

Feel free to comment - and i'll make any other Festival attendees editors so you can add your own notes!

===== Dil Green intro =====

Future Rent vouchers

Ostrom etc

social structures. Legal/regulatory structures are just a fallback for social ones

Stroud Commons - land commons, climbing commons, housing commons groups, maybe energy, care, water soon

unlike the finance stuff, lots of nerds, people light up when you say Commons
cuts across social divisions

makes people imagine a good thing

but also, people think tragedy!

so 'commoning' - bringing things into the commons, instead

it's more of a conference than a festival. and was an effort of will to create, not expertise.
will be more next year! more cultural.

lots of <https://www.liberatingstructures.com/> to avoid pointless breakouts

===== Camila Vergara =====

senior lecturer at uni of essex. business school. which is weird but a radical faculty who
want to do projects in the world

always against the hegemony

history of idea of commons. the acts of parliament that enclosed the land - annexed and
then formalised in law

legal and regulatory order to conserve this state - unequal

energy commoning - energy is so fundamental

weaving - things together. baskets of knowledge. knowledge from around the world

today, private energy regime. for profit, centralised, negative externalities, big companies, massive infra (no resilience to eg storms)

energy commons regime - decentralised, no profit, small infra, community coops, circular economy, internalised externalities.

in Chile, hydropower is huge. A big windstorm, affected many communities. local needs are important.

need assembly based methods to figure out what a community wants. energy relates to housing, food, education, everything. so needs to consider everything ground up. examples from Chile. housing example - housing committees including those who did not have housing, and didn't have always formal education.

Julian - stroud, small hydro, was a local thing in stroud 200y ago. tension between water and hydro but it shouldn't be the case. small hydro often oddly expensive but best way to generate power

maintenance of solar and batteries - long life concerns in eg Chile

scottish small hydro - applecross
ogwen - wales, investors got money back

laura mentioned <https://networks.coop/> (local data centres + renewable + district heat, coop model, starting up)

<https://rippleenergy.com/> collective ownership of renewables
and policy push - <https://rippleenergy.com/own-your-power>

Comments touched on the importance of climate, people's awareness of the rip off and the way people don't know they have lost the power or that they could regain it.
people need to know what's possible and feel connection

need to think outside of box to tackle the issues of resilience, issues with eg Lithium in batteries

urban areas are also hard to work with, because you need a tight community

necessity is the mother of invention. But you need something to bring people together... crisis can do this. But in crisis mode, you are usually too late. needs to engage people at a family level too

commenter mentions <https://www.freco.org/> Frome

make sure people are not overburdened by work on projects. could have people selected by lottery to learn and support around the core for instance. make sure it's not always the same people.

housing is a good place to start. you can't get much activist time but a tiny number can get the ball rolling, and then you can pay a steward later. you could do the same with energy

local is important because you have the intersections between, say, water, hydro, heritage, ecology projects. need to work across projects. plus remembering the story of a place and why it's unique - make the stories more visible

12acre site in Frome for 20y. community led project to counter private property development - rejected - outrage was such that the private company pulled out (this was maybe 6w ago). so talks now re opened. (good that it was not just the usual suspects objecting - and the objections were made very swiftly)

local land ownership is also a key thing. and the national grid, who dictate the price and the connection. you don't have the option to withdraw from grid. and hydro plants also have water, under private ownership.

===== Dil =====

Chris Smaje - the Small Farm Future (cities get smaller, more people live on land - book)

===== Julian Jones =====

i'm an old 'muck spreader and stirrer' and used to work in agri equipment
saw the light that muck-spreading wasn't the greatest

and the related issues with sewage when all the waterways flood which they do often
we could turn that waste into compost but we don't
this stuff doesn't fit any political paradigm so we don't do it

biggest constructed wetlands - in Sudan - oil funded - but based on a sewage treatment
work in Stroud
gravel, reeds, put the sewage over it and it's sorted
meningitis - classic indicator of sewage pollution
got an agreement that no sewage should go into local river and also to look at nature
based solutions

Sudan, wars due to oil
corruption and war
oil likely to pull out now, which isn't good either for local communities and facilities

we need to reclaim our land rights and also our climate rights

remembering Paris COP in 2015
the <https://4p1000.org/> topsoil return

we are treated like mushrooms and fed shit on so many issues

this stuff doesn't fit any political paradigm so we don't do it

90% of carbon credit nature based solutions don't work - learned this in last few years
these are corporate-driven schemes
nature based solutions only work small scale if community owned
the corp model will never work

loads of local hydro potential

[see [lowimpact.org](https://www.lowimpact.org)
<https://www.lowimpact.org/posts/taking-the-water-industry-off-the-water-companies-julian-jones-of-water21-part-1>]

carbon sequestration when you only use compost - free organic carbon

reedbed to willow swale - a great model
doing the science which has been lacking

international capital indebted to our water industry
expensive solutions are needed to justify oncost profit. cheap solutions would bankrupt the industry

water commons for stroud
doing the research into legals now

the WAtter Acts had things sewn up, but they are so in breach
water companies are being cautious where people are withholding sewage bill payments
[local examples]

SUDS - sustainable urban drainage
catchment based water management - flooding etc, getting away from 'get rid of water' mindset

Water21 - new team coming on board to lead process
we are "a facilitating framework"
<http://www.water21.org.uk/>
going since 1997
water industry now imploding

tribalism - we have this here too, it's not just in north africa
it's about fear of loss of resources
we have it here in UK
living standards have peaked
we need to see the abundance around us, take back control

glyphosate warms farmland by 10c relative to trad farming
stops rainwater sinking into ground

health issues may drive change

-----day 2-----

Value Beyond Money - Diana Finch book

===== Dil intro =====

Let's do definition!

commons = outside/off market. locally governed/managed. multistakeholder.

infra for basic decency of existence

multistakeholder = important for changing property rights. turning binary rights into a woven tapestry of rights. eg Dark Matter Labs River Don project.

key so that if you do have limited commons eg 1 house, there's a way to decide who lives in it

Hastings Commons - a community land trust, which isn't great, but they've done a lot of work to make sure the trustees are as multistakeholder / democratic as possible

===== Stroud Commons - =====

stroudcommons.org [new site coming soon]

Dave - intro -----

own it together - make it affordable - keep it forever

people are bringing infra into community ownership and we now have the tools to bring them together

we can avoid banks, money, debt, and have asset locks to hold things in community

capitalism and liberal democracy = bad. terrible people in positions of extreme power.

projects - even to take economy into community ownership

eg liverpool finance project MCS

can't overthrow it all

coops and mutuals are great, but they have been in many cases reabsorbed into capitalism. eg coop bank now owned by ? private equity. coop energy absorbed by Octopus...

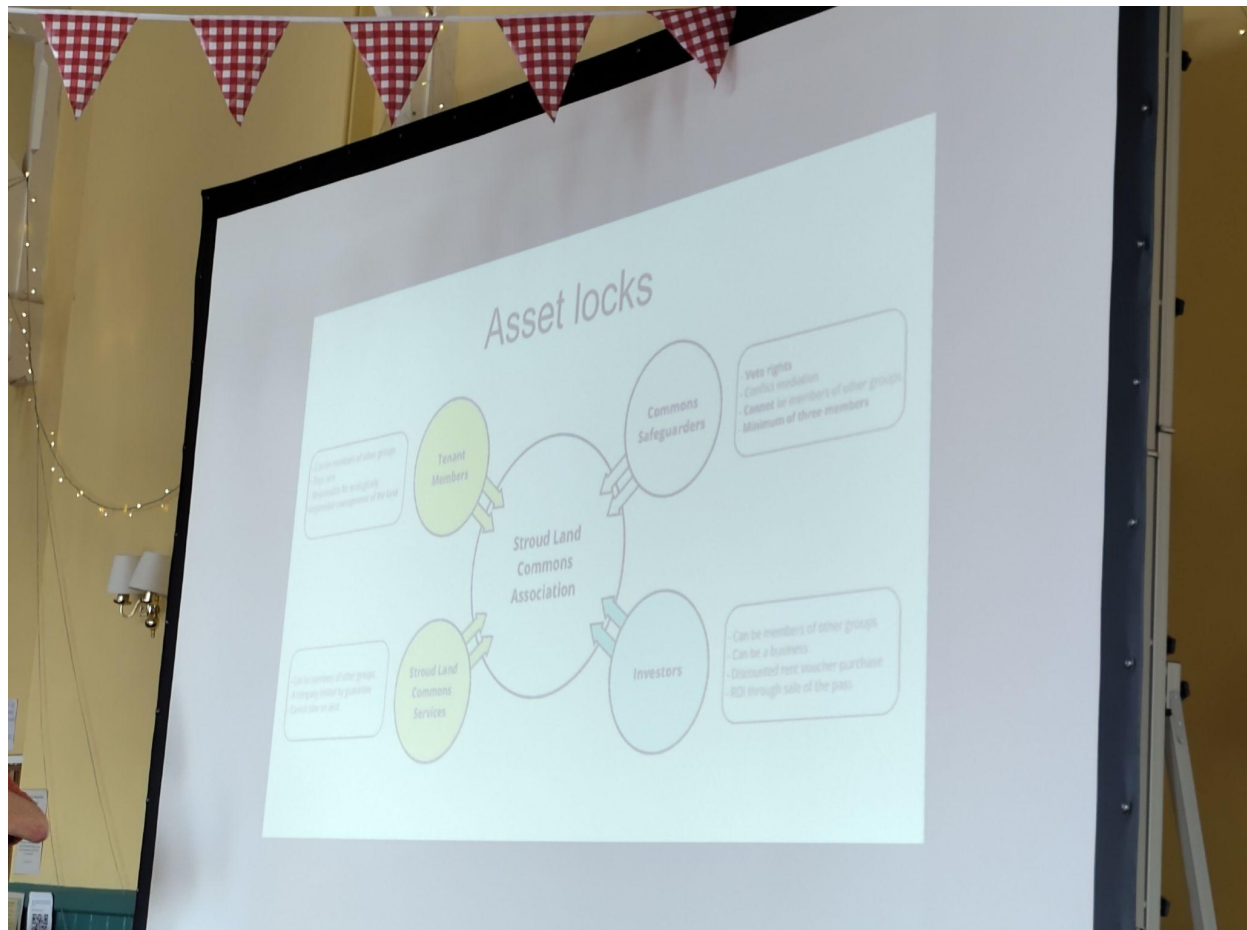
other projects -- for infra without debt:
mutual credit services
IslandPower
credit commons protocol

if you sell shares or take debt you will not be in the commons for long

idea from ? Chris

sell vouchers at a discount for future eg energy
vouchers in kwh so proof against inflation
or for housing, in sqm, or for care, hours of care, etc.

asset locks -



commons stakeholders - trusted people, eg village elders. veto right

credit clearing - Tomaz Fleischman, lowimpact.org

find the trading loops

Slovenia has had national credit cleaning since 1992. great research data

localloop-merseyside.co.uk

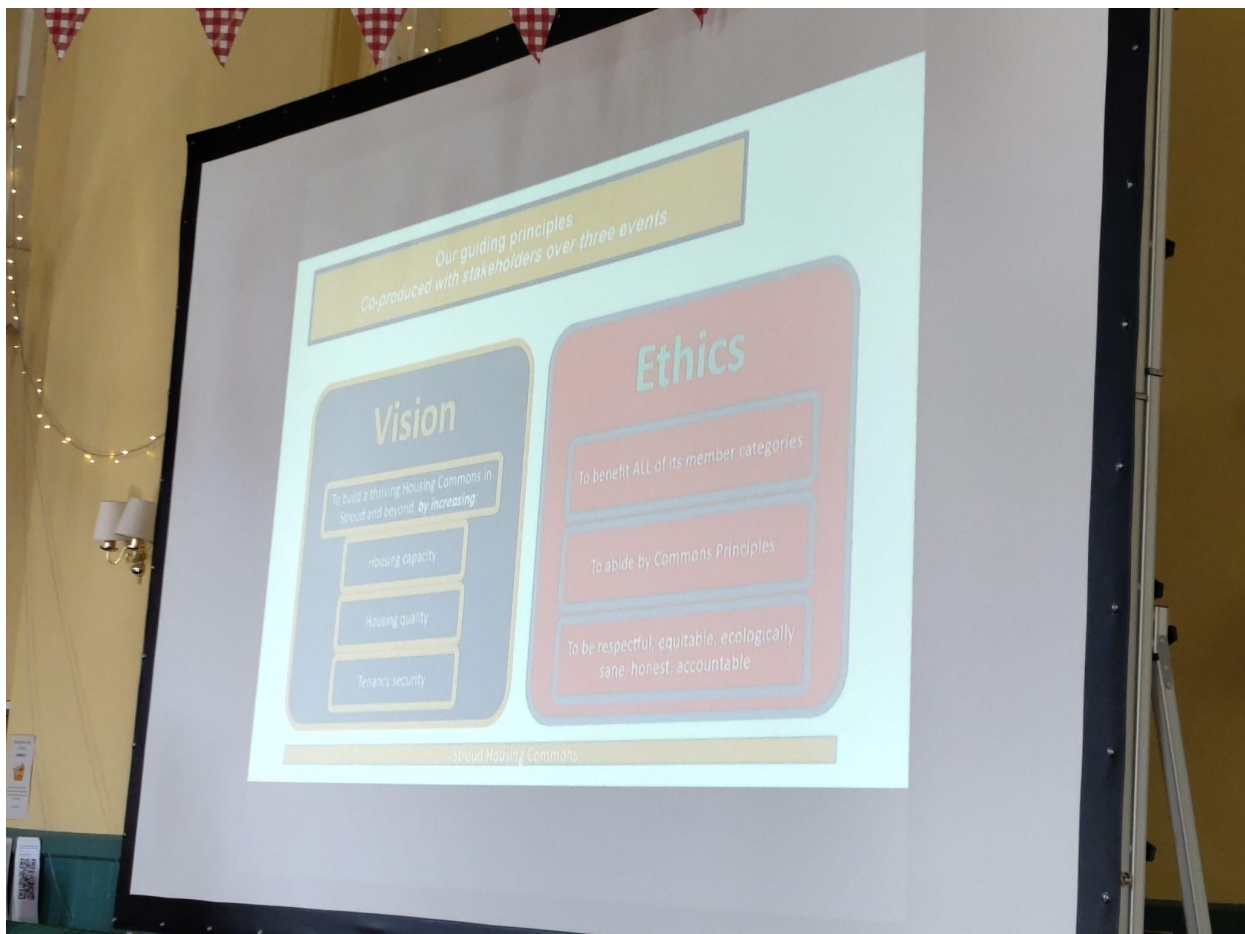
maps. clusters of business => can have a shared ledger, reduce need for money

creditcommons.net - a federation system.

your pension could be community based - housing vouchers, care vouchers, electricity vouchers, food vouchers!

Amrit Sachar - housing commons -----

Sikhism = humanitarianism. justice is key



= vision and ethics for housing commons

focus is to avoid money extraction to pay off the banks

so instead the housing stock is well maintained

investor security is key

- how vouchers are bought and sold. currently with cash money
- inheritance. you can inherit vouchers
- why would i invest this way
- how do i maintain control over my assets? - you want to ethically invest but also not to lose money. ROI comparable with standard investment, not high stakes stocks.
- what happens if it doesn't work out? - working on robust governance. partnership agreement by end of this month. would get all money back if it doesn't work / get house back.

partnership agreement coming into effect for house, next month
all the info on stroud commons and lowimpact.org

Ronan Murphy energy commons -----
draft results of energy commons survey by essex U, in stroud.
understanding factors influencing energy consumption etc

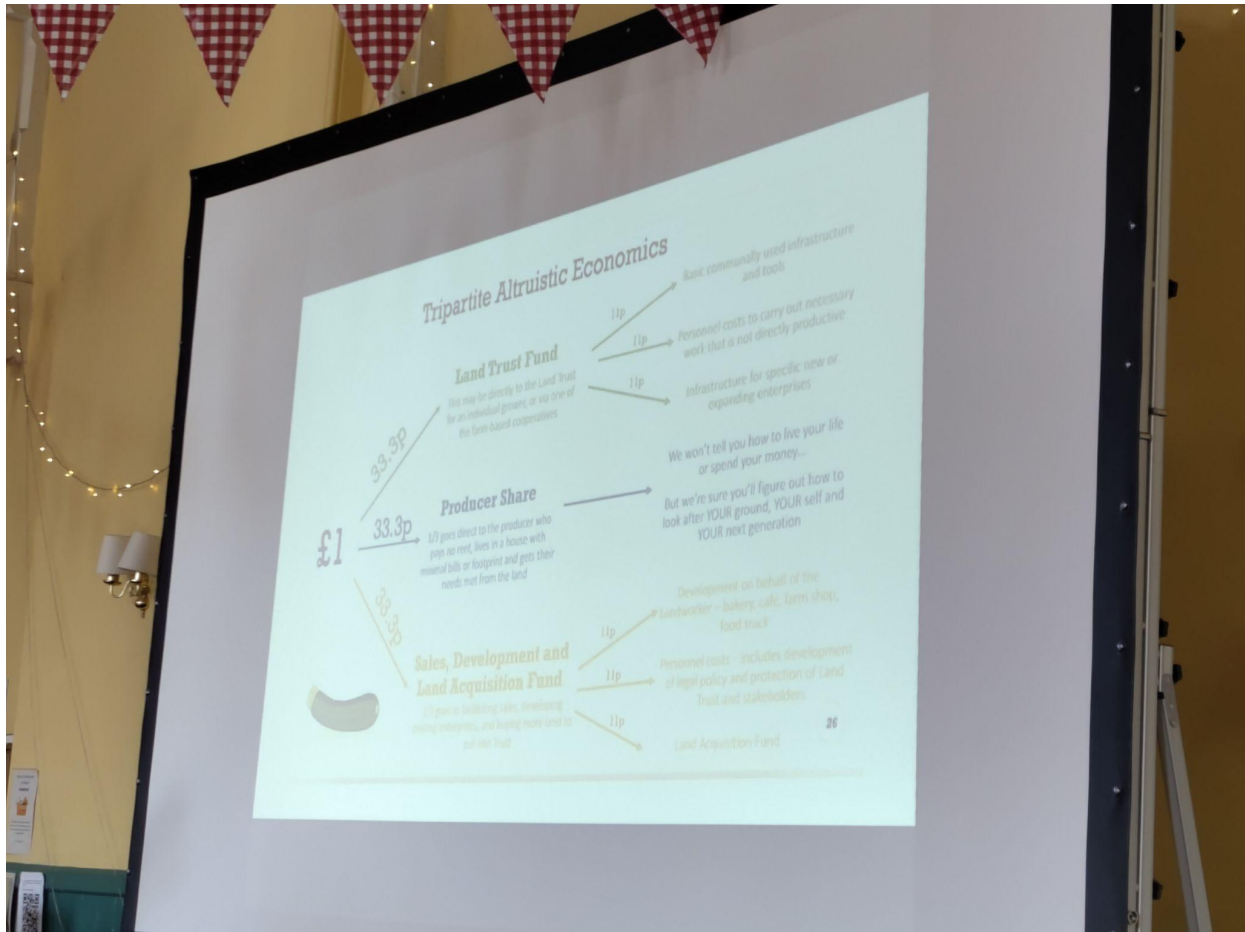
found various clusters relating to concerns, community project involvement

=> educating people on the ground about coops mutuals commons and other ways to
organise is key.

paper out this year!

- commoning land food and water -----

dave darby and julian jones
stroud community agriculture - work with open food network
<https://stroudcommunityagriculture.org/>
common ground - CLTs - communicating problems and solutions



- tripartite altruistic economics

trying to build with and around existing projects, bring in new paradigms

'we have all the jigsaw pieces we need but the pic on the box isn't the pic we are making'

start in Jan when growers are less busy

lots of questions like how to share a tractor

ecological land cooperative

set out aims for stroud land commons

work out what legal thing can work

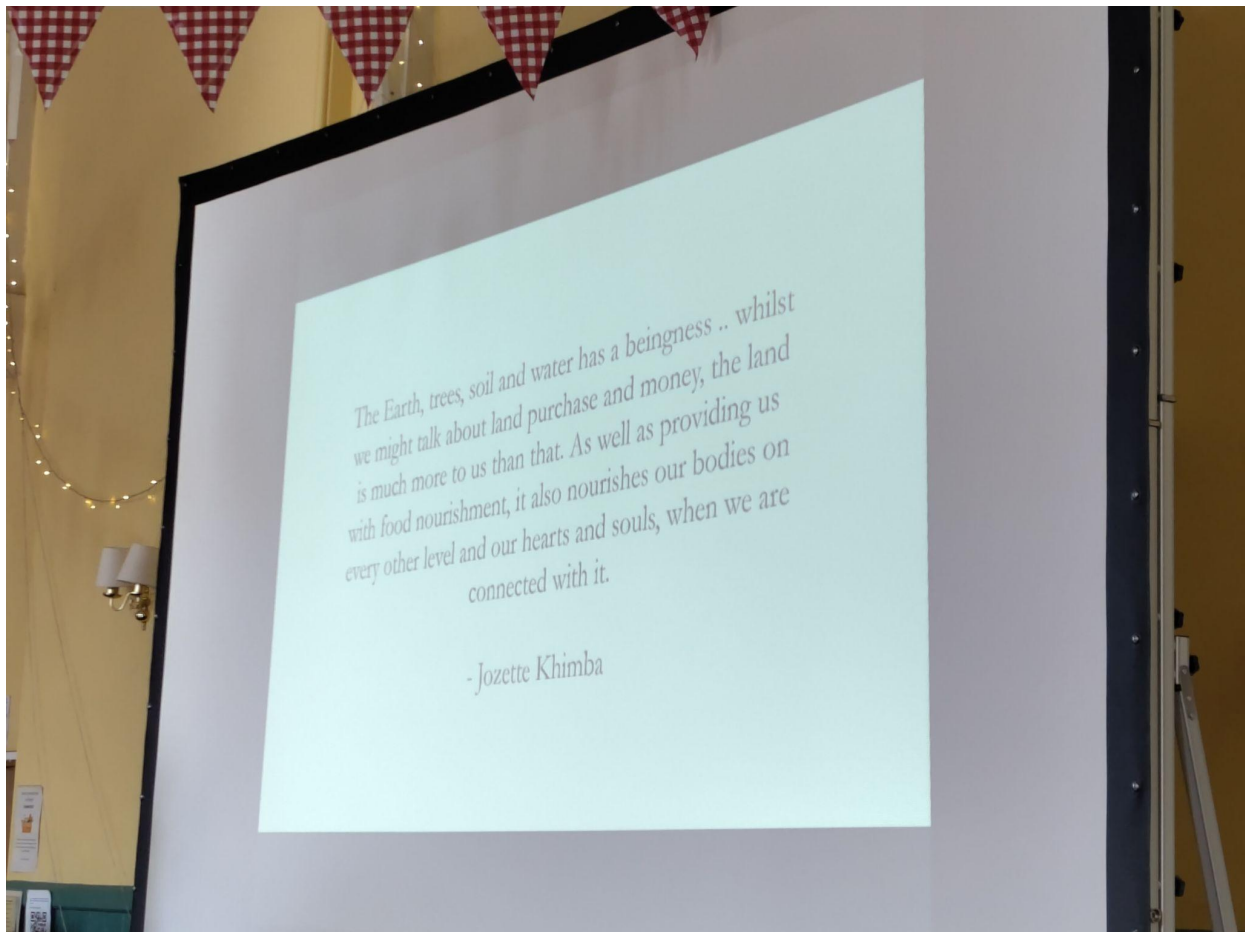
locally -- Heavens Valley project is a community benefit society, just secured with 300k pledges. not commons but at least it's acquired for the community

maybe having a local umbrella org that could facilitate quick transfers to community ownership . help better networking of current and aspirational community asset owning groups

stroud common wealth company Ltd. building community wealth for social cultural and economic renewal

cauldron - multistakeholder. 'hot off the press'

goodwill and burnout risk - need to build capacity, governance and decision making so it's not just voluntary



Chik - climbing commons -----

we wanted a local climbing gym

make climbing more affordable and accessible (by cutting interest payments)
surveyed potential users - learn about them

climbers buy pre paid vouchers - single pass, annual or monthly. it's the way gyms work anyway. then, build the gym
initial capital paid off - eg within a year. then can deploy capital for improvements etc
so buy without debt. asset lock, own as community
democratic governance
want to be replicable - low friction, easy to do

innovations

- unmanned keycard access bouldering gym model officially approved by insurers - first ever in uk!! reduces cost. had to work with insurers
- entry price will be lower than for profit gyms. more if the community chooses to subsidise. maybe 50% savings
- small scale means larger non profit gyms don't see it as competitive, and may even be complimentary. you can set up close to existing gyms. so that opens up partnership options, sponsorship etc

will make a manual

progress?

raised 20k of 40k needed for 800ft² for 1y
decided not to sign lease... raise more money
think missed the target because avoided crowdfunder platforms; people pledged but didn't transfer.
also some folks wanted to pay in a spread out way, rather than £300 up front

people didn't request refunds much

=> Chik's new project Commons Lab

'fearlessly explore'

a support ecosystem for the commoning movement

mission: empower communities and advance commoning through interdisciplinary research, education, (social) innovation and advocacy

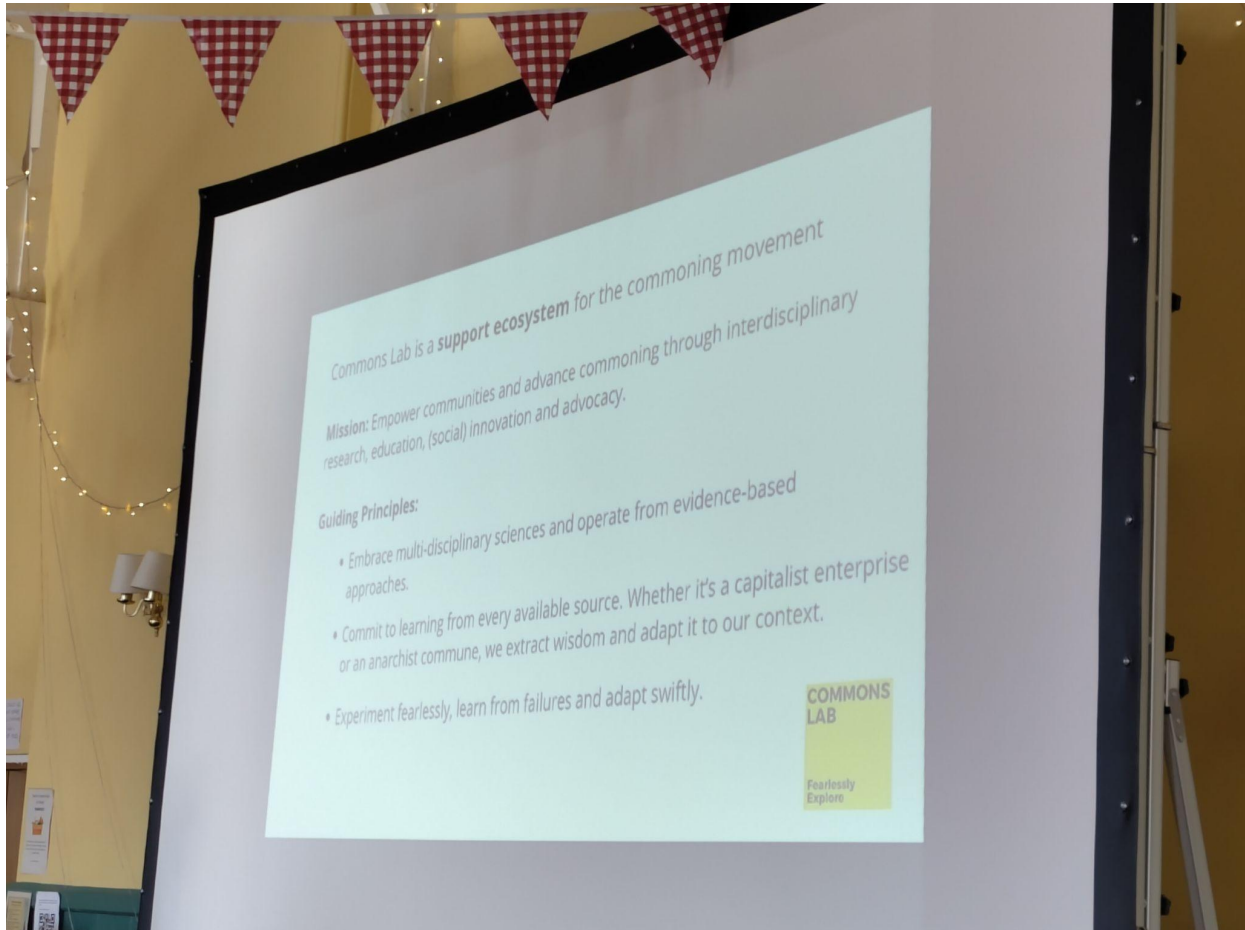
needed because Ostrom was all about similar communities, we are diverse and different now in 21st century

Guiding principles:

embrace multidisciplinary sciences and operate from evidence-based approaches

commit to learning from every available source

experiment fearlessly



R&D:

- research new models of commoning
- tools and methods to support areas of practice
- pilot projects

education & capacity building:

comms and advocacy

- not all communities can explain commoning in an accessible way AND go into depth where needed

need ways to build assets that can be contextualised and made available locally

where's it at?

- small group of academics and activists etc

evolving idea, presenting specialisms and working out what we can create together. next

phase - project define and funding. start from stroud, build framework up

===== Bristol Commons =====

Danny

regrow/reclaim/rebuild the commons

latest iteration of movements in the city

dispossession - example of home in wales, lived in it for 30y, owners had it just 4y longer.
then evicted, and trees cut etc

Coexist charitable society limited, set up 2008. coexistuk.org/

Stokes Croft ex-office building - wanted to give back to community because with financial
crisis housing redevelopment wasn't possible

became thriving community cultural hub, biggest in uk at the time

500 social enterprises, charities, artists

contributed £21m to local economy each year

until - owner died, brother took over and changed it all

dispossession. many people lost jobs, businesses closed etc

co-opted space. now operating for private gain

developed a coherent plan, approved by finance team at council but mayor kicked it to long
grass

what was left was: Relentless Optimism.

many things fed to Bristol commons.

FutureVille

What is Land Justice? conference

Doughnut economics

Mondragon

reston model

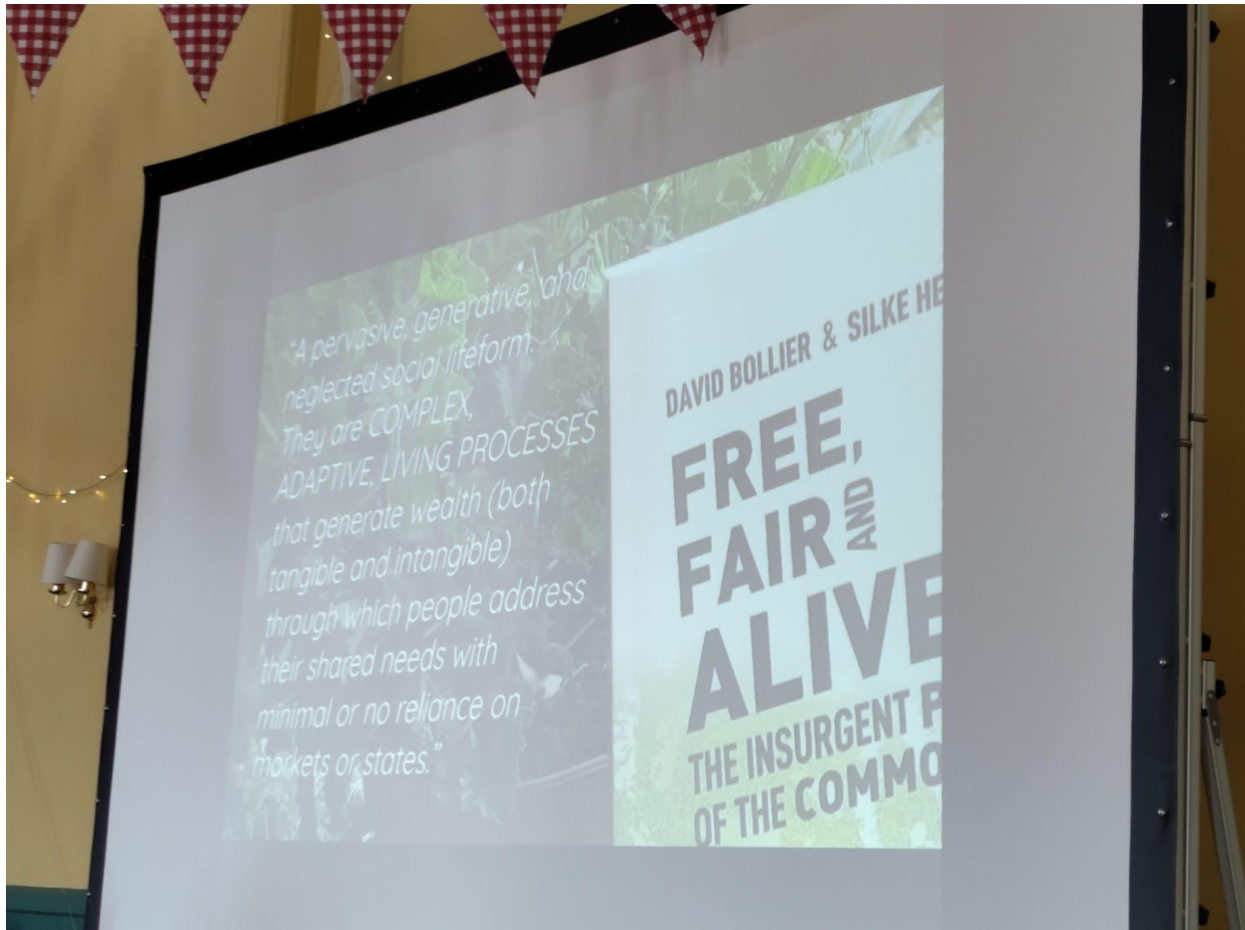
Komm in de Gage (hamburg)

so... what is the commons?

a lens for the future for how we can relate to each other and the natural world

traditional definition - moved away from this

There is a new definition - from David Bollier and others -



Parallel Polis - Valclav Havel idea

another system we can co create together, exists in parallel

networks of commoning

transvest things across from industrial liberal thing into commoning

dead spaces need enlivening

our thinking has become enclosed

the tragedy is privatisation, not the commons

to conceive and believe in all we do that something else is possible. this is what the bristol commons seeks to do

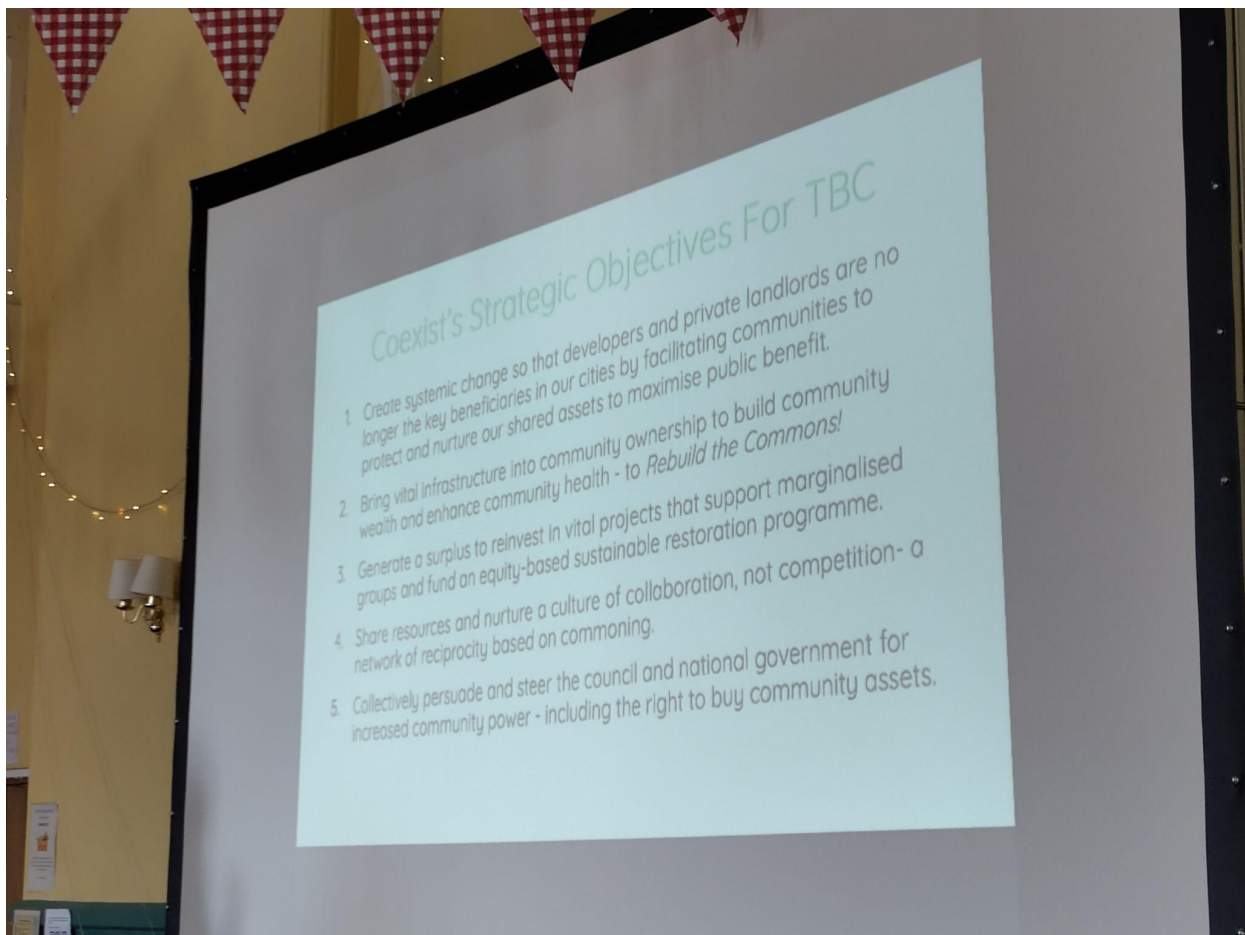
many spaces eg Mivart Studios (privately owned but run differently); St Annes House, council owned, independently run

SPARKS - a meanwhile space, which is problematic, energy goes in which could be better used elsewhere

so many assets, need to bring together, but no one has capacity
so - we'll pay folks, arrange care, to enable people to come together

first event March 2023

Coexist has strategic objectives for the Bristol Commons



agreements document reflecting values are on website

Coexist catch-ups - regular meetings with other groups, keeping things going
open spaces + connective practices
nurture diversity
joy, creativity, visioning a positive future
mapping; heartfelt connections. kinetic
reflection, restoration. offer and share food. share body heat back to back, safe way
co create strategy; evolve processes; shared governance. we are all learners

emerging organogram for the Bristol Commons----

comms and story telling

strategy and membership

mapping and resources

heart circle (values, aims, steering, governance, resolutions, accountability [representation from anchor orgs eg a community arts org, a community lead by marginalised people].

roles all rotate. 6m rotation, always with someone else, staggered rotation so a change every 3m

Bristol Commons strategic aims

- build a network of commoners and a culture of commoning [key!!]
- bring vital infra and assets into community ownership
- facilitating communities and citizens to protect and nurture shared assets
- generating a surplus to reinvest in shared commons
- generating political momentum...locally and globally

multistakeholder structure - work in progress -- 3 parts



CCBS - land trust equiv (coexist). [CCBS is regulated by FCA rather than CC]

CIC trading body (for diverse rev schemes)

PLC for transvestment (or similar to PLC) - hold shares, enables purchase for transvestment

Rebuild the Commons event in October 19th

will bring manifesto to the wider community

===== Diana Finch - Value Beyond Money

=====

Bristol Pound

Aims

- localise
- reduce transport related CO2

- reduce leakage, build community wealth

Achievements:

- paper and digital money [first local currency to achieve this]
- payment of local taxes

scale - 600 businesses, 2000 users overall

BUT 0.2% people opened an account and only 0.02% used it

not enough to shift the dial. hard to say much about impacts at a macro scale

how do we spread to the non-woke mainstream??

we've been told a lie over 20y about nudge economics. it's not true. our behaviours are determined by other things

the real problem: Tesla or Bus!

teslas are a status symbol

what does it look like for a corp lawyer to switch from buying a tesla to taking a bus?

how they feel about themselves

how others feel about them

when it's cooler to say "i'm late because we were getting a wheelchair off the 49 bus" rather than "I had to charge my tesla"

ISM model of behaviour change - Individual, social, material

Andrew Darnton

tipping point, societal change

so at Bristol Pound we wondered - shut down, or can we do some other change?

ethical concerns - enabling experiential learning, avoid manipulation and control

Bristol Pay Ideas:

- separate ideology from onboarding
- value proposition needs to work within current paradigm
- operate at scale

THEN

- sneak in real experiment as a 'game'
- enable experiential learning

creat impact

Commons Vs Coops

Coops - business, in the market, based on trade/exchange, mediated by money, benefits members, democratic

Commons - not a business, based on sharing, no money required, benefits members+mode, collaborative

wanted Bristol Pay to be Not-A-Business

--- Tokens Vs Money

And tokens are not hte same as crypto!!

- money is for markets. it accounts for financial value

- real values are not fungible. accounting is for non financial value. non-financial current-sees (Art Brock)

Partha Dasgupta - the Economics of Biodiversity [book]

no one is doing the book keeping for the planet

Kate Raworth doughnut - things worth counting. multiple capitals beyond Raworth - she doesn't go far enough, it's still markets.

economics doesn't depend on MONEY

we have had carbon credits for 25y and they haven't worked to reduce carbon

you can reduce the carbon per widget but then you grow the company and make more widgets

and you solve for energy but not for materials

AND SO we thought about Bristol Pay using tokens

- a token to count thanks. great for social cohesion

tokens can degrade over time

a game of UBI in the form of thanks tokens. you can try to give away your thanks tokens -

there should be a story with each thanks! you can also thank the people of Bristol, eg if you don't know who helped you on the street.

compare to LETS or timebanking

these are market approaches

those who are in need of a lot of help can't bank time etc. tokens would work ok.

so - social value that tokens could count. Thanks. Volunteering tokens could degrade over time, vs thanks tokens.

tokens for reuse - loaning out rarely used drill or gifting it, the counter on the token increases. a league table of the most used powertools in bristol! my drill has been used a lot; my former drill is now somewhere else and is used 263 times this year!

drills used on average 4min then landfill

the market is a governance system

problems to get this going

- funding experiments that don't make sense in current paradigm. defining beneficiaries for instance; or projects that cannot engage rich people (even esme fairbairn...). aside from usual grant funding risk and plan needs
- how people are socialised shapes perception - difficult to re-perceive, and once you have, the cognitive dissonance is huge. (by age 5 kids can't imagine a world without money)
- blockchain, DAO, tech solutions have problems around maintenance, infra, power, agreements, disagreements

hard to keep momentum to north star :)

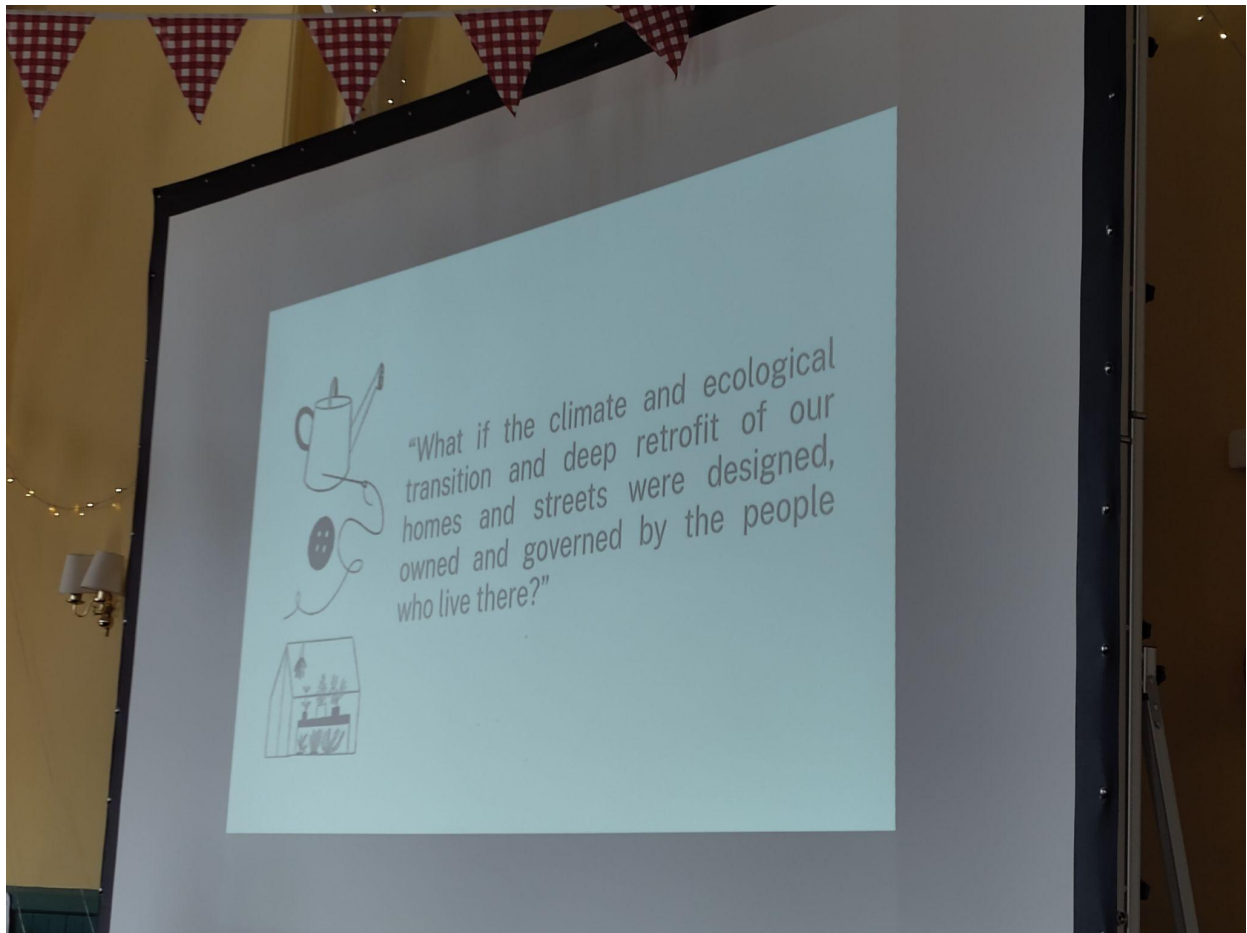
===== Immy Kaur, Civic Square =====

years ago in a room a bit like this, ended up creating TEDxBrum and many things have snowballed since then, my life's work

'not an expert on any of the things we work on now'

many collaborators - dark matter labs, system labs etc
deeply situated in an ecosystem of many people who through different mechanisms, skills, etc are working towards regenerative futures

an inner city birmingham neighbourhood. situated in UK/Eur/global North organising.



a group, young, excitable, creative. no grand plan

founded a crowd funded space, ImpactHub Birmingham. A trojan horse. on the front, beautifully designed. pay for a membership with time or skills or money. hosted events, hosted workspaces

events brought people from non extractive, commons, decolonializing etc.

it looked like a social, creative coworking space. people could give money and did felt tangible and safe to teh city. less of a 'young group talking about bringing down economic system' vibes from the TEDx days.

and yet

we were organising, building literacy, building capabilities and capacities, beyond extractive system, new stories beyond enslavement, capture etc. we did that all the time, new stories many people came, from around the world.

we were about surfacing other stories about our relationships with each other, the land we live on, materials and economic ideas

at scale, 1000s people with 100-200 people who were a core for the 4-5y we were open vast extended network

started to see green shoots. land and spatial justice movements

started to understand the power of infrastructure in building solidarity. motivating movement beyond our space

Dark Matter Labs - Indy Johar -

realised we were not just building a nice story, but that there was a greater story around the role of infra in our cities and places, and what kinds of knowledge, resources, tools and peers and momentum you need, to unravel the stories of dominion and control and extraction, we understood these weren't just cute spaces but were critical to our ability to transition from where we are to somewhere else

no issue at all with the 100s of 1000s of people living, doing community halls and library of things and repair cafes and saving libraries - thousands of things everywhere! but why, in 2015, were these things still closing, projects fighting for funding, undervalued??? AND we trashed the social and civic infra of our societies??

as a young person who grew up in Blair years, didn't realise that what happens in history is that the basics go entirely backwards

you can have all these stories of things working beautifully but it still goes backwards

private equity and finance and so on take over our cities

our community was wonderful but there was no guarantee we could secure any of the future we wanted

Indy, 2014, said 'the hub will fail but you got to do it anyway'

we'd raised the biggest crowdfunder in Bham etc, so this was a shock

but it was because despite the 1000s of 1000s of things happening around the country, it made no dent in how things were

nothing about how civic and social infra is funded and supported enables it to thrive and survive

those with assets in community ownership can maybe just about make it work, marginal

but no amount of amazing work can outwit the brokenness of the system, how wired it is to extraction, how impossible it is for that system to value anything other than finance.

hard to believe but...

bar the odd few with sovereignty over their asset or land, everything else is fighting to stay alive

we closed down the hub from the start

over the 5y we published everything, what we did, what was happening with landlord, etc closing night, Indy came back, said 'told you it would fail' [in terms of land and property, not people]. but he was right. it was an illustration of how we can only value financial capital, how the land system not how good we were was why we could not stay open everytime we did better, the landlord raised our rent we improved the area, the landlord increased our rent

speculators and landlords

and this room may know it

but we could show it to others, to radicalise others.

we build capabilities, literacy and knowledge in a community, inc young, creative, parents, etc. people started to understand what we call the Dark Matter, the fundamental rewirings of economy that are needed

even beyond community ownership, and towards land being sovereign itself, moving to more indiginious ideas

the community had seen it

and it changed what they went and worked on

it was about creating space and doing the things you need to do anyway in a space - eat, mutual aid, care etc

whilst also simultaneously creating and building literacy about the systems under the surface

many books will tell you this.

but you never realise how critical it was, where ever you are, to constantly be bringing the ideas to life in practice

Dark Matter Labs - started to build the rewiring stuff, amazing projects

today: Civic Square focus
people can be part of transforming things

it's not just a story about how good the world could be if we had these nice community assets
you need more

2019, impact hub closed, after a closing period of winding down, composting etc. and talking about next thing
needed to find land, be closer to neighbourhoods etc.
that when we did the next infra it was commensurate with the scale of the climate and social and ecosystem crisis we are in
that it was in a land contract and finance that could transform itself
on the website it's like a barrier because it seems so much. but eg mutual aid is the starting point, we hold in common with other projects

how we look at our neighbourhoods and what we already have
saving libraries as statutory services AND reimagining them to be what we need in a future
reimagining things, infra, land covenants, type of money, in perpetuity
a new era of social and economic covenants. net regenerative. constantly building social and ecological benefits

1 neighbourhood public square

2 neighbourhood doughnut

- a compass
- we are both overshooting and not delivering what local people need, just like in all developed global north

3 neighbourhood transitions

street level

people can understand bills, clean air, whether their street is playful. needs to be street level not global stuff

talking about family experiences in various places, more than 'carbon' within on going stories

impact of mould on kids. but may not talk retrofit

street = high level of agency

local practice alongside the complicated systems work we also do

Dan Hill Book - designing missions

not theory of change. Theory of Action

think about the futures we are hurtling into. we already shot past 1.5C.
don't take 3C as a thing to fixate on like 1.5 was. but today's kids will live it.
need to build with that in mind

3C global => +5C on land => +8C for bham in summer
research talking about the various risks, based on research in BHam
summer will consistently exceed 40C in bham. which means 1000s of deaths

<https://medium.com/neighbourhood-public-square/3%C2%BAc-neighbourhood-582903b050b2>

new age of imperialism will be on materials and resources

the current energy transition isn't viable

seeing more cities demolish and then leave land undeveloped because the material economics don't work right now

guiding strategy - maximising co benefits of. neighbourhood transformation

first half - misery. need this, in the UK.

second half - looking forward. it's good.

[photo]

you need art of these futures, see that in the research

sure there's policy but you build in practice in places with everyone, and that's the action
Civic Square are working on

Q from emma totness - ritual and ceremony in community

- importance of rhythm

there are 3 matters in our work

- Dream, Dark, Everyday

everyday is the rhythm and ritual

the Dark is the hidden wiring of unjust systems that we need to dismantle, redesign, reform

Dream - igniting radical imagination, to get beyond our current realities. getting ourselves out of this space

all our work crosses all 3 matters, and needs a balance. but usually starts in one of them!

balance is key so you are not overwhelmed

[don't talk to folks on the street about this ha ha]

rhythm and reliability of things is really key

make it always there at the regular time

lockdowns created a window of opportunity, maybe 4-5m before we realised how bad it all was

Dave Darby - alliance of uk local commons and commons like things. Guilio has

<https://www.commonseconomy.org/>

Immy - the dark matter oppresses any change. defunds resistance movements

===== Simon, new Labour MP at Stroud

=====

community ownership of pubs, shops, land

===== Claire Farrell - the Humanity Project

=====

designer and educator. fashion and ethics

cofounder XR

assembly focus

Humanity Project is trying to be a useful addition to people around the UK who are trying to organize different assembly work

don't want to be too political as this can exclude folks
but you do need some political understanding shared

remember tufton st, fossil capital
mainstream discourse whipping up racial hatred including prominent politicians
Reform building grassroots machinery etc, professionalising too
movement building tactics being adopted by the right

climate - aerosol stuff masking warming. realising that stopping is going to make things worse, very hard to communicate this when only just getting awareness of climate

climate movement often told it doesn't cross class or race boundaries
but we need to build bridges

humanity project trying to create a sense of possibility
in a space where people are not being heard
'why is no one listening when XR are being so f**ing annoying' - that's the question
but these people don't understand the science, teh aerosols, the idea of tipping points
politics and media won't help moderate public conversation here
so - assembly makes sense now

a lot of political organising is boring
so we let bastards do it for us. it's not interesting
it's work not fun

but we have to get people together
and saying it's about democracy might not be the best way

intentionally build relationships across our issues. because even if we fix race tomorrow
climate is still a thing

progressive left didn't really get into citizens assemblies
serious prop wasn't taken seriously

public nuisance - was originally law to use against a company that was causing pollution, say, to a community.
the application has flipped

meeting people where they are at - and yet you need the types of people you meet
how do you meet people who are not like us? or you don't like?
eg cost of living alliance folks on a call, they worried the XR person might be a bit weird!
hard to set up those sort of meetings
across cultural suspicion, historic mistrust

thought - we should have assemblies about race or climate or cost of living
BUT people wanted open space
but that's too open, you take ages to work out what to talk about
so maybe: community listening campaign - door knocking etc, talk to strangers! then if you have a feeling for what topics are hot, you can call an assembly about that. and people will show up

but makes it a longer process

tried a national assembly. 2 days on zoom
practices of citizen assemblies with inputs, experts, deliberation groups]
intersectional - climate, race and cost of living
lived experience accounts as expert inputs

process was relative success, learning about it all
not a success in deciding what would be 5 things to do nationally

the grassroots organising, self whatsit, is already happening. XR, commons etc
yay

when a revolution happens a lot of the work happens in a domestic setting
so. what does that mean
spaces like this in stroud, not so easy in london

faith folks with sense of spiritual connection.... how can we make that accessible, a spiritual element which is not culturally alienating?

hardest is locating power you can do a jujitsu move on
like gandhi weaving at home - not just a symbolic fuck you but also a constructive thing.
you need ot hurt power. doing a bit of rewilding isn't hurting the opponent enough

assemblies can't be a talking shop, you need some action

you need to be able to do it with the person who thinks the queen was a lizard

if i talk to a primark person and they leave and feel good about learning, i've not done a
useful thing, i've been negative

land commons is a great jujitsu move!

next:

- do fewer places
- do more cost of living and black communities (where white climate folks are not)
- take it to places that it's not normally happening

trad of non violence which is about creating space where there isnt any

work is slow but learning has to be fast
need to share in real time

love is hard work

----- Jo ? -----

local climate action groups didn't seem to be very effective

assembly idea felt better

so a standing citizens assembly, there all the time. upweight those most affected by an
issue

a participatory ecosystem

it's about love

polarities from many sources in stroud
need ot bring in and hold all that
cost of living is a good topic
unpacks everything to do with collapse
get organised, get used to making decisions in this way, how to hear each other, then we'll
be ready (for eg 3C neighbourhood)

of course maybe it all gets coopted by the state later!
but it's not happened now!
we have to try to do it

governance is key for commons
nourishing !

XR is an inspiration
as is eg Chile
XR, the third principle is finally coming into its own

Dil --
deliberative approach maybe needs to be the first step
to get away from the perception that movements are all the middle class whites coming
with ideas
it's not the final piece of commons, it's the start with the legitimacy

question -- language across cultures and classes

Nick - the black guy in Transition Towns
joined to find out why no one there, stayed
found that [black] people said they hadn't been in climate activism but had been involved
in eg air quality
UK people of colour are remitting money back home more often now because of climate
disasters back home

the right know that if they get the left in big abstract territory then you're doomed
the right also remember that media readers have low education and literacy

humanityproject.uk/