

Newsletter 3- January 2010

Welcome to the third newsletter of the Jersey Climate Action Network. With Copenhagen behind us and the New Year just about to start, this seems a very apposite time to write the newsletter.

Copenhagen

December 18th was not a good day. The accord that was agreed was little more than face saving – Obama and the other ‘leaders’ could not have come away with anything less having made so much of the meeting in advance. Yes, many countries did pledge emission reduction targets for themselves, but we do not have the legal framework for binding targets. Without an agreed end point and timescale there can be no plan. Ask any project manager and they will confirm the old adage – failing to plan is planning to fail. In the context of climate change and emission reductions the business as usual has won that battle by default. But Copenhagen was never the goal, it was only a step to the goal to averting the worst case scenarios. The campaign is far from over.

Events

We had a stand at the Natural Living Festival in September, and showed a number of videos there on sustainable living and peak oil. The attendance was not huge on the day I was there, but that just gave more time to talk to people, and collect petition signatures. Thank–you to everyone who helped to a turn on the stand.

December 1st we had a free screening of the film Age of Stupid at St Paul's Centre. Thanks to support from the Channel Islands Cooperative Society we were able to do this at minimal cost, and were able to raise a bit towards our campaigning too with the retiring collection.

While the world leaders may have failed to deliver at Copenhagen I was impressed with the level of activity and press coverage that was achieved locally. We had over 1500 signatures to the petition that Deputy Wimberley presented to the states on the 8th December. The Council of Ministers have 8 weeks from that date to make an initial response.

J-CAN was delighted to support Maria Barnicoat's vigil in town on 12th December – one of several thousand round the world by supporters of Avaaz (see <http://www.avaaz.org/en/>). Around 50 people were there on a cold windy evening, but the communal spirit was warm. Our congratulations to Maria for organising the event.

In The Press

A number of other activities were organised locally to coincide with the Copenhagen Conference. Roger had a letter published in the JEP on 8th December (<http://www.thisisjersey.com/2009/12/08/the-evidence-for-climate-change-is-overwhelming/>) and Joy had a radio piece on her trip to the London demonstration on climate change. We also had 2 adverts jointly with Guernsey Climate Action Network (G-CAN) in the press both here and in Guernsey. Mark did 3 radio pieces on climate change and buses, culminating in a debate on the flagship Talkback programme with Senator Ferguson.

Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting will be at 8.00 p.m. on Tuesday 26th January 2010 in Room 3, Arts Centre, Phillips Street, St. Helier. All welcome. We will be discussing campaign priorities and activities for 2010, and this is your chance to badger the committee and tell us where we are going wrong. Are there burning issues we should be talking up? Come along and let us know.

Tree planting

We are hoping to have a tree planting session in February on an organic farm. Details to be confirmed.

J-CAN MEETINGS

We hold our meetings at 8.00 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month, and from February - April we will be meeting at the One World Centre, Seale Street, St. Helier on the following dates -

- Tuesday 23rd February
- Tuesday 30th March
- Tuesday 27th April

| —We have an open meeting approach, and anyone with energy and campaign ideas is welcome.

Have a happy and sustainable new year.

