

**Agenda for SECA steering group - Tuesday 2nd April 7.30-9.30pm,
Quaker Meeting House, Horsham**

Agenda item	
<p>1. Steering group + introductions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present: Tony Whitbread, Carrie Cort, Nicola Peel, Sally and Geoff Barnard, Ronnie Reed, Jay Mercer, Karen Park, Belle Hard, Pat Smith, Catherine Edminson, Alison Marshall, Helen Whittington, Hattie Payne, Tom Broughton • Apologies from Pauline, Mark, Brian, Emma, Clive , Michele, Mark • New members of steering group Tom Broughton (Chichester TT) Hattie Payne (Hassocks) has volunteered to be youth rep <p>Observing: Fiona Addison Smith (CPRE) Jenny (Climate Reality trained) Kalyan Tanksale (Researcher on MA course at IDS, Sussex Uni) Richard Payne (Hatties dad)</p> <p><i>NB There is now a spreadsheet with all steering group names and emails on the SECA googledrive under 'contacts'</i></p>
<p>2. County councils</p>	<p>SURREY climate emergency motion 19th March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback was given by Pat and Belle. The climate emergency motion was not approved. Pat described a 'poisonous mix' of climate change deniers, ignorance and complacency on the council. SECA may be able to contribute to some offer some education sessions in the future. But it will need a long slow process of engagement to move things on. We won't lose heart! Pat and Belle may need help in reaching out to other groups in Surrey to help with this. ? Surrey Wildlife Trust TONY to check and ask for contact for SECA <p>WEST SUSSEX climate emergency motion 5th April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We discussed the arrangements and approach to take. Press releases were sent out. Hattie agreed to do a youth rep statement (<i>which was read out at the council meeting- well done Hattie</i>) <p><i>NB April 5th from SB: the climate emergency motion was passed unanimously with some amendments , and the council voted to 'note the call' for a declaration rather than declare one. Annoying, but it was a positive outcome and they want to engage with SECA via a working group. Congratulations on everyones input, great turn out, public gallery was full. We can make this a turning point, they are listening to us.</i></p> <p>EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are not aware of any motions in the pipeline. Ann Link from Lewes has emailed to say she is talking her county councillor and it sounds as though things need to move gradually. Hastings has already declared and may be able to act as a good example. <p>TONY will see if he can find any ways in to ESCC via officers he knows through SWTrust.</p> <p>FUTURE RELATIONS WITH COUNTY COUNCILS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SECA may be able to offer education sessions for councillors NICOLA, CARRIE, JAY to confer + climate reality leaders

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SECA will want to engage with councils on what actions to take via liaison/working groups . Tony, Geoff, Sally, Jay, Carrie, Nicola, Jenny , CPRE and Michele Furtado have volunteered that they might be interested to do this. <p><i>NB There is a spreadsheet of progress with different councils on google drive under 'specific councils'</i></p>
<p>3. District/borough councils and local elections</p>	<p>UPDATE ON PROGRESS WITH DISTRICT AND BOROUGH COUNCILS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adur and Worthing petitions for their councils to declare a climate emergency are in progress. We all need to keep up the impetus to get more signatures ACTION ALL- if you have contacts who live or work or study in Adur or Worthing. <p>Adur https://www.gopetition.com/petitions/adur-to-be-zero-carbon-by-2030.html Worthing https://www.gopetition.com/petitions/worthing-to-be-zero-carbon-by-2030.html?fbclid=IwAR0TicB0zfRMtKRPMdbapjanwltzBpGNJW036u8pcvDVF6fVqQDiY6dTTYM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Horsham – Tony, Geoff and Sally have met with HDC . Jonathan Chowen, Adam Chalmers and Barbara Child. Positive discussions, but Jonathan said they are needing to tread carefully and go slowly to bring councillors along. Tony is engaging with them on an Environment Conference and Env Strategy and a visit to Knepp castle rewilding project for councillors. We are building a good relation with them for the future, though with local elections coming up the ground is a bit fluid. Lewes- Lewes DC passed a resolution in Nov 2018. It did not declare a climate emergency, but agreed significant steps .It agreed to set up a 'task and finish' group to look at reducing carbon emissions and to appoint a director level officer to take responsibility for this. Ann Link from Lewes is engaging with them. <p>SECA CAMPAIGN IN LEAD UP TO DISTRICT AND BOROUGH ELECTIONS ON MAY 2nd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is our opportunity to make climate change a big issue for both candidates and voters in the local elections, and to raise the challenge for all newly elected councils to declare a climate emergency Preliminary approaches: SECA contacts have been made with all the political parties to try to influence their campaign literature. This has mainly been in the Horsham and Worthing areas, but news has hopefully spread wider. Greens, Lib Dem and Labour parties have welcomed the SECA approach and some have mentioned it in their leaflets. Conservatives have not taken it up officially, though we are hearing that some individual candidates are supportive. Some candidates are already signing our pledge cards https://seclimatealliance.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Pledge-card.pdf We discussed the actions that SECA could suggest to member groups

These are the suggestions (and will be sent out very shortly to the SECA mailing list – **SALLY**). For action by **ALL** !

1. That member groups send ONE letter on the groups behalf to each candidate standing for election- JUST IN THEIR AREA, and JUST FOR DISTRICT OR BOROUGH COUNCILS not parish. The letter will ask them to confirm that they would support a climate emergency declaration if elected. **SALLY** is preparing a template letter heres a draft. **JAY** will look up various council websites to see if he can find easy ways to locate the list of candidates that we can pass on. **JAY** offered his services to help SECA members locate lists of candidates if they are stuck. Not all candidates will have their addresses displayed, groups may need to write c/o the candidates local party. Phone calls can also be a very effective way of engaging, so groups may decided to do this as well, if they have a contact number.
2. That member groups approach candidates to put their name to the SECA pledge card , <https://seclimatealliance.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Pledge-card.pdf> take a picture of them holding it up then share it on their social media and tag/share to SECA or email us the picture so that we are aware of it. *NB Quite a few candidates have done this already, we are sharing on FB but may need to work out a way of displaying on the website eg a Hall of Fame ?* **GEOFF**. *Sally is keeping a record of any she hears of, so please let her know through SECA email when a new pledge is signed.*
3. That groups use posters to raise the issue of climate change in the elections , and urge people to USE THEIR VOTE for climate action. So many people ignore local elections , the number actually voting is small, so new people voting with the climate in mind could make a big difference, especially amongst the young. *Theres a poster attached we have knocked up quickly, if anyone can do a better or different job please have a go and we can share on the SECA website. The SECA logos are on the Google drive.*
4. That groups raise climate change and climate emergency in hustings, meetings and discussions.

How do we spread the word widely beyond the areas where SECA has members?

TONY will write a blog of his personal view, including a link to these SECA suggestions , and see if Sussex and Surrey Wildlife Trusts and CPRE can include them in newsletters.

We don't have many links in Surrey, **PAT** will try to contact groups in Reigate, Redhill and Godalming. If anyone else has contacts in groups in Surrey or East Sussex, once you have the SECA suggestions document please send the SECA suggestions document straight to them, and ask them to sign up to SECA! **ALL**

South Downs Network was also mentioned?

Involve more faith based groups like Eco churches

4. Lancaster Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geoff has done a report back on climate emergency conference https://seclimatealliance.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Headlines-from-Lancaster-Climate-Emergency-Conference.pdf • It was a very worthwhile trip and Geoff made some good contacts, particularly with the organizer Kevin Frea and the Hastings councillor who is leading on this, after their climate emergency declaration.
5. Media strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a SECA press list' on the googledrive under 'contacts' . Please add any good press/media contacts that you have to this spreadsheet. ALL • GEOFF will do a press release before/after the WSCC demo/ motion and on the local election campaigns • If anyone knows of a contact (preferably with a little experience) who could help with press releases please let us know ALL
6. Communications/ social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website, Twitter, FB going well. PAT will do a report on the Dorking climate emergency week, which was very successful, to go on the SECA website so that others can gain from their experience. • Another 'call to action' needs to go out soon after this meeting on SECA's suggestions for local elections. SALLY will pull this together. • We should send another newsletter out in mid April which is more chatty with news of whats been happening in the election campaigns and in local groups etc CLIVE and SALLY
7. Membership list and mailing list	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on new member groups. Hastings TT, Scaynes Hill Sustainability Group, CPRE, FOE, CAGNE, Blackwater Valley FOE, Sustainability Centre East Meon, Permaculture Magazine. NB Horsham Churches Together needs to be added, also Sussex and surrey Wildlife Trusts TONY to give contacts. • Update on mailing list/mailchimp - Viviane Doussy is helping to keep this up to date- many thanks Viv. <i>NB List of member groups is on google drive and website</i>
8. SECA in the future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do we want SECA to be/do in the future? We started a quick discussion on this, but we aim to spend more time on it at the next steering meeting and/or organize a half day workshop for all SECA members to be invited to explore this in more detail. Quick initial thoughts summarized by Jay: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education and communication. In particular, at this stage, concentrating on the Climate Emergency notion- why this is so important right now. 2. Activism and lobbying network with weight and non-party political influence. 3. Human database- sharing of networks, experience, tactics, events. 4. Our range of specialist knowledge and people to help councils.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was talk of an Educational Subgroup of SECA for the future. NICOLA, CARRIE, JAY to confer + climate reality leaders <p>We also had feedback from Kalyan Tanksale, the MA student observing our meeting from Inst of Development Studies. These are his questions: How do we tap into our collective potential most fully to be most effective? How do we engage with others beyond this group of like minded people? How can we make our outreach and education more participatory, more engaging, more sustained?</p> <p>There's some challenges!</p>
<p>9. Date of next meeting</p>	<p>Tuesday 14th May 7.30-9.30pm venue to be confirmed, maybe nearer Worthing next time?</p>