

Dear Mr. Baker,

Thank you for your letter of 18th August, refusing to meet with us. You mentioned you copied this newspaper, so we felt we should respond in kind.

First, we need to let the public know that this is the second time Steve Baker Watch has requested a meeting with you to discuss your attitude to climate change. To correct the record, we were disappointed you cancelled the first meeting. Your cancellation email confirms this.

To address each of your concerns and reasons for refusing a meeting:

The second paragraph of your letter deliberately selectively quotes the head of UN IPCC. When he said, "The world won't end if it warms by more than 1.5 degrees", you failed to quote his next sentence. He went on to say, "***It Will be a more dangerous world and surpassing that mark will lead to many problems and social tensions***". Without that second sentence, you are deliberately misleading the reader.

Your use of selective quotation appears to us to be just another call for delay of action. This is a well-known tactic straight from the playbook of Big Oil and others. Deniers in general are no longer able to claim that climate science is invalid. The evidence is now too strong in favour of man-made global warming. Instead, deniers now call for delay so that Carbon Dioxide producing fossil fuels can continue to be burned as long as possible. It is just another argument for 'profit in the pocket comes first'.

Your next point refers to "defamatory stunts". We are puzzled by that remark. We do not have access to your publicity machine or the finance you have to support it. So, your refusal to meet with us means we must take peaceful direct action. Without it, we could not bring your voting record on environmental issues to the attention of High Wycombe constituents.

You seem to suggest we do not need to meet because your views are clearly stated. Instead, you refer to an outdated economic model, the Social Cost of Carbon. This model was replaced by government economists as it underestimated the social costs of carbon emissions in terms of costs such as mass migration. Surely your thinking has been updated since then. With that in mind, your current views are not clear to us.

We find your accusation that we have been hysterical to be ironic. There is nothing hysterical in publicising your climate denial and now delay. If you think of anything we have done that is hysterical, please let us know the specific event.

What is more akin to 'hysterical' is your previous public comparison of us to "child abusers"! May we calmly remind you that every young person has a right to be concerned about their future. Indeed, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child said, "***Governments must respond to growing concerns expressed by children about the effects of the climate crisis and other environmental emergencies on their lives and futures.***" Furthermore, climate change is formally recognised in the National Curriculum from age eleven. So, we know climate change is an important issue for young people. That is also globally recognised.

You go on to ask us to clarify "in writing" whether "Steve Baker Watch is aligned with the beliefs of Just Stop Oil and Extinction Rebellion". Of course, it depends on which specific beliefs you mean. As a loose association of High Wycombe constituents, we share those group's concerns about the

direction of your government's climate policy. However, we can confirm something for you - our lack of publicity funding and your refusal to meet us means we need to continue peaceful, non-disruptive action highlighting the climate crisis and your inaction.

Finally, you refer to "very serious matters" that are important to Wycombe residents and for democracy. These relate to suggestions we have broken Data Protection and Electoral Commission rules. You then suggest we need to declare donations and prove we have taken nothing from foreign parties.

Let us be clear. We have complied with all relevant data protection regulations. Of course, if you are aware of a specific instance of breach, please let us know and we will investigate.

You suggest we threaten local democracy. For the benefit of the Wycombe voters - and to remind you - we are not a politically aligned party. We are not campaigning either for or against any political candidate. We are against climate denial and delay. As such we do not have to declare donations that came from a crowdfunding exercise. You will know this to be the case from your time as a trustee of the climate denial group, Global Warming Policy Foundation (GWPF). That group consistently refuses to declare its funding.

We cannot of course respond to your suggestion we have received "large" donations until you define 'large'. All we can say is we have received no larger single sum than £300. That pales to insignificance when compared to the £10,000 you reportedly received from Neil Record, Chair of the climate denial group, GWPF.

To conclude, we are not a political campaign group or a charity. We are simply a loosely associated group of your constituents who are very concerned about your views on climate issues. We are also worried about your affiliation with groups known to be climate change deniers who have been exposed as taking funding from Big Oil.

It is frankly offensive that you should refuse to meet us and accuse us of potential illegality. We feel that using official Westminster letterheaded paper was intended to intimidate or bully us. Nevertheless, this will not prevent us from holding our local MP to account — whatever their party affiliation.

We continue to extend a warm invitation to all members of the Wycombe constituency. Anyone who wishes to keep the pressure on our local politicians to deliver sensible policies on climate change can join our cause. There are no formal membership requirements. We can be found at:
<https://www.stevebakerwatch.com/>

Yours sincerely,

Steve Baker Watch