

Pembrokeshire Friends of the Earth Cyfeillion y Ddaear Sir Benfro



Election Special April 2010

As campaigning heats up Friends of the Earth wants to take the opportunity to put the environment at the top of the political agenda. We know that some senior politicians of all parties recognise the importance of these issues, and in particular the threat of climate change, but what of their prospective parliamentary candidates, our future MP's? Here the picture is much less encouraging. We need to make it clear that these issues are important, and that they will carry votes.

This is how you can help.

- **Come to **Any Green Questions?**** in Narberth, organised by Pembrokeshire and Carmarthen Friends of the Earth
- **Write a letter to your prospective candidates.** Over the page is a specimen letter you can use and adapt, or go to the FOE website and follow the link to Election 2010 – contact your candidates. While you're there check out who has signed the foe pledge. The candidates' details are given below.

You can find more information by visiting www.foe.co.uk go to resource, briefings/reports etc and searching on the following titles.

A Brief Look at Some Recent Climate Change Science What the Climate Sceptics Say

**Why Climate Change is too Risky to Ignore
Climate Change Facts**

Manifesto recommendations 2010

Preseli Pembrokeshire constituency

Stephen Crabb MP (Conservative)

Campaign Office, 20 Upper Market Street, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 1QA. crabbs@parliament.uk

Mari Rees (Labour)

Welsh Labour Party, Transport House, Robert Street, Milford Haven, SA73 2HS. mari@mari.rees.org.uk

Nick Tregoning (Liberal Democrat)

Fagwyr Einon, Llanychaer, Fishguard SA65 9SP

nick-tregoning@yahoo.co.uk

Henry Jones-Davies (Plaid Cymru)

Tŷ Gwynfor, Marine chambers, Anson Court, Atlantic Wharf, Caerdydd, CF10 4AL. Henry.Jones-Davies@plaidcymru.org

Any Green Questions?

A **question time** style event with the main prospective candidates for the Carmarthen West and Pembrokeshire South parliamentary constituency

Nick Ainger Labour

Simon Hart Conservative

John Dixon Plaid

John Gossage Lib Dem

Henry Langen Indep Dem

Friday 16 April at 7.15pm

**Bloomfield House Community
Centre**

Redstone Road NARBERTH SA67 7ES

Chaired by Jake Hollyfield

Director West Wales Eco Centre

Submit your questions to:-

Steve Hack, Allt Cafan Mills,

Pentre Cwrt, SA44 5BD

steve@carmarthenfoe.org

Carmarthenshire West and South Pembrokeshire

Nick Ainger (Labour)

Ferry Lane Works, Ferry Lane, Pembroke Dock, SA71 4RE

aingern@parliament.uk

John Dixon (Plaid Cymru)

Ty Gwynfor, Marine Chambers, Anson Court, Atlantic Wharf,

Cardiff, CF10 4AL john.dixon@plaidcymru.org

John Gossage (Liberal Democrat)

Coedcanlas, Lawrenny, Kilgetty, SA68 0PY

johngossage@coedcanlas.co.uk

Simon Hart (Conservative)

c/o SPAN Office, Town Moor, Moorfield Road, Narberth, SA67 7AG

info@simon-hart.com

Henry Langen (Independent Democrat)

5 Church street, Narberth henrylangen@aol.com

Dear PPC,

Climate change will be one of the most important issues for whichever party forms the next government. Most observers recognise that greenhouse gas emissions must peak and begin to drop within the next five years – the maximum length of the next parliament.

The next government will have to take tough decisions and make big commitments, but the potential rewards are enormous. Investing in green technology and industry will create jobs, diversify our economy and cut inefficiency – as well as reducing the scourge of fuel poverty. All parties must be aware of the advantages of action, as well as the danger of inaction.

I would like to know whether you support the four key election demands of Friends of the Earth. These are:

- A local carbon budget for every local authority: that caps CO2 in the local area in line with the scientific demands for emissions cuts and local circumstances; and enough money and technical support to enable councils to do their bit to tackle climate change.
- Sufficient investment in switching to a low carbon economy to: achieve a reduction in UK greenhouse gas emission of 42 per cent by 2020; create jobs and boost the economic recovery; and eliminate fuel poverty.
- An international deal on cutting emissions where those responsible make the deepest cuts first, and developing countries are supported to grow in a low carbon way.
- A new law which will tackle the major greenhouse gas emissions and deforestation caused by the UK's dependence on imported feeds for livestock - and which will support better UK farming and domestic feed production.

At the local level, I believe that addressing climate change would require election candidates to:

- Support major improvements in public transport and cycling and walking facilities.
- Oppose calls for the dualling of the A40 between St Clears and Haverfordwest. New roads generate more traffic which, in turn, increases emissions of greenhouse gases and health-harming pollutants. Current plans to upgrade this route are perfectly adequate.
- Support the proposed Wear Point wind farm on the shores of the Milford Haven waterway and work to ensure that Pembrokeshire benefits from the economic and job-creating opportunities of the proposed large Atlantic Array offshore wind farm in the Bristol Channel.
- Support local food production and policies that would help farmers move away from imported to home-grown feeds, and also ensure that unhealthy and environmentally damaging foods are not used in local schools, hospitals and care homes.
- Call on the government to remove the Pembrokeshire Islands Special Area of Conservation from areas that are being offered for offshore oil and gas licensing.

I would be grateful if you would let me know whether you support these policies.

Yours sincerely