

Minutes of Frack Free Cleveland .

29th August 2013 held at Marine Hotel Saltburn -by-the-Sea.Cleveland. TS12 1DZ.

Introductions.

David T.

Frank.

Neil B.

Jay.

Maggie,

Boz,

Debra.

Peter.

Kirk

Karl.

Anna.

David S.

Annette.

Joe M.

Carol.

Laura.

Faye

No apologies for absences.

Agenda Items.

1 Neil B. to propose a name change of the group to encompass the move away from Fracking as the correct terminology to include UCG as the NE is not fracking.

2 Neil B. proposed that a central meeting point to be held. Networking all UCG groups. A meeting to be held in the future to outreach and inspire.

3 Any amendments to the leaflet.

4. A venue for a Resource meeting.

5. Any other business.

Meeting convened at 7pm.

David S submitted that Consensus hand signals should be applied during our meetings. If there is general agreement within the group then wavy hands are shown. This makes it much clearer to the facilitator which way the discussion is moving and whether the discussion should be remoted . The first hour should be a discussion about items concerning Frack Free Cleveland. The second half should be matters concerning our relationship with other groups outreach and networking.

He also suggested that when dealing with Media one should accredit the group as a whole. Jay said that press releases should still remain as Frack free Cleveland keeping the name of the writer of the article.

1 st agenda point.

Neil Bye submitted that the name of the group should be changed to encompass the whole extreme energy aspect of our group. He stated that he has ascertained the unlikelihood of Fracking to take place in our area. However, he did concede that Fracking still may take place to the South of the Moors. He proposed that if this was the case the name could revert to Frack free Cleveland.

Fracking and Extraction was suggested as it was generally thought that the term Fracking was a term which was familiar to everyone and Extreme energy was not as well known. Ellie conceded that the term Fracking is misleading as UCG is the process they will use in our area. Neil maintained that we will look stupid if we are protesting against UCG and retain the group name Frack Free.

Karl said the name should be holistic like Friends of Redcar.

Ellie also made the point that if our Facebook page has 250 members then we cannot change the name.

Neil suggested the name Cleveland for clean energy. Boz wanted to keep fracking in the title of the group as this was a term new members could recognize.

It was put to consensus ten people agreed to keep the name to and two stood aside. A second test achieved consensus.

It was agreed to review this decision in 6 months time. February meeting. To be put on the agenda.

2. Neil Bye submitted the proposal that there should be a central Northern point that all protest groups should meet. He suggested Sunderland as a venue. Ellie said there was already networking and outreach in place with Tyne and Wear groups. Greenpeace had a stall in Newcastle. This was both raising awareness of extreme energy and improving involvement within the movement.
3. A central meeting point was to be mooted at the following meeting of FFC.
4. There is outreach with Scotland and strong affinity links with the fellow UCG groups in Scotland as our nearest allies.
5. Anna stated that the United Nations had already acknowledged that renewables were the most viable alternative to the use of Extreme Energy for energy needs in the U.K.
6. Ellie stated that the R.M.T. Had already put a veto on their workers to be employed within the Fracking industries.
7. The leaflet was discussed. This was to be edited by the group. As Neil B. had used a software which could not be edited without said software, if amendments were to be made then the group were to communicate with Neil B. at the meeting and he would make the changes. Jay suggested additions to the leaflet. Which Neil B. will attend to. No other comments were made
8. Joe Mac said to hit the Fracking industry the hardest would be to financially cripple it. By questioning all the safety measures and ensuring they are all in place would ensure a loss in financial terms. If it not feasibly profitable then they would not consider its viability in the oil and gas industry. However, this was contended as it was put forward that money was not a problem within the industry. It was also stated that renewables should be pushed and that we should follow Germany as they have achieved parity.
9. Ellie also said that there were members who were still very active within the group who were not present at the meetings. They concerned themselves with letter writing and asking poignant questions.
10. In a general discussion over the proposed leaflet Carole asked where the nearest point of extraction was to our immediate vicinity. David said it was Seaham, it had provisional and exploratory licences.
11. There were a plethora of questions regarding the possibility of UCG in Cleveland. This arose from the fact that the Frack Off website seemed to be very misleading. The purpose of Westerdale also surrounded by confusion. It was decided to clarify UCG and gas licences.
12. Annette proposed a hall for making banners for future demonstrations.
13. Venues to be looked into were Saltburn Community Centre. Saltburn Allotment buildings.
14. Old School Toc H. A date to be set before the bike ride. A banner could be made to be unfurled at the end of the bike ride.
15. The bike ride which had been proposed by Horizontal was still in its early preparatory stages and the details had not been finalised. However, more definite details about the starting point and exact destination points would be confirmed at a later date. It was confirmed that a

tea party, vegan cakes, drummers and the wearing of fancy dress would be part of the finale ceremony.

16. Studsvik is a possible venue for the bike ride. This firm, which specialises in offering technical services to Cuadrilla managing their radioactive waste, could be an endpoint.
17. At this point the group was disrupted by a couple who complained that our meeting had spoiled their evening. It was explained why we were having this meeting and it was their world too, but, unfortunately this fell on deaf ears. We were forced to reconvene in the lobby. As an aside, it was interesting point that brought us very quickly down to earth that we are in a ghetto and it is not only the big corporations we are fighting but the ignorance of the public.
18. Jay proposed the plans for Global Frackdown Day 19th October 2013. A people not profit gig as a joint effort with Frack free Cleveland to be held downstairs in the Marine Hotel. It was unanimously agreed by an overwhelming show of hands.
19. Davis S. proposed that he will give a UCG presentation to a group of people over a total of 6 to any venue in our area. He has printed flyers and leaflets.
20. It was agreed that a stall is a good networking tool.
21. Maggie described her meeting with Tom Blenkinsop, M.P. Tom is the Labour M.P. for Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland. He explained to her that he was pro fracking as long as it had adhered to all safety measures.
22. It was stated that Anna Turley the new Labour candidate for Redcar is against Extreme Energy in this area.
23. The surgery of Tom Blenkinsop is to take place 30/08/13 between 3.30pm and 4.30pm. It was suggested that some of the group should go along and have a chat with Tom.
24. David S. said that Reclaim the Power were making a film and they would be in touch at a later date with further details about the groups possible involvement.
25. Maggie is to book a room for a Resource meeting on 17/09/13. Materials to be obtained to make banners and placards. It is to be held at The Old School, Marske Lane.
26. A discussion ensued about the viability of Gov Uk petition sites. One thousand signatures is required for the subject to be discussed in Parliament. Ellie said that if a petition was made then this would be the most viable and productive method.
27. JoeM.said that Carole, Faye and Laura had agreed to help in fundraising.
28. There was a call out for a Facilitator for the next meeting. Ellie said she would do it.
29. It was agreed that all relevant points had been covered and the meeting ended at 8.50pm.