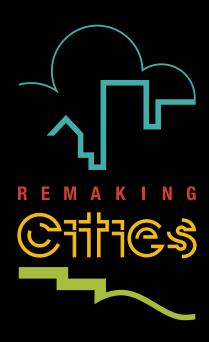
### Remaking Cities Congress

Pittsburgh, PA October 16-18, 2013



#### **Major Partners**

Remaking Cities Institute, Carnegie Mellon University

The American Institute of Architects

# Remaking Cities in Lean Times Hank Dittmar









#### COMMUNITY RIGHTS IN ENGLAND

The new Rights contained within the Localism Act came into effect in 2012 devolving power from government to communities, local authorities and individuals.

Community Right to Build

The Right to Build gives communities the power to build new shops, housing or community facilities without going through the normal planning process. Read our Understanding the Community Right to Build guide and also find out how it works.

Community Right to Bid

The Right to Bid gives communities the opportunity to bid to buy and run valued local amenities if they come onto the open market. (In effect from autumn 2012). Get advice on owning and managing community assets including asset transfer which Locality has been supporting through the Asset Transfer Unit for many years.

Community Right to Challenge

The Right to Challenge gives local groups the opportunity to express their interest in taking over a local service where they think they can do it differently and better. Read the Understanding the Community Right to Challenge guide and find out how it works.

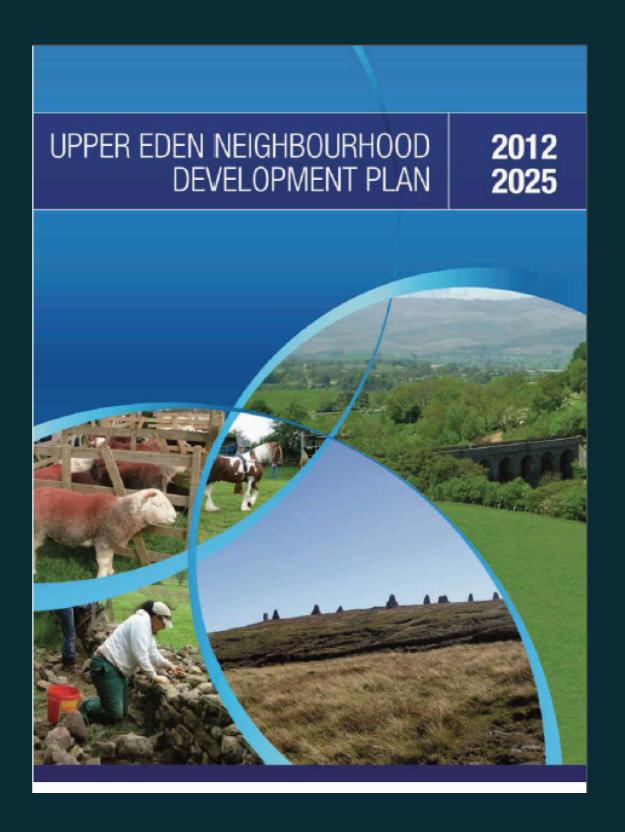
Neighbourhood Planning

Neighbourhood planning powers give people the chance to decide how their local area should develop and what should be built.

- See more at: <a href="http://mycommunityrights.org.uk/my-community-rights/#sthash.vxTRL2fM.dpuf">http://mycommunityrights.org.uk/my-community-rights/#sthash.vxTRL2fM.dpuf</a>

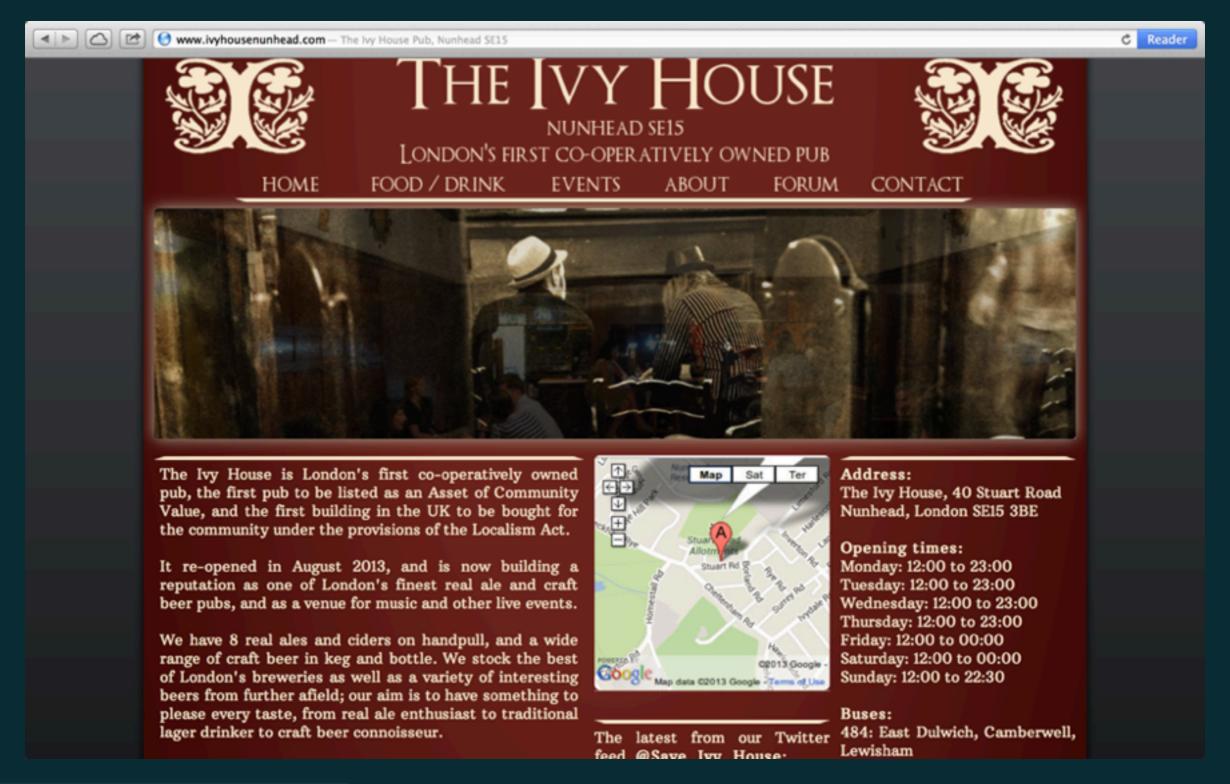
### Neighbourhood Plans

- Neighbourhoods opt in by forming a Neighbourhood Forum
- Plans must be consistent at the Strategic level with the local plan
- They are reviewed for consistency and then put to a referendum. If passed they are binding on the neighbourhood and the local government.



Neighbourhood Planning

### Community Right to Bid



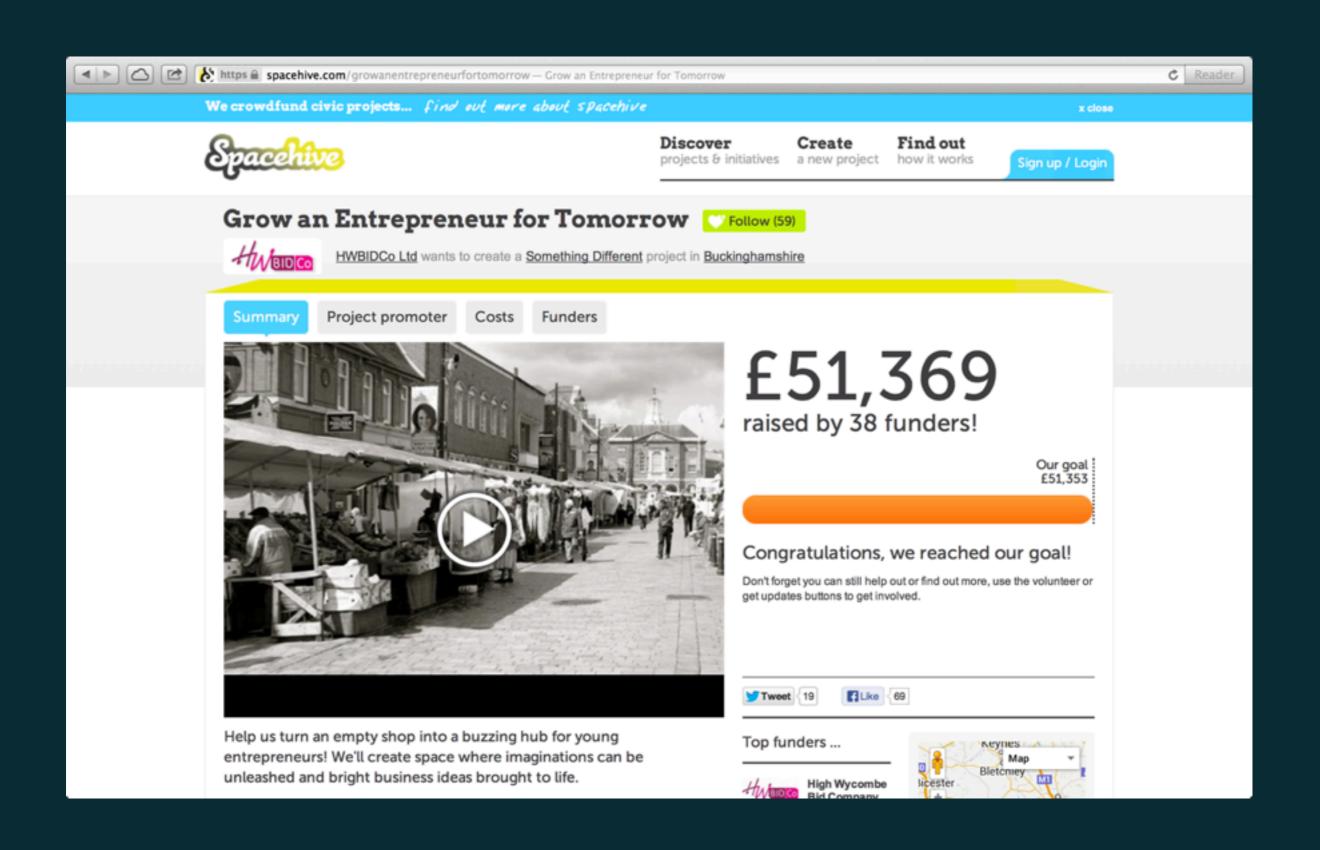


Community right to bid on community assets

### **Custom Build**







# USTARD FACTORY

0121 224 7777 💟 🔳







HOME **OFFICE SPACE** 

**INDUSTRIAL SPACE** 

SHOPPING

WHAT'S ON

**EVENT VENUES** 

REGENERATION

CONTACT

he Custard Factory is Birmingham's creative quarter. Just 800 paces from the Bull Ring this 15-acre sprawl of riverside factories was built 100 years ago by Sir Alfred Bird, the inventor of custard. At one time he had a thousand people making the stuff. Some even say it helped create the British Empire. But by the early 1980s it had long since lost its mysterious appeal and the factories fell derelict.

We took it over in 1988. We began to restore the buildings and announced open house (and studio) to the best of Birmingham's young creative talent. The rush to come in was overwhelming. Since then a whole new inner city neighbourhood has emerged - intricate, fine grained and threaded by green spaces, fountains and sculpture. Now, more than 5,000 people work in The Custard Factory Quarter and its surrounding area.

The Custard Factory Quarter is now home to a dynamic community of creative and digital enterprises, independent retailers and a thriving independent music scene. Among other facilities are a theatre, cafés, corporate and social events spaces, art galleries, educational space, TV studios and a series of dramatic public open spaces.













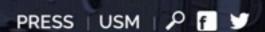




Home | Trinity Buoy Wharf

# TRINITY BUOY WHARF

HOME | WHAT'S ON | WORK SPACE | EVENT SPACE | NEWS | ABOUT | VISIT US





DOCKLANDS'
MOST EXCITING
ARTS QUARTER

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST







### Why Do We Need Lean?

- In England, only about half of the local authorities have adopted local plans, and from inception of project to planning approval can take eight to twelve years.
- Volume house builders are delivering the same number of houses now as they were in 1956. Affordable housing is no longer delivered by local government and housing associations have been entirely dependent on subsidies which have dried up. There is an annual gap of between 100,000-175,000. Meanwhile there are over 700K empty homes in England.
- Our high streets are in crisis with changes in retail, despite bans on out of town shopping centres and super stores. Regeneration and redevelopment continues to rely upon the big project and the iconic cultural building, and the financial underpinnings for that model have disappeared with fiscal austerity.

### Why Do We Need to Lean Down?

- 2 billion more people will live in cities in 2030, and by and large this is seen as a supply problem to be answered with assembly line building. We are already seeing the failure of this approach around the world in pollution, congestion and overbuilding.
- But at least 30% of the global population lives in slums and informal settlements, with active grey economies but appalling sanitation and services, unhealthy conditions, and a disconnect from formal institutions. By 2030 slum dwellers will exceed 2 billion globally.
- A Lean toolkit could offer a third alternative: staged successional community building, staged formalisation of tenure, businesses and finances, and jobs in building, crafts, and services in improving neighbourhoods and cities.



Le Corbusier Proposal for Paris



Flying into Beijing, 2012

### A Leaner Urbanism

We view the Lean Urbanism Project and as a "seam" or connecting fabric between the concerns of Tactical Urbanism and New Urbanism or conventional revitalisation. We aim to devise tools, find and make examples, and create a framework for incremental community building and development such that each stage takes less time, consumes fewer resources in compliance, and drives fewer good people away in frustration. We want to tackle the sclerosis that afflicts planning, procurement, building, community engagement, and finance.

#### TOOLS

- Lean Public Process -- Lean Charrettes and Workshops
- Lean Finance -- custom build, permanent finance for small development,
- Lean (protean) Organisations -- associations, business, enterprises
- Lean Codes -- code patches, code light zones, code workbooks
- Lean Buildings -- low cost reuse, 6 unit walk ups, real lofts, one story retail
- Lean Strategies: patches, pilots, conditions/mitigations, temporary uses

### Who are the beneficiaries?



We want to boost the community seeking to make a difference for itself, the small business owner or entrepreneur with a good idea but not much cash, and the small developer/builder/ property or home owner who wants to build well, build urban, put people to work, and make great places that add value across the board.

- 4600 Community Development Corporations in the US employing 200,000 people as of 2006
- 1400 Business Incubators in the US 2012, up from 1,100 in 2006
- 1000 Business Improvement Districts in the US in 2010, representing businesses and building owners & providing place based services
- 128 Transportation Management Associations as of 2012
- **5274 Charter Schools** in 2010-2011, up from 0 in 1990-1991
- At least 1000 Community Development Financial Institutions and 4230 Community Development Enterprisess
- Other Thousands of non-profit providers of social, health and medical services, alternative food systems, volunteer fire departments energy efficiency, recycling, community policing and security, car-sharing, community design centers, and at least one center for neighborhood technology...
- (Thanks to Scott Bernstein for this!)

### Alexis de Toqueville was right!

## Underutilised Assets

Lean Urbanism is focused on infill development and reuse in post industrial cities and the repair of sprawling suburbs.

It aims to identify and tap underutilised physical social and human assets for community benefit and added value, working primarily at the scale of the building, street and the neighbourhood.

As a seam between tactical approaches and more comprehensive ones, it seeks to complement rather to replace. But it aims to recognise and make a virtue of austerity. Lean means fit and healthy.