:

- Like at previous camps.
- It already has funding.
- It aims to raise questions, open up issues, give examples of bank based activism, green investment banks.
- There's been lots of contributors.
- Not attempting to give an official Camp opinion but just open up the issues.
- Question: What's the print run?
- Response: 10,000 (Deal or No Deal was 20,000 last year)

Exhibition for Glastonbury and beyond:

- A short version of the newspaper for Glastonbury.
- Contact [outreach@climatecamp.org.uk](mailto:outreach@climatecamp.org.uk) to use it between Glasto and the Camp.

## ***Strengthening our Network, Part 1***

### **Spectrum lines**

Should we adopt the PGA hallmarks?

- Majority think 'yes'
- Comments:
  - Useful
  - Express what the Climate Camp is trying to, exciting and inspiring language.
  - Links with existing movement.
  - No: PGA not a functioning network, why should we agree to principals established for a totally different purpose to enable relations across countries before internet. Used by dissent network to exclude people. We don't need them as a UK network which meets, communicates and does not want to exclude others

Spectrum triangle on political statements: Do we adopt those written or go back to the beginning?

- Lots of people indifferent. Few strongly agrees with adopting. One at 'start again' end.
- Both statements are great.
- Could be worded better but suggests climate change is the only problem with capitalism
- Adopt as resources that could be used as an when
- Important to note how many people don't care and resent being required to discuss this on an

ongoing basis.

How much do you know about the broader organisation of climate camp and how it works?

- Most people on 'i know more' side and a handful in 'I know very little'

How much does CC need to change how it works? Majority agree with medium to big change

- Don't change: I like it
- Don't change: Its a model I try to replicate in other organisations
- Middle: important issues but don't want to change now we have stuff to organise.
- Middle: we have got a lot right but am up for some reorganization
- Big change: OK for what it does but big change to change if we are to achieve more
- Big change: four years down the line and we are not still here, informal hierarchies, no culture of skill share – opportunity to think radical about how we organise become more radical
- Focus on building the movement doing outreach not process discussions cover the same ground over and over which makes it frustrating and we lose people

## ***Cochabamba Feedback***

Presentation:

- Peoples World Conference on CC came out of Cop-15 invite social movements and government to participate in drafting of declaration
- Main aims: analyse cause and radical measures, universal declaration of mother earth rights, a solutions to the UN process, to analyse and develop plans to establish create climate justice tribunal
- 5 day in conference
- It was weird – it was an experiment, alternative conference put on
- Controversy about participating in process: lobbying, flying, false solutions
- Forest working group was chaired by UN bureaucrat and first draft of proposal had REDD involved
- Within working groups there was a democratic selection of moderators – forest group in the end did reject REDD
- Structural processes – government rejects capitalism. Anti-capitalism is not enough.
- People from all over Latin America, North America, not so many European
- Side events – mega projects an repression – made like between what happens on the ground the communities affected on the ground by mining projects funded here
- Ben & myself, CJA and other Climate Campers – put on building bridge workshop about linking and working together. Did it in framework of week of direct action in October. Take up call from Latin America wanting to reclaim Columbus Day 21 Oct
- Voices which stood out were voice which call for action now not focusing on Cancun to sort it out.
- Mesa 18 – came out of Bolivian social movements who wanted to talk about the problems within their own communities and there was not space within the conference to discuss it. Highly controversial, Evo Morales supposedly tried to dissuade them. There was a massive energy and practical thinking about how to transform society not just making declarations rejecting UN process.
- What we took out of it was the need for action now! Must target companies

Question and Answer session:

Q: Did you meet the Africa delegates funded by CC?

A: They didn't get to come money went to their camp instead

Q: What came out of this conference?

A: We need to have this discussion about what this means to us? Do we agree with delegations and we need to take up calls for action

Q: Was there discussion about how to integrate this in camp process?

A: That's the purpose of today.

Q: Was there awareness of CJA and CC?

A: Positive reaction from social movements about CJA reclaim power and have positive. There is not much knowledge about what CC does and our tactics and actions. Important to let people know that there are people in the west trying to work on the same issues

Q: People in South want to see more social movements in North

A: yes, we can mobilize and kick out multi-nationals but mostly we need to address carbon emissions.

Q: any more sophisticated/ new ideas about how to organize other than day of action?

A: 1000 Cancun's, social movements planning to create areas of resistance locally rather than sending people there. Other than that, not massively.

Further comments:

- We had a meeting in London last week talked about making being part of a international network part of our everyday experience of CC in same way as we are aware of what's going on in Wales, Scotland.
- CJA is meeting this weekend to talk about day of action. Very positive to send people to Cochabamba give intensive to share info, feedback, actively network.

## ***Proposal for length of gathering***

Proposal from working group that went away over lunch to flesh out all the issues over the duration of the Camp.

Looked at capacity of site set up and tat down.

- Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday.
- On site training and action: for four days.
- Wednesday also tat down, but not the pushed and publicised.
- Set up: compromise between public swoop and closed group doing land grab.
- Semi-public swoop day: Thursday we take site (swoop) and this is most pushed to our exciting networks, and to the outside world we publicise everyone coming.

Comments:

- Concern about people not being involved in set up and tat down.

- Semi open swoop, exciting action people can get involved with.
- Different asks, wanted to make compromise to engage those more involved with getting new people onboard. We'll push the swoop
- Concern: It's great, but mostly it's about the outreach group deciding how to take forward. Tuesday is proscribing what the Camp should be. Is Tuesday a day of reflection or is it tat down?
- Response: Was has discussed previously, and the reflections haven't really worked. It is essential to have reflections, but these are not the best.
- Further response: it could be reflection on the specifics of the action, not on the wider movement

### **PROPOSAL:**

- **People are encouraged to arrive on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> for open set up day, in order to start training and taking action on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>. Tat down will be on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> And Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>. In addition, there will be a site take on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>, publicized to our existing network. The key days put out in our publicity will be Friday 20<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>.**
  - **Stand Aside: take into account concerns about needing people from tat down.**
  - **CONSENSUS!**

## ***Strengthening our Network, Part 2***

Three groups:

- Politics
- How We Organise
- International

### **Self selecting groups split off**

Feedback:

### **How We Organise**

- Concrete proposals: Issues with geography. Some neighbourhoods less involved.
- Response: would two be required?
- How does this affect working groups?
- Response: It's mostly the regions furthest away from London.
- Interim measure until we take it forward?
- It's not that only two people can come.
- We do travel pools, how does this fit in?
- In addition to the travel pool?
- We've set up a working group to discuss how we organise

### **PROPOSAL:**

- **Climate Camp centrally funds the cost of two people from each neighbourhood if required to go to national gatherings, to break down the discrepancies in neighbourhood involvement. This is in addition to the travel pool. This is an interim measure, while**

**discussions about our process continue.**

- **CONSENSUS!**

### **International**

- Interesting discussions, ongoing. Will hopefully make things a lot better.
- Getting in touch with the Global South. Create sense of solidarity with groups there. Getting in touch with activist groups across the world.
- We want to create effective twinning.
- Getting in contact with other activist groups about this
- Conversation about flying: It needed to be taken on a case by case basis. There is a real value is someone going face to face. A lot was taken from it.
- Suggestions:
  - Invite Aggy and Ben (the delegates) to do a talk.
  - Discussion stuff on website
  - International Group makes directory online of international groups we have links with.

#### **PROPOSAL:**

- That facilitating connections should be part of the International Working Group's remit.

#### **Elaborate:**

- If a neighborhood says 'we want a connection' then the International Group can help put them in touch, based on things in their area, etc.
- International group facilitates process.
- Concern about capacity.

#### **PROPOSAL RESTATED:**

- **That facilitating connections should be part of the international group's remit.**
  - **No stand asides**
  - **CONSENSUS!**

Hearing about two potential days of action: 10,10,10 -folks in Glasgow shutting down airport. BUT the 12 is a coming together action CJA has endorsed.

- We respond to this callout from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup>.
- This involves promoting the Glasgow airport action.

#### **PROPOSAL:**

- **Climate Camp responds to the Global Call and Glasgow Call for action, publicizing and week of action on 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> October.**
  - **CONSENSUS!**
- Clarity: this proposal has not agreed to give any funding to this event/project. Request that this is noted in minutes to avoid confusion or expectations further down the line.

#### **PROPOSAL:**

Following the Thousands of Cancuns call out, which is being organised by CJA, regions discuss the possibility of what they could do and feedback with ideas.

### Questions:

- Who will take it forward?
- Hopefully people involved in the action.
- It can go out on the network lists.
- Anyone can email neighborhoods list.
- This is a bit like Cochabamba decisions, which asked for feedback from neighborhoods and got none.

### Amend:

- We will put some time at a future national gathering to discuss this. Therefore, it would be helpful if neighbourhoods discussed it in advance.
- There will be time in the next national gathering to continue this discussion.
- Submit it to gatherings@
- Suggestion: Each neighbourhood should have an international group spoke. They are not active enough.
- Need to get more people to do international work.
- Leave it as suggestion. If there are people willing to send out relevant emails then we don't need active consensus on this.

### Politics

- No politics group met as only one person was keen to discuss.

### **Gathering Evaluation**

What was good?

What was bad?

- Some of the beer was good
- Better than thought: exciting amount of energy for solving problems
- Tired but impressed with everyone
- Energy was at a dip, but now we're getting somewhere exciting. Getting excited.
- Congratulations to the facilitation team: strong enough to change things when needed.
- Good that the agenda was flexible. A lot of check in with the gathering to check.
- There weren't many female facilitators, and a lot of the same facilitators.
- Good site group together.
- Worried about the people who aren't at the gathering. Need to take the positive collective spirit we've found at this gathering. We need to make it a space
- Thanks to the DJ
- Not a lot of people here.

What do we want to get on the next gathering?

- Defence/Comms
- Process
- Good amount of working group time

- Land Group feed in.
- Feedback from Bonn
- Legal working group and understand Scottish Group.
- Other working groups that need to be formed.
- We should work out what working groups need to form
- Need to agree for a full budget.
- Report back on all the fundraising.
- Decide on our day of action.
- We need to get the Scottish keen folk in the next gathering
- What will the engagement with the police be?
- Talking about the politics of why we're targeting RBS, not just external communications.

## **AOB**

### Finance:

- Massive thanks to current treasurer, who is stepping down. Especial thanks for his handling of all those crazy Copenhagen Coach finances!
- Someone else has come forward, but would like a team!
- Need people.

### Website:

- Needs people. Don't need techie skills. Get involved!

### Outreach:

- Lot's has been made of Site, but there's concerns about Outreach Capacity! Get involved!