

Camp for Climate Action, Leeds National Gathering - 3-4 October 2009, Minutes

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Saturday 3rd October 2009

1. Feedback from camps/convergences this summer, constrained into narrow topics and short discussions. under the topics Publicity and Outreach, Political Impact and Effectiveness, and Skillsharing and direct action.

The "What next" session minutes are essential reading to be found here:

<http://www.climatecamp.org.uk/get-involved/national-gatherings/where-next-minutes>

There will be a whole day dedicated to "What next"ness at the next national gathering.

1.1 Mainhill, Lanarkshire 3-10 August, to the present.

Proposed open cast coal mine outside of Glasgow.

150 people came, over the week. This was a bit below expectations.

Publicity and Outreach

Mostly through word of mouth, thence, mostly familiar faces

Could have linked in to other networks better

Good outreach to local community

Great posters.

Good posters early on, but the inferred (Firth of Forth) location being so distant from the camp did mean some potential visitors not coming.

Very hard to know what was going on during camp- maybe could have used social networking more effectively.

Local people came up for a meal. This continues every week.

Political impact and effectiveness

Occupation is still going on, will continue until they are evicted

Effective raising of costs for the gentry, whose capital is tied up in Land.

highlighting health issues of local communities.

Now a debate in Scotland about energy policy, whereas before seen as more of a given that coal was what was going to happen.

Really increased profile of health issues of local communities, ongoing campaign about that. Participation of Camp in the ongoing protest was positive, educational, and goes on in these respects.

Skillsharing and Direct Action

Good workshops: moved beyond just talking and examining, but also really practical application of skills: tunnel buildings, barricades, tree climbing, abseiling, The camp continues! So people can go up and get skilled up anytime.

Big conveyor belt got cut, good action, but then local community difficulties because traffic redirection issues. No arrests for that action. Not an accountable action, which is a bit different from what CC usually does.

Spikier actions can make campaigns more difficult for local-resident groups- perceptions of hostility, can cause divides.

Land owned by Lord who is a rich aristocrat: strategically and politically made a lot of sense. A lot of people went and used his garden for fun and games.

Local people protesting at Council Offices on Monday, two arrests, and someone taken into custody.

1.2 Climate Camp Cymru, Merthyr Tydfil, 13-16 August, next to the controversial Ffos-y-Fran opencast coal mine.

Open cast coal mine, about 250 people came through

Publicity and Outreach

- Good and extensive over the year beforehand
- Linking in to local protest group: day organised by local group, Climate Camp had a presence there, encouraged local people to come up.

Political impact and effectiveness

- strengthened local campaign, got more people involved
- probably local rather than on a national scale...
- But, there was a Welsh gathering and weekend of Training in the past few months, so it's building up the Welsh neighbourhood
- Really good at getting community going, forming new groups, planning actions

Skillsharing and Direct Action

Lots of hard work put into workshops

No real direct action, largely because local residents campaign group doesn't want to be associated with direct action, still Section 12 was used to impede a walk on public bridleway.

A few weeks later, a couple of people with a net shut down the coal mine

Do we need to re-assert that we are a direct action camp: a lot more interest from campers/"public" about the sustainable living type of things, the direct action seemed to get lost.

We want to work with local residents, not piss them off, but this might impede other things we want to do - delicate balance and tension.

Terminology of "locals" vs. us: unhelpful terminology. We're all local to somewhere..

Direct action is one of the things that brought us together. Creative tension between local communities and what we are doing raises questions about What Next.

How do we move people outside these boundaries "I'm not breaking the law": can we communicate and navigate that perceived divide, and help people cross it?

Of course, "The Locals" are in no way a homogenous mass.

Wales Camp skillshares: a lot of anti-capitalist analysis, people who knew what they were talking about and useful for action.

Mass action plan for October: weekend in Cardiff to do training, aiming for actions in time for Copenhagen.

Proposal from Wales about how to skillshare better between neighbourhoods and convergences to minimise burnout. Bring that to the "what next" day at the next gathering please.

1.3 Blackheath Camp, London, 26 August – 2 September

Easy access London: Probably 6-8 thousand coming through, 1500-2000 camping

Publicity and Outreach

Local outreach went well to local residents. But we didn't take the opportunity to go further out once pressure relaxed (into less white, well off areas, for example.)

Coverage more about the movement rather than about police conflict, so that made it more accessible to some new people.

Local Councillors were mostly against the camp during it's residency, but after the perfect clean up, local Green councillors put forward a motion that Climate Camp should be recognised

to have been positive, and that got passed in Lewisham Council.

- clash with Notting Hill carnival, and didn't outreach very much there.

- Did well in getting positive publicity and good coverage despite not having the usual police story, but harder to communicate issues: wide impressions of just "An Environmentalist camp"

- In the past the biggest camp had much more diverse publicity. This year it seems like there was much more uniform imagery - just one type of poster.

Political impact and effectiveness

Lots of movement building: people coming through, workshops well attended, but the "festival" vibe meant it was easy for some visitors to not engage.

Don't rate the "Action Effectiveness" of this camp, until we see how the Climate Swoop goes.

Of course, the site didn't already have a local group or campaign we could bolster.

Got phrases like "false solutions like carbon trading" into the press, but economics and climate change link was less published. Climate Camp was framed more as a "pressure group"-

Our politics were not well defined from an outsiders perspective:

Narrative about economic system made a lot more sense at the beginning of the year when bankers were hate figures. By the summer the debate had moved on to MPs being more hated with expenses scandal. The message was no longer resonating, and we didn't do actions that really brought out that link.

A lot of working groups had a lot of new people, some neighbourhoods built a lot of strength. Small groups within wider Camp really improved - e.g. loads of new Legal observers trained

Loads of media and blogging: critique and love of Camp and processes.

Outreach continuing in London

Links were made with different groups. Connections made, not just about swoop but about "radical ecologies proliferating"

Using terminology of fluffy/accessible and hardcore/radical/spiky isn't helpful. It oversimplifies and divides us, just like media and antagonists do.

Drax, Heathrow and Kingsnorth opened up space for site-specific debate, tangible results, space for things to stop. This camp wasn't set up to do that.

Internal quality stupendous, discussions and workshops radical interesting and high quality. Our own media was impressive too. So building capacity to go out and do something else really effective.

Lots of affinity groups coming together, this will hopefully show in the next few months

Concerns that radicalisation didn't happen without police, and workshops were not radical enough.

Climate Camp Continues to function well as a gateway for those seeking one, building an activist base

We were able to come together and live in an anarchist way, people connected to that way of organising: that is a form of radicalising.

Impossible to tell how those 6-8,000 who passed through were affected by it.

Payoff is slow, Blackheath was about investing in the movement: long term payoffs.

Is that what Camp is for? Do we need to maintain the firmness of the intervention.

Read many opinions from "new" people, by finding "Climate Camp and Us" on Indymedia Newswire. 2 links for that:

<http://www.afed.org.uk/blog/state/122-climate-camp-and-us-a-perspective-paper.html>

<http://northern-indymedia.org/articles/132>

Skillsharing and Direct Action

- Massive workshop programme, well attended, though too many "lecture-style" workshops, a

loss of balance from previous years.

-A day of action did spontaneously emerge from a lot of inexperienced people doing actions. A lot of more experienced people got burnt out from process and walked away without effective transfer of skills. Need to make sure skillsharing happens earlier, and stopping people from being burnt out in the first place!

-We must be more careful in our choice of dates: less effective to do actions over a bank holiday weekend, so day of action coincided with the "Where next" session/strategy day.

-Police treating us with kid gloves: we were so disoriented by this opportunity that we didn't take advantage of it, we could have taken that opportunity to take lots of action, but weren't prepared, because we had planned more for defence, not action

Very large, disconnected camp. Easy to feel burnt out and not realise all of the amazing stuff that was happening.

Need to be a stronger mandate from wider process that gives a clearer steer to workshops group.

Evening sessions really impressive. Workshops more patchy- tended to be more lecture style- we have the skills to make more participatory training/learning, lets do that.

The really practical workshops were great, it's not just about the direct action trainings.

Set up and Tat down with a lot of participation was brilliant- a lot more people and energy great.

There was a sad lack of reporting back about the actions that did happen.

1.4 Co Mutiny Bristol, 12-20 September

First big localised urban convergence. Didn't hold the "Climate Camp" label, but many people considered it to be part of the decentralisation of this year's Climate Camps.

Publicity and Outreach

-Great local outreach and publicity

-a lot of familiar faces, but drew together different networks

Good for movement building in Bristol

-Just one poster, but very beautiful

-Excellent newspaper, the Evening Pest, lots of local outreach,

Mainstream local media ran some good articles: "Anarchy Yes but in a Nice Way"

Political impact and effectiveness

Brought lots of people together across movements

Future investment, bringing people together.

Talk of having similar events around the country

Seemed like there was a movement: not divided movements, esp in terms of actions

Action might not have been very effective

Skillsharing and Direct Action

There was an action almost every day: No borders at Police station, animal rights, penguins in airport, repossess the banks (maybe not enough legal support)...

This was effective, live-action skillsharing for public order situations. Massive spread of skills.

Skillshare between movements, links with immigration and climate change.

Also a big social event, played anarchist games in the city centre, musical chairs in Starbucks, sardines in a furniture shop: not quite an action but very good fun!

The Tar Sands activists being there created real solidarity and connections.

Suggested skillsahre - How to deal with post-Camp crash, and getting sucked back into your job, your box, your disempowerment.

1.5 Vestas, Isle of Wight, 20 July to present

Vestas Consider themselves part of climate change movement.

Red/Green crossover better than anytime before (Trade Unions / Climate activists)

More radicalisation of class activism

Direct Action training/skillshare:

Really great. Blockades at Vestas got smashed by police. But a lot was done, being brave with the political argument for direct action. In many ways is smashing the myth of activists being ready of take direct action, we are pulling the line forward, we can play a role in actually galvanising people to take direct action and a lot of people are ready to do that. Like in France, it's a lot more standard for rank and file people to train for and participate in direct action, so we have a role to play in galvanising, but should drop the illusion that we're the only ones.

Roundup of 18 camps around the world available on the internet

2. Updates

The Where Now Day, raised the idea of changing process to fit what we are doing. Change from monthly national gatherings to fewer national, and more local gatherings perhaps. That said, Tipping Point in Gillingham have offered to host a national gathering in November. We could encourage neighbourhoods to have regional instead of national gatherings. One day about Copenhagen in Nov, and one day about "Where Next" strategy.

2.1 Tipping point

After Kingsnorth, Climate Camp decided that if Kingsnorth is built we will be back and resist the construction. Tipping Point is a permanent presence, an information shop front in Gillingham. They opened in August and host a variety of activities including making recycled sock puppets, making fully functional windmills, NVDA training, film nights, open day hours, a swap-shop, forthcoming pedal-powered washing machine...

They have been very well received. They expected a more surly response, but with the workshops mentioned above, and things like the Eco-parents coffee morning. Their presence as a base has helped people make connections. Direct Actions will follow on from the trainings.

Editors note - these thoughts are even more confusing now that some sort of decision has been made about new Coal fired power station at Kingsnorth and the 3rd Runway.

So, CC thinking about Kingsnorth. What is the future of resistance at Kingsnorth?

There is a similar project in Sipson keeping the 3rd Runway in mind, an all year round presence. What could local groups do on the day of the decision?

Also, why wait until the decision is made - take action on Eon, and their potential contractors "Adopt a contractor". Put the pressure on now.

Also, everyone is welcome to come and visit the shop at any time.

Strategically, having a gathering there would great, around the time of the decision. A show of strength.

A firm and final decision about Kingsnorth may not come until 2011. The Coal consultation ended a few weeks ago, they haven't published their findings yet.

2.2 Copenhagen

Talking about Copenhagen at Climate Camp gatherings is a bit different, because we are not the whole organisers - we can't make decisions about what happens there, but regional travelling-together groups to Copenhagen, can make their own decisions about what they will do. 2 ideas for more detail later:

Bike Block on the 16th of December

Mass booking coaches from three points in the country, selling tickets through the website.

2.3 Climate Swoop

History is made by those who show up. With plans. Please be in the area at 10am Saturday morning. Please sign up to the text messaging service, so that you know where on the map you need to be.

Info@thegreatclimateswoop.org

When you sign up, there are 4 or 5 blocks you could sign up for. It would be wise to get a new phone especially. Cop-movement information will be broadcast as well as our-action updates. If you have a camera phone please bring it, you will be able to send a picture into the hub for redistribution. Of course, the cops might jam this, signal might be bad, so have back ups, but do sign up for text messaging for the first 4 of the following 5 blocs with the following missions:

Footsteps to the future.

Get to the main gate and blockade.

Take back The Power.

Get to the control room.

False Solutions

Get to the coal heap.

Capitalism Is Crisis.

Decentralised Blocks

Bike Bloc update, inserted by cheeky editor, from someone who didn't make the gathering:

Bike Bloc: The Roaming Riders of Resistance

The Bike Bloc's mission is to reclaim the streets, to reclaim the highways, to be the Swoops road patrol.

The Bike Bloc will be a river of pedal powered resistance machines, a postcapitalist bike gang and an art bike carnival. Calling all bike lovers, bike hackers, bike trailers, climate campers and soundsystems!

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Once at the power station we'll boom pedal powered tunes, cycle the streets as our fancy takes us and be on call for the rest of the blocs. See a high vis van? Then call the roving resistance machine to block it's path with a critical mass!

2.4 Update from Vestas

On Tuesday the 29th of October, the blockade was broken, but there is still a camp on a roundabout near the factory, so there is still an access point to a campaign, and an empty wind turbine factory. The camp will remain to be a hub, for planning and fighting for ecological jobs on the Isle of Wight.

2.5 Treesponsibility gathering

20th-22nd November. Come plant some trees in west Yorkshire,. see www.treesponsibility.com for details

3 Where Next

For much more feedback about the future of what we have, see the minutes from the Tuesday at the end of camp. <http://www.climatecamp.org.uk/get-involved/national-gatherings/where-next-minutes>

We won't make a decision until after Christmas. Today's process just informs our thinking. We have 6 speakers to talk about 6 different Direct Action campaigns in the UK.

The presentations and discussions were not minuted. Do your own research if you're interested. the below probably provides enough clues to get some good description and analysis online, as well as what made them electric and what made them work.

3.1 anti-GM: Pulling up Genetically Modified crops and sabotaging test plantings.

- they won - affected UK Law. The Campaign changed public opinion at the time.
 - interesting to hear how diverse groups worked together on the campaign; where are our links already, where do we go next?
 - really broad coalition was built - black bloc to the Women's (Rural) Institute - and it stayed together throughout the campaign and won.
- Didn't get to the roots of the problem though, beyond the GM trial plantings
It was more like anti-GM infiltrating NGOs not the other way round - lots to learn from that for the climate movement
- Key differences with climate movement - gm = campaign against change; we are talking about current system needing to change.

3.2 Anti-road building campaign. Many quiet victories then the noisy defeat of Newbury Bypass.

- very different to CC because roads protest was retaliation to something happening at the time; we are still waiting for Climate Change to start happening.
- It was very effective with lots of small protests around the country
- started being based on environmental issues, then with M11 branched out - road through community not countryside, brought in social issues: led to RTS. It's easy to see how the Vestas campaign might spread in a similar way.
 - people involved - not so studenty/middle class as Climate Camp is perceived, but travellers and unemployed. Perhaps both movements are as diverse, but the public perception is very different.
- The government was already very unpopular, and lots of unemployed people were involved. That situation could replicate itself today.
- Seemed important that there was a really local issue which affected people in very local way, though not necessarily linked to anti-capitalist ideas - though did link to ideas about 'the planet'
 - bring in old ladies and cakes!
 - It was an easier time to be on the dole, have time off to put into the campaign
 - The activists were widely supported - Tabloids and broadsheets championed the campaign

3.3 Reclaim The Streets

- things moved from the victory of the roads, into a different political environment for RTS - post June 18th they became the bogey man; people threatening global capitalism. A real journey. The Blair effect, soft crushing of dissent as people didn't notice it.. We need to be careful that we don't suffer the same lack of energy with a new more popular change of government.
- This was systemic - unlike the other campaigns, which focused on a specific. Its really important that we have a systemic critique, particularly this year with the election.
- Challenges around trust within the movement - small group of people organising the actions, when trust was lost in them there was a big problem. Something we should always bear in mind.
- we have a strong, resilient form of organising. Our working groups have had huge turn over. Issues of personal trust might not affect us in the same way.
- Entertainment at this years camps was really great. Entertainment at RTS was really good too.
- Locally replicable model of action - rip GM crops, start road campaign, do own street party. Climate camp should experiment with those locally replicable models.
- how did the new Criminal Justice Act impact on the campaign/actions? Aggravated trespass introduced as an offence, attacked free partys, etc, formed good coalition to oppose the act. We could try to learn how to forge larger coalitions around common aims and in resisting clampdown. Dialogue of acceptance that all are coming from different places, but all resisting together.
- At time people didn't realise how serious the CJA legislation was, so didn't respond appropriately
- CJ came in in 94 - didn't defeat roads protest

3.3.1 Links with Vestas, Describing Vestas so far.

- we're in an interesting position. We want to shut down industrys , but also open some up. Coalition around a positive industry. How can we take that message and apply it to industries we have negative relationships with. Conditions still bad, problems of capitalism in workplace, even though industry was a 'good' one.
- example where activists can work with Trade Unions, workers, socialist groups, get past historical divisions. Skill sharing - DA, Press releases, etc - we hold lots of knowledge which we should disseminate more and help workers' campaigns with. This campaign had a massive political influence!
- impressed by how people went in and thought it wouldn't work, but then were called back - not theorised or symbolic or only done for one day. It worked because people didn't give up on the coalition, and because these were real life actions.
- Climate Camp was part of the narrative - sending a very powerful message that this was a broad coalition. It is a bridge for us to link into wider working class movement - very important for us.
- Vestas is still happening - still blockades that need more people. There was a Workers Climate Action conference on the 10th and 11th October

3.4 Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty

- Real considered strategic thought went into starting it up, impressive.
- Commitment issues: for many people this was going and living somewhere for 3 years, and that being your life (like roads protest). We have a diverse mix in our movements, some do this all the time, some have jobs, how do we use this diverse mix to push ourselves forward.
- way they got the momentum going was impressive, went for all the little targets and slowly ate

away at the whole framework. A systemic approach.

- didn't just go to preach message, went to shut it down where they could. Rolling pressure was more effective.

- 'momentum milestones' - choosing targets and milestones/targets and achieving them.

- Got SHACK groups in 100 countries worldwide.

- Internal communication was very good - got lots of support through constant communication and updates so people felt a part of the movement, involved in something larger. We could work more to include people better all the time. Very emotive subject, but advice for climate movement was to personalise the message (like with pictures of cats), we could shock people more.

- keeping solidarity amongst the different groups: 'we never condemn, but never condone'

- Bypassed media by doing stalls every weekend. Very old school, 1980s we were in every town centre. Then you are the message, don't have to try to control mediators of your message.

- having loads of little things that even small groups and individuals could do really easily to remain a part of it.

- no compromise stance didn't alienate people but actually brought people on board.

- the campaign had the mainstream media against it, unlike Climate. Perhaps because of their "no compromise" tactics, and therefore they had to do their own media. We should think about that it would mean to have the media against us, and plan for that, if we have more "no compromise" tactics.

3.4.1 Mainhill Solidarity

- SHAC and animal rights have different idea to many people in climate movement about people who work in industry they are against. SHAC = personal targets against people who are 'bad' because of what they do. We think about workers in kings north differently. Therefore different worldview between us and SHAC - and therefore different tactics

- But there are evil people out there, writing to them and letting them know we know who they are is important. E.g. Paul Golby.

- Scotland is the epicentre of coal. we need to target it - perhaps people don't target it because people think it is too far away, but it's not, and when eviction call out comes we should all try to get up there.

3.5 Where next going forward

- people need to put concrete proposals into process about 'where next' for the next gathering. We can't just have another discussion, we need to be getting concrete frameworks in place. Please email them into Process.

- talk about proposals with neighbourhoods and groups - try to synthesise, before next gathering

- We should also think about what things can just be done, and what things really need to be seeking endorsement from climate camp. People should ask themselves: Is this the place to do it?

- Seeds for Change: Local Strategy Project training. Seeds can come along to provide support and tools for local groups and neighbourhoods planning strategic actions, campaigns, etc.

4 Website update

- There is a new website!

- working groups/neighbourhoods need to be updating their own stuff.

- email website@climatecamp.org.uk to find out how to add content to website.

- blog articles would be good.

- working groups need 'web spoke' and neighbourhoods.
- hits - 15000 early in camp but less now.
- Facebook is #1 referer to website.

5 Finance update

- Big thanks to everyone, especially the fundraising team of one.
- site well under-budget
- working groups using finance spokes well.
- working group finance
- £900 site
- £3200 int
- £500 media
- £700 process
- Networking no budget WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? Must Be Spent?!
- £500 swoop + more
- £200 website
- £70K in bank!

Promised outgoings

- space £15K in funding
- Site £6K in bills
- Legal self funding £6800 left
- £8K in expenses from camp itself

GET YOUR RECEIPTS IN.

Contact finance for detailed breakdown.

Around £30K surplus.

Where shall we put that? (See 13. later)

Cashflow for camp is in place in theory.

- fundraising need to continue good work.
- 12k was enough cashflow to lanch last year's london camp.

6 SWOOP

maps are being distributed.

6.1 Safety

- don't touch the water.
- The power station is likely to be running on very low production
- electric fence - ampage is more important than volts. Likely to be only a minor shock so the danger is more in the falling off than the shock itself.
- speculation about legionnaires disease is probably bullshit
- steamy cooling towers can be a disorientating environment and can be very dangerous
- insulated electric cutters are enough to get through the fence.
- fence - around 3metres high
- If you see a red button hit it! Though they do not always work.
- many dangers will be obvious from signs. Don't ignore them.
- trains inside the power station move slowly but still take time to stop
- Back at East Midlands Parkway trains are more dangerous - some do not stop there..

- Set off Fire Alarms
- To communicate safety information we should produce cards similar to bust cards for safety advice.

6.2 Feedback from each bloc

Footsteps to the future

Action, creativity, speaking, drama, arts space on fence, games, picnic: relative spontaneity
But need logistics covered to support people who are less experienced
Suggesting more time within weekend to discuss logistics

False Solutions

Has potential to be massive in terms of visual aspect, but need to think big to make it happen
But not just visual: lots of possibility with conveyor belt
Some opportunity for people still staying on outside of fence maybe
We all need to be prepared to cut the fence and go over (nobody will do it FOR us!)

Take Back the Power

Fences: through rather than over so you don't just fall into the arms of waiting police
Would be useful to know where the control room is
Useful for everyone to be able to read 6 figure grid reference
We don't know how it will happen: all at one point or more split up? (maybe at a pre-set time?)
We could make maps that are numbered, so it marks specific points on the map so communication can make it clear where there are police, breaches of security, etc

Decentralisation

Huge range of what people might be doing- affinity group model and why it's important and separate from top down model, how it can fit into the wider picture
Communication on the day: Indymedia dispatches system: possible concerns with police using that information

Bike Bloc: The Roaming Riders of Resistance

The Bike Bloc(k)s mission is to reclaim the streets, to reclaim the highways, to be the Swoops road patrol.

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6.3 RECAP:

Sign up for text service: online!

By 10am Sat morning, be within easy reach of power station

Wait for text message service which will tell you what is happening. If you didn't hear anything, still swoop for 1pm

6.4 Swoop Finance

In Oxford gathering, the swoop asked for 500 hundred pounds. They need more money. Can finance give them an extra 2000. Brian has looked at the budget and it seems good. So the money has been approved.

Swoop wants an additional 3030 however. So the total the will be 5530.

Climate swoop then read out the numbers, printing, website, food, mobile support, worker outreach, legal, media, logistics, local transport.

Can we get donations for local transport?

If money changes hand for mini buses, this changes the legal situation. It is illegal for donations to be given.

No blocks

Consensus

6.5 Swoop Media Proposals, asked of the whole gathering.

a). Should we be focusing on CCS on our messaging? Is this too complicated?

Unclear response.

b). Do we want "economic systems" mentioned, or "Capitalism" mentioned

Little more energy for capitalism

c). Copenhagen - false solutions or undemocratic

False solutions

d). Just transition, worker struggle, worker and community control

Community worker control

e). Climate change kills

Pretty high level of approval for that statement.

f) Copenhagen or UK Policy

Bit higher for UK, but most didn't seem to put their hands

g) Should we ask for E.ON engagement yay or nay. Quite a lot agree. One stand aside - can't engage with capitalism. E.ON don't actually want a debate, they just say they do. Infact behind the scenes they always refuse to debate. This is about calling their bluff.

Do we aim to stay for 24 hours, or just the day?

24 hours.

6.6 Swoop Working Group remits and aims

Mobile Support

- people supplying support through the day including through the night

- wish list: drivers with vans callout. Neighbourhood minibus may like to get involved with that

Outreach group

We need to have a FAQ for logistics

They have written the questions and will put them on website

Outreach needs to go nation wide big time
Can we get estimates of numbers?

Health and Safety Group

We need to put down all the obvious stuff about power station down and they can be typed up and distributed

Media team

Tomorrow we will bring back some key messages for checking

We need to talk to mobile phone support people

We are going to be hyping up swoop in the next two weeks

SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER

7. Introduction to what's happening at Copenhagen

Link to info about COP 15 Generally:

<http://climatecamp.org.uk/actions/copenhagen-2009/about>

CJA and what is happening in Copenhagen:

<http://climatecamp.org.uk/actions/copenhagen-2009/taking-action>

Dec 16th action, Reclaim Power: Pushing for Climate Justice:

<http://climatecamp.org.uk/actions/copenhagen-2009>

The presentation that was given about Cop15 is a resource anyone could use

The presentation will be available to download from the Copenhagen resources section, once website have had a time to put it up.

You can also find it on the international crabgrass site:

<https://we.riseup.net/ccinternational/edited-copenhagen-presentation+34031>

7.1 Bike bloc proposal for Copenhagen

The group The laboratory of Insurrectionary Imagination, would like to take a bike bloc to Copenhagen, and we are all invited to help. they will have the Arnolfini space in Bristol from 15th-30th of November.

See examples of their past work see here:

<http://www.labofii.net/experiments/>

For more information about Bike Bloc see here: <http://www..labofii.net/news/>

They asked for climate camp to commit energy, people and mobilisation for a bike bloc for the day of action - Pushing for climate justice on 16th December

Concerns were raised around commitment of financial resources and prioritising between bike bloc and other actions on the 16th, and priority of 16th (pushing for climate justice) vs. 13th (Never Trust a COP - Means of production day)

These concerns were alleviated with the facts that camp is not specifically committing resources to this at this point. This is more of an invitation than a request.

Stand asides - not enough information at this point, scale must be dependent on the scale of the energy of the people involved, seems open-ended...

ACTIVE CONSENSUS

7.2 Coach proposal

Existing transport options to Copenhagen are very expensive, so we have looked at booking coaches as climate camp, from different parts of the UK.. Proposal to mandate working group to book coaches and set up booking system and to be given remit to make decisions about dates and times for travel dependent on feedback from people travelling - not set by plenary - and climate camp takes the financial risk for the coaches. (3 coaches would be £15,000 if no one went). Tickets would be sold for £100 per person - roughly same price as Euroline coaches.

Mandates working group to make judgement about how to best take the largest number of people without placing a financial burden on the camp.

Faster than eurolines coaches (19hrs each way vs. 24-29hrs each way)

Allows neighbourhoods to mobilise and affinity groups to travel together

£100 deposit for coaches needed up front - want to start selling tickets asap - can be cancelled up until 26th November if not sold enough tickets

Concerns raised about Danish police stopping the buses with all climate campers on board - should be ok, going well away from the day of action, should be ok because of human rights - but definitely still a concern

Dates to be set by when people want to go - initially looking at going for a week - to be decided in the working group

Fully covers costs of drivers, fuel, all costs etc. etc.

Concern about at what point we would cancel the buses e.g. 50% full, 70% full etc. to set the amount of money we'd be willing to commit if it didn't fully book

Would be bad to cancel at last minute due to huge prices for booking trains

Good that its entirely expandable based upon our capacity to find people - we definitely should be able to get 150 people!

Could delegate responsibility for cancelling to the working group as long they are sensible and take feedback into account

Need to make sure we learn lessons from the past e.g. £20k debt for G8 travel

No stand asides, no blocs - ACTIVE CONSENSUS!

International job shop

7.3 Callout for expansion of International Working Group for planning Copenhagen trip

International group has now taken on too much and needs to share out into the existing working groups within the camp. This could be a massive success if we all help

Everyone can help, individually and as neighbourhoods with:

Outreach - flyer distribution, coach flyer distribution, online networking, liaison with other Climate Justice Action & non-CJA groups

ADD NOTES FROM FLIPCHART ABOUT GROUPS if you have them

8 Swoop Latest Plan

Take back the power and false solutions bloc - will be heading to a zone for 10am then - will

gather at a specific point at 11am with details to be sent by text. Then to swoop for 1pm. Allows distribution of info & materials, e.g. legal info. The position will be strategic for us but not for the police. If no further instructions fail or not happen - all to still swoop at 1pm.

Zone for mustering for both false solutions and take back the power blocs - B6 - B8, F6-F8 (see CC maps of the power station) - 15 sq kms

Would provide a single site of convergence near the power station for both groups

(nb. Footsteps to the future will be converging at Nottingham train station at 10am)

Concerns raised over both groups meeting at the same spot, but this option gives us the most choice in terms of tactics.

This will allow people not in an affinity group to meet up on the day to do actions

It has been suggested that the number of muster points is made by the working group looking after text message service dependent on the number of people signing up to text services for each of the blocs.

Still an option for us not to all group together if it's not the right choice on the day

Will help motivate and build energy for everyone in the blocs and help build knowledge of what else / how many other people are involved.

Proposal: Saturday morning take back the power and false solutions blocs will be texted a muster point within the zone (B6-B8, F6-F8) by 10am on the Saturday morning. Blocs should be at the muster point by 11am. Should all be prepared to swoop at 1pm at the power station.

ACTIVE CONSENSUS

9 Action point and Questions for the Copenhagen working groups:

Action Point: Liaisons for every group should make sure they are on the International Process list/crabgrass to get important info.

How are you going to do these jobs?

Assign a process & finance liaison and a buddy for contact for the group

How are you going to meet in the run up to Copenhagen

Do you want a national gathering - how are you going to use that time

Are there extra resources you need - people, money etc

Budget

What publicity do we want produced for whom by when (outreach, media)

9.1 Outreach and Publicity

Outreach will use:

Organising regionally, contacts in each region for flyers, leaflets, etc.

Crabgrass

Would like a November gathering to meet up in person

Seem to be okay for resources, communicating with Publicity about logistical flyers

Need people working hard within neighbourhoods, can provide support for fundraising and distribution

Publicity have just two people who would like to publicity and two who had done in the past.

Nobody who has ever done it before were willing to be involved Possible process issue with decision-making and design. Proposal that publicity liaises solely with working groups and deal with each working group on a request by request basis.

November gathering wouldn't be necessary, hopefully all work will be done soon. Budget dependent on numbers

9.2 Transport

No desperate need for a gathering, don't need resources, pretty much sorted. Keeping liaison with other groups.

9.3 Media

Have a group

Mostly worried about Swoop

Need more info from CJA

9.4 Legal

Needs a lot of delegating, need to know wharts going on at Danish end, how the relationship will work so we can know what they need to do and how tasks will eb shared out between international groups

9.5 Action Support

Will liaise with Seeds of Change

Zine with actiist phrasebooks, what we can expect from the cops, legal information general info about Copenhagen,m dates of actoins, safety measures, training beforehand, share experiences

9.6 Kitchens

Get in touch with CJA to find out expectations and needs: food, people, money, space, tat
Kitchen collectives around the UK

Do a lot over email and online, would be useful to have a gathering in November

9.7 International Process

Superjobshop that oversees everything, on Crabgrass, need to contact all the liaisons

International list will now be international info list, everyone should be on it!

Budget- trying to facilitate more people going to October CJA meeting, so helping with transport

9.8 Medics

Need more: we want Climate Camp to be relatively self sufficient

Email lists people can get on, organise trainings roughly once a month

Will need some money for kit

Don't need gathering

9.9 Bike Bloc

Will meet in London on weekend of anarchist bookfair

Need some sort of process for finance request if there is no gathering

Need a space in Copenhagen

Good team building up!

Trying to keep budget minimal, hopefully self-funded

10 Wellbeing at Copenhagen

Local group forming in Copenhagen, hopefully some Climate Campers will be going. Might get hectic, and we need to make sure that we can try to provide some sort of support after they come back:

There is a joining process for activist trauma support: so get in touch wellbeing@climatecamp.org.uk, and find out info about joining. Wellbeing will be happening at both the swoop and Copenhagen. We are looking for more people to help. Please call 07962 406940 or email wellbeing@climatecamp.org.uk. If you, or your mates, have any psychological impacts at either event please get in contact with us.

11 Come to Barcelona from the 31st October to the 6th of November.

The whole world's media will be looking. Disruption, green-washing would be brilliant. local activists are planning to blockade them in on the 2nd. There will be a rally and demo (NGOy) on the 31 oct. Definite opportunity to do actions/media actions all week. almost No movement in Barcelona/catalonia/spain/med. sea in general so great to help. hopefully (but definitely NOT sure) some people can stay in can mas deu, a wonderful squatted social centre on the edge of the city contact martin: barcelonameeting at climatecamp.org.uk

12 Swoop Media Key Messages

(Now out of date after kingsnorth decision)

Media key messages

1. We must stop e.on's plan to build a new generation of coal fired power stations, starting with Kingsnorth. Even Ratcliffe is scheduled to emit XX billion tonnes/ yr until 2039 (CHECK) when carbon emissions should be virtually zero. It must close.
- 2, In the run up to the UN climate talks at Copenhagen this December we are showing that coal has no future if we are to avoid catastrophic climate change. We need to stop burning fossil fuels, not finding new ways to continue business as usual.
- 3, We need a social movement to develop worker and community control of our energy supply and our society; not a capitalist system which ignores the needs of people and the climate

Concerns:

needs to be snappier and shorter

Fewer numbers: "equivalent to the emissions of...countries" is easier to remember.

We aren't taking the political opportunity to highlight that Miliband and govts are talking about different amounts of coal, and we need to be talking about no new coal: this is the wrong debate

Stand asides:

Around 5 people expressed concerns about using the words "capitalism" and "workers"

Two or three concerns about not mentioning Miliband and the decisions he is making.

13 Spreading our surplus finance.

Tachanka (rise up (email) & may 1st (website)) - £1,000 - APPROVED

No logic (climate camp email) - £200 - APPROVED

Last chance saloon (fundraising collective who lost money at big green gathering, and have

supported us in the past) - £2,000 - APPROVED
Wales Camp - £1000 - TO SUBMIT REQUESTS THROUGH FINANCE - NOT APPROVED
Scotland Camp - £1000 - TO SUBMIT REQUESTS THROUGH FINANCE - NOT APPROVED
Activist Tat Collective (donation separate to debts) - £300 - APPROVED
Vestas Solidarity - £500 - TO SUBMIT AS A WORKING GROUP
Northern Indymedia (broken van needed for swoop) - upto £1000 - APPROVED
Finance to contact Scotland, Wales & Co-mutiny to say that we can offer funds if they want / need it - to be decided at another point.
Proposals on finance for lost personal equipment to be addressed at a future gathering.

14 November gathering

Some working groups want a gathering
Now considering 1st / 2nd weekend in November - 1 day on Copenhagen, 1 day on Where now.
7th / 8th- clashes with CaCC Climate Emergency Copenhagen meeting in London, G20 finance ministers meeting in London
14th / 15th - clashes NATO assembly in Edinburgh - anti-militarist mobilisation, Radical Roots gathering, Wales celidh
Strong temperature check towards 7th & 8th
Offer for hosting from Tipping Point nr Kings north (to promote the venue, possible decision in November and to build links in local group) - also considering options in the North - Manchester & Sheffield
Strong temperature check towards Manchester / Sheffield
Suggestion of setting up alternating gatherings between North & South (more likely to make the trip if we know the next one will be the other end)

15 Climate Camp TV Working Group Proposal

James to email text of proposal
Were previously part of the camp media team - but want to be more accountable to camp process and included in the camp process
Not asking for any money
Need to make sure they do collaborate closely with the documentation team
Concerns about lack of understanding of the group of the proposal - why need to rush it now?
Stand asides - they should be here, concern that it is rushed
Blocks - Need to discuss with the camp documentation team before it can be approved.

16 Roundup from kingsnorth for future experience.

Electric Fence not necessarily on.
When people panicked at Kingsnorth it was effective because people were everywhere, so the Police not able to reorganise properly.

Likely to run through fields-careful of crops.
Police unlikely to keep chasing for long time.
Just keep moving, keep a flow going.
Also hang on to your buddy
No pressure to go through fence first time.
Have default meet up plans for if all goes wrong

Take a compass and use it.

Use maps

Veggies will be around in some form, so bring money!

Think about what equipment has dual purpose eg popup tent as shield

Bring ATLEAST 2 litres of water each.

17 Miscellaneous.

At next gathering there will be proposal for new working group to form events around the general election eg burning of the ballots. Start thinking about this as next gathering will be packed

Media team - start producing local media in neighbourhoods.

Swoop transport - should we provide transport back on Saturday? Mixed responses.

Neighbourhoods should autonomously decide what is appropriate.