

National Camp for Climate Action Gathering

**7th-8th November, 2009,
Manchester**

- **Gathering Key Decisions**
 - **Gathering Agenda**
 - **Gathering Minutes**
- **Climate Camp Financial Summary**

KEY DECISIONS

The Climate Camp agrees to a letter from the Legal team being sent to the police and media as drafted, except that the non-violence quote will be removed in line with current media team policy.

The Climate Camp donates £10,000 in theory to CJA (£5,000 in loan, £5,000 in donation) until it goes to Finance Group for discussion (*Finance Group later approved this figure during working group time*)

The Climate Camp gives £2000 to the Bike Bloc, on the condition that clear information is provided on the project's overall funds.

The Climate Camp reimburses £600 of an overall sum of £1400 for individuals' lost camera equipment. This is on the condition is that in the future people need to take responsibility for their own stuff and that this decision doesn't set a precedent.

The Climate Camp encourages neighbourhoods to hold regional gatherings during January, which will then feed into a large national gathering be held February 12th-14th at a location to be announced.

Climate Camp TV becomes a working group, and will bring a mandate proposal to a future gathering.

The Climate Camp gives £2000 to The Skint Project. £1000 as a donation, and £1000 as a loan.

GATHERING AGENDA

SATURDAY

Introduction
Swoop Debrief
Update Session
Where Next? Stage 1
Where Next? Stage 2
The Skint Fund

SUNDAY

Legal
Copenhagen
Finance Proposals
Where Next? Feedback
Proposals
Working Group Time
Final Announcements

GATHERING MINUTES

SATURDAY

Introduction

- Welcome
- Housekeeping
- Running through agenda

Swoop Debrief

Feedback from working groups

Outreach:

- It was really good how many people came to the Swoop. We achieved the upper end of our prediction.
- However, we need to focus more on certain geographical areas where there were clear gaps in attendance. Much of the outreach focused on already established activist cities. Gaps included places such as West Midlands.

Legal:

- There were 57 people arrested on the day.
- The legal team had 25 people on the ground and others were working offsite online from home, making use of tools use as crabgrass. This proved a good way to increase capacity, reacting to many people's inability to come to the site for whatever reason.

Media:

- The levels of success were mixed.
- There was some good coverage where key messages were coming through, despite limited mainstream coverage.
- We are, however, back to the old days of Climate Camp where the media are writing up reports from their offices often based on police and power corporate press releases. We'd got very used to them coming along in recent times.
- There were some annoying bits, such as the spin on the police officer injured. We were in a weak position because we held back from comment until we'd collected and assessed the full facts. Meanwhile, the police began spreading lies straight away aimed at demonising us.
- Aside from mainstream coverage, there was a feeling our own media (CCTV, Indymedia, live map) was brilliant.

-Question: Is there going to be any follow up of the lies surrounding the police injury?

-Answer: It's being looked into at present

-Comment: Twitter was amazing on the day.

Feedback from neighbourhoods

Leeds:

- Impressed with turnout.
- There was 70 people came at least. Of these a lot were newcomers.

Manchester:

- Lots of people came to the Swoop itself.
- A lot of work done beforehand, doing very well with fundraisers Lots came. Did well with fundraisers in advance. Accomodated for all.

London:

- There were six minibuses organised by the London neighbourhood, but there were two others at least plus many more participants besides.

South Coast:

- The neighbourhood came in their big yellow bus powered by fuel from renewable sources, which is becoming their trade mark mode of transport.
- There were lots of people there, albeit mainly from Brighton itself.

Wales:

- There was at least one minibus going from Wales.
- It was a good mix between experiences people and newer folk.
- The most exciting part was the participation of loads of Cardiff students who have said they'll be back for more. None of them had done anything like it before. Only disappointment was they had to leave Saturday night so couldn't stay for the whole event.

Thames Valley:

- They brought a couple of minibuses.
- As with South Coast, almost all participants came from one city (Oxford), where the majority of the neighbourhood's activity takes place within. Giving thought into how to expand beyond Oxford to the wider region. There was, however, a Reading contingent.
- They held a very successful training event the weekend before.

East Midlands:

- No one present to feedback, but this was the region the Swoop took place in as well as being a hub of Climate Camp activity previously.
- They was a big absence at the Swoop from this region, and this is something we need to consider and address.

Further Feedback

Workers Outreach:

- People involved with this work were pleased it was part of the original proposal. This is a good development in Climate Camp events.
- A Workers Climate Action group in Nottingham was set up, which was generally very positive.
- However, there is loads more that needs to be done in terms of thinking about how our action impacts on workers.
- We need to start addressing the problematic issues of being against coal, especially bearing in mind the proud history of coal related struggles.

-We need to educate ourselves, and integrating this process into our messaging.

Small group discussion

The gathering breaks into small groups, having been given the following questions to address:

- How easy was it to find out what was going on?
- How well do people feel after the swoop?
- How did the model of action separate from the camp work?

Summary of feedback from the small groups:

- There should have been a camp set up prior to the Swoop to serve as a base. This would have provided a dumping group, enabling people to climb over fences, etc, without being weighed down with heavy rucksacks.
- There could have been snap trainings between the two swoops (Swoop 1 at 1pm, Swoop 2 at 3pm). This could have covered things such as basic body blocking tactics. It would have been could due the amount of people attending the swoop as their first action.
- There was a feeling that the media and twitter was good. However, there were strong concerns about the legal consequences of putting up images featuring people's identities (repeated by a few groups).
- We didn't have any discussion/briefing about whether or not to mask up/cover up. For a lot of new people this concept might simply not have been on radar.
- There needs to be legal briefings on the day, and this could perhaps take place on the coaches/minibuses on the way up.
- The legal observers were brilliant!
- We could have been more positive about masking up/covering up, and perhaps issues a legal statement to the media about wh we do cover our identity at these events.
- The mass texts were really good, although their was some problems with a lack of signal in the area. Furthermore, some people didn't want to bring phones due to surveillance, although others brought new phones specially for the day. Perhaps need to think about additional methods of communication.
- We should think about better ways to organise, such as splitting off tactics.
- There was a lot of confidence in Climate Camp legal support.
- There should have been more information in the publicity about how to get involved.
- It was the best mass action we've done yet!
- The media are bored of us trying to shut down power stations.
- It needs to be part of an ongoing campaign, not just a one day event.
- There was not enough training for the action because it was separate from the camp.
- The information people required about the site, was not dessiminated widely enough.
- We should do mass texts for free text time, and there is the means to do this.
- We should think more about a divers range of tactics: blocking a road would have been handy.
- It made the Climate Camp itself look a bit flaccid, but it was clearly a brilliant model.
- There was a feeling that the target could have been announced on the first day of the camp to enable better mobilisation through the duration of the camp.

Further discussion

- Achieving consensus with 300 people in the woods at the swoop was amazing and a testament to our self organising abilities.
- We need to think about post-arrest support after the action. This is not something the legal group currently cover.
- This is especially in light of the fact that many people arrested may have been getting involved for the first time, and many certainly don't come to national gatherings. How do we stay in touch with them/make sure they have the support they need?
- Local arrest support groups have been set up. Neighbourhoods can liase with legal about carrying out the work of the arrest support group.
- Email process@climatecamp.org.uk if you have set up/can set up a local arrest support group so it can be publicised ensuring all arrestees know the support is there.
- There is a compilation of all arrests by legal (confidential of course).

Update Session

Coal

Putting coal in context:

- The government has set out that they require 25% percent of CCS for all new coal. This made being new coal fired power stations a far higher hurdle for energy companies to climb.
- Eon recently delayed Kingsnorth for a few years.
- However, new coal is still in pipeline. There are currently test plants being launched and research funding being given.
- There needs to be a focus now on existing coal fired power stations as well (old coal).

Tipping Point

- This was a project set up in Gillingham, Kent, by Climate Camp in order to mobilise the local community against Kingsnorth.
- They gained a short term lease on a shop in the local high street.
- The good news is that the local activists want to keep it going for the long term, to continue opposing the Kingsnorth (as it has only been described as 'delayed') and also to address wider climate issues.
- Support from the nearby London neighbourhood is essential to keep it going.

Didcot action:

- 20 cyclists entered RWE's Didcot Power Station, Oxfordshire.
- They split into two groups: one locked onto the conveyor belt, one ascending chimney.
- All coal production was stopped at the plant as a "precaution".
- The full plan was to get onto the flues after the turbine shut down from conveyor belt being shut down: this very nearly happened a view times but was made difficult due to gas backup.
- Chimney team remained at the top for over 48 hours (beating the record!)
- RWE npower had put in plans for new coal fired power stations (INSERTED AFTER GATHERING: These have since been withdrawn!)

Shipley:

- There was an action on Shipley opencast mine taking place on the same day as the Didcot action.
- It follows many other actions taking place at the site over the course of the year, such as mass trespasses and hit and run actions.
- Around 20 people invaded the site to stop work on open-cast mines sending coal to Ratcliffe.

Mainshill:

- Mainshill is the site of a planned opencast mine.
- There is an ongoing solidarity camp set up to stop it, that launched with as the Scottish Camp for Climate Action in the summer.
- The local community are highly engaged in the local actions. They've enjoyed strong community support.
- Groups use camp as a base to take autonomous actions, including blockade on local rail terminal, anonymous sabotage, APACS drilling contractors being targeted.
- Everyone encouraged to go and participate in the camp: chance to learn and make use of new skills (tree climbing, etc), while also preventing the camp from being evicted.

Aviation

- The recent announcement that featured in the Sunday Times about BAA's planned third runway was misunderstood and misrepresented. It only said that BAA will not build a third runway if the Tories get in: this was known anyway as the Tories have said they'll reverse the decision.
- Climate Campers and Plane Stupid have moved into Heathrow area for "Transition Heathrow"
- The plan is to combine direct action with the transition approach.
- 'Adopt a Resident' Scheme was launched in April, and is continuing to develop and deepen connections with the local community.
- Two weeks ago activists and residents occupied the Virgin Atlantic table at the PR Awards. PR awards were halted, as Plane Stupid enjoyed a lot of champagne (for the movement)
- Last week the probable architects for the third runway were presented with the "We don't give a shit" award by a local resident.
- BA Cabin crew are being balloted for strike action: crucial for Transition Heathrow to show solidarity with this.
- Dot 2 Dot company drive buses between Heathrow and other airports. Bus company can be a sustainable industry of the future. Yet, up to 70% of the workers could lose jobs: important again to show solidarity.
- If runways get stopped at major airports, plans still in place to expand regional airports: still much to be done!

Vestas:

- South Coast neighbourhood have continued to show solidarity with Vestas workers on the Isle of Wight.
- The roundabout continues to be occupied.
- On the 20th November there are plans to occupy Vestas.

Where Next? Stage 1

Introduction to 'Where Next?' discussions

- The question we are asking ourselves is “How do we get from A to Z?” (‘A’ being where we are now, and ‘B’ being the completion of our overall aim)
- The aim of the session is not to make decisions, but to bring together ideas that can be taken forward into the New Year.
- The planned process for the new year is to have regional gatherings in January, that will then feed into a big ‘coming together’ three day gathering in February.
- A group agreement is made.

Evaluation of strategy

- The Camp for Climate Action made a strategy decision in January 2008, that was meant to drive our actions for the year.
- The strategy was as follows: “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 those attempts and promote alternatives.”
- The gathering is asked to evaluate to our achievement of the strategy, bearing in mind their problems in analysing it:
 - It doesn't have clear goals to measure success against.
 - 2009 isn't over yet.
- However, despite this, it will still prove useful in enabling us to discuss where we go from here.

Splitting off into small groups, who are asked the following questions:

- What did we say we would do?
- What we did?
- What happened?
- What we learned?

Feedback from small groups:

- There's been more actions, more mobilising, more capacity for actions. We need to do more outreach and the outreach needs to articulate the linkage between capitalism and the root causes of climate change. We need to keep the space we create (physical and political) radical.
- More than ever before we did “oppose those attempts”, making key strategy choices to how: Vestas, G20, regional camps, etc.
- There was problems in messaging the failed economic system at every step. G20 Climate Camp got called the “nice” part of the protests, talking about coal did not cover the economic system, and Blackheath could have been more hardline on anti-capitalist messaging.
- Internally, discussion of strategy has developed between root causes & economic system.
- Externally, we've begun to do it but not in a proper way. We've struggled to link fossil fuel targets to economic system, so partly failed to de-legitimise carbon trading in lead up to Copenhagen
- We've managed to reach out to workers groups this year: particularly Vestas.

- The media: message is out but needs to be stronger.
- The Blackheath camp made the links but hasn't been pushed. There was not enough space created to talk about solutions in the public realm.
- Done well with linkage between financial system and climate change and connecting with other groups, but we haven't been promoting alternatives.
- We're good at fighting the symptoms but maybe not the cause. We need to highlight the motivations behind our actions.
- Vestas, Tipping Point, and Transition Heathrow are perhaps fulfilling all our aims.
- Economy and alternative: does media representation engage enough? Is it explicit enough? Are we clear enough?
- We need to suggest alternatives and communicate victories: should do so more widely. We need to say not just what we've stopped but what we've produced: community schemes, showing alternatives.
- We're not showing technical and political alternatives enough: e.g. what kind of ownership would Vestas be under?
- We've grown in numbers but haven't diversified. Also lost older activists who have burned out.
- Community connections highlighted alternatives, but was lost in larger actions.
- Strategic aims have to be embedded throughout from beginning of event planning, not just last minute in media key messages.

Lunch

Where Next? Stage 1 (Cont)

The following question is put to the gathering:

- “What are the key issues that the Camp for Climate Action should work on this year?”
- This might create a number of different goals round a number of different areas.
- The aim of the session is to create the space for people to discuss different concerns that could lead to different goals.

Splitting off into small groups.

Groups return to wider gathering with three key strategic aims they feel should be placed on the timetable for discussion. These are all grouped into ten broad themes, which form ten discussion groups for the afternoon.

Where Next? Stage 2

Discussion Groups

The ten discussion groups split off for the afternoon. They are asked to decide what to do with the information they produce: it could be typed up into minutes for distribution, or formed into a proposal for the New Year.

Question: How will possible proposals be taken forward:

Answer: Suggestion from process is that proposals will be circulated around neighbourhoods for the regional gatherings to discuss/amend, and then brought forward to the big 'coming together' February gathering.

Splitting off into ten discussion groups.

Feedback from discussion groups postponed till next day.

Evaluation of day

- + Facilitation good structure
- Working at the plan left people out, maybe it needed to be owned by one person
- + Space to start from first principles
- + Space for themes to emerge from the group rather than process
- + Has been a gradual process
- Silos of themes, without the cross fertilisation
- Is it wise to wait to February?
- + Movement between groups meant spoke to lots of different people
- Lack of feedback
- Would have been good half way through to remind to swop groups
- + Liked freedom to swop groups when wanted
- + Good to use to different process
- + Emphasis on optimum size of groups
- Drawing out themes was too long as too much discussion was taking place
- + Too long session in the afternoon but insufficient time for swoop debrief
- + The convergence of the themes
- Would have been nice to have feedback from the groups as it goes along so people can choose to wander
- + Compressed morning, and easier time in the afternoon
- Greater clarity of thinking of speech in the morning session
- + Fun
- Would be good to have had a round up action groups so no overlap

The Skint Fund

Presentation of Proposal

- A Skint fund is being set up separate from Climate Camp to meet travel expenses of those going through police/court procedures as a result of Climate Actions.
- Legal advice has been obtained, and it will not pay for fines, lawyers, or actions.
- Main focus is travel costs, with some cases currently involving five or six police station/court appearances.
- Start up fund of £2000 is requested from Climate Camp as a foundation for further fundraising to take place from.
- Exact amount can be assessed tomorrow once Copenhagen spending can be agreed, but the proposal is to agree it in principle before letting the finance group make an exact decision.
- Also, looking for Climate Camp to support it in terms of publicity: website/newsletter.
- Finally, looking for people to get involved in making it happen.

Clarifying Questions

-Question: How much does this represent of the current Camp for Climate Action funds?

-Answer: Climate Camp currently has about £30,000. The Finance working group meets tomorrow.

-Question: Who decides who gets the funds?

-Answer: Open to anyone to get involved with.

-Question: What type of actions fall under this category?

-Answer: UK Climate Actions.

-Question: What about fines?

-Answer: Can't do, as courts will then prioritise community service.

-Question: Who is going to do that initial work?

-Answer: There is a group and others interested are keenly invited. Signatories can be agreed with Finance.

-Question: Why does it need a start up fund?

-Answer: Some urgent cases already exist. Obtaining more money can happen but takes time.

-Question: This is surely not a start up fund, as money will be spent straight away?

-Answer: Yes.

Question: Is proposal for £2000?

Answer: Yes, unless finance amends this when it looks at all the proposals together.

Concerns

-Is £2000 enough?

-It may divert fundraising away from Climate Camp: both funds and fundraising take up energy.

-Are the people involved in setting up the fund planning to do the general fundraising?

-Concerns about the openness of groups and ability to get involved and access to funds.

-No need for a separate fund: could come from Climate Camp resources.

-Response: Finance group have not got capacity, and this will limit the fundraising avenues of the project.

-There is pressure on finance to make strategic decisions about the allocation of funds. This needs more detailed thought over the long term.

PROPOSAL:

That the Camp for Climate Action donates £2000 to The Skint Project.

-5 Stand Asides

- -Not just the £2000, but we are setting up a new fund without knowing where the movement is going.

Proposal postponed to following day after lunch. Those with concerns to talk to the person proposing in the meantime.

SUNDAY

Legal

Legal Update

- At the Calais border: officer can detain anyone if they believe they are leaving the country, and detain you for up to nine hours to see whether you are a terrorist or not. -
- You are told you have no right to silence, and are committing a criminal offence by not answering questions. You have right to a lawyer, but questioning won't be delayed until the lawyer arrives.
- Once in France: number of borders to go through: Germany, etc.
- You can get arrested for carrying a mask: possible ambiguity as to carrying scarves. Might be an offence to be in the general area and be participating in "creating the mood": unsure as to whether or not this is true.
- Have to have identification of name, address, and means of place to stay.
- Blanket search will probably be in force.
- Preventative kettling: legally they can detain you for up to six hours.
- When arrested, they use colour coded arm bands. If not Danish they can hold you for up to 72 hours. You have the right to be silent. Judge can release or detain you. They can stop you coming back for between 1 and 5 years.
- There's lot of legal advice available on being held in custody.
- Legal team in Copenhagen is called Rusk.
- Tactics: water cannon, pepper spray, dogs –all common.
- If you return they can issue a warrant for your arrest.
- They might use people crossing the border as an opportunity to spot people over Ratcliffe.

Feedback from person stopped under terrorist act at border crossing in recent weeks:

- Questions were asked about beliefs, background, family, work, education, passivism, activism.

Questions:

- What if we say no details in Denmark?
- A: This could be committing an offence.

- Do we have an activist focused legal firm in place?

-A: Legal support team from Climate Camp will not do normal legal support, but they will provide briefing in advance. However, there will be a legal team in Copenhagen.

-Are water cannons, etc, going to be standard practice?

-A: Yes.

-What's the process for the verification of your identity?

-A: Passport most likely, and keep your passport with you at all times is the advice being disseminated.

-Could it be best if people don't answer questions at the border, and do this as a political thing that we could get mileage out of.

-A: All the advice says to answer questions. Although consequences can't be evaluated here, and not legal team's job to advise this sort of thing.

-How will database systems be used at borders?

-A: They will be used extensively most likely.

Terrorist definition:

-Normally means serious violence to people or property combined with political intent. The flyers currently going out don't look like terrorism.

Round up:

-Everyone encouraged to read the information on the CJA website and Climate Camp website: legal briefing to go on website within a week.

Legal Proposal

Proposal context and summary:

-Four people have already been stopped at the border on route to Copenhagen. Therefore, there is a suggestion that a letter goes to Kent police explaining our intentions to exercise our legal right to travel to Copenhagen.

-Further suggestion that the letter be sent to media to try and build pressure on Kent police not to stop us travelling.

-Arguments to be put forward: you know loads about us anyway through your databases, and therefore you know we're not terrorists and who we are and don't need to interrogate us.

Concerns:

-It's a good idea, but we need to be very careful about language we use. It can't be saying we're nice environmentalists not terrorists, but rather it needs to state how ridiculous the entire legislation is.

-If we start asking for permission to do things then that puts us in a weaker position.

-Can we not use the T word (terrorist) at all in letter?

-Response: We have to in order to convey message.

Letter read out.

Further concerns:

-It's not helpful to call ourselves non-violent. This is for many reasons. One key reason being that if people do get arrested for something that can be seen as violent in law that this can give us the weaker hand, and give the police right to abuse power in the future.

-Response from facilitator: Could this be passed onto the legal team and media team to deal with the language.

-Response: This wouldn't be good enough, because it's too significant to delegate and not everyone can be part of those working groups, including those with concerns.

-Response: It should be put to media team to wordsmith.

-Response: It's not right to simply label people's political concerns as a wordsmith task.

- Would it not be better to just put letter to the media and not police.

-Response: No. It needs to go to police.

-Suggestion: That we are spending too much time on the issue and need to move on. It is the right time to test for consensus.

Further discussion:

-It is current media team policy to not mention violence or non-violence, so the concern should be covered under this and dealt with automatically.

-That we have already said non-violent in our leaflet, and it is this that the legal letter was quoting.

Proposal: We agree to the letter being sent as drafted, except that the non-violence quote will be removed in line with current media team policy

-1 Stand aside (reason already stated)

-CONSENSUS!

Copenhagen planning

Coaches

-A lot of effort was put into the coaches

-There's a booking form on the website.

-Currently 87 people from London signed up, and a smaller amount from Leeds.

-People are needed to help organise the coaches in both Leeds and London. Call out for help:

-People volunteer ☺

Working Group feedback

-At the Leeds gathering a number of working groups were set up. We need to check they are set up and have finance liaison:

-Action support: zine being made on Copenhagen, and it should be finished by next week. Also planning training in mass actions/public order situations in both North and South. Talk to group to help organise training in own city.

-Kitchens: two people. In touch with CJA organisers, who are doing kitchen stuff in Copenhagen. We're not planning to take loads of kit over, but will need team of volunteers to help over at Copenhagen. Speak to team if you want to volunteer.

-Media: already gone onto organising with the CJA media team. Team under capacity and knackered from the swoop, so anyone interested in doing media speak to media team.

-No one present from Outreach or Logistics at this stage.

-Question: what is the role of a lot of the working groups as much of the work seems to be going on in Copenhagen. The main job seems to be publicity.

-Response: Yes. A lot of working groups that were set up are now not needed, and the main job is definitely outreach/mobilisation.

Neighbourhood feedback

London: lots of events taking place. 28th November, Great Global Warm Up: Discussion day about Climate Change and Copenhagen for Climate Campers and others.

Westside: Currently organising accommodation for families in Copenhagen. Organising a session at the Klima Forum to talk about transition talks and Climate Camp. Organising an academic bloc for the 13th

Thames Valley: Lots of people interested in going. Planned fundraiser.

Yorkshire: Planned fundraiser + info session.

North West: Has been slow: 15 have signed up at present.

Eastside: Organising events taking place.

Scotland: They're mobilising. Short of info, but that can be sorted. Lots of things are happening to build for Copenhagen, although lots of people are tied up in Mainhill due to threat of eviction.

Wales: They've been working with Westside closely.

South Coast: Might have their own coach.

-Newsletter/website will give update on what is going on in each neighbourhood.

-Point: there isn't enough going on at present, and more needs to happen. There needs to be a better distribution of information.

Proposal for UK based action

Proposal summary:

-The proposal concerns an event in London during Copenhagen. But the proposal isn't intended to take people away who would otherwise go to Copenhagen. It has already been agreed in principle in London Neighbourhood as something they are

going to work on. However, the proposal is asking for people from National process to get involved.

-There will be a chance to meet during gathering working group time.

Working Group time

Working groups meet.

Feedback from Working Group time

International Networking:

-CJA meetings: a lot of discussion about what to do in 2010. How do we move on from COP? We need to think about what we want to do as Climate Camp as part of this international process.

-Talked about the importance of skillsharing.

-We need to work out where we're going internationally. There's a bit of political infighting going on in the process, so be good if we talked about our position a bit more so we can contribute to discussions.

-There's been 19 Climate Camps this year, and there will be another in Ghana next year.

-Request: that there's a summary written explaining context of International discussions and what questions we and neighbourhoods need to ask themselves, in order to feed this into the international process.

London UK action:

-Discussed various possibilities.

-Talked about what could happen on the 5th December

-30th November: US people are pledging to get arrested: would like solidarity actions on the day. It's a big deal to get arrested in the US with harsher penalties.

-Linking Copenhagen to London: arrange live-stream stuff would be really good.

-Logistics group to form.

Logistics and Outreach:

-Accommodation: We know there is accommodation, but we want to do some work to ensure we all stay in the same place and have specialist accommodation needs addressed.

-Transport needs to be sorted from UK.

-Phone number will be given out as point of contact. Information about local events needs to be got out, so this is going to be done.

-People need to know how to get involved in advance at Copenhagen.

Action:

-How is Climate Camp going to organise for the action on the 16th December?

Finance Proposals

CJA Finance Proposal

Proposal summary:

- The proposal needs to be agreed in principle, before it goes to Finance meeting for proper assessment.
- Proposal is to give loan for £5000 for food, which we will recover through donations. Plus we donate £5000.

Clarifying questions:

- Is this the exact money, or can that be agreed later based on detailed finance thinking?
- Answer: We need to delegate to the finance group, and so it is only a steering consensus.
- What's going to happen with leftover money?
- Answer: Not sure as such, but can probably contribute to further work of the CJA
- Why £5000, not another amount? What is the thinking behind this? Is it an arbitrary figure?
- Answer: At CJA they suggested a pledging scheme to raise funds needed, and this figure came out of this process. The overall funding requirements stands at 30,000 Euros. They currently have around 8000.
- Is there not other fundraising going on by CJA?
- Answer: We are part of CJA so we have responsibility for this fundraising. The Climate Camp model of raising funds back at event through donation works, so we should be actively part of ensuring these donations are made back at COP.

Concerns:

- Is the finance group not an executive committee if it is making these big decisions?
- Is there another equal sized group (eg in Germany) that can match what we are giving?
- Response: Not any other group as big as us.

Proposal: The Climate Camp donates £10,000 in theory to CJA (£5,000 in loan, £5,000 in donation) until it goes to Finance Group for discussion.

- 1 Stand Aside: for reasons already given**
- 1 Stand Aside: Standing aside due to concern with process**
- No blocks**
- CONSENSUS!**

Further discussion:

- Request: that we clarify the finance process to avoid further long drawn out wrangling. We seem to be changing our process with finance.
- Response: there was a gathering decision when the finance process was formally agreed by consensus.
- Response: The problem is that we haven't heard all the finance proposals together, so we can't make an informed decision as a whole.
- Response: Approving it theory is not a problem, because it will only then have to be changed by the finance group if the money is simply not there.

Bike Bloc proposal

Summary of proposal:

- Running week of workshops and event in Copenhagen.
- Money is needed for venues, equipment, kit.
- As much is being borrowed as possible, but some things obviously have to be brought.
- Any tools/kit that can be retained that Climate Camp money has been spent on can be returned to be owned by Climate Camp.
- £2000 is the requested donation.

Clarifying questions:

- What other fundraising has been going on?
- Answer: There has been other fundraising, but not much other money exists for the project.
- Answer: There's finance already for Bristol side but not the Copenhagen side, due to the specifics of the project's grant.

-The project has been funded through an arts grant, and has a paid worker. Therefore, what exactly is the Climate Camp money going towards?

-Answer: Project in Bristol has been given £2000 from fund. The nature of the funding means that the grant can only be spent in Bristol. It can't be spent in Copenhagen, so there is no money available for this at present. It would be reasonable to give this money. It is one of the main mobilising events in the UK, so should be supported.

-Is there an amendment to only have it spent in Copenhagen?

-Answer: We do need some money still for flyers, etc, that will be spent in Bristol.

Further discussion:

- We shouldn't give money with strings attached. We should give it on trust.
- It needs to be transparent where exactly all the money is going, as it creates bad feeling when the information on money is only disseminated through gossip and rumour.
- We should support things that are spectacular, but concerned with the links between us donating to projects that are funded and very fundable by lucrative options.
- Can we give to non climate camp working groups?
- We need finance proposals to come better prepared in future!

Proposal:

-The Climate Camp gives £2000 to the Bike Bloc, on the condition that clear information is provided on the project's overall funds.

-1 Stand Aside:

-CONSENSUS!

Blackheath cameras

Proposal summary:

- Three people lost cameras at Blackheath, which were used for Climate Camp work (documentation and media team).
- They've requested to be reimbursed.
- £600 raised already, and now £950 is still needed.
- Context: There are three different people and cameras. It has been argued that they should have taken responsibility for equipment themselves.

Clarifying questions:

- Has there been any similar cases in the past?
- A: Very similar circumstance at Heathrow, and the request was refused.

- Could it be compared to kitchen equipment incident at G20?
- A: No information on this is available.

Discussion:

- There were different circumstances for each camera. One was taken from Climate Camp tent while people were sleeping in it. Another was lent to someone else, but stolen during screening during chaotic environment.
- The policy was that people shouldn't bring equipment unless they had insured it and were prepared to lose it.
- Can we clarify what the money will be used for? Will it be spent on more cameras?
- Response: It definitely would. They are experienced activist documenters who can aid the movement.
- Will the replacement be second hand? Could this be a proviso?
- There is dual responsibility here. In recognition of this, we should give half of what is asked.

Temperature Check on proposal:

- Proposal to reimburse £800 towards £1400 worth of costs (£600 already raised)

Further discussion:

- Proposal: If we give donation that it is on the basis that in the future people need to take responsibility for their own stuff and that this decision doesn't set a precedent.
- Concern: no one has spoken in favour strongly.
- Response: It recognises the work of people who are very valuable to us.
- Clarifying question: Where did the £600 come from?
- Answer: One person made a film, which made money and he had right to the whole fee but put £600 into the pot to reimburse. So it's confusing.
- The obstacle is that we are trying to work out how to word it.
- It is really good that we do this.
- Additional point: Issue around collective responsibility and individual responsibility. Insurance wouldn't have covered all, and therefore we shouldn't be paying all.
- Paying half we shouldn't pay.
- Person lying as though in agony on the floor says they find discussion excruciating: let's just test for consensus.
- It's complicated issue, that needs to be discussed another time. Links in with other concerns: for example, what about the profit being made off a film about Climate Camp?

PROPOSAL:

We reimburse £400 of an overall sum of £1400 for individuals' lost camera equipment. This is on the condition is that in the future people need to take responsibility for their own stuff and that this decision doesn't set a precedent.

- Few stand asides (7 Stand asides)
- Creates more bad feeling
- Thinks we should give half of overall amount.
- Half is punishment and punitive.

How many people would stand aside to £800?

- Quite a lot!

£600?

- More support.

PROPOSAL:

The Climate Camp reimburses £600 of an overall sum of £1400 for individuals' lost camera equipment. This is on the condition is that in the future people need to take responsibility for their own stuff and that this decision doesn't set a precedent.

-CONSENSUS!

-Point: Can someone clarify at some later point exactly who's profit the filming was being done for: climate camp or personal profit?

Lunch

Where Next? feedback

Feedback from Where Next? discussion groups

1. Setting Targets group

-Felt we hadn't set our medium term goals as a movement.

Cop will be a failure: our message is that if they haven't had a international agreement then we need to have a international movement where we take responsibility for targets ourselves.

-We went to draft proposals with targets based on science and goals.

2. Building a grass roots society/ anti capitalist utopia group

-“Increase the number of sustainable social, democratic systems, spaces and organisations that undermined capitalism and promote the low carbon, more fun alternatives to it and network them”

-How: Community food, community energy, radicalise transition towns, land grabbing, found a commune to demo the alternatives, promo alternative resources, experimenting with different currencies and units of value.

3. Anti capitalism:

-People do want jobs we have to consider that.

-Focus on economic and social failures.

4. Just transition group:

- Lots of progressive proposals, ideas to form a rapid response group, look for community/worker starting campaigns, skill share.
- Very exciting. Proposals will come back to the group at another date.

5. Action:

- Local groups take action.
- Offer training for trainers develop skill base.
- Try to make sure actions keep their goals.
- Be clear of the action goals.
- Supporting action activists with legal support/fiancé support

6. Process:

- There is a disparity of mobilisation focus on university cities: creates informal hierarchies.
- Political pull from different directions who can't represent themselves.
- Lack of skill sharing: needs to be more.
- Rolling spokes from neighbourhoods.
- Need emphasis on regions but not lose wider identity.
- Will be updated on a Wiki on crab grass

7. How can we change the economic politic system:

- De-legitimise the myth.
- Burning the ballot action.
- Seize the moments if crisis.
- Connect with other groups.
- Making a resource on the net to see all groups connected. Running events (films) to get media into wider public consessnuss. We should think about what we decide about the New Economics Foundations ideas.

8. International

- Climate camp focuses on national based problems.
- We need to think more globally e.g. where does coal come from?
- Need a more international focus.
- Several good ideas of trying to identify where there is less activism happening and encouraging skill sharing.
- COP will be a great chance to broaden our international networks.

Proposals

Process proposal:

Proposal summary:

- From the discussion groups yesterday, we will be considering proposals from these conversations.
- These areas will try and have at least one proposal each.
- These proposals will feed into the regional meetings happening in January who can decide to work on it autonomously or push it for a national decision.
- This means we wouldn't have a national gathering till mid Feb.

Temp check:

-Very good

Discussion

- We should have regional gatherings not neighbourhoods to make a critical mass of gatherings
- This can be decided by the neighbourhoods.
- We should suggest this in the minutes.
- There are quite a few people who don't belong to a neighbourhood so there should make an effort to outreach into neighbourhood regions.
- This should be at least a one day gathering and an effort should be made to get people there
- We should have a debrief after COP15
- What regions think there is a possibility that this will happen?
- There are big holes in parts of the country (Midlands, Westside, Scotland...)
- This could be a great way to broaden our movement if we outreach well
- Policing of protest has changed and the legal team is looking for a chance to explore how these changes effect us, and February is a long time away.
- The legal team can regionalise the way they disseminate information.

Proposal: The Climate Camp encourages neighbourhoods to hold regional gatherings during January, which will then feed into a large national gathering be held February 12th-14th at a location to be announced.

-CONSENSUS!

Climate Camp TV (CCTV)

Proposal summary:

- They are an informal group who have been doing lots of great stuff.
- Basically want to become a working group.

Discussion:

- Don't we normally have a mandate for a working group?
- Response: Yes.
- Can the group say what they are doing?
- Work with the documentary group and media team to turn around media at events. This can be the temp mandate until it can be updated
- This is a working mandate and we need a more considered one during the next gathering
- If we sell footage created through CCTV what happens to the money?
- That will require some discussion so it would be good to be brought back to the gathering
- The doc team has a policy on that and we would follow that
- Lets not get into this discussion now

Proposal: Climate Camp TV becomes a working group, and will bring a mandate proposal to a future gathering.

-CONSENSUS!

Our allies

Summary:

- The people that create the newsletter need to know what organisations, with varying politics, doing different stuff should be advertised.
- During the G20 we never worked out how we work in a space with other people.
- At COP there are even more things happening. For example: The Wave march by Stop Climate Chaos, the Climate Justice Now speaker tour, Tar Sands speaker tour etc. These are events organised by NGOs and are related topics but could be different tactics. The question is what common ground do we have with other groups?
- This is being raised as an issue because we have an NGO policy at the camp but we don't have one outside the camp.
- We should work out who we have common ground with on Copenhagen.

-Suggestion: Why don't we have a working group on this that can meet in the working groups sessions? They could feed back at the end.

Discussion:

- We trust working groups to make these decisions. I don't think we need to make a decision as a whole group
- Working groups need to consider what we are talking about is our politics and this is a wide important discussion
- Why don't you ask for feedback from the content of the newsletters?
- It is a bigger discussion but maybe it can be addressed in working group time until there is a more concrete decision to be made.

-Proposal: We allow the Process Group to make decisions on matters of who we promote/don't promote until the next gathering.

- We need to clarify this before COP15.
- The media team also lacks a lot of guidance as to what we are saying in COP15. We need to discuss this.
- It is a big thing to talk about to a group should meet during working group time.

The Skint Fund

-The Skint fund being set up separate from climate camp is being set up to support activists who have suffered financially from the legal consequences of taking action (though not paying for fines or actions themselves!)

-Yesterday the fund asked for £2000 and promotion on website. Wanted to address concerns raised yesterday:

- To avoid decision making powers being vested on the fund's administrative team, clear guidelines for claiming back costs will be laid down based on amount earned.

- The people who are setting up the fund have all been organising for Climate Camp for a while and have experience in fundraising. But more people encouraged to get involved!

- The remit of the fund is to cover UK Climate Actions.

Clarifications:

- Will this be money that anyone can apply from or just climate campers?
- Response: Climate actions in the UK
- What is it paying for?
- Legal support fund. Mainly travel costs. Not for fines. Not for actions. Not for lawyers.
- Should be grass roots direct action to prevent people like Greenpeace etc asking for it?
- Response: Yes, but Greenpeace won't ask for it.

Discussion:

- It's a start up fund so we should offer £1000. A lot of money has been spent and we don't have much coming in. 60 people have been arrested recently and that would be enough for them to get a return journey each.
- Would there be a review point?
- It will be administered to be transparent and open
- The amount that people request should be for the cheapest ticket possible booked in advance.
- That has been specified.
- This will change as it develops. On the financial side there is at least a 100 people that we know of who are in police/court process right now so £1000 would only be a tenner each.
- A lot of people have costs that they should fundraise for themselves: we can't give it all out.
- Could the £2000 be given as a loan and be fundraised?
- The scope of climate action is quite broad: how could we define this?
- It makes sense for climate camp to give to this fund.
- We are over worrying about this. Not everyone will be desperate for cash. I think it should be a grand straight up and a grand loan because it's needed.

Proposal: The Climate Camp gives £2000 to The Skint Project. £1000 as a donation, and £1000 as a loan.

- Stand Aside: I don't think that the finance proposals have been put together well enough to see what our budget looks like as a whole.**
- CONSENSUS!**

Working Group Time

Working groups meet

Shout outs:

-Call out for people to help collate info for the website. It's an easy job and doesn't need much techy skill. Get in touch at website@climatecamp.org.uk to help

People split and meeting in Finance, Outreach, Logistics, Media, Action, UK based Action, and the 'Who are our allies?' discussion group.

Feedback from Working Groups

Media:

- We need information to go round at Copenhagen: media needs means to know what's going on so it can tell!
- This serves telling media and informing activists.
- Media needs phones: loads! There will be media in Copenhagen and in the UK. UK.
- Please get involved if you can. Media isn't difficult apparently. And allegedly it's cool!

Allies:

- A group working on how we network among other groups.
- We maybe don't publicise other peoples' events as they don't fit our agenda. But we need to make the links. With CACC, for example. Or The Wave.
- We shouldn't worry so much if total representation of our view isn't there, if we do share some stuff.

Action in Copenhagen:

- We thought it would be good for a daily meeting place/time. We need a process group there, linked to a communications group. None in the working group can commit to there so we need a process loving person to "bottom line" a Process Group.
- We are looking at action on the 16th and focusing around the bike block.
- We hope there will be lots of affinity group actions.
- Dissemination of information seen as essential.

London Action:

- London is going to occupy a space somewhere in London during Copenhagen.
- It will be London driven by those not going to Europe.
- We need peeps with time and energy.
- Looks like it keys in with the 5th – and the wave.
- We will suggest people bring a tent to the march. We want national support from this eg CC London can use national outreach, process and the lists to promote this event and make it happen.
- The objective is to build the movement, get out the info on carbon trading etc, linking to London as the centre of that questionable industry.
- Loads of people on this march who will be receptive to our ideals and ideas.
- It's suggested we don't ignore 30th November – anniversary of Seattle, etc.

Finance group:

- Within a week we'll know what we have and what's going out. If there's any receipts and invoices left over from camp, please get them in now.
- We start next year with around £13,500. Last year we had £24,000. We all need to start fundraising. Throw parties, enjoy the winter.
- Our opinion is it's Camp for Climate Action. So let's support ACTION.
- What's been agreed this weekend is loaned CJA £5,000 for food, gave them £5,000, gave travel fund £1,000 and loaned the same. Bike block got £2,000. That's supporting action.

Outreach:

- Any local NGOs or university lists you can, please tap into them. Please note there's a Facebook group Climate Justice in Copenhagen.
- There's a crabgrass group for outreach – it's open, so please feed in.

- Posters and flyers are available. Gathering asked to grab a bunch. Also deal or no deal mags
- More outreach events needed.

International:

- We need to know how many working groups we have for Copenhagen.much discussion defining comms.
- There are only about three people, now totally spent, who have been working on cop for 8 months now. Go to the CJA website for more info. It's all over to you lot now. Can we all please step up to the plate.

Kitchens group:

- Seems food is sorted over there. We just need to find volunteers for veg chopping etc.

Final Announcements

ACTIVIST TAT is holding a skill share weekend – at the beginning of May. Learn all about how to put up and run a camp. This workshop this year, launched the crew careers of the Blackheath posy.

- AT wants 50 new people to attend, but can cope with 70 if everyone is nice and co-operative.
- Learn how to: put up a marquee, pimp that compost loo as well as theoretical training on power and plumbing etc.

END OF GATHERING

CLIMATE CAMP FINANCE SUMMARY (As of 16/11/09)

Bank Balance:

£30,862.4

Paid out Since Manchester:

£2,000 Bike Bloc
£12,150 Bindmans Kettling fund
£224.50 Bicycology Expenses (Site)
£80.90 Seeds for Change (Process)
£450 Site phones (Site)
£132 Copenhagen Activist Booklet- footprints (International)
£60 People and Planet stall (International)

Still to pay out:

£5,000 donation to CJA
£5,000 loan to CJA
£2,000 activist travel fund
£600 cameras
£1,500 donations from Leeds Gathering (sorry haven't had time for these yet)

Further Cash Requested:

£300 for Wellbeing in Copenhagen
£2200 possibly from site defence and repairs to a marquee from Kingsnorth!
(Site is looking into this)
£3,000 (ish) allocated for Coach Tickets.
£1,500 (ish) International/ COP budget