



Climate Justice:

Opportunities for Action & Witness autumn 2018

This year Quakers in Britain centrally and Friends over the country are busy in their witness for climate justice. There are several opportunities to get involved coming up. Four key ones are mentioned here. Whatever you do (or are interested in doing) for witness on climate justice, please contact Ben Foley at Quaker Peace & Social Witness: benf@quaker.org.uk 020 7663 1056

No Faith In Fracking: last Friday of each month

Fracking in the UK is on the cusp of moving from test drilling to 'production' at Cuadrilla's site at Preston New Road near Blackpool. That means now is a particularly appropriate time to visit to show our witness against fracking. Quaker-led 'No Faith In Fracking' days happen on the last Friday of every month, including Meeting for Worship 1-2pm – so Fridays 28 September, 26 October and 30 November. Bring a chair and an umbrella! Location – Cuadrilla Fracking Site, Preston New Road, Blackpool PR4 3PF. The site is on the route of the no 61 bus between Preston and Blackpool (♿ accessible), and there is car parking at Maple Farm. Contact:



NoFaithInFracksGroup@ProtonMail.com. web: fb.me/NoFaithInFracks or nofaithinfracking.org

Contact your MP on climate change

Whatever party your MP represents, it's useful to write to them asking them to stand up for climate justice. This December, governments are gathering for COP 24 UN climate negotiations. It's a golden opportunity for the UK Government to show leadership in averting climate chaos. But to do so, it must fulfil its existing obligations to cut carbon, and increase its ambition. Britain Yearly Meeting has called on the Government to commit to urgent carbon cuts, and Friends across the country are calling on MPs to support bold climate policy. Please write to your MP or ask to meet them to discuss this issue. Opposition MPs are equally worth lobbying, since it's vital that they scrutinise and challenge the government properly. Find out more about what to say and how at www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/sustainability/climate-justice-1



Government consultation on planning law and fracking

The government proposes giving 'permitted development' rights for exploratory shale drilling. This would allow companies to carry out the first stage of fracking without even making a planning application to the local council. This is being widely seen as a way to silence and sideline the huge opposition to fracking, and is opposed by many MPs from all parties. The consultation runs until 25 October. We encourage Quakers to submit their own responses.

Our briefing is at www.quaker.org.uk/documents/print-fracking-consultation-briefing-aug-2018

The consultation is at:

www.gov.uk/government/consultations/permitted-development-for-shale-gas-exploration

You don't have to answer every question.

Responses can be emailed to shaleconsultation@communities.gsi.gov.uk.

Points to include are in our briefing, but key is that it's a misuse of planning law: permitted development exists to make it easier to carry out small, uncontroversial building projects.

Training opportunity: engaging politicians on climate change

1 December, Manchester

It's important to engage with our elected representatives on climate change, and we are delivering training to help Quakers do so. Our training day, delivered with Hope for the Future, and Quakers from Manchester & Warrington Area Meeting, will help Friends develop skills and confidence to call on MPs and others to back urgent action on climate change. Lobbying decision makers can be daunting. However, with a bit of confidence, and well-tested tactics, we can create pressure for change.

This training will help you find your Quaker voice in engaging politicians on climate change – whether it's a friendly MP or those who disagree with us.

To book or find more information please go to

www.quaker.org.uk/events/climatetraining

