

JERSEY CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK

Minutes of the Meeting held on 25th February 2009 at the Arts Centre, Phillips Street, St. Helier

Present: Francis Binney, Mark Forskitt, Stephen Harewood, Jeremy Harris, Hazel Jones, Roger Jones, Nigel Jones, and Stephen Le Quesne.

Apologies: John du Feu, Maya and Paul Hammarsal, and Jo McAllister.

1. **J-CAN launch event:** Hazel Jones reported that Andrew Mitchell had yet to confirm whether he would be able to give a talk in April on rainforests and climate change. It was agreed to wait for another ten days to see Mr. Mitchell would be able to confirm a date and, if not, to invite Andrew Casebow to give a talk during April on 'Planet Guernsey'.
2. **Transport:** Francis Binney reported back on the public meeting held on 12th February to discuss the Town Park/Ann Court car park proposals. The meeting had discussed a variety of issues, including the need for better public transport.

As discussed at the A.G.M. in January, the meeting confirmed that 'transport' should be a campaign priority for 2009, and to this end Francis volunteered to prepare a draft policy statement for consideration by the group.
3. **Recycling:** It was noted that the States had decided earlier that day to go ahead with the plans for an incinerator at La Collette. The group agreed that it should nonetheless highlight the benefits of reuse and recycling in terms of energy use and conserving raw materials. There were a number of initiatives that could be promoted in this connection, including the Sustainable Business Forum (joint collection of certain types of waste) and the Eco-active website (publicising existing recycling schemes). It was also noted that there was considerable scope to increase recycling rates for certain materials (e.g. aluminium cans), and to change to less environmentally wasteful forms of packaging, e.g. milk packaging.
4. **Education:** Raising awareness of the issues of peak oil and climate change was seen as being a key part of J-CAN's work, and in this connection the group discussed the following potential activities –

(i) **Earth Hour:** Francis outlined the basis of the WWF's 'Earth Hour' campaign, in which individuals, organisations and businesses were being encouraged to turn off their lights for one hour between 8:30 and 9:30 pm on Saturday 28th March to show support for WWF's work against climate change. This was, however, only part of the campaign, which also aimed to persuade one billion people to sign an on-line petition in support of WWF's campaign for a 'global deal on climate change'. The 'global deal' was to be discussed in Copenhagen in December 2009, when representatives from 190 countries would be meeting to discuss a new international agreement to follow on from the Kyoto Protocol.

The meeting agreed to support the initiative, and to this end Francis volunteered to prepare a draft statement that could form the basis of a document to be circulated to interested organisations and the local media. It was noted that the Jersey Evening Post had already given front-page coverage to the event, although this had only focused on the event on 28th March rather than on the on-line petition.

Please note: The on-line petition may be accessed by clicking on the link given below. If you haven't already done so, please sign now!

http://www.wwf.org.uk/how_you_can_help/earthhour/signup/signup_s.cfm?setCookie&utm_source=FebNews&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=short

(ii) Events and exhibitions: The group agreed it would be worthwhile to organise a display stand at one or more events during the course of the year, such as the West Show or the Natural Lifestyles Exhibition. It was suggested the Environment Department might be interested in organising another Eco-Active event, along similar lines to the one held at the Howard Davies Farm two or three years ago, and Francis undertook to approach the department in this connection.

Another possible activity might be organise a stall in front of BHS or De Gruchy's in King Street.

5. **States Strategic Plan**: The Council of Ministers was in the course of developing the next States Strategic Plan, and it had invited comments from the public on its draft proposals. Mark offered to prepare a draft critique of the document on behalf of J-CAN and to circulate it to the Committee for approval prior to the closing date for comments.
6. **Food**: Publicity had recently been given in the media to the local demand for allotments, and in this connection Stephen volunteered to contact the National Trust for Jersey to see if they had any spare land available for this purpose.
7. **Sub-Groups**: The group gave further consideration to the suggestion made at the A.G.M. that sub-groups could be established to progress the work of J-CAN on different fronts, and the meeting agreed this was definitely worth pursuing. It was accordingly decided to set up sub-groups in the following areas –
 - Education/ raising awareness: Coordinator - Stephen Le Quesne.
 - Recycling: Mark will contact Nick Palmer and Maya Hammarsal to see if they are interested in working in this area.
 - Transport: Francis will contact John du Feu to see if he is interested in this area of activity.
8. **Other groups and organisations**: In support of J-CAN's work on peak oil and climate change, the following groups were identified for networking and cooperation, e.g. for circulating information and seeking support for J-CAN activities and campaigns –
 - Agile Frog Group
 - Amphibians Group (Société Jersiaise)
 - Association of Jersey Charities
 - Botany Group (Société Jersiaise)
 - Conservation Volunteers
 - Durrell (Jersey Zoo)
 - Eco-Active
 - Environment Department (Louise Magris/Olivia Copsey)
 - Guernsey Climate Action Network (G-CAN)
 - Jersey Heritage Trust
 - Jersey Organic Association
 - National Trust for Jersey
 - One World Group

- Oxfam
- Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society
- Slow Food Movement
- Sustainable Business Forum
- Women's Institutes

It was suggested there might be other relevant organisations, and those attending were asked to contact Jeremy if they had any further suggestions.

9. **Website & Facebook update:** Mark reported that 78 people were now registered on the group's Facebook site. Mark was also continuing work on establishing a J-CAN website, which would include details of events and activities, and would work with Nigel to develop a more interactive site in the longer term.

10. **Newsletter:** It was agreed to publish a J-CAN newsletter on a quarterly basis, with the first issue being circulated in March/April. To reduce postage costs the newsletter would be distributed primarily by e-mail.

Subjects to be covered in the first issue would include the following –

- Earth Hour
- Launch Event (talk by Andrew Mitchell or Andrew Casebow)
- Natinal/international stories relating to peak oil/climate change

11. **Bank account:** It was decided to establish a bank account for the Jersey Climate Action Network, with either HSBC or the Cooperative Bank being considered suitable for this purpose. Francis undertook to make the necessary arrangements on behalf of J-CAN in his capacity as Treasurer.

12. **Date of next meeting:** It was agreed the next meeting of J-CAN would take place at 8.00 p.m. on Tuesday 24th March, with the Frances Le Sueur Centre at Les Mielles being suggested as the venue (*Note: this venue has now been confirmed*).

It was also agreed that J-CAN would meet on a monthly basis, with meetings from April onwards being held on the last Tuesday of the month.

JMEH/ 8.3.09