

# Climate Emergency Manchester

FORTNIGHTLY BULLETIN #002, 29 April 2019

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Thanks for taking a copy of our first (and perhaps last?) *paper* bulletin, produced especially for the Extinction Rebellion Manchester meeting on Monday 29 April. If you have any questions, suggestions, criticisms, offers of help, please do get in touch – our details are at the top of the page.

## News

The campaign is picking up speed. We've had one letter in the Manchester Evening News already.

On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April over 60 people signed the online petition.

We're beginning to build connections outside the usual eco-bubble (not that we intend to ignore people within it!) and we're asking for invites to speak at any events about the future of Manchester, or its present difficulties. Meanwhile, we are trying to improve the website and the general operating of the campaign.

## Thanks

To all those who have begun to collect paper signatures!  
To all those who have used social media to publicise the campaign.

Thanks to Hannah Knox and Anne Tucker, who did "milestone interviews" for passing 150 and 200 signatures online.

## Things we want your help with in the next 2 weeks

- As ever, asking your friends/family/ acquaintances to sign the petition and to get involved – at whatever level they feel appropriate – in local climate activism.
- On Wednesday Jeremy Corbyn will be talking about a climate emergency declaration in Parliament – please tweet etc about the Climate Emergency Manchester campaign
- Collecting signatures at the following events (and any others let us know)
- May Day march in Manchester, 5 May.
- Publicise the "What Next for Climate Action in Manchester?" meeting on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at the Friends Meeting House

## The text of our petition:

***"We the undersigned petition the Council to declare a climate emergency, with a target to be "zero carbon" by the year 2030, with a proportionate share of Manchester Airport's emissions (35.5 percent owned by the Council) included in the carbon budget it sets."***

## Advice for people collecting signatures on paper

- Have your pen tied to the clipboard with string, or else have lots of spare pens
- Have compliments slips to hand out to anyone who signs, and to those who can't because they are not eligible. Ask everyone, regardless, to share the address with friends, family, work colleagues, acquaintances etc.
- Explain that people must print clearly, and give the address which gives them eligibility to sign. E.g. if they live outside Manchester but work or study, they should give their work/study address, including street address and postcode if they know it.
- If you've time, please emphasise that the petition is about connections, so we're keen to do workshops and talks with community groups, religious groups, trade union groups, you name it

## Metrics

Events attended to get signatures (an incomplete list):  
School Strike, Letters to the Earth, Fridays for the Future, Carbon Coop AGM, Greater Manchester Housing Action event,

Number of people filling in contact form: 17

Number of online signatures	274
Number of paper signatures in possession of organisers	145
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>419</b>

## Our three aims:

1. Help connect old and new 'concerned citizens' in Manchester
2. Make it easier for concerned citizens to have conversations with other Mancunians
3. Get (at least!) 4000 signatures and so force Manchester City Council to debate our motion.

**May 23- Public Meeting: "What Next for Climate Action in Manchester?"**

# What next for **CLIMATE ACTION** in Manchester?

On **Thursday 23 May**, on the eve of the next Youth Strike for Climate, the crucial question of 'what next?' will be discussed at a free public meeting at the **Friends Meeting House, 6 Mount St.** Speakers will include **Emma Greenwood** from **Youth Strike for Climate**, and representatives from **Climate Emergency Manchester, Rising Up! Manchester Families, GM Unite Community Branch Climate Group** and **Extinction Rebellion Manchester.**

Mingling from 7pm for a 7.30pm start. The speeches will be no more than 5 minutes each, and the meeting itself will be genuinely interactive and networks-building. And at least filmed (hopefully live-streamed, in case you can't make it)

## **Other dates for your diary**

**Friday May 24** School Strike for Climate #4. 12 noon, St Peter's Square

**Saturday May 25** Envirolution Festival, Platt Fields

**Saturday June 1** Groundswell (Friends of the Earth event at the Mechanics Institute

**Saturday June 1** Carnival of Creatures, Manchester Museum

## **Lessons we learned the hard way**

- There are only so many hours in the day
- If you are not super explicit about how to sign, people will give their home address
- It is possible to say a lot in 90 seconds if you have a very clear plan
- There are a lot of people willing to listen at the moment when you say climate change (but this too shall pass)

At the moment there are two key personnel – Marc Hudson and Calum McFarlane. We'd love to have more people helping co-ordinate things, so if you're interested in a few months of unpaid, unglamorous but vitally important work, then do get in touch via **[climateemergencymanchester@gmail.com](mailto:climateemergencymanchester@gmail.com)**

- We are always looking for those many hands who make light work. If you have an hour, a day, a week, please get in touch. We will not guilt-trip you into doing more than you want to do!
- If you can get us invited to a meeting (the bigger the better) to talk with people and collect signatures, please get in touch.
- If you have ideas or suggestions about any aspect of our work (and we know, the website is terrible still), please get in touch.