

Minutes
Climate Camp National Gathering
Bradford, 8th and 9th November 2008

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SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER

Welcome and Introduction

Day of Action against E.On

Presentation outlining the proposed action:

- The Day of Action is just one of the strands of climate camp's activities;
- Its important to keep up action against E.On, to damage their brand. E.On are putting a lot of energy and money into promoting their brand, and aligning themselves with tackling climate change.
- 48 hours of action to take place over Friday 28th and Saturday 29th November.
- Any coal targets? - we need to be acting now;
- A range of possible targets, including E.On's UK headquarters.

Small group discussions

Feedback from groups with ideas:

- Cambridge - awareness raising
- Brighton - targeting council offices over procurement contract with e.on
- Plymouth - street theatre – clean coal cleaners
- FA Cup actions
- P.on E.on stickers to go in toilets
- Building contractors: Laing O'Rourke; Alstom, and other French companies
- RBS – local branches, can easily be targeted.
- Individual letters of grievance that can be signed collectively
- E.On's PR department
- Online form on eon's site: apply for sponsorship
- Bradford Uni get energy from e.on – KICK eon OFF CAMPUS
- Develop resources for students to find out what eon's uni-involvement is & how to target it.
- Stickermobbing

Hierarchy

Agenda item dropped, as facilitators didn't show up with proposals/ structure.

Fifth aim proposal

Presentation of the Workers Climate Action's proposal

Not trying to force quick agreement, not expecting immediate consensus – want to open a debate. If is adopted, it will be significant and affect our stance.

At Heathrow there was good community support for the camp; widespread local opposition to expansion, built up over months. But, very limited solidarity support for workers' struggles at the airport, apart from solidarity picket at Nippon.

Post-Heathrow camp, people from different political backgrounds have met.

Mobilising Heathrow airport workers to make climate related demands (especially opposing expansion) in their own name would be extremely powerful.

At Kingsnorth, there is less activity, although Climate Camp has engaged and gained some support from Medway Trades Council. Generally though, the feeling in the area is that 'this is our economy, you're coming and telling us to close down our economy.' Lived through miners' strike. Local opinions are diverse. It's a former National Front stronghold, and people hark back to a golden age when 'Kent was the garden of England'.

So, who should be at the forefront of battle to change energy? Ideally those who've been screwed over in the past by industry.

But its very difficult at Kingsnorth, especially as E.On sponsors most local projects on the Hoo Peninsula, including schools.

Why?

Its partly about political principle – who is most affected, and who will turnaround on this issue affect the most?

Risk of contempt for workers, including an unspoken contempt in our lack of action on these issues.

This is the fight we want to fight – generally we're assuming that this is a fight against capitalism. How can we build a strong anti-capitalist movement if those oppressed most directly aren't involved?

So, the Fourth Principle proposal is: "For a workers'-led just transition"

Full group discussion:

- Workers don't want to wreck the climate – not necessarily. We need to offer worker an alternative vision of society.
- Defensive: Attack on us that we are a middle class movement that doesn't care about working people's lives. Recognise that climate change will hit the poorest hardest.
- But, also (and more so) movement-building.
- We won't create mass movement until we start linking to other movements.
- We are linked – we are anti-capitalist, the labour movement is (in the main) anti-capitalist
- This opens up waves & waves of possible actions.
- Issues:
 - 'led' is problematic, given our politics. Of course just transition needs to be worker-led.

- The other three principles are all about what we do in practical terms, whereas this is a commitment to a political stance.
- We are committed to self-organisation – everybody organises for themselves. So workers would lead in their own spaces – but not lead all of us in just transition.
- Doesn't movement building already cover this?
- There is a yawning gap between us and the workers, because we are predominantly middle-class. We need to bridge this, so that over time we come to represent a cross-section of society.
- 'Worker-led' is problematic – many people are not 'workers' including people doing unpaid work, and 'illegal workers'.
- We need to be talking about poverty & people's real lives.
- We need to pin our targets.
- How about 'grassroots real transition'?
- We need to focus on what we do, not having a discussion about what we say.
- This is about what we do. There is immense potential for support through this.
- If we can link workers political battles to ours, that's very powerful.
- No Borders, anti-oil wars are important statements for us to be saying - but this is about who controls means of production.
- There is a difference between what we stand for and what we do. But this needs to go in several places.
- Our statement of our politics needs to include references to unpaid workers, no borders, etc.
- How about 'movement-building for just transition'?
- We can still do stuff before it's agreed.
- Fifth principle should be 'we make the links with all these different peoples/movements'
- In real terms, this proposal is talking about a just transition in the energy/ fossil fuel sector
- But – this isn't just talking about energy workers.
- Possibilities to expand: * how would we cover the unemployed, unpaid, and other movements?

Working group time(?) - continued on Sunday, report back on page 24/25

**Spaces Group
Action Support
Action Strategy
Networking**

Working Group Guidelines Proposal

These guidelines are proposed in the context of feelings that the working groups need to be more accessible, in the form of a list of things that need to

be done to make each working group more accountable. Guidelines that groups:

- must have climate camp email address displayed on website;
- must respond to emails frequently;
- must be open to all to join unless agreed as closed by gathering;
- must give feedback & meet at gatherings;
- must only spend Camp money if approved in line with a budget.

There was almost consensus, but there was a **proposed amendment** to rotate roles within Working Groups. This was not discussed as we ran out of time.

Fundraising Group Proposal

It was proposed to form a working group to look after everything related to fundraising - to cover events, supporting neighbourhoods with fundraising, and looking after grant applications.

CONSENSUS!

Website Proposal

Proposed remit of the website group:

CONTEXT

A group of people interested in the website was formed at the Manchester National Gathering . This comprised of people who were previously involved and others looking to get involved for the first time. Given that the day of action is happening before another gathering, we need an agreed process for updating the site. We propose the formation of a website working group.

PROPOSAL

- * the website is fundamental to all aspects of the movement and the WG will liaise closely with all working groups and neighbourhoods, especially communications, outreach and process (representation from all these groups would be good).
- * Rather than assume control for the entire website the main aim of the WWG will be to facilitate working groups and neighbourhoods to take responsibility for their own sections.
- * The WWG will also develop a process for maintaining other areas of the site and welcomes wide involvement.
- * The first priority of the working group will be to update the website prior to the day of action.

* The second priority of the WG will be to ask all working groups and neighbourhoods what they want from the website in the long term.

CONSENSUS

International group proposal

Proposed remit of the international group:

- 1) To create space for dialogue on what we want to see happen in Copenhagen. To create events and forums engaging wide audiences in creating this vision, based on debates on various proposals put forward.
- 2) To network and mobilise for events around the COP15 across the UK with the aim of getting as many people involved as possible, either in UK or Copenhagen-based actions.
- 3) To help organise transport and accommodation for people who want to go to the summit, and aim to provide any other logistical assistance that those in Copenhagen ask us for.
- 4) To undertake international networking and knowledge sharing for the UK Climate Camp, ensure that the UK Climate Camp is represented at other Climate Camps across Europe and that the UK Climate Camp engages proactively with international activist meetings.

Group discussion incl.:

- Why call it 'international' if the group is focused on Copenhagen? How many people are involved in the group?
- Group is interested in doing international work beyond Copenhagen.

Stand asides:

- It still sounds like a Copenhagen working group
- It sets up a pre-formed idea on what our priorities should be.

CONSENSUS

Actions Round-up

- Newark Biofuels Action.
- Participation in IWW conference in Newcastle.
- Malmo graffiti action.
- E-on recruitment fair actions

Announcements

- New website being set up for E.On F.Off - <http://www.eon-foff.com>

- GRRR at BERR campaign update. See <http://www.grrratberr.org.uk> for more info or email info@grrratberr.org.uk.
- Workers Climate Action gathering in London next weekend.
- Treesponsibility tree-planting weekend also on weekend of November 28th and 29th.
- Coal Action Network held a gathering a fortnight ago, a network to support anti-coal action, including the blockade. www.leaveitintheground.org.uk
- Networking £60 (approx.) spent on stickers. Request for retrospective funding – referred to finance group.
- Corporate Watch “technofixes” report – selling at £3 each.

Legal Update

1. Criminal cases

- All biofuels prosecutions have been dropped.
- Two arrests for assault. A fund has been set up to raise funds for their defence. £1000 is needed.
- The legal team is continuing to respond to requests for witness evidence, but we don’t know how many cases are still with the solicitors

2. Challenging the abuse of stop and search powers

An application for a Judicial Review (JR) has been submitted, with a few litigants including Dave Morris. The JR could also make or break the defences of three people who were arrested when resisting abusive stop and searches. They have agreed to the JR going ahead.

Meanwhile, the legal team has submitted evidence to a joint parliamentary inquiry (Commons and Lords) into the policing of protest – they happened to be calling for evidence in September (very timely). The LibDems (i.e. Norman Baker, who witnessed police assaults at the camp) will host a parliamentary meeting calling for an inquiry into the policing of the Kingsnorth camp. The legal team is looking for funding to compile a video of policing at the camp.

Kent Police professional standards dept have an officer employed full-time simply dealing with our requests / complaints. They had 200 complaints from us – none so far have been upheld. They do acknowledge that the police have a lot of lessons to learn, and that the policing was and inefficient and ineffective use of police resources, which alienated the police from the public.

“Complaints” need to be against a specific named officer, not the police’s overall policy. So far, nobody has submitted a complaint against officer 2444 who was clearly seen repeatedly batonning people at K5 during the Monday a.m. raid. We need to put a call-out for people who witnessed this.

ACTION for bulletin

An online survey is about to go up about experiences of stop and searches. ALL, please fill in the survey when it goes out in the bulletin.

3. Property

This has been a huge headache! Eventually, we have agreed a form of words which covers the police against the possibility that they return some property to one individual only to have someone else claiming it. This has now been resolved. We have now picked up all the property seized during the raid (apart from some table tops, some rings for holding together a geodisic dome and some mouldy carpets!), as they have no reason to fear anyone else will be able to produce evidence that they are the owner. This is now here at the gathering, and we will put it on display.

The police still have a lot of other stuff taken during stops and searches and they have now listed this. You will have to produce evidence of your ownership. There are some things they say they will refuse to return, but they won't tell us which items these are – they will only tell us when someone tries to claim them.

Individual enquiries can be made to the legal team:
legal@climatecamp.org.uk

Rolling Blockade at Kingsnorth

The aim of the session is to decide what form the rolling blockade will take.

Presentation of timescales

Government is trying to outwit us. At the Labour Party Conference, John Hutton said we must have new coal in the UK. There was then an article revealing a split in cabinet over New Coal. John Hutton then got 'promoted' to Defence. The Department for Climate Change and Energy formed – Ed Miliband is likely to be more sympathetic to our cause, yet there are still concerns - he is a politician, etc, etc. Ed Miliband has already agreed to 80% cuts in Climate Change Bill. So we don't know where the decision will go next. The need is still there to build up action, in the hope of telling Ed what to do.

RWE npower (rival electricity company) now threatening to launch judicial review if the Carbon Capture and storage competition is awarded to Kingsnorth – as it is a fix up between the Government and E.On.

December 1st is a possible date on which something might happen. The commission is due to issue a report which is likely to come down harsh on coal fired power stations. Last time Ed Miliband took their advice with the 80% cuts in the Carbon Bill.

There are rumours from the Unions that no one will make a decision on Kingsnorth till after Copenhagen.

Also, land is being cleared near Kingsnorth. E.ON still clearly think they are going ahead.

Conclusion: we don't have any clear decision date or possible date.

Clarifying questions about the presentation/ update:

Question: What does this information represent?

Response: We can't decide what implications are –up in the air. Two big things that we're doing are currently vague: Copenhagen 2009 and the Blockade. We should focus on getting these going, and not worry about waiting and wondering where or when.

Q: Clearing land around Kingsnorth? What is that?

R: Clearing green space... not major building: possible road widening, possible car park.

Q: What is the stance of the unions?

R: Is varied.

Oxford Neighbourhood Proposals:

Discussion around the two oxford proposals, but with leeway for new ideas.

There was a concern raised that the proposal couldn't be made/ discussed if the proposers weren't present, as the 'Discussion on Hierarchy in the Climate Camp' proposal had not been discussed for this reason. It was clarified that the hierarchy proposal was a request for some self-facilitated time by people who did not arrive to facilitate the session, whereas the blockade proposals had been submitted as text to be proposed, and facilitators had been able to prepare for the session.

1. "Rolling Blockade" Proposal For Next Gathering:

Context:

*We haven't yet defined what we mean by "a rolling blockade of Kingsnorth". This is making it very difficult to discuss and to make clear decisions about!

*We did get close to deciding what the "blockade" might look like a few times in the September gathering, but the opportunity to define it properly didn't arise.

*We have constructed this proposal based on ideas and suggestions that were raised by various people at the September gathering, and which seemed to be popular and capture the mood of the meeting.

*An Action Strategy and an Action Support Group were both formed at the September gathering, and will both be involved in the planning and execution of the "blockade".

Aims of the Blockade:

- To cause maximum disruption to the building of Kingsnorth power station, within the capacity of the Climate Camp movement – taking into account that we'll be working on other things as well.

- To do so in a way that maximises the number of people taking part in direct action, and also creates opportunities to challenge the economic and political systems that are driving climate change.

This is what we propose the Blockade Should look like

1. A campaign of decentralised direct action, targeting bodies and organisations involved in approving, financing and building a new coal power station at Kingsnorth.
2. This will include attempts to physically stop building work at the Kingsnorth site itself, but this will not be the sole focus of the action, which will also target supply chains and other related bodies all over the country. Organisations and companies pushing false capitalist solutions that provide cover for the expansion of the coal industry - such as carbon trading, offsetting and carbon capture - should not be neglected.
3. Actions will include a mixture of local affinity group actions, larger regional actions and national mass actions. Some actions will be secretly organised, others will be openly declared.
4. Actions should begin as soon as possible, with the aim of preventing government approval of Kingsnorth by damaging the brand and disrupting the operations of E.ON, discrediting the government, and presenting positive alternatives to coal. If construction does go ahead, action will broaden to target the physical construction and those involved in the supply chain.
5. More detailed background information and “big picture” analysis of which targets and tactics are most appropriate at which times would be of great help. The new Action Strategy Group will consider this and present worked-up options (NOT recommendations) to gatherings for discussion and decisions.
6. In addition to this, a large amount of practical research (locations, maps, weak points, skill requirements etc.) needs to begin now in order to provide groups around the country with the information they need to start planning actions. We will therefore empower the new Action Support group to begin this work.

2. Stopping The Building Work:

If Kingsnorth is approved and building work begins, this proposal sets out a plan for how to build momentum behind a physical blockade of the building site. It assumes that:

*We do not currently have the resources to set up and defend a permanent blockade of the site.

*It is likely that neighbourhoods close to the site will take on more of the work of organising the physical blockade, while neighbourhoods further away will want to take action against other related targets.

*To be successful, this campaign will need to grow in size and momentum as time goes on.

*That although supplies may come into the building site by land and by sea, staff and vehicles are only likely to arrive via access roads, which can be blocked.

*That the spirit of this proposal is that its exact details should be amended at the November gathering according to people's energy and preferences.

The Proposal:

To organise regular, openly publicised blockades AND secret, unpredictable guerrilla blockades AND supply chain actions. Here's how it could work:

Monthly Public Blockades:

*Once a month – the first Saturday, perhaps – we hold a widely-publicised “block the builders” event. This will essentially be a mass gathering on the access roads, Faslane-style, with different degrees of arrestability. It will be open and friendly, with entertainment, discussions, speakers, workshops, planning sessions etc. (outside or in tents).

*This will be the main entry point for people wanting to get more involved in stopping Kingsnorth. The emphasis will be on recruitment and first-time involvement, and new people would be welcomed and introduced to their local neighbourhood group. The aim will be to make this an established monthly event that builds over time.

*Organisation should be shared between those neighbourhoods nearest to the site, and those that have the most energy for the blockade. For example, six neighbourhoods could organise two events each per year (or share them out between them based on their capacity).

*Depending on how E.ON and the police respond, this may start as a largely symbolic protest, but as numbers at the event grow, more things will become possible. Imagine if 5,000 people showed up one day...

Secret Guerrilla Blockades:

*These would be organised by neighbourhoods and affinity groups in any way they liked, with support and advice from the central Action Support Group. These are likely to be more effective at preventing work than the monthly public blockades, and could of course last longer than just a day. As new people are drawn into the movement from the public blockades, so the capacity of neighbourhoods to hold more secret blockades should grow!

Supply Chain Actions: Spreading “The Curse Of Kingsnorth” Round The Country!

*Suppliers, financiers and political supporters of the power station all need to be targeted, as do the false capitalist solutions such as carbon trading, offsetting, and carbon capture that provide an excuse for the expansion of the coal industry. Other actions around the country against all of these targets will be a vital part of the campaign, and will provide the opportunity to broaden our message beyond the single power station and onto the economic and political systems that are driving fossil fuel expansion and climate change.

Clarifying questions

Q: Is the first decision what to do before the build, and the second during the build?

R: Yes.

Q: What is the nature of Action Support? Does it mean funds or equipment or what?

R: An action support group formed, and that group is still evolving and can respond to what people want it to do.

Concern: That this is being rushed through.

Response - from facilitators: Plan to break down into small groups to discuss it in detail, so we can all feed in and it's not pushing the proposal and rushing it through. This way, there will be time to express all views.

Questions for small groups...

1. What form of action do we do before building begins?
2. What form of action do we do once building begins?
3. What process do we need to make these things happen?

Suggestion: We need to think about what the timescale presentation means for us, and filter this into the discussion of the three questions when in small groups.

Feedback:

First group

- Maintain the threat of blockade –scare them.
- National action before a decision is made.
- Need for engagement on Hoo Peninsula before decision is made – both with future employees and construction workers. Possible café/ shopfront – working with Age Concern/Oxfam
- Training in blockading
- Learning how to talk to workers
- Want Mandate to start mobilising.
- Largely agree with proposal.

Second group

- Emphasise pre-decision actions rather than blockade itself.
- Need better distinction between pre- and post- decision actions.
- Name: pre & post to be named differently.
- Identify everybody involved in the supply chain – give direct action warning.
- Actions should be defined by affinity groups.
- If we are preparing for decisions made, this could apply to Heathrow too.
- Wording of blockade – agree with proposal.

Third group

- Basically agree with the proposal
- But we're better at targeting companies than government
- LOTS of research is needed to identify targets
- Need lots of publicity materials – outreach & networking needs to start urgently
- Day of Action to warn possible contractors – co-ordinated actions on specific teams rather than just decentralised 'go out & do actions'
- Need steps for people on the blockade email list to get involved – not just 'come & do action'

Fourth group

- Emphasis on scaring off contractors & financiers. Where are board meetings etc? – targeting.
- Target RBS, particularly via students.
- Importance of framing Kingsnorth in context of the wider debate – especially given that Kingsnorth might be delayed – so we're not stuck to it. We need to treat Kingsnorth as what might happen countrywide.
- Mass action at Kingsnorth to keep up the momentum; also to highlight the potential for victory, especially given delays.
- More focus on factors directly affecting communities – e.g. will Hoo be one of the first areas to go under water?

Fifth group

- We can target E.ON without the Kingsnorth decision – we can't wait until the decision
- We should target companies with vested interests – potential contractors
- Supporting closed autonomous groups doing actions
- Convince them that we grew out of the roads movement & have capacity to stop this
- Target supply chains
- Education through actions – strong message to get to public who don't know about these issues
- Demand transparent timetable from Government re. decisions
- Do we need a Kingsnorth coal-specific working group?
- Six days of construction – six days we can disrupt them.
- Also, the gateway of events as way for new people to come in
- How can we facilitate new affinity groups forming? – guidance, training. Co-ordination between affinity groups. Education and information on why we're doing this
- Transport to Kingsnorth

- Equipment
- Build an email list of 'Back to Kingsnorth'
- A day of targeting all five contractors

Sixth group

- No comments against the proposals
- What should we do now: targets, Direct Action support and research.
- Gearing up support with the local Hoo community
- Brand attack – FA Cup-related campaign
- RBS
- Making the connection in the public mind between E.On and coal
- Work with grassroots union members.
- Building links with energy & non-energy 'workers'.
- Aims:
 1. Stop the decision to build
 2. Grow the movement
 3. Prepare to stop construction if the decision does go ahead
- This is a risk that appears less black & white – as we might be winning – but don't lose focus
- We should be prepared for either eventuality

Seventh group

- We need to influence the decision so that we don't have to do the blockade.
- Visible preparation
- Emphasis on building local connections at Kingsnorth;
- Establishing a permanent local presence
- National – more DA training – as a demonstration of our capacity and intent
- Organise some camp-type event if no decision has been made by March – so that if year goes by without a decision, there is still something big we do this year

Further discussion:

- We need to be saying: Yes stop KN, but do these things instead. Just transition.
- Is Climate Camp the right framework/organising space to do this?
- If we go with this, will start doing actions. Can re-orient, change things in future
- Jonathan & Maddy are amazing facilitators & very sexy
- We should do a mass action before the decision.
- This can be taken forward by specific groups – not taking over the whole camp
- Are we not doing a Camp next year anymore?
- No monthly blockades
- Humour is essential in this process. This is serious, but not serious like a funeral
- Our primary objective should be to take direct action to stop the decision going ahead
- Previous objective was taking direct action to stop Kingsnorth

- New objective would mean deferring preparation time for the blockade
- How can we deal with things that we think are important but we don't do much of, such as workers outreach and local outreach

Proposals - discussion and decisions:

Objectives:

- 1) **Stop approval of Kingsnorth - CONSENSUS!**
- 2) Cause maximum disruption to building of KN within the capacity of the Climate Camp movement taking into account that we'll be working on other things as well.
No Consensus!
Amendment:
Cause maximum disruption to all aspects of the construction of Kingsnorth power station – CONSENSUS!
- 3) **To do so in a way that maximises the number of people taking part in direct action and also creates opportunities to challenge the economic and political systems that are driving climate change - CONSENSUS!**
- 4) **Stand Aside:** We should be doing it anyway in everything we do
We want to demonstrate & organise a long-term commitment to support workers & communities affected by the Kingsnorth decision – almost CONSENSUS but needs rewording for tomorrow!

We want to support workers & communities affected by the KN decision now & in the long-term.

We want to build a diverse movement for climate campaigning whichever way the decision goes.

The Oxford Proposals: 'Actions should begin as soon as possible', and 'More detailed background information is needed' are already covered by existing decisions.

- 5) **Actions should begin as soon as possible, with the aim of preventing government approval of KN by damaging the brand and disrupting the operations of E.ON, discrediting the government, targeting prospective construction companies, financiers and all related coal actors and presenting positive alternative to coal – CONSENSUS!**

To organise regular, openly publicised obstructions AND support secret, unpredictable guerrilla actions and supply chain actions.

OR

If KN gets approved, we will organise a variety of actions? (wording was unclear at this point)....

WE AGREE TO THE SPIRIT

but/ and **ACTION: Leila to work on words and bring a proposal back to the meeting tomorrow.**

Budget

We currently have **£20,000**

£500 to fund making of film re: policing of Kingsnorth Camp for Parliament – to go to legal team.

Process

Travel Expenses	£200
Phone	£150
Printing	£60
Facilitation Training	£200
Riseup	£100
Venue Hire	£150
Misc	£40
TOTAL	£900

Space

We should rent now, rather than buying. Rent is likely to be £10,000 for six months. We should expect initial rent, not renewed. We shouldn't buy now as the focus might shift; no existing local base. Better to buy a plot of land closer to Kingsnorth when its clear that construction will take place. So, we'll probably initially rent a house in Strood, Hoo or Gillingham.

Short leases on empty commercial properties would probably be highly negotiable.

Empties for squatting purposes are available, although likely to face strong pressure.

Proposal:

- **Camp should make available £10,000 to rent to Space group to rent a building in whosever name...**
- **Camp should equip the building.**
- **Climate Camp should set aside £10,000 for a further six months if a future gathering decides to extend the lease.**

Discussion:

- * Don't need to decide yet, as we don't know if blockade will happen.
- * This would massively increase outreach in area
- * We need to act decisively – even if we don't do the blockade, we are constantly criticised for our lack of outreach
- * We could commit half the money, ask Space to go away & find the other half
- * Other Working groups will also have budgets but haven't met yet – proposal to discuss this tomorrow
- * At the moment we don't have an income stream

- * The money isn't needed upfront
 - * £10,000 is not much for six-month presence – we spent more on postcards last year!
 - * Feels that to pay rent goes against the ethos of what Climate Camp is about
 - * Despite urgency, we could wait two months
- CONCLUSION: No decision – we will decide after other groups have time to work out what need money for/what could use space for.**

WORKING GROUPS TIME

- SPACE
- ACTION SUPPORT/ACTIONS STRATEGY
- FUNDRAISING
- INTERNATIONAL
- NETWORKING

Fourth objective

Proposal: To actively support workers and communities affected by the Kingsnorth decision, locally and globally, now and in the long term.
 - amendment proposed: deletion of words “locally and globally”

So, **To actively support workers and communities affected by the Kingsnorth decision now and in the long term - CONSENSUS!**

Continuing Working Group Guidelines Proposal discussion:

Addition proposed: we need to rotate roles within working groups, and need to ensure that new people can function fully

Amended to: **‘Working groups must strive to rotate roles, share skills and bring in new people’ – CONSENSUS!**

Stand aside: overarching principle is sustainability, how that is done may vary from group to group.

Full proposal: Working Group Guidelines:

Again, these guidelines are set down in the context of feelings that the climate camp working groups need to be more accessible:

Things you need to do to make working groups accountable:

- **must have climate camp email address displayed on website;**
- **must respond to emails frequently;**
- **must be open to all to join unless agreed as closed by gathering;**
- **must give feedback & meet at gatherings;**
- **must only spend Camp money if approved in line with a budget;**
- **must strive to rotate roles, share skills and bring in new people.**

CONSENSUS!!

SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

Fourth objective

Proposed wording “To actively support workers and communities affected by the Kingsnorth decision, locally and globally, now and in the long term.”

Concerns raised: it is unclear what “long term “ means, that local and globally weakens the focus, that support is unclear.

Proposed to delete “locally and globally”. Consensus reached on this version.

Proposal to change “support” to “consider the impact of was temperature-checked and had little support. It was withdrawn.

Working group guidelines

Proposed to adopt the originally proposed wording , with an added guideline “working groups should strive to rotate roles.”

Question: does this mean rotate within a group or that people should change groups from time to time.

Proposed rewording: “working groups should strive to rotate roles, share skills and bring in new people.”

One stand-aside: this doesn't reflect the context of some working groups where the sustainability of the group itself is vital. **CONSENSUS reached.**

CONSENSUS also reached on the original set of guidelines (see page 5)

Proposed rewording of yesterday's point (see page 15)

**“Climate camp commits to organise the obstruction of all processes which contribute to the building of a new Kingsnorth power station through publicised events, supporting secret actions and intervening in the supply chain.”
- CONSENSUS!**

Naming the blockade

There has been concern that the name we've been using, “the rolling blockade” is unclear, may sound more confrontational and we should aim to have something more creative.

Options proposed:

E.ON Face-off

The Great Coal Scuttle
Kings-nought
Take the power back
Zero Coal
Operation Coal Scuttle

The case for each was put forward:

*** E.on Face-off**

The “E.on F.off “ tag is popular, including among young people in the local area. But F-off will be off-putting to some. Changing it to “face-off” plays on the tag line, expresses what will happen, it’s clearly focussed on the brand, (

*** Great Coal Scuttle**

It’s clever, multiple meanings. Sounds like “scupper”. The meaning can be clarified

*** Kings-nought**

Simple - nought links to zero coal. But it’s not even the proposer’s favourite!

*** Take the power back**

Plays on the double-meaning of the word power to say something about our wider politics. Could also be used as a strapline even if not the name for the blockade as a whole.

*** E.on F.off**

We should keep this in contention, not be so hypersensitive about aboiding giving offence.

Small group discussion, followed by feedback:

Group 1

Agreed on Eon face-off, with “take the power back as a tag line

Group 2

Similar

Group 3

Favourites were E.on Face-off or great coal scuttle. Happy with either but preference for Eon face-off

Group 4

Also preference for Eon face-off and strapline “take the power back”

Group 5

Liked E.on Face-off and Great Coal Scuttle.

Eon F.off works better as a strap-line than a campaign name and relies on you knowing the original “E.on F.off, hence less easier for the media to explain. Great Coal Scuttle links to wider

Proposed to drop Kings-nought and Operation Coal Scuttle CONSENSUS

Proposed that we agree “Take the power back” may be a strap-line but isn’t going to be the name for the blockade.

Several groups favoured E.on face off, but Group 5 had reservations.

Proposed consensus test for E.on face.off. Several stand asides, that E.on Face-off requires someone to know the original of E.On F.Off, and the media will find this hard to explain. It could be a sub-brand for the first phase i.e. the Kingsnorth.

Proposal to use “The great coal scuttle” as the name for the wider anti-coal campaign, and use E.on face.off for actions specifically targeting E.on at Kingsnorth.

A spectrum line showed that most people were happy with Eon Face-off, v few strong reservations. Whereas there were fewer strongly in favour of Great Coal Scuttle, quite a number luke-warm and a significant group very strongly against it. Reservations were that it would go down very badly with coal workers – “climate camp wants to sink a ship full of coal workers”.

CONSENSUS!! reached on the E.on Face off, with 2 stand asides for reasons already given.

The Politics of Climate Camp

Aims – something you want to do, accomplish.

7. Education
8. Sustainable living
9. Direct Action
10. Movement building
11. Proposed 5th aim “For a workers-led transition

Principles – something close to your heart, fundamental belief.

1. Climate change is already happening and its effects will be catastrophic if we don’t act now.
2. New technology and market based solutions are not enough to address the problem. Tackling climate change will require radical social change.
3. We all need to work together in our communities to come up with solutions. We cannot rely on business and government to bring about the radical changes that are needed.

Discussion

Do we need principles?

Are the current principles good enough
Do we need additional principles?

Ruth covered the following points in her introductory speech:

- Green movement middle class people with an obsession. What to do?
- The current situation is both a crisis and an opportunity.
- Emperor is naked: we can look at this fresh.
- People angry about the banks being bailed out.
- We can now demand a complete reversal of the economy. No longer unthinkable.
- Climate Rush message: £500 million for bailing out banks. How about we save some lives?
- We work to support the economy.
- Let's put a value on things that don't have a price tag. Prioritise these things:
- Climate change equals poverty.
- Food prices, fuel prices.
- Choose targets: banner drop: feed people not the banks.
- We need to relate to what's happening in the world.

Summary of feedback

- We do need principles
- We need to express what we stand for to other movements and the public
- Communicate more clearly.
- Social justice is not well expressed
- Is it time to use the C word (anti-Capitalism)...
- Opportunity to get us out of the environmental box. There's more to us than saving polar bears
- We shouldn't develop a manifesto.
- Aims to week, lets go bolder, be more challenging
- Not enough to not rely on government, we have to challenge it
- Let's have a programme, let's be accountable
- New technology – are the words necessary?
- It's not empowering to discuss words, better to have a discussion about how we feel. Nit picking words puts people off process
- Two sets of principles our own internal housekeeping – the way we do things. Then there's the politics is it time to be more specific about what we stand for eg the C word.
- We need to make our abstracts more concrete
- We're about maximising the quality of life for everyone
- Activities to reflect our principles
- Brainstorming what we're about
- There are ideas out there we could be interfacing with better eg our feelings about the green deal could be expressed.
- Our principles don't mention inequality.
- It's not that important we change the principles. Too much stress when we formed them.

- This could be the right time to hammer them out.
- We cannot tolerate any government policy regarding tackling climate change which targets the poorest
- No borders
- We have tacit principles that aren't written down
- We think the principles are okay but this discussion is perhaps us looking for affirmation of who we are. Perhaps we feel lost. Instead of thinking where do we want to go and how do we propose to do it, we're having an identity crisis.
- Why are we having this conversation? Are we having an identity crisis?
- Or, are we simply a thinking movement that deals with reality as it changes?

Agreement areas

- Principles are okay (no one says scrap em)
- Principles could be stronger
- The C word...
- We're for quality of life, not austerity
- We need more time to discuss these issues
- We need to spend less time discussing the issues – should be planning actions with the time
- A few twinkles for more time
- Less twinkles for no more time

Counter proposal – let's just go for lunch

Another proposal - Everyone do what they want

And that's what happened...

The next gathering

London group is willing to host 13th/14th December

Decision to be decided by process

All were invited to fill in evaluation forms

The fifth aim

Proposed 5th Aim: For a workers-lead just transition

It was proposed that a working group form and deal with this, hammering out the words and include principles formation too.

Consensus not arrived at, although no blocks.

Counter-proposal – have half hour discussion/brainstorm of the fifth aim, but don't come to a decision because it's not long enough.

Proposed amendment – to allow this discussion to feed into agenda item at next gathering.

consensus on the proposal and amendment.

The discussion.

- Rob highlighted the themes raised at previous day's meeting: workers, define.
- Just transition – what's that? Does the phrase "For a workers led just transition" vocalise the social change we're after.

How would this additional aim change what we do?

We split into groups to discuss

Feedback

- Our aims are brief let's keep it that way
- Just transition may be a principle
- Just transition are great words, a great concept and should be somewhere in the aims
- The concept of workers-led just transition important but we also want to be inclusive
- We need to respond to the needs of workers.
- There's not just a chasm re workers, there's a conflict of interest
- We need something concise to match other aims
- Worker led yes, but is that too narrow?
- We need to illustrate that grassroots ideas are represented in the aim
- Compliments Transition towns
- Aim must reflect we're FOR new jobs for workers
- This fifth aim could be perceived to be inherent in the existing aims
- This should explicitly be an aim
- Not just words, we'd have to get behind this aim
- This hasn't been central to our work as many of us are not involved with workers etc
- A lot more people than workers need help with a just transition.

Proposal – let workers climate action come up with suggestions

Apparent consensus

Working groups

We were asked to clarify the following:

- What do we want on the website
- What is your remit? This needs approving
- Can you produce Jan – July 2009 budget?
- Can you nominate people to take on budget and produce it in time for next gathering
- Nominate some one from your working group to feed info to website
- Additionally re website – Each neighbourhood can have a page – only Londinium has its own page

Working group time – reporting back:

Space Group-

- email address on website,

- remit expired,
- new one on approval of proposal to implement it including people for the space,
- Jan-Jul 2008 budget done – worst case £12,200 spread over six months with deposit, bills, rates before any reductions etc.
- If decision delayed may lose potential people.
- No blocks or stand asides. **CONSENSUS**

Networking-

- lots wanted on the website,
- remit: focus on 6th December and march,
- links into NGOs to grow network,
- materials and leaflets,
- create database.
- Jan to Jul 2008 budget will do for December.
- Leaflet for 6th December – 2,000 copies about the face off. £350 budget. **CONSENSUS**
- **T-shirts - £1000 to cover costs of T-shirts and badges. CONSENSUS**

International/Copenhagen: nothing to report.

Action support:

- on website, 48 hours against Eon and link to Eon-f.off website and a way for people to join the email list,.
- already have an approved remit,
- will produce a budget for December.

£200 emergency budget. CONSENSUS

Process: no money required.

Decided next gathering London 13/14 December.