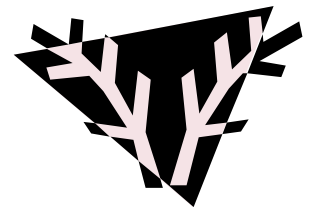


BranchLine



July 2002

Dear Supporter,

Welcome to BranchLine. It's a way of keeping members up to date in case you miss our regular monthly meetings

MEMBERSHIP:

We've got over 20 paid up members so far and it's growing all the time. Signing new members is a priority and this is where you can help. On the back page is a membership form for anybody you know who supports the FOE's aims. Just ask them to fill in the form and send it in with a cheque to Havant FOE. Our target is 80 members by Christmas!

CAMPAIGNS:

South Coast Transport Study

The government has commissioned a study of future transport needs along the south coast and has asked for views. The consultants are offering some sound thinking on future public transport development and congestion charging but their ideas for widening the A27 are definitely unwelcome. We have asked that they include in future plans a new railway station in West Leigh, a passenger friendly bus station and closer links between rail and road and better facilities for cycling. We support congestion charging in principle but would like to know more on how it would be managed. Havant's MP, David Willetts, has written welcoming our submission although he has reservations about some points.

Clean air

We've been discussing air pollution in Havant to see if there are any links with asthma. So far we've looked at lots of graphs and maps of the area showing the data about pollutants reported from monitoring station in the region. We're also asking the Area Health Authority for information they gather on the distribution of asthma cases in the borough.

Broadmarsh Development

Havant Council is working closely with a developer on a major project consisting of | a marina, hotel and other facilities beside Langstone Harbour. The harbour is a site of Special Scientific Interest, a Ramsar Site (Wetlands internally recognised), a special area of conservation as well as rich in wildlife and history. Any large-scale development is bound to have a profound effect on the local balance of nature. We're asking for more information from Havant Council and will report back.

NEWSLETTER

Hopefully you not only got our first newsletter but have had a moment to read it. The plan is to work on improving its content and presentation and then extend its circulation to opinion-formers throughout the borough. This is where your ideas and contributions would be welcome. We need short articles or ideas for articles, reprints, entertaining items and particulars of future local events that may appeal to green people. Send it all to the Ray Cobbett (email havantfoe@hotmail.com) before the end of July.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF LOCAL GROUPS

Havant is one of over 100 local FOE groups in the UK. This year's conference takes place in **Chester on 13-15 September**. HQ is asking whether any of us would like to go by coach. It starts out at Hastings and works its way along to Havant, Newbury and Oxford. The fare is about £25 return so if anybody wants to go by and go by coach please call 02392 483070. More about the programme in the next Branchline.

Next Meeting: Wed. 24th July 2002 at 7.30 – 1 Eastern Road, Havant (92483070)

TRADE JUSTICE LOBBY

Havant Friends of the Earth was among the 10,000 people who lobbied parliament on 19th of June calling for:

- new international laws to control the activities of giant corporations
- a halt to plans to privatise vital services, such as water
- a new international agreement on food and farming to protect farmers' livelihoods and the environment

The lobby provided an opportunity to campaign for new laws to control corporations before politicians meet for the Earth Summit later this year.

Havant FOE Branch Membership Form*

Annual membership	£5
Unwaged	£1
Family	£10
Organisations	£15



- Please make cheques payable to Havant Friends of the Earth

Name.....

Address.....

Phone.....email.....

Do you have any of the following skills to offer the group? (Please tick)

IT____ Media & publicity____ designing art work____ letter-writing____

Public speaking____ Special scientific knowledge____ Government____ Raising funds____