



**Friends of the Earth**

**Bromley**

# October 2010 No. 274 Newsletter

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## October Meeting

Friends Meeting House,  
Ravensbourne Road, Bromley

### **Tackling Climate Change in Bromley**

*Adapting to a changing climate and meeting  
the carbon reduction commitment*

**Alastair Baillie**

*Bromley's Environmental Development Manager*

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October - 7.30pm.**

Copy for the next Newsletter must be with the Editor by  
**SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER.** Contact details inside front cover.

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***Lots about the FoE conference – see pages 10-14***

**Diary dates:**

**October 5<sup>th</sup> (Tues)**

**Bromley FoE's October meeting** – Alastair Baillie, Bromley's Environmental Development Manager on "Tackling Climate Change in Bromley", also the TRAIDCRAFT stall

**Oct 10<sup>th</sup> (Sun)**

**St Mary Cray Riverside Walk** – followed by tea at the Croft Tearoom. Meet 1.15pm at Priory Gardens (Summer House). More info below and on page 6

**Oct 16<sup>th</sup> (Sat)**

**Campaign stall, Bromley High Street, 2pm to 4pm**

**Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> (Tues)**

**Bromley FoE's November meeting** – Quaggy Waterways Action Group

**OCTOBER MEETING – TUESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

Alastair Baillie's visit was postponed from May. His talk will look at what Bromley is doing both as an organisation and across the borough to mitigate its carbon impacts and adapt to a changing climate.

The talk will touch on the situation globally and locally. Bromley's targets and progress, what is being done in practical terms and the imminent Carbon Reduction Commitment.

TRAIDCRAFT STALL – Fair Trade items – foods – stationery and some Christmas cards.

**St Mary Cray Riverside Walk and Afternoon Tea**

Join us on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October for a walk tracing the River Cray from Orpington's Priory Gardens through St Mary Cray, followed by afternoon tea at the Croft Tearoom. Our walk will be led by Ralph Palfrey, who gave his illustrated talk on Ravensbourne Riverways in April.

More information on page 6.

**Next Newsletter - copy details:**

Any news, articles, poems, questions, views etc for the next Newsletter must be with the editor **by SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

**by post** to John Street, 82 Babbacombe Road, Bromley, BR1 3LS

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The editor reserves the right to shorten contributions for space, or other, reasons

## September Auction of Pledges report – Sheila Brown

Following the plea from Andy Atkins, FoE's CEO, for a big push on Fundraising, the group decided to follow the tried and tested formula of an auction of pledges. This had happened before back in the nineties when we supported such campaigns as Oxleas Wood and Saltbox Hill SSSI.

Thank you all for getting behind this so wholeheartedly. So many people came forward with pledges or tangible items, and the list kept growing right up to the last minute with a staggering 45 lots. Local businesses we approached were very supportive, with vouchers from Waitrose in Biggin Hill, Croft Tearoom and St Mary Cray Country Market.

The variety of items included mandolin lessons, lifts to hospital, taking rubbish to the tip, a ride on a tandem, and an offer to feed somebody's cat(s) for a weekend which transmogrified into feeding somebody's ducks for a weekend! Life is certainly full of variety!

It's no use offering items without buyers – and they came forward with great enthusiasm. Our wonderful auctioneer, Dan, certainly knew how to get the bids in and many items went for double the reserve price. It really was a fun evening and people went home with items they wanted or vouchers for future experiences and pleasures.

Thank you all for your support and generosity, for providing goods and pledges, and for coming along on the night – as requested – with bulging

wallets that were not so bulging when you left.

We made an amazing £600 – far beyond our wildest dreams!

**During the second half of the meeting,** Ann Garrett took us through a review of the motions to be debated at Friends of the Earth Local Groups' Conference. These were discussed and decisions taken as to how Ann and Debbie should vote – subject to their hearing the debates and possibly changing their views.

### **Auction Items still available - Deadline for bids – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October.**

Computer lessons – own choice from word-processing, databases, spreadsheets, email including attachments, and simple or advanced searches. More advanced users could discover computer tools for writers and English language text analysis programs. Bids £20 or over.

Music Lessons (own choice) from complete beginners to intermediate covering 'decode the dots' (how to read music from scratch), classical and jazz piano, violin and singing lessons from a former tutor with the Vocaltutor network. Bids £20 or over.

House-sit, cat sit, water plants etc for up to 5 days, Bromley area, near public transport. Bids £15 or over.

A cup of tea and a good moan! Bids £5 or over.

*Please phone bids to Sheila on 01689 851605, [sheilabrown336@msn.com](mailto:sheilabrown336@msn.com)*

## Transport information – Ray Watson

### **Airport safety questioned**

Bromley FoE is supporting an initiative by some local residents' associations in calling on the council to make safety changes at Biggin Hill Airport following the crash of a Cessna business jet on houses in Farnborough that killed two crew and three passengers.

The plane had taken off from Biggin Hill and almost immediately radioed that it was returning due to engine trouble. Its flight path travelled over houses and close to the Princess Royal Hospital and several schools before it hit two houses which were, fortunately, unoccupied at the time. A fierce fire followed.

The crash happened in March 2008 but a technical inquiry by the Air Accident Investigation Branch (AAIB) was not published until this summer. As a result, residents' associations are demanding that the airport changes its safety procedures, including briefing pilots prior to take-off that they should they need to make an emergency return to Biggin Hill that they should take a route over green fields and not fly over densely-packed suburbs, the hospital and schools.

The official inquiry also referred to there being no radar capability at Biggin Hill at the time of the crash. Residents are calling for this to be remedied immediately.

Residents say these are important recommendations that should be implemented by Biggin Hill Airport Ltd, who run the airport for the owners, Bromley Council. Several associations, including Bromley FoE, have written to

the council leader, Cllr Stephen Carr, calling for urgent action.

Bromley FoE argues that nothing should stand in the way of public safety and that the council has a duty to act to protect the public from air incidents like the Cessna crash.

### **Another airport taskforce**

Once again, airports in the south east are under the spotlight. A taskforce has been set up under Aviation Minister Theresa Villiers to review the position now that Government policy is to ban expansion at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted. It aims to focus on operational matters like our crowded airspace and delays and will also inquire into the environmental impact of aviation.

Only two of the thirteen organisations in the taskforce represent consumers and environmentalists.

### **Forward thinking**

A mild salute is called for Network Rail, not everyone's favourite organisation when their journey is affected by problems on the line or through repair work.

But Network Rail has announced a forward-thinking survey of its track to forecast which parts are likely to be hit by the effects of climate change. The idea is to anticipate where flooding, violent storms or high temperatures might cause problems – such as bridges across rivers or estuaries being swept away. The network also has 150 miles of vulnerable coastal lines.

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### **Transport info *cont'd***

Much of today's network was laid in Victorian times and engineers reckon that as much as 10 per cent of it will need strengthening. And you can add to that the fact that Network Rail is already in the process of spending £160 million on improving drainage systems.

Perhaps something to ponder when your train arrives late...

### **Tax change?**

Recent articles in this column have repeatedly drawn attention – first raised by national FoE – about the aviation industry escaping VAT on its transactions – from purchasing a plane and the fuel it buys to repairs and maintenance. That may be about to change, or at least, change in part.

Currently there is no VAT levied if a plane weighs more than 8000kg on purchase and is not designed or adapted for leisure use. However, this benefit is much larger than that under EU rules. But following a request from the European Commission, the Government has agreed to harmonise its rules with Europe.

The result: from next year planes will only escape VAT if they are used by a commercial airline on international routes. If used on domestic routes, they will have to pay VAT regardless of weight.

### **E11 Eco Poets at The Urban Green Fair and FoE Conference**

*Ann Garrett writes:* I was privileged to read with the E11 Eco poets from Walthamstow recently formed by Diane Korchien, at the Urban Green Fair in Brockwell Park on September 5th where we performed in the Climate Camp tent and then later on in the Spoken Word tent.

The whole fair was most inspiring and informative organised through different zones - sustainable transport, health and healing, climate change and energy, building and technology, social justice, climate camp, and food and garden. I managed to join Lambeth FoE (part of our SE local links support) and helped with their Food Chain card-signing, and then watched an anti-oil exploitation film called 'Bloody Oil Drum 'em Out' which was a documentary filming of a mock trial demo outside the oil executives AGM in London on June 21<sup>st</sup> (which I happened to be on) interspersed with disturbing footage from Iraq and the Niger Delta.

The Eco poets (just Diane and myself) read again at a fringe event with an eco musician from Luton, David Oakley-Hill, at the FoE Conference at Reading University on Sept 11<sup>th</sup>.

We are pleased that two or three of the E11 poets will be able to join us for a presentation at our social on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

## Campaigns info, Ann Garrett + Riverside Walk

### Campaign Stalls

Many thanks to all who turned up to help at Cudham. The sun stayed out, we made a profit and about 20 campaign cards were signed which I gave to relevant FoE staff at the conference, who were very pleased.

Our next stall is outside Caffe Nero in Bromley High Street on Saturday Oct 16th from 2.00 - 400 pm and will cover both the Food Chain and Get Serious campaigns. Cllr Colin Smith the Executive Council Member for the Environment has agreed to join us, which is great news. If the weather is bad we will transfer to the Mall precinct.

### Crystal Palace Park update

The Crystal Palace Community Association is in discussion with lawyers about mounting a legal challenge against government - granted permission to build houses in the park on green sites. The London Development Agency has been given 15-year planning permission to build 180 luxury apartments, and the CPCA believes that selling the land will set a precedent for parks throughout the country.

They are, however, not opposed to whole masterplan which contains some reasonable regeneration proposals, and was officially approved in July after a public inquiry. Several of our members attended some sessions and we also wrote objecting to housing proposals on the site. It has been a long local campaign supported by our group over the years.

### Vestas Workers to open wind turbine factory

Workers who occupied a wind turbine factory on the Isle of Wight a year ago, and which eventually closed with the loss of hundreds of jobs, are to open their own business just yards from the site of their former employers.

They have launched a company called Sureblades which has just started to produce wind turbine blades. This is excellent news for creating jobs in the renewable energy industry. The first order is going to a wind energy firm in Ireland.

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### More on the St Mary Cray Riverside Walk and Afternoon Tea

Meet at 1.15 for a 1.30 start at the summerhouse in Priory Gardens. This is located at the Orpington end of the gardens; from The Priory (Library and Museum) walk through the formal gardens, turning right. It is very near the Ramsden Road entrance. For anyone who does not wish to walk but would like to join us for tea, we will be at Croft Tearoom at about 3 pm.

If people are interested, Ralph is happy to continue the walk after tea to look at some of the Heritage buildings in St Mary Cray.

Please sign up at the October meeting, or telephone Sheila on 01689 851605. (We shall need to know numbers for the tea.)

## Wind power news, from Jim Clugston

### **Great progress for Greater Gabbard**

Greater Gabbard, one of the largest offshore wind farms under construction in the world, has moved a step closer to generating 500MW of renewable electricity. The installation of all the 140 turbine foundations is now complete and thirty wind turbines are now in place.

Located 25km off the Suffolk Coast, the development is a joint venture partnership between SSE and RWE npower renewables. The first offshore turbines are expected to start producing renewable energy later this year.

The wind farm will become fully operational in 2012 when it is expected to generate enough renewable electricity for over 500,000 homes. With all 140 foundations ready, turbine assembly continues apace.

Meanwhile, preparations at the Greater Gabbard Operations and Maintenance Centre in Lowestoft are in full swing. More than £1 million has been invested in redeveloping the site to accommodate offices, stores and a high-tech control room. The centre, located in part of Lowestoft's old fish market, is already home to approximately 30 people. Around 100 people are expected to be employed at the base which is responsible for monitoring and maintaining all 140 turbines.

Jim Smith, Director of Offshore at SSE, said: " is a substantial milestone in the development of the Greater Gabbard wind farm, and demonstrates how well the project is progressing

overall. When the wind farm becomes fully operational, it will help the UK meet tough targets for renewable electricity generation."

### **New milestone generates optimism for wind power**

Renewables meet demand for electricity across north, north east for the first time.

Power from wind turbines has met the demand for electricity across the north and north east for the first time. Scottish and Southern Energy said the 700 MW of energy generated by renewables at one point during the weekend powered every home and business in Perth, Dundee, Aberdeen and Inverness.

However, the landmark moment came between 8am and 9am on a Sunday, when demand is traditionally at its lowest. It also followed a blustery weekend across the north. But the news was still greeted with optimism last night. Energy Minister Jim Mather said: "This is an exciting development, demonstrating the huge opportunities that exist for developing renewables in Scotland."

Alan Broadbent, head of engineering at SSE Power Distribution said: "This milestone demonstrates that windfarms can produce substantial amounts of energy as part of a diverse mix, and that electricity networks can accommodate it."

## FoE's Change Your World – Our Power is you + Fix the Food Chain

### Our power is you

New Director of Fundraising, Communications & Activism, Joe Jenkins, shares his views on why Friends of the Earth is uniquely powerful to bring about change.

What makes Friends of the Earth unique? The question is necessary because its answer helps us respond to other vital questions. Questions like which campaigns should we prioritise? When should we work in partnership with other organisations? When should we take the lead? How are we relevant to decision makers, the media and the general public? And why should anyone give us their time, voice or money?

Since I started I have heard identical answers to this question from our Executive Director, the new Policy & Campaigns Director, members of the Board and staff. "What makes us unique is our local groups and activists". Why? Because Friends of the Earth can authentically claim to be the grassroots environmental network, and herein lies our power.

We bring together a movement of individuals and groups that can legitimately operate internationally, nationally and locally, making us uniquely placed to inspire big solutions to big problems, while also responding to issues at a community level.

The more we grow this network, the more power we will harness to create a different environment.

### Fix the Food Chain

#### Massive leap forward

In the last couple of issues of Change your world we reported that 20 MPs were given the chance to introduce a proposed new law to Parliament in June, as part of a process known as the Private Members' Bills Ballot. So what happened next?

As a result of incredible work by campaigners across the country, Robert Ffello (Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent South) put forward the Sustainable Livestock Bill which would commit the Government to measure and reduce the global environmental impact of the UK's damaging factory farming system.

"I was shocked to find out just how much a Sunday roast can cost our planet under the factory farming system," said Robert Ffello, MP "I am determined to put this right by working with Friends of the Earth and MPs across the House to drive for planet-friendly farming that doesn't destroy wildlife, rainforests and our climate."

#### Next steps

Now the Bill exists, we need to make sure it becomes law and get real Government action to fix the food chain. As many MPs as possible need to be persuaded to attend the Bill's second reading in the House of Commons on 12 November. MPs are just back from their summer recess so now is a great time to get in touch.

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## FoE's Change Your World –Fix the Food Chain + The road to Cancun

- Keep getting friends and family to join the MOOvement by visiting [www.jointheMOOvement.com](http://www.jointheMOOvement.com)
- If you've been campaigning over the summer getting postcards signed, please send them back to us so we can forward them on to your MP. That will give them a timely reminder of how much their constituents want to see action.
- You can also ask your MP to sign the Early Day Motion (EDM 367) that backs the Bill at [www.foe.co.uk/campaigns/biodiversity/press\\_for\\_change/back\\_sustainable\\_livestock\\_bill\\_24522.html](http://www.foe.co.uk/campaigns/biodiversity/press_for_change/back_sustainable_livestock_bill_24522.html)
- And put the MOOvement Day of Action on Saturday 9 October into your diary. It will focus on getting each MP to commit to attend the second reading.

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### Demand Climate Change - The road to Cancun

The next key international climate change talks will be held at Cancun, Mexico in November. These talks must deliver more than the failed negotiations at Copenhagen last year. The road to these talks is packed with meetings and days of action. Here's your guide.

**October 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>** China session UNFCCC: An extra intercessional meeting hosted by China, where the outcomes of the Bonn session will be taken forward and delegates will start to focus on Cancun.

### Global week of action

**October 10<sup>th</sup>** - global work party (called by 350.org) for 10.10.10

**October 12<sup>th</sup>** - day of non-violent direct action for System Change not Climate Change

**October 16<sup>th</sup>** - day of action against Monsanto (called by La Via Campesina to mark World Food Day).

**EU Heads of State meeting:** Decides the EU negotiating strategy for Cancun and if the EU should increase its target from 20 to 30 per cent.

**Advisory panel on finance:** The high-level panel looks set to publish its report on how US \$100 billion can be raised. There are big questions as to the sources: is it public or private? Will it be the Robin Hood Tax?

**Pre-COP meetings:** Mexico will invite selected of countries to engage in bilateral discussions prior to Cancun. We have many concerns as to which countries will be invited and which excluded.

### November 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>

Stop Climate Chaos lobby  
Thousands of people will tell their MPs to deliver strong climate policies in the UK, and push for significant progress towards a fair, ambitious and binding global climate deal at Cancun.

### Cancun COP 16

The key issues will be the state of the climate and what progress there will be on forests and finance. Rich countries are resisting pressure to show progress on emissions cuts, and are instead seeking an agreement similar to the Copenhagen Accord to legitimise their inaction. We will be campaigning for real progress.

### **Overall impressions**

It was a fantastically inspiring and informative event. I now understand much more about how FoE is set up nationally and internationally. I came away with a renewed enthusiasm for the environmental movement in general and the role that FoE in particular has to play.

### **Opening session:**

*Power and Politics – how can we create a different environment – a discussion with Ken Livingstone and Phillip Bond*

Ken opened with a very smooth presentation in which he talked about his own green credentials. I noted down two particular points that he made:

- We should not be afraid of making alliances with big business to convince Government to change policy
- We need to get it right or nothing like we recognise as a civilisation will exist at the end of this century.

Phillip Bond is credited with being the man to sell the idea of the Big Society to David Cameron. He gave what I considered to be an unconvincing argument for how key a role the Big Society could play in addressing environmental issues.

He started off raising a few shackles in the audience by suggesting that people in the green movement tend to lecture people and tell them what they should be doing. He thinks that the environmental movement had become disconnected from people and their

self interest. He made a distinction between the 'far and inconceivable' (floods in Pakistan and carbon dioxide) and the 'near and graspable' (our local streets and flowers in the part).

The Big Society idea implies that we should concentrate on the small scale first and that, if we all do this, the larger problems will somehow be solved. For example making our own landscapes more attractive by planting flowers and encouraging bees will support biodiversity. And that by bringing up our children well to care about those around them will create an empathy with those in other countries.

He felt that the environmental movement had made a mistake in allowing itself to be captured by the left. He also believes that local ethic is more persuasive of behaviour change than the state.

In a discussion afterwards a few of us agreed that even if localisation is an answer, the amount of time it would take for it to form and make changes from the ground up would be too long to solve the urgent problems we face now.

### **Introduction to Friends of the Earth**

I attended a brief session on this topic which ran through the history of FoE and its achievements. It was useful to understand the structure of FoE, for example the how the Board operates and a bit more about the set up at Underwood Street, for example national FoE employees 153 staff.

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**Power analysis and context setting**  
– our perspective (Andy Atkins, Exec Director and Craig Bennett (Policy and Campaigns Director)

Andy started off on quite a sober tone making comments along the following lines:

- We are facing a situation of evolution or extinction – adapting to the new environment (the political and economic) is crucial.
- The battles on climate change and biodiversity – we are not winning!
- He expressed concern about cutting back the state as he did not think that people would make the necessary changes voluntarily
- In his conversations with the public he was detecting an increasing confusion. He is of the view that most people want to do something, but do not know what to do. He put forward the idea of an Earth Course much like the Alpha course for Christians.

He carried on to say that whilst there are plenty of threats to FoE aims, there are also potential opportunities. For example our local group structure is not at odds with the localisation and decentralisation political agenda. The converse though is also true; with diffused power it will become harder to influence people, which means that in order to succeed FoE will need more people.

Craig then took over and gave a bit of background on himself. He is returning to FoE after working at the University of Cambridge programme for sustainable leadership and the Prince

of Wales corporate leaders group on climate change. In these roles Craig has had access to the Chief Executives of some of the world's major companies and stated that on a personal level they "get it".

For example the head of an oil company surprised him by saying that what is needed is a complete change in the economic system. Likewise a retailer had surprised him by saying that in the future the role of the retailer would not be about trying to sell as much to people as they could but about selling to customer their fair share of the earth's resources.

The key point that Craig appeared to want to communicate was his view that FoE should concentrate activities in a few areas where results can really be achieved and that all our campaigns should link back to sustainable development.

Craig finished off with a little philosophy on how we can sell our ideas and visions. Firstly to start with where people are and then give them something to think about.

He quoted Aristotle's treatise on rhetoric:  
Ethos – have good character and be believable  
Pathos – use emotional appeal  
Logos – the use of reasoning and research to construct an argument.

How relevant this will feel in Bromley High Street I am not sure.

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### **England's Power Shift**

I accidentally went to (it was not quite what I was expecting) one rather hard going session about the changes to planning regulations in the UK that are in the process of being made since the coalition Government came to power. Much of this was not applicable to London.

The overall theme is one of localisation again, but one of the speakers from the Town & Country Planning Agency described the new structure as 'not empowerment but abandonment'

### **Marinet AGM and workshop**

It was really interesting to learn more about marinet. I had not realised that it is made up of such a small group of people (less than ten it appeared). They really are very dedicated. They have managed to produce a wonderful colour document that they plan to use in their campaign to influence the review of the Common Fisheries Policy. They will send us a copy, but in the meantime you can see it on their website [www.marinet.org.uk](http://www.marinet.org.uk). This booklet will be one of the tools they use to communicate to ministers at the OSPAR Ministerial Conference in Norway to which they are sending two delegates.

They are currently trying to put together a symposium or "seaposium" as they are calling it of scientific evidence supporting their case for no-take marine reserves, but have come up against a lack of willingness by scientists to let them use their data.

### **Mid-term review (2010-2011) of FoE Strategic Plan**

There was a long session where local groups were asked to contribute their ideas for the design of the upcoming mid-term review of the Strategic Plan. The review is due to take place between late autumn 2010 and summer 2011. The aim is to examine the plan and adjust parts of it, if necessary to make sure that it helps them to achieve all their future work.

### **Campaign training session – local carbon budgets**

This was an informative session that discussed how local carbon budgets might be set, how progress might be measured and what starting point should be used.

A fantastic piece of software called CO2 80/50 was demonstrated that enabled you to estimate all sorts of variables for the year 2050 for a town and a country as a whole (e.g. population level, industrial mix, proportions of power type used locally, make up of the national grid).

The software would then calculate what percentage change in carbon emissions would result. A university researcher is being employed to test the software in a number of towns worldwide. The test sessions are set up to involve all the key stake holders in a town.

In discussion with each other the variables are decided upon and the results assessed.

## FoE Conference report – Ann Garrett

### **FoE Conference Motions Report,**

The following 5 main motions were passed with a healthy majority: - Marine Biodiversity, GM Campaigning, Broad Range of Campaign Expertise and Media, A National Eco-literacy Campaign : Youth and Education Network, and Developing Human Rights and Justice Component of Environmental Campaigning.

The debates and discussions were passionate and interesting, but very good humoured, and there was a generally supportive attitude. They all went to time and were extremely well chaired.

The most controversial one was on education which received the smallest majority, as concerns were expressed about funding for a full-time education worker. The GM motion was also debated quite hotly, but in the end most people thought that it was important to include it in campaigning such as the Food Chain, rather than have a separate GM campaign.

There was no time for any other motions, but it was good to have ours on Renewables Programmes for Public Buildings listed, and many thanks go to Richard for proposing the resolution and to Ray for all the detailed background work.

The FoE Board motions on Board Elections and the Motions Process were passed, which was a good thing as it means there will be less requirement for background information for motions in future, which will make the whole process less laborious.

### **International Workshop**

This was most inspiring and informative and dealt with the complexities of the international negotiations and what it means for decisive action on climate change. The session aimed to deepen our understanding of the international climate negotiations, including the power politics within it and who is arguing for what and why.

Here is a summary of some of the main points :-

Real climate legislation lies within the influence of the US, and Friends of the Earth International is putting the pressure on more affluent countries to improve their commitment to the Copenhagen Accord, by being a critical pathway for UN negotiations. FoE UK also aims to move our country to a better position of influence and example.

FoE Europe - e.g. countries such as Hungary and Finland, are about to sign up to the Big Ask, and work within the Climate Change committee. There are challenges as to who controls the finance, and it is vital to have good UN governance through the UN Convention, with clear regulatory measures and less carbon trading.

Fighting for the rights of indigenous people is paramount, and legal expertise is required on new agreements, with the EU and UK decision-makers being a voice for Southern countries.

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## Ann's conference report cont'd + Making planning work (Graham)

### **Ann's conference report cont'd**

There are 31 FoE groups in Europe, and it is their job to convince the EU of the economic benefits of being ambitious and supporting the UN legitimate process. Developing a good communication and activism strategy is essential and local FoE groups have an important role to play.

Finally we were reminded of the Nov 5th/6th big lobby of Parliament - Stop Climate Chaos Coalition for the Big Climate Connection with other activist international groups involved. On Nov 25th there is also a large demo in Brussels + a London Campaign Against Climate Change action.

The workshop ended in an uplifting manner through the speakers and discussion contributors stressing that working internationally brings great solidarity and optimism in the fight to confront dictatorial regimes and multi-national companies.

(I will report on the film workshop 'Beyond the Tipping Point' and the conference plenary session in the November newsletter)

### **Graham Hemington writes re Making planning work for Climate Change**

Graham has recently sent this email to Greg Clark (Communities and Local Government) and Chris Huhne (Energy and Climate Change).

Planning is a vital tool in delivering the Government's commitments in the UK Climate Change Act and EU renewable energy target.

I am concerned that the guidance for local authorities on tackling climate change and delivering renewable energy projects (PPS, Planning for a Low Carbon Future), drawn up following consultation earlier this year, will not be issued in its current form.

This planning guidance is needed alongside new legislation in this session of Parliament for local carbon budgets to drive ambitious emissions cuts by helping local authorities to lead effective carbon reduction strategies across their local areas.

I urge you to incorporate the Planning for a Low Carbon Future guidance into the new national planning framework.

I look forward to hearing from you about how these concerns will be addressed.

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### **Waste and Recycling (Annette Rose)**

There is to be a review of waste policy in England. The government is asking for submissions from the public about what we feel works and doesn't work and what we would like fixed. If you would like to have your say, go to [www.foe.co.uk/get\\_involved/natural\\_re\\_sources.html](http://www.foe.co.uk/get_involved/natural_re_sources.html).

Friends of the Earth is asking for higher targets for recycling and is calling for the end to private financing for incineration, stressing the need to aim for true zero waste, rather than the current ambition of zero waste to landfill.

## Bromley Friends of the Earth - List of Contacts

### Co-ordinators:

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### Newsletter Editor:

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### Membership Secretary:

Dan Sloan 01689-838819

### Merchandising:

Anne Clark 020-8289-8483

### Teas:

Anne Clark / Ivy Smith

### Campaigns –

### Transport:

Ray Watson 01959-571566

### Climate and Energy:

Ann Garrett 020-8460-1295

### Food and Ethical Farming:

Peter Gandolfi details below

### Planning and development:

Tamara Galloway 01689-855352  
*tamaragalloway@yahoo.com*

### Waste and Recycling

Annette Rose  
*annette.rose1@ntlworld.com*

### Bromley FoE web site:

**[www.bromleyfoe.co.uk](http://www.bromleyfoe.co.uk)**

Peter Gandolfi  
*famgando@hotmail.com*

### Letters to the Editor

Why not write us a letter if you have a strong opinion on something or just want to share your thoughts. Send them in and perhaps even start a discussion - who knows.

### Need a lift to meetings?

If you require a lift to Bromley FoE meetings, please contact Ray Watson or Sheila Brown on the numbers shown above.

### Disclaimer

Please note that any opinion expressed in this Newsletter is not necessarily that of Bromley Friends of the Earth or Friends of the Earth.

**Reuser Column**  
**Don't throw It away - Reuse It!**

If you have any items to sell, or anything that you require, please send details to the Editor. Items will be displayed for three months, the number in brackets after an item indicating for how long it has appeared. Could you please contact us if an item has been sold/obtained, so that it can be removed from the newsletter.

Any donations to Bromley FoE generated from this column gratefully received!

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**Non-members' Section**

If you are not a member of Bromley Friends of the Earth, BFoE, then hello. We are an active local group affiliated to national Friends of the Earth concerned with promoting the understanding of environmental issues. We also campaign on these issues at a local, national and international level.

If you would like to know more about who we are and what we do please contact either of our co-ordinators, Sheila Brown (01689-851605) or Ann Garrett (020-8460-1295); their email addresses are on the previous page. Alternatively, you can come along to one of our free monthly meetings held on the first Tuesday of every month at the Friends Meeting House, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley (that's towards the bottom of the High Street and on the right going south). If you would like to join us then please fill in and send us the form below.

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**Membership Application/Renewal\* Form** (\*please delete as appropriate.)

Please return this form to: **Bromley FoE, 2 Bucks Cross Cottages, Chelsfield Village, Orpington, Kent, BR6 7RN.** Other enquiries regarding the group should be sent to: Birch House, Grays Road, Westerham, Kent, TN16 2JB; phone 01959-571566, email [r.watson865@btinternet.com](mailto:r.watson865@btinternet.com).

I wish to support Bromley Friends of the Earth and enclose my £8 annual subscription. I also enclose a donation (optional) of ..... To help towards the cost of producing and distributing the monthly Newsletter.

Name.....

Address.....

..... Postcode.....

Email Address.....

Do you have any hobbies or interests that may be of use to the group?

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