Amendments to the 2023 AGM ‘climate emergency’ motion:

before “Scotland’s wealth and resources” insert:

“the use of”

Add at the end:

“Therefore this AGM agrees that Friends of the Earth Scotland should plan to lead the building of a powerful, broad-based movement for climate justice, within which it should aim to recruit many more members and create a widespread and active network of local groups”.

Mover: Matthew Crighton

The amended motion would read as follows:

Four years ago we welcomed the Scottish Government and local authorities across Scotland declaring a climate emergency. However, since then the Scottish Government has maintained a business-as-usual approach to legislation, governance, market regulation and funding.

In the face of continuing climate breakdown, and the news that we are likely to breach the 1.5C climate threshold by 2027, the Scottish Government must finally adopt a crisis response approach to addressing the climate crisis we are in. This would mean ruthlessly prioritising the action we need to tackle the causes and consequences of climate breakdown. As we saw during the covid emergency, governments can provide unstinting direction and support required to address a crisis if they are motivated to do so.

We therefore propose that Friends of the Earth Scotland makes it clear that:

It is no longer acceptable for the Scottish Government to talk about emergencies while maintaining a business as usual approach to government business.

The appropriate response to the climate emergency is a dramatic and sustained shift in the speed, and scope of policy and action addressing the causes and consequences of climate crisis.

Such a shift can only be achieved through a massive and long-term mobilisation of people in communities across Scotland and the use of Scotland’s wealth and resources for the common good. This should be conducted in a manner to ensure our Just Transition does not re-entrench our dependency on the oil and gas industry through false solutions leading to costs of living remaining under their control.

This response should be overseen by convening a standing, cross-functional cabinet level climate response committee, similar to War Cabinets at Westminster, overseen by a citizens’ assembly, that is granted emergency powers to plan and coordinate action required by our national targets and international obligations.

Therefore this AGM agrees that Friends of the Earth Scotland should plan to lead the building of a powerful, broad-based movement for climate justice, within which it should aim to recruit many more members and create a widespread and active network of local groups.