



**WHO CALLS
TIME IN YOUR
PUB?**

Has the great British pub had its day? Many are closing down, being bought up and sold off. The 'local pub' is now more often than not owned by a far away company interested in shareholders' profits rather than local needs. Some people can't afford to drink out and others don't like pubs as they are dangerous or not family-friendly enough. But the great British pub is a versatile place and is ripe for positive change.

By 2030 the local pub has been transformed into a vibrant community venue. New legislation allowed us to buy the pub and bring it into community ownership. Shares were sold to local residents who took control of its management. Will still serve beer still of course (from the local microbrewery), but it's also home to many other activities and open all hours - it is after all a public house.

People are doing this all over the country right now.

Resources

www.pubisthehub.org.uk shows how this can be done.

Hudswell Pub is an example:

www.richmond.org/community/hudswellpub



**WHAT'S YOUR
COMMUNITY MADE
FROM: TRASH OR
TREASURE?**

What are we going to do with all that waste? Every year millions of tonnes of landfill pile up from packaging and things we throw away. We live in a disposable society where our new products are used for a year then chucked out and replaced with the latest version.

After the big economic crash and recession, the 'make do and mend' culture became a lifestyle necessity. But by 2030, our wasteful consumer culture has changed. We live in a zero waste community where buying second hand, eating out at community cafés, recycling, freecycling are common place. Nothing is wasted and waste is now upcycled into new products. More second-hand 'vintage' shops appeared on our high streets, alongside the shoe repair and general 'fix it' shops. At the local swap show you can get almost anything you want for free!

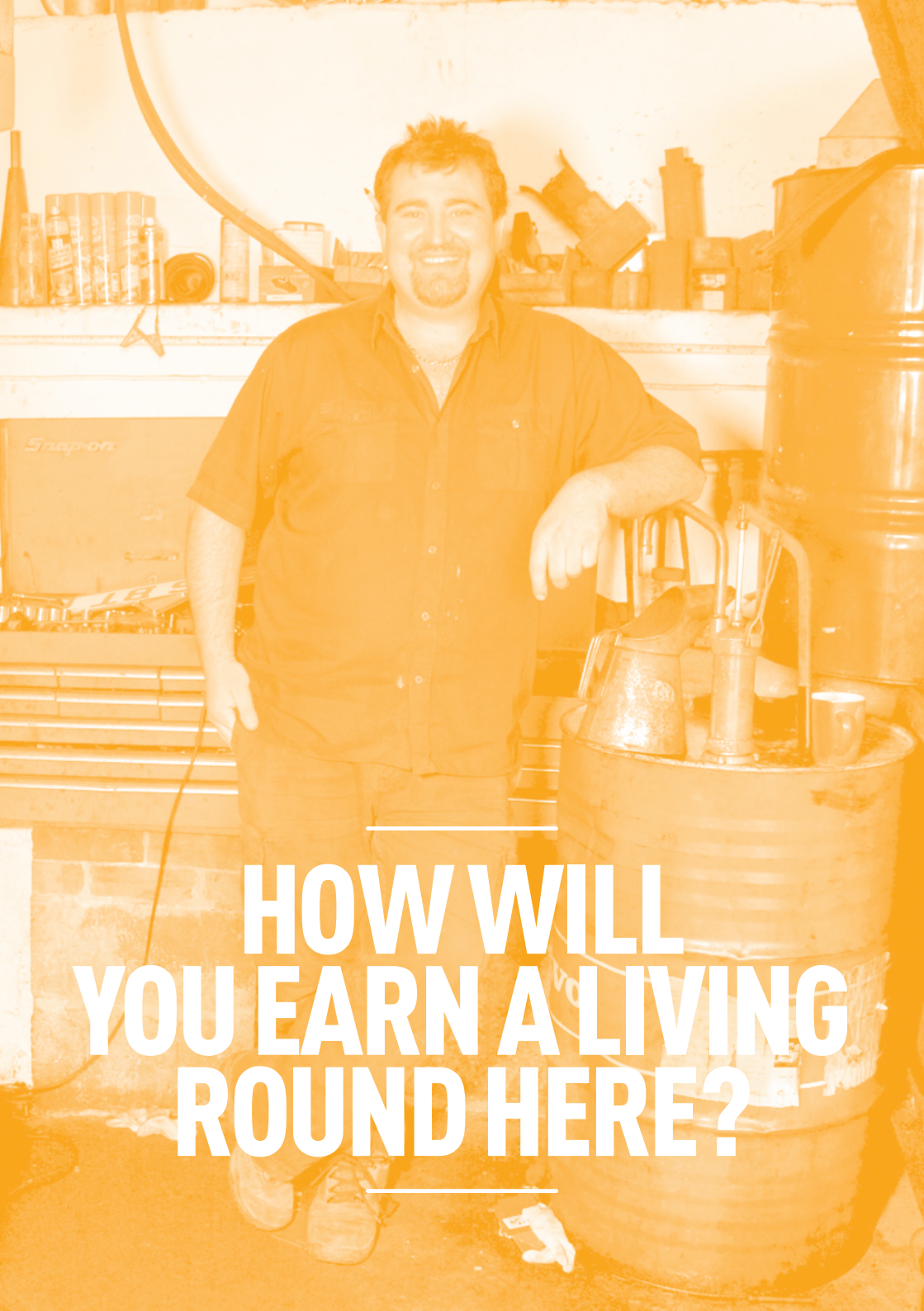
Resources

www.digitaluniverse.net

has a section on upcycling.

www.uk.freecycle.org

See what's on offer or wanted in your local area.



**HOW WILL
YOU EARN A LIVING
ROUND HERE?**

In the late twentieth century, thousands of jobs were lost in manufacturing and engineering, causing the decline of many inner city communities where the industries were mainly located. With new technologies and a need to create a sustainable society, the economy is changing fast. So how will we earn a living in the future?

By 2030 there are new thriving companies. It's all 'eco' now of course with energy and materials much more expensive than they were, so local is important too. The builders' merchant is now specialising in low carbon retrofit work. A cluster of general repair garages fix electric and hybrid cars, and even some of the old-fashioned petrol models, as well as just about anything else mechanical.

Many people have some sort of care work as part of their income, and most people work fewer hours now. The people that want higher wages spend their days off learning and networking in cafés and the libraries. There are thriving cottage industries in food, catering, clothing, recycling and entertainment with self-employed people working as part of one-off teams and projects. The city 'fab lab' means we can make pretty much anything we want now locally.

Resources

'The Competitive Inner City', by the New Economics Foundation: evidence of the entrepreneurial capacity of inner city neighbourhoods.

www.neweconomics.org/publications

Gunter Pauli's '*Blue Economy: 10 years, 100 innovations, 100 million jobs*': an inspiring tour of some of the new jobs and eco-businesses we will be running in the next 10-20 years.



**WHERE
WILL WE GET
OUR STUFF?**

Many businesses these days employ people from far and wide, buy components from all over the place and sell their products across the world. This is all likely to change as fuel prices rocket and overheads go up. Businesses will start to look for ways to cut costs, shorten supply chains, and buy and sell goods locally.

In 2030 the economy has become much more local. Most businesses employ people who live nearby. With petrol at £10 a litre, fewer of us can afford to drive to work, so we walk or cycle. Energy prices have affected where we get our supplies from. There is much more re-use on the shop floor. Goods are also traded through local and regional exchange networks. Apprenticeships are flourishing for young people who are learning manual skills again.

Resources

New Economics Foundation:
Local Economy Programme
www.neweconomics.org



**WHAT CAN'T YOU
BUY IN YOUR LOCAL
SHOPS?**

Over the last 50 years, the high street has had its heart pulled out. Supermarkets replaced local shops and if you don't have a car, it's a long walk or a bus ride with heavy bags to carry. When we don't have local shops and services, money leaves our community fast.

But by 2030, we've turned that around. We looked at what we needed, and where we spent our money. We realised that most of the money that came into the community went straight out again. So we 'plugged the leaks' and stopped money leaving the area. Money started to go into the pockets of locals who re-spent it locally. The high street was gradually built back up, providing things people need most and there are new job opportunities. New businesses are more likely to keep trading, because they're backed by the Development Trust and locals own the businesses through share offers.

Resources

New Economics Foundation's 'Plugging the Leaks'
www.neweconomics.org/projects/plugging-leaks



**WHAT DO YOU
NEED TO LEARN TO
GET A JOB THESE
DAYS?**

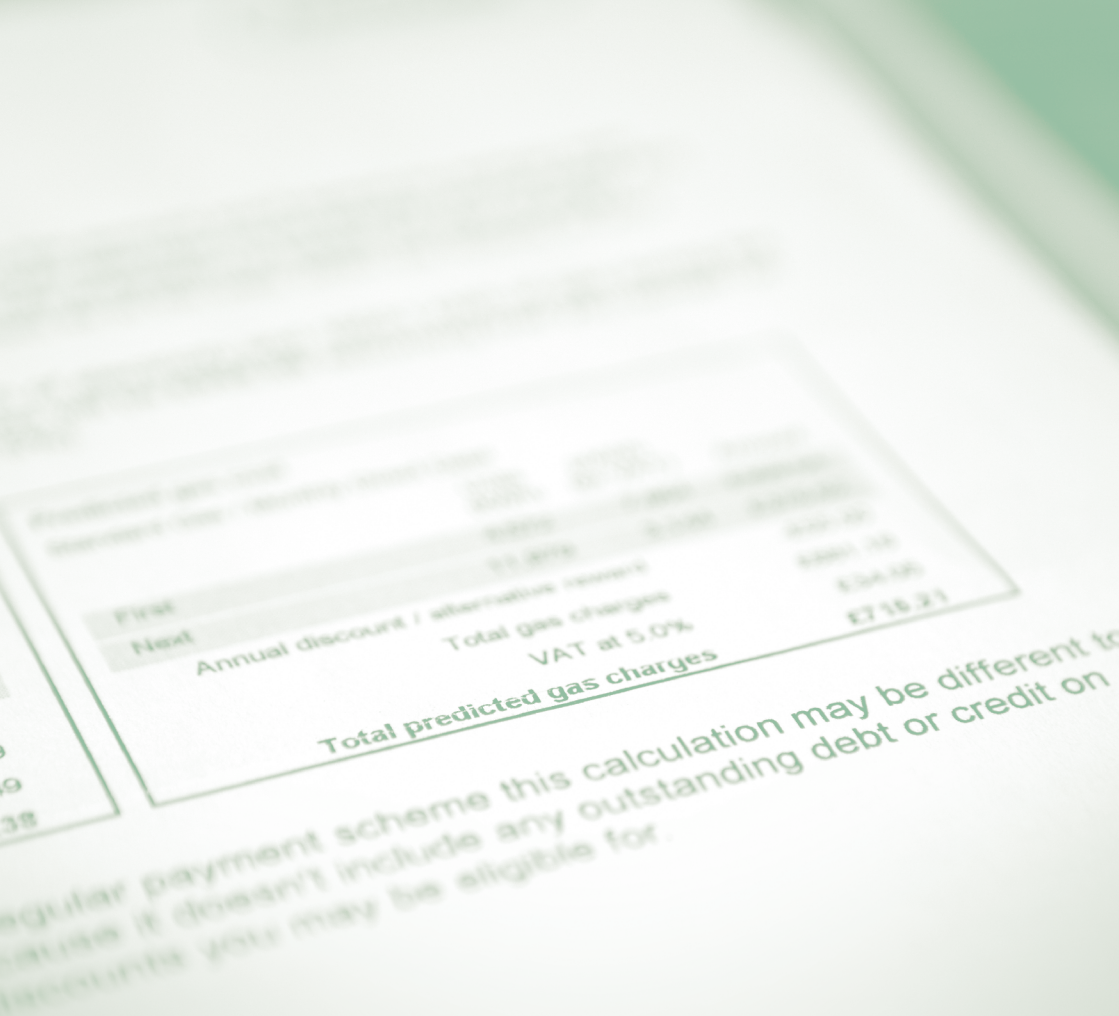
The troubled secondary school was closed some years ago. Most local children aged eleven and over used to be pupils here. They walked to school and back, forming local friendships and breaking down territorial boundaries within the community. Now they have to travel to more distant schools and they don't have much to do when they're not at school.

It's 2030 and now there's a Studio School on the site of the former school. It's a college for 17-19 years old who want to be social entrepreneurs. The students are encouraged to set up new businesses and test them within the community. Some of the empty buildings were developed for incubating new businesses and local shops have benefited from the influx of 1000 new young people every day. The college was built by the developer and council partnership in response to EU's Shared Social Responsibility Charter.

A model for the Studio School has already been developed by Young Foundation. Could we have one in our neighbourhood?

Resources

The Young Foundation's 'Launchpad' initiative
www.growingsocialventures.org



CAN YOU AFFORD A WARM HOME?

As the price of gas and electricity rises, more of us end up in fuel poverty – spending over 10% of household income on energy. The numbers of people affected are increasing, despite efforts by the council to tackle the issue.

But by 2030 we've turned it around. After hundreds of people died in the 'Terrible Frost of 2015', council and community groups got together and decided to sort it out once and for all. It was realised that it would be more sensible to invest in long term improvements than deal with extra illness and hardship year in, year out. Landlords were forced to insulate lofts, internal walls, tanks and pipes, and draught-proof windows and doors. Whole streets were done at once, tackling the things we can't easily do on our own. Inefficient boilers and old radiators were replaced, sometimes by whole street systems that were even more efficient. The benefits were fast, and by investing in the conservation strategies first, we had money to spend on generating green energy and other projects to improve the area.

Resources

The Energy Saving Trust have fantastic resources and advice for home and community energy and water saving initiatives.

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

A photograph of modern apartment buildings with a green tint overlay. The buildings are multi-story with many windows and balconies. In the foreground, there is a grassy area and a chain-link fence. The sky is overcast.

WHO LIVES IN THESE NEW APARTMENTS?

Where did all those new apartments come from? In the boom times, development crept beyond the city centre and expensive new apartments sprang up round the edges of the inner city. Have you ever wondered where these new residents work and spend their leisure time? While most people like the new apartments, we really live on parallel tracks, rarely meeting and not being involved in each other's lives.

By 2030, this is a distant memory. Some of the apartments were sold at affordable prices through new legislation, with control handed over to a local tenant management organisation. Renting became more popular than buying. We have set up a residents' group. There are regular socials and a café on the ground floor. Once something that was disconnected, the apartments are now contributing positively to the local area.

Resources

'Homes for change'
in Manchester is a good example.
www.homesforchange.co.uk

National Federation of Tenant
Management Organisations
www.nftmo.com



**COULD YOU BUILD
THE HOUSE THAT
JACK BUILT?**

The news is full of stories about housing shortages. More people are living on their own and the population is rising. But house builders aren't building, people can't afford to buy, and the banks aren't lending. So who is going to build the houses of the future and meet the rising demand for affordable new houses? Wouldn't it be great to be able to design and build your own house? Even better if it was in your own community. But building your own house sounds really difficult. You don't have the time, money and skills.

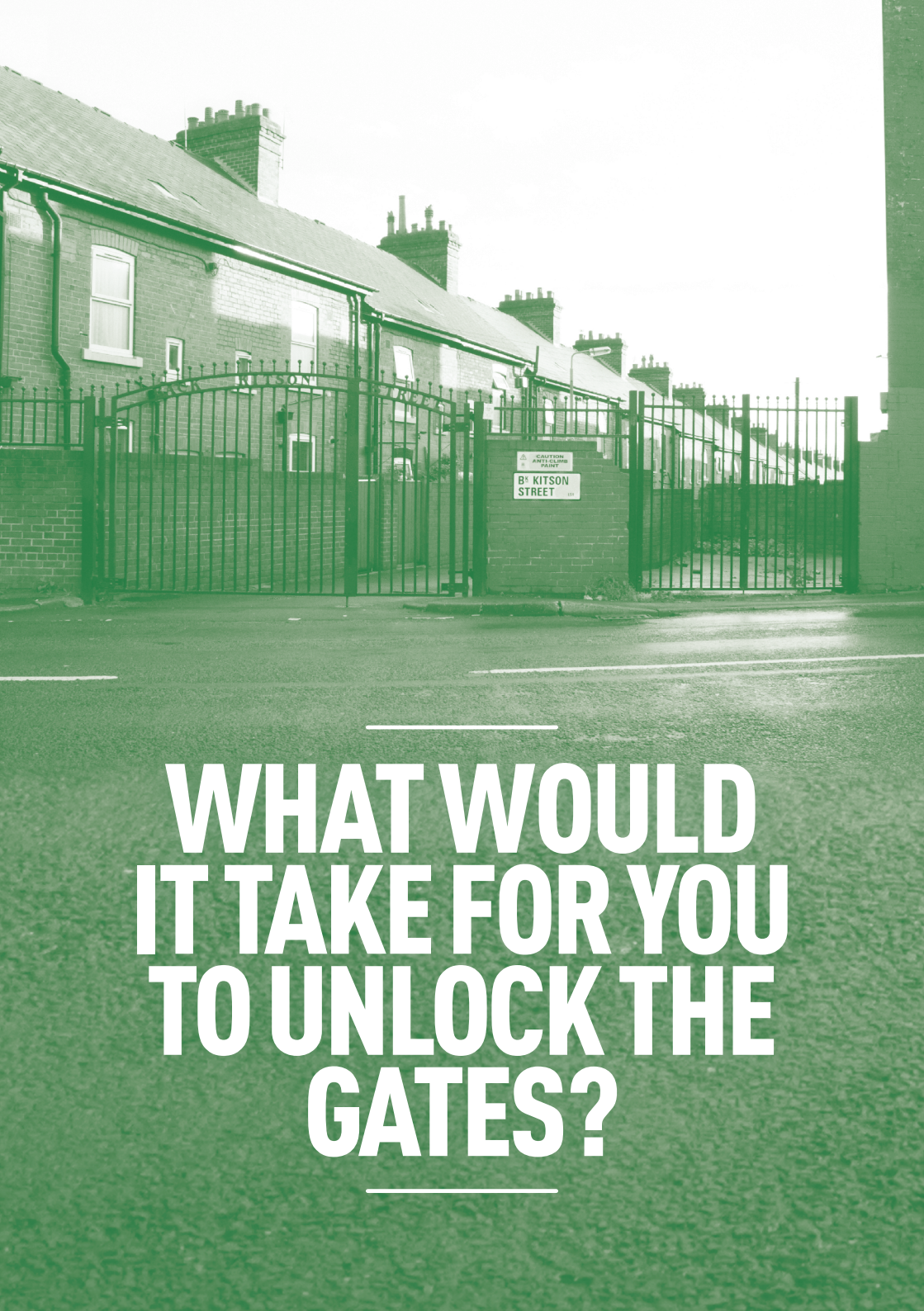
By 2030, it's really common for people to build their own houses. It started with a few individuals. But it's now spread much wider as people saw what could be achieved. The Council gave us some land to make the houses affordable, and the land is now owned by a Community Land Trust. We used local and natural materials like straw and timber from local farmers. These were really cheap and great for making very warm houses. We learned from other self builders who showed us the way. We helped build our houses and some of us got apprenticeships in building trades. Now we've built over 100 houses in our community and we have a waiting list. And because we don't take any profit, local people can afford to buy them.

Resources

The 'Walter Segal Self Build Trust' and 'The Community Self Build Agency' have some great resources for groups wanting to build their own houses.

www.segalselfbuild.co.uk

www.communityselfbuildagency.org.uk



**WHAT WOULD
IT TAKE FOR YOU
TO UNLOCK THE
GATES?**

Do you really want to live behind locked gates? Of course, everyone wants to feel secure and safe in their home. But all too often we have put up fences and locked gates to make us feel protected. Over the last few years as housing has been built, gated communities, fences and locked barriers have sprung up with them, walling new residents into little enclaves. It's difficult just to wander through your neighbourhood any more and you often feel unwelcome outside new housing. How can we build houses that don't create gated communities and where newcomers and locals mix freely?

By 2030 we had taken down all those barriers and locked gates. The people who moved in have joined the revamped local community forum and help to develop new local initiatives. Neighbours old and new started to get to know each other at shared community meals, local fitness classes and at the local pub that was transformed into a community hub. There's now a real sense of community. Locking the gate would be unimaginable.

Resources

Ground control: fear and happiness in the twenty-first century city, Anna Minton, Penguin Books, 2009

www.annaminton.com/Ground_Control.htm



**HOW WOULD
YOU MANAGE YOUR
OWN HOUSING?**

How will you ever afford your own house? Rents are sky high, and properties are often poor quality and managed by unscrupulous private landlords. A mortgage seems out of reach on your income, never mind where you would get a deposit. There must be a better way to access a decent house?

By 2030 lots of new and exciting ways of providing affordable housing for all have been developed in our neighbourhood. Not just cheap social rented houses, but affordable co-operative housing, using community land trusts, mutual home ownership societies and accessible shared equity schemes. People feel included in how their homes are run and can access a range of finance so they can afford a decent home.

Resources

This kind of future is possible right now:


Community Land Trust and Co-housing network.

www.communitylandtrusts.org.uk

www.cohousing.org.uk

Lilac Mutual Home Ownership Society in Leeds is just one of many inspiring examples of housing which residents are involved in running.

www.lilac.coop



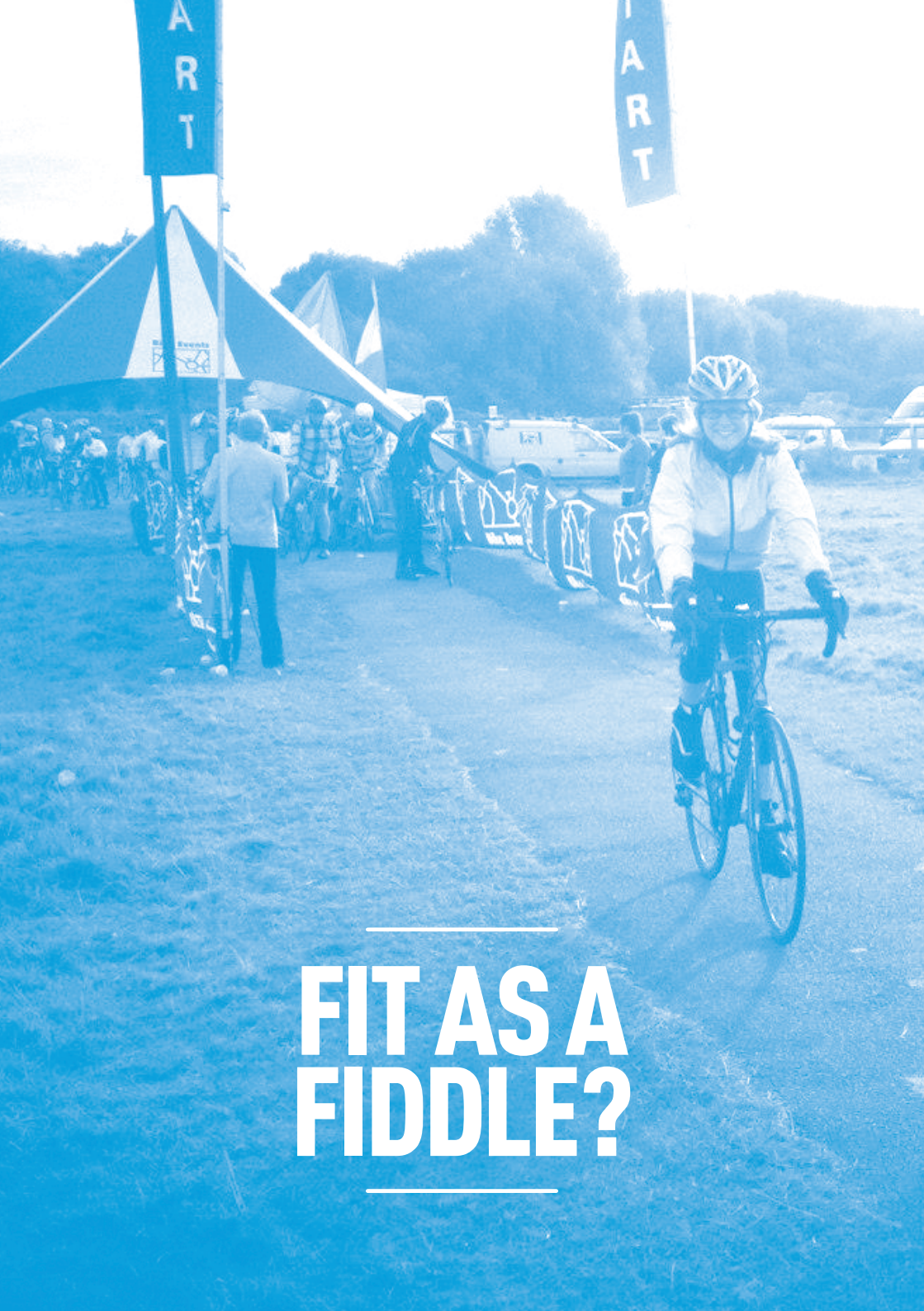
**WHEN WAS
THE LAST TIME
YOU DANCED
WITH YOUR
NEIGHBOURS?**

Communities aren't just built in meeting rooms and on committees. People who play together stay together! And it's a benefit to have healthy entertainment options close to home. Communities need places where people can meet, have fun, socialise and celebrate life together.

By 2030 we've got more leisure time and created a thriving network of entertainment options. We improved the community centre and working men's club, with activities for younger people, the growing elderly population and newcomers. Local musicians play at weddings, birthdays and parties. We recognise more people in the street, chat at bus stops and dance more!

Resources

Community Dance Foundation
www.communitydance.org.uk



**FIT AS A
FIDDLE?**


Healthcare costs are rising as more people live longer. Lifestyle changes and new treatments increase expectations. But many health problems are avoidable: they come from poor living conditions, loneliness, unhealthy habits and addictions, lack of opportunity and lack of access to good advice. Often these problems are linked but can be tackled with simple solutions.

By 2030, there's a different approach to health in our community: concentrating on keeping people well. There has been a focus on housing improvements, and the development of a range of local food initiatives that mean we can get great quality food locally. Membership of the social and fitness clubs is available to all. Kids get cooking lessons, and adults too if they need them. Teenage mums give guidance to other girls, and people that have cracked bad habits help others get through it too.

Resources

A Healthy Communities Team project showed how this can work: *A Glass Half-full – How an asset approach can improve community health and wellbeing*

www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/health/-/journal/content/56/10171/3511449/
ARTICLE-TEMPLATE



**WHAT CAN YOU
DO FOR YOUR
NEIGHBOUR?
WHAT CAN YOUR
NEIGHBOUR DO
FOR YOU?**

Like many streets in our neighbourhood, this used to be a white working class street with many residents employed in nearby factories. Neighbours knew each other and looked out for each other. It is now a more mixed area and more people keep themselves to themselves.

What will it be like in 2030? Will newcomers continue to replace existing residents? Will there be people escaping floods in the city centre? Will there be more people who find refuge here after escaping from countries where their lives are threatened by floods or dictators? Will newcomers be welcomed into social networks or be isolated? Will migrants help to teach locals some skills of growing, cooking and repairing? Will newcomers be involved in the local church and help to run community events?

Resources

Refugee Action

www.refugee-action.org.uk



**CAN THIS
COMMUNITY
BRING UP
YOUR KIDS?**

As the saying goes, it takes a village to raise a child. The introduction of Early Years Children's Centres around Britain was a recognition of how important the pre-school years are for children's development as well as the need to address lack of childcare that would enable more parents to work. Is this the best way to do it? How can we become more involved in nurturing our children?

By 2030, we have developed different approaches to providing services that neither leave all responsibility to parents and families, nor rely totally on the council or the government. We started by accident, through the redevelopment of the library, and it went from there. We did a survey of what we needed and the skills we had, and started a pilot scheme. Now groups of families work together to provide care for young children, and make use of other community organisations and facilities to give support and provide the opportunities that we can't provide on our own. We negotiate with the council to make sure we got the support we really need, so we can access some really useful resources.

Resources

Children and Young People Now!

www.cypnowjobs.co.uk



**WHAT COULD
YOU DO IN YOUR
OLD AGE?**

More us will live to be a ripe old age. By 2030, nearly half the adult population will be over 50. Much of the way that we think about the role of older people in society is based on old-fashioned ideas of people retiring at 65 and then living for another 10 to 25 years in which they can enjoy a life of leisure. This is putting a strain on the systems that support older people such as pensions and care facilities.

It's 2030 and on my 80th birthday today there were no end of celebrations. Everybody who ever volunteered at the SwapGoods shop (which I set up in 2012 after retiring from teaching) turned up in the shop at lunchtime. They gave me a book of Thank Yous collected from the people in the neighbourhood and good luck wishes for the next venture: today I've launched SwapSkills service. It will be run by my niece and my granddaughter and leave me time, all being well, to sign up to the 'Rent a Grandparent' childcare scheme that I got my two daughters to set up when they were struggling with work and their little ones.

Resources

Centre for Intergenerational Practice
www.centreforip.org.uk

**WHY ISN'T OUR
NEIGHBOURHOOD
POWERED BY
THE SUN?**

Most of today's houses will still be in use in 2030, when energy is likely to become much more expensive. With good conservation measures, most houses could very easily use much less energy, but they could also generate at least some their own heat and electricity too. This would make them cheaper to run and more comfortable to live in. Terraced housing can be upgraded in blocks to give all occupiers a share of improvements at a lower price.

By 2030 we've upgraded all the buildings in the area as much as we could. Not only did this mean we reduced our energy bills, but we developed skills, created new jobs and saved money. Local businesses repair the solar electricity panels and solar water heating systems. The biomass boilers use ash and willow coppice grown on the edge of the city and processed locally. We have created a 'solar neighbourhood', harvesting sunlight to meet local needs and selling spare electricity to generate income for projects!

Resources

The Energy Saving Trust can give advice on renewables and the latest incentive schemes.

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

A person wearing a baseball cap and work gloves is holding a bare-root tree sapling with both hands. The sapling has several thin, spindly branches and a dense, dark root system. The person is standing in a field with dry grass and some trees in the background. The image has a purple tint.

**HOW DOES
YOUR GARDEN
GROW?**

It's hard to get good, affordable fruit and veg where we live. The nearest supermarket is not within walking distance and the local corner shop is overpriced and limited. Most of the food we could buy there is imported from another country or at least another county. We would love to grow our own food, but where would we do it and how would we learn?

By 2030, everyone has somewhere to grow in our neighbourhood in back yards, front gardens, public allotments, market gardens and the local farm. It's not just about growing veg; people are also growing personally – learning new skills, keeping healthy and meeting new friends. Lessons at school mean most of the kids already know how to plant a seed and harvest the crops, and the healthy food clubs teach people how to grow and cook food to make delicious healthy meals. It's changed the culture. It's how we know our neighbours, and now there is an annual community feast.

Resources

Incredible Edible Todmorden

www.incredible-edible-todmorden.co.uk

Growing food in front gardens in Leeds:

Back to front

www.backtofront.org.uk



**CAN YOU
EAT YOUR
STREET?**

Grass needs cutting. It costs money and energy to maintain, creates no harvest, and is a poor habitat for wildlife. It can look good and it's the best thing for picnics and football, but we don't need it everywhere.

It seems funny now that we gave so little attention to the space around us. There is so much green space, and by 2030 we've made good use of it. It's literally transformed how the area works and feels. The grass verges and small parks have been transformed with mini-orchards, forest gardens and edible plantings so you can eat breakfast on the way to work. The bigger parks have been re-designed too, alongside once forgotten spaces outside offices and warehouses. The kids love it and often earn pocket money picking fruit for sale in the greengrocers. We've got boxes and habitat piles just about everywhere, so butterflies and bees, birds and bats are thriving, which feels good too. We'll have some good timber eventually – another few years to go – but we're already thinking about what to build with the wood. The ash coppice keeps the community centre's biomass boiler going, which is one less bill to pay. It looks good, smells good and tastes good. Why did we ever put up with grass?

Resources

The Permaculture Association's LAND network has many similar initiatives.
www.permaculture.org.uk/land

A purple-tinted photograph of a park. In the foreground, there is a grassy field with a few trees and a large, rounded, light-colored object (possibly a sculpture or a large tree trunk) on the right. In the background, a city skyline with several tall buildings is visible under a hazy sky. The text "FIELD, FARM OR FOOTBALL. WHAT DO YOU WANT IN YOUR PARK?" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font, centered in the lower half of the image. There are two horizontal white lines, one above and one below the text.

**FIELD, FARM OR
FOOTBALL. WHAT
DO YOU WANT IN
YOUR PARK?**

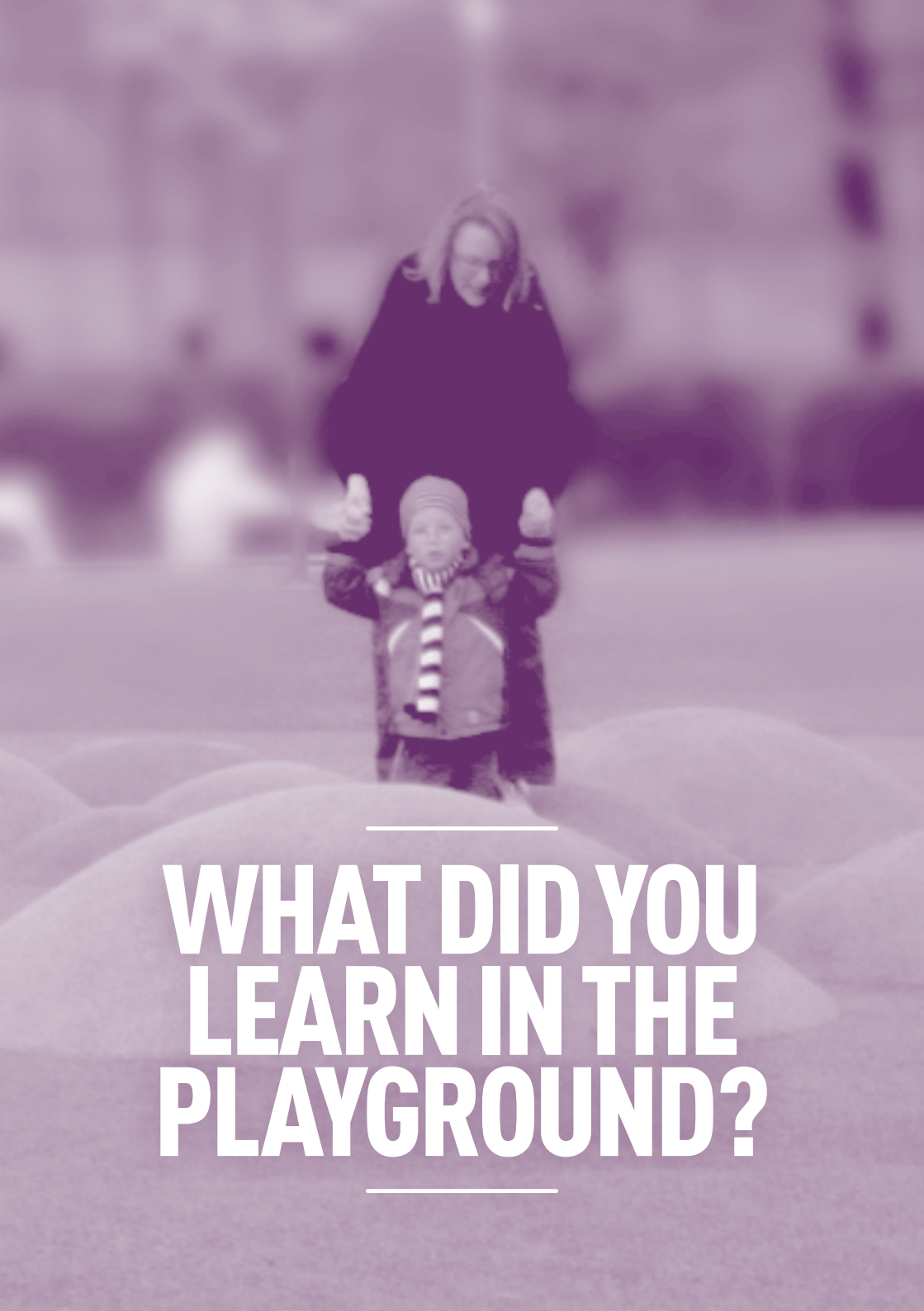
Can we do more with the park? With increased pressure on land and resources, can we intensify and diversify the use of the park? How can we do this and still maintain the things we like about the park as it is now?

Looking back from 2030, it's incredible just how little we used the space before. The city farm was opened ten years ago, and from the base in the street opposite, we've been able to make the park incredibly productive. We've still got everything we had before, but now orchards have appeared with wildflowers underneath, plant nurseries, allotment plots and managed woodland. We hardly use the lawnmowers any more, not since we got sheep to graze the fields. The thing we like most though is how much more there is for everyone to do. It's non-stop all summer holiday and it's amazing how many kids just don't have time to hang around anymore. It's made a big difference to how they feel about the area.

Resources

CERES Community Environment Park is a great example of how a space has been transformed.

www.ceres.org.au



**WHAT DID YOU
LEARN IN THE
PLAYGROUND?**

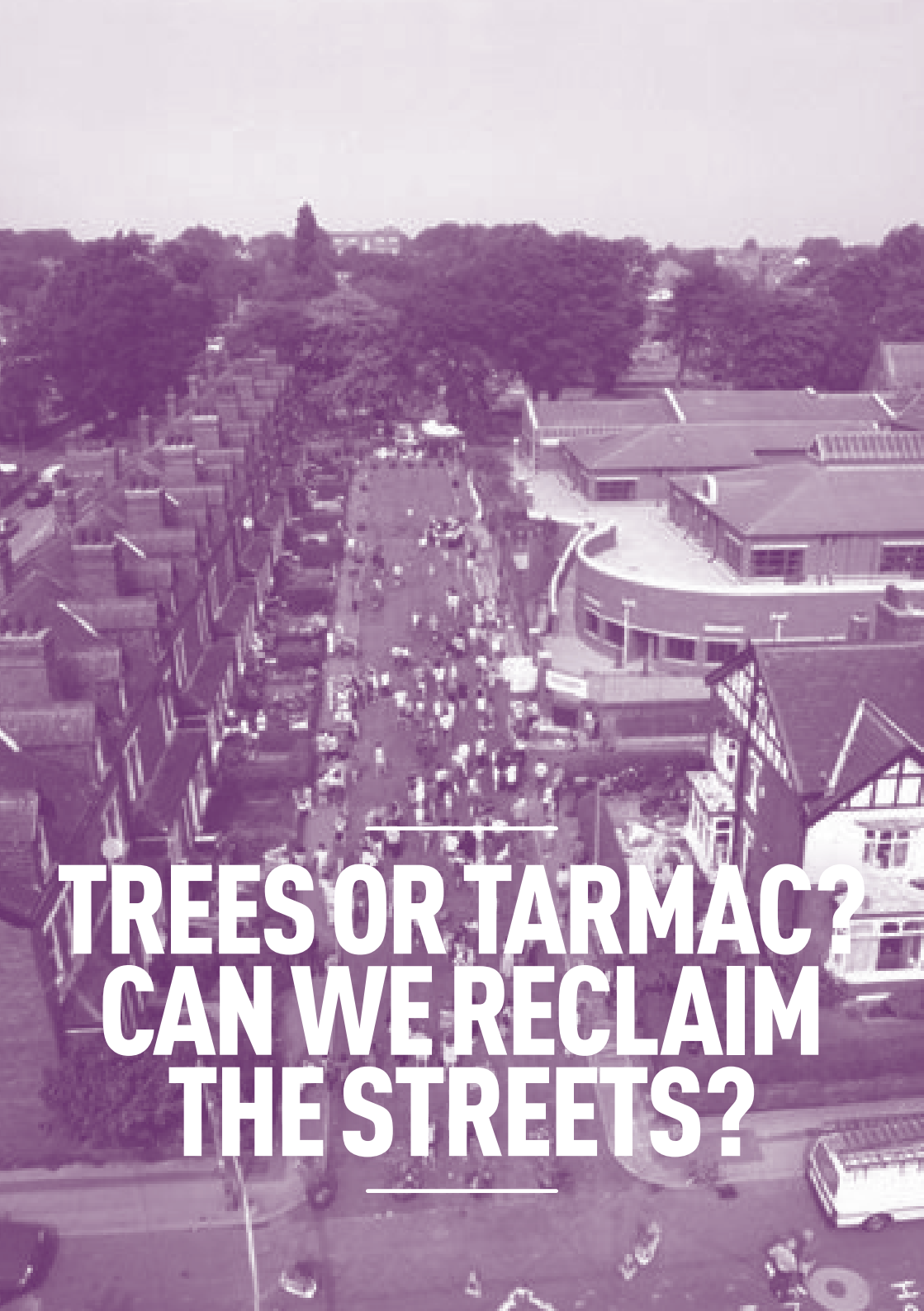
As any parent or toddler will tell you the playground is one of the most important places in any neighbourhood. We all remember the swings, roundabouts and slides of our childhood. But many playgrounds are unimaginative and neglected, full of metal and concrete, worn grass and broken equipment. The Council does the best it can patching up and repairing. But a new playground seems a luxury in this era of austerity.

But by 2030, the playgrounds are unrecognisable. New legislation and grants allowed local residents and schools to revamp them. We got together and designed our playground with the local kids. We chose natural materials like wood which meant we could also help build it. It's not like a playground of the past with just swings and roundabouts. Instead there are all kinds of creative areas, dens, tunnels and hide-i-holes where kids can let their imaginations run wild. It allows them to socialise, get fit and let off steam, develop their self-esteem, and give the parents a break. And we are not obsessed with health and safety. We designed the play areas so that it is challenging and the kids learn to recognise and deal with risks.

Resources

The 'Free Play Network' has loads of great ideas about how to design amazing play spaces.

www.freeplaynetwork.org.uk



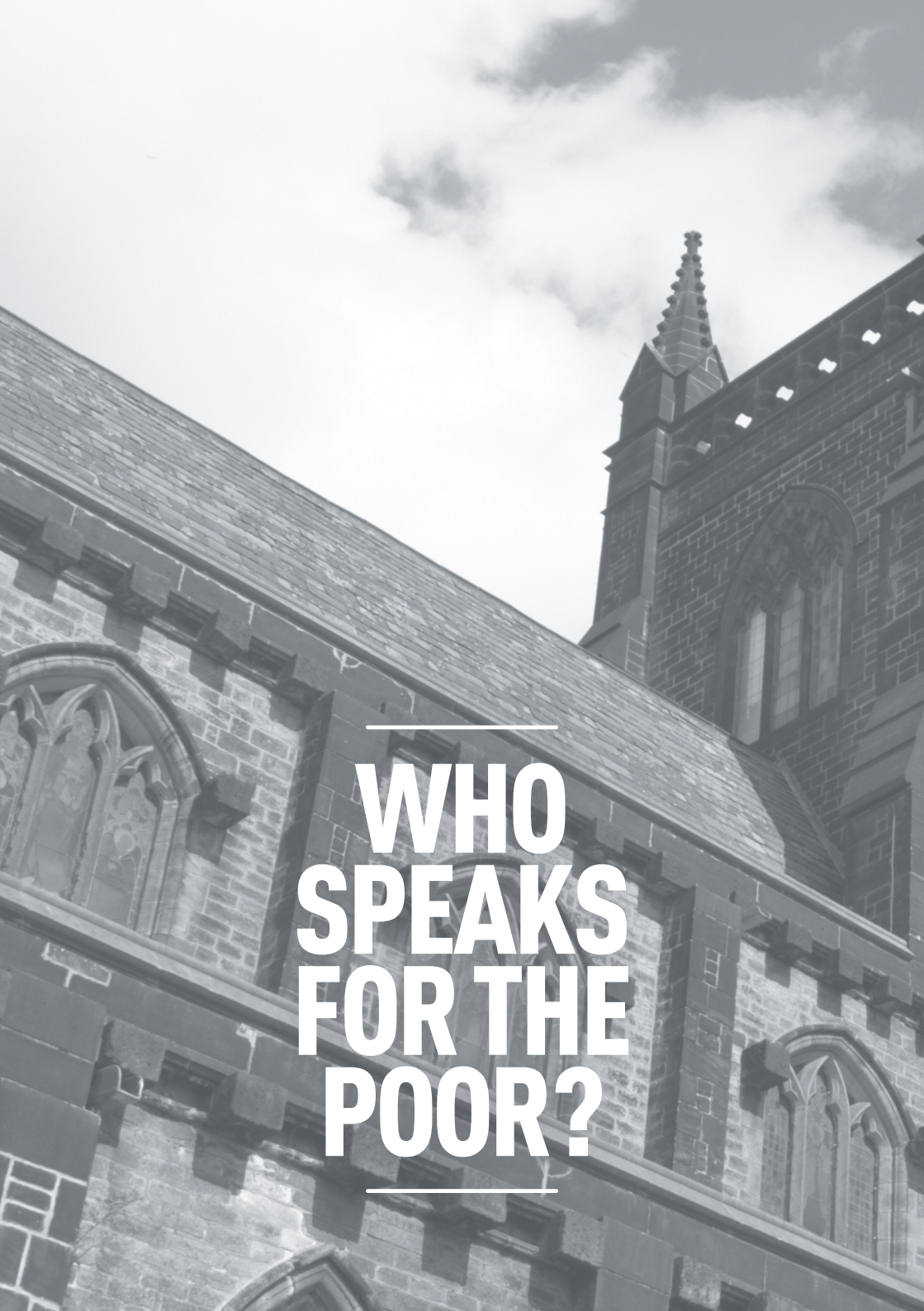
TREES OR TARMAC? CAN WE RECLAIM THE STREETS?

For many years highway engineers have dominated the design of streets and spaces and priority has been given to the car. Then when streets in residential areas became too dangerous, engineers invented a whole range of traffic calming measures to slow them down. Even more severe measures were taken to reduce joy riding in the 80s. Mounds of concrete were put in place without consultation, never mind design thought, and left in place for years.

I was woken up by bird song today. It's still such a treat. There was no bird song here back then when all streets were black tarmac and concrete chicanes, and anything green was protected with crash barriers. It took 10 years of campaigning to get rid of all that. We now have grass, fruit trees, herbs and flowers. Children play in the streets again. The birds have come back and that's a bonus that does not show up on any accounts!

Resources

Home Zones have been implemented throughout Europe and some have also been created in Leeds.
www.homezones.org

A black and white photograph of a Gothic cathedral, viewed from a low angle looking up. The image shows the intricate stonework, pointed arch windows, and a tall spire against a cloudy sky. Overlaid on the center of the image is the text "WHO SPEAKS FOR THE POOR?" in a large, bold, white sans-serif font. The text is flanked by two short horizontal white lines, one above and one below.

**WHO
SPEAKS
FOR THE
POOR?**

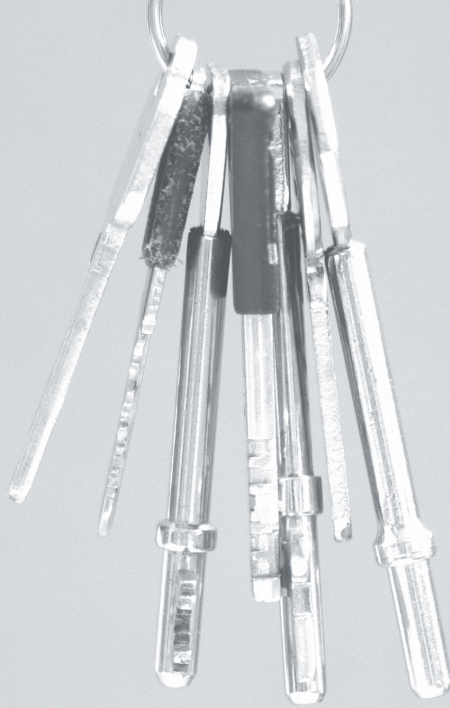
Churches provide the last safety net and essential services for Britain's poorest communities. Every community has a variety of places of worship, many of which have strong networks of volunteers as well as space to meet and hold community events. In a church you can always find people who care about their local community. Many churches are open to the wider community in increasingly diverse ways – they're not just for the congregation.

By 2030, the local church is transformed and functions as a vibrant community venue where people of all faiths and none meet and discuss local issues. Loads of activities happen there: organising, meeting or just socialising. Who would have thought you would ever set foot in there, but there is so much happening.

Resources

Many churches up and down the country have been busily doing this, like the church in Bromley by Bow, East London.

www.bbbs.org.uk



**WHAT WOULD
YOU DO WITH THE
KEYS TO YOUR
COMMUNITY
CENTRE?**

Who goes to the community centre? Is there much going on? Many are under threat of closure, or have had their budgets slashed. It should be a great place – it's right in the heart of the neighbourhood. Can the local authority sort it out, could local residents take control of these places, or could we work together?

By 2030, the community centre is a busy hub of activity. In 2018, the residents formed a community group and organised an asset transfer from the local council. We employ local people to deliver the services we really need. The local Development Trust runs small businesses from there. A 'People's Planning room' lists current projects, where money gets spent, and regular meetings plan new initiatives. We know what resources and skills we have, and are finding ways to increase them all the time.

Resources

The Goodwin Trust in Hull is an excellent example of how to make this happen.

www.goodwintrust.org

www.locality.org.uk is a network of community-led organisations. A wide range of projects supports members to create community-led change and local regeneration in their neighbourhoods.



WHAT DO
WE NEED TO
LEARN?

What new skills will you need to deal with the challenges in your neighbourhood? Where will we go to learn? One thing is for sure, we need to keep learning if we want to thrive personally and transform our neighbourhoods and communities so that they're better places to live in.

By 2030, we've built on the great work of 'extended schools'. With a dedicated head teacher working with parents and other locals, the primary school is transformed into a place of learning for all – practical ways to deal with the big challenges. It's a model of energy efficiency, the grounds are lush with plants, sculptures and murals creating an urban oasis. The kids are learning during the day, and the parents and wider community have their turn in the evening. Parents can access new skills and teach others what they know. A rich cultural programme engages every generation, with grandmas and grandads telling tales of what it was like when there was nothing to do round here. The school is at the heart of a network of learning that goes right across the city.

Resources

Langford Primary in London is a Full Service Extended School with activities before and after school and during the holidays. It also runs classes for parents.

www.langford.lbhf.sch.uk



Seagulls
Paint store

AIREPL



WHO
WILL PROVIDE THE
SERVICES OF THE
FUTURE?



Will the council continue to be the main provider of services or will there be more local groups involved? Who will plug those gaps in terms of essential services? What is the right balance between council services, private providers and community-run services?

By 2030, and after years of cuts, local communities realised that the only way to get the services they needed was to run them themselves. Some of the services have been replaced by a 'time bank' that makes it easy to swap skills and get specialist support. The Community Organisation took on youth services first and then elderly care soon after. It's a successful operation now and employs many local people. There are loads of small social enterprises under the same umbrella, and it's more responsive now to what we really need. The local authority has enabled all this and trusts people to do it themselves. People get tax breaks for running these services and as a result everyone is better off.

Resources

The RSA 'Connected Communities' project

www.thersa.org/projects/connected-communities



WHAT IS A LIBRARY FOR?

DESI


LEI

Many public libraries are being closed, and communities are losing important spaces for sharing knowledge and information. How can we transform our library and give it new life? What new activities could help put it back at the heart of the community?

In 2030, we need to respond to many different challenges. So we've created a space where we can share our stories, skills and resources. The internet opened up access to a world of information and entertainment and helped people and communities to connect. However it didn't provide a physical space for local people to come together to learn about and understand the changes that were happening. So we developed the library to share knowledge and resources, lending far more than just books and DVDs. We plan, organise, discuss and face challenges together. All ages use it, and we still even have books.

Resources

Future Libraries: Change, options and how to get there,
see BBC news story
www.culture.gov.uk/news/media_releases/2010/7379.aspx



**IS ANYONE
WITHOUT A CAR
DOOMED TO
ISOLATION AND
DISADVANTAGE?**

A car gives flexibility, convenience and security. But it's increasingly expensive to run your own car and bad for health to drive everywhere, as well as adding to noise, congestion and pollution. Bus services are often costly, not on all the right routes, infrequent and unreliable. Walking and cycling are often dangerous where there are few people out and about and no proper signposted and prioritised routes in and out of the city centre.

By 2030, safe walking and cycling routes to the city centre have been created and many more people choose this way of getting around, so the streets feel less deserted. There is a 'Veleeds' system for sharing bikes that extends into the inner city. Secondary school students earn pocket money by helping to maintain the bikes in local workshops and helping to collect and carry heavy shopping. New small buses that are more like large cabs, running on bio-gas, take routes according to requests by text message from passengers. Local residents decided to set up a car pool of electric vehicles to enable access to a car for longer trips or when someone has a lot of stuff to transport. The secure recharging garage has an array of micro-generators to help to keep down the costs.

Resources

Bicycle sharing system:
examples from around the world
www.bikebudi.liftshare.com

City Car Club has schemes in 14 UK cities
www.citycarclub.co.uk

PLEASE DO NOT
SIT ON
THE FENCE

POLLING STATION



**WHO DO YOU
TRUST TO MAKE
DECISIONS?**

We are all used to the way democracy works in England. There are councillors and MPs, there's the odd consultation on local issues, elections for parliament and the council. If you are lucky your local councillor or even MP will call at your house to give you a leaflet. But do you really know what they think, and have they ever asked what you think? You vote and give your opinion because it's your right. But nothing seems to change much and no-one really seems to listen. It seems you've got to be in the know or in the money to get your voice heard. Who really run this place? It's difficult to tell.

But by 2030 decisions are made in different ways. After most people stopped voting in old-style elections, neighbourhood assemblies were formed by electing representatives from every street across the city. They get paid a wage for their role. Assemblies control budgets and make participatory decisions on spending. People set priorities and every voice counts. The Town Hall is now buzzing with thousands of neighbourhood delegates. Our community, like all the others, has a powerful and well-respected elected mayor who attends the city-wide assembly on our behalf. We know exactly who to go to in order to get things done. We feel happier and empowered now we are in control of our own futures.

Resources

'Power 2010', 'Take Back Parliament' and 'the Participatory Budgeting Unit' show people how to take power back.

www.power2010.org.uk

www.takebackparliament.com

www.participatorybudgeting.org.uk