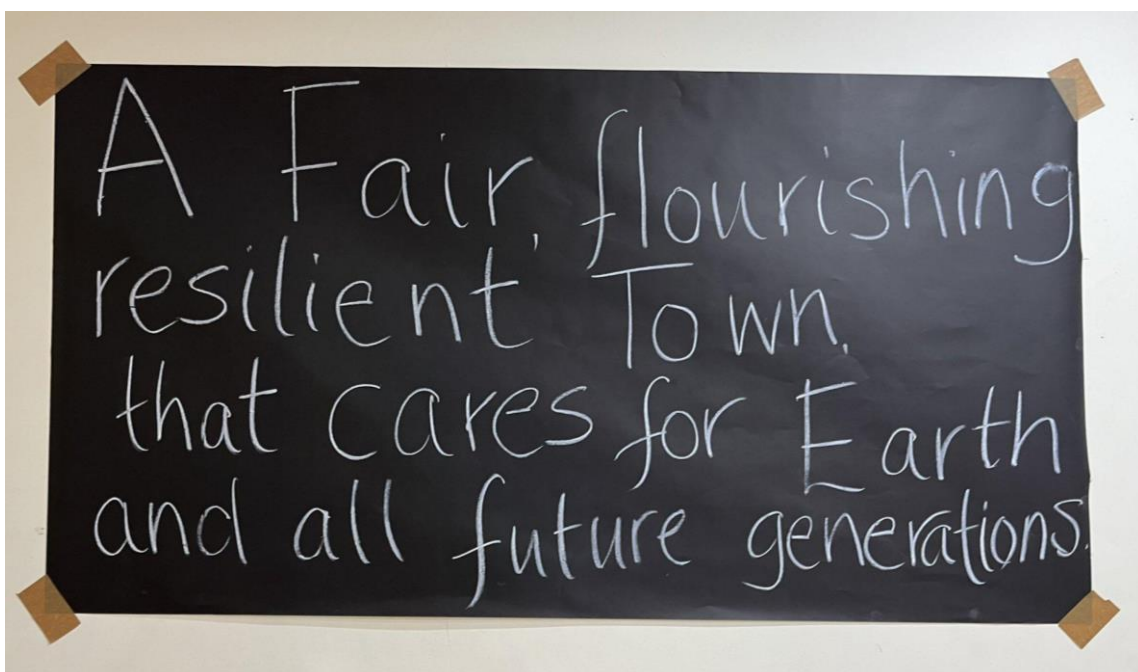




# Report and documentation

**Town Anywhere (TA) Tooting** was a large-scale, participatory, community visioning experience – bringing together people from across Tooting to ‘rehearse the future’ of our vibrant community. Town Anywhere 2040 is a fair, flourishing and resilient town that cares for Earth and all future generations.

This report documents the event and the Town that Tooting created,



# Summary

The volunteer team at Transition Tooting – supported by facilitators Lucy Neal and Ruth Ben Tovim, spent several months planning the event. In particular we worked to ensure the widest possible representation. We began by mapping the landscape of Tooting (health, education, green spaces, businesses, faith groups community organisations and so forth) to form the basis of our invitations. From this we drafted a list of key invitations which went out over the summer alongside a social media campaign including the co-creation of a giant Town Anywhere logo to promote the event in the town centre.



On 21st October 2024 around a hundred people of all ages and backgrounds came together in the Samaj Hall to dream into Tooting's possible futures. They travelled to 2040, imagined themselves, imagined our town and explored possibilities in a fair, flourishing and resilient place that cares for the Earth and future generations of all beings.

Together we created homes, shared stories with neighbours, worked together to create streets and neighbourhoods, then co-designed and built a fair, flourishing and resilient town we could move around in and actually inhabit. After a ceremonial 'opening of the town' by the Mayor, we visited each other's 'ventures', feasted, celebrated and after a moment of reflection, travelled back from 2040 to 2024.

We have since held a follow up event; are tracking onward developments and a film screening on Saturday 29th March 2025 will provide another moment of re-connection.

This document contains material generated by participants who co-created Town Anywhere 2040 in Tooting in October 2024. More about the background to the event and a fantastic film documentary can be found on the Transition Tooting website at [www.transitiontooting.org](http://www.transitiontooting.org)

The ideas, requests and ventures shared in this document were generated in response to the following framing, as part of this day-long visioning journey that started with the personal then moved on to the neighbourhood and finally on to the town level.

**This is the introduction given by the facilitators which framed the day and spoken out loud at the opening:**

We are Lucy and Ruth

Thank you for agreeing to go on a journey with us today, a journey into your imagination. We invite you for the next few hours to put aside your roles and responsibilities (lanyards off if anyone is wearing them) and just be here today as somebody willing to vision, imagine and play with what a Town called Anywhere could be like in 2040. Your body, heart, mind, your whole self is invited on this journey. Please put your phones on Airplane mode now or switch them off ideally for the whole journey, so that you won't be disturbed. Time travel is serious business and once we've left 2024 we need to avoid any interference in the time travel highway. Look after yourself and your needs and look out for each other.

We will give you instructions and information about each step as we go and some of our team will be filming and taking photographs today so that we have a record of our time travel journey.

Before we step into the future, let's look around us here in the Patider Samaj Hall. Just last week home to Nine Night Navaratri celebrations - a hub for many in the Gujarati community here. For Tooting has always been a hub ... since the Romans built their long London road from the Thames South to the Coast - through Tooting and 100s of years later, the Saxon Chieftain Tota chose to settle here and make home. A Toot was said to be a 'look out post' and that's certainly what we'll be doing today. Let's first imagine a time when this Hall did not exist. Tooting, a mediaeval village, with the monks at the Bec monastery close by - might have been catching a bream, or a roach for their lunch. Skilled at water management, they diverted streams and springs that criss-crossed the area (mostly underground now) to make ponds, fisheries and land usable for agriculture. Skilled land workers got out of bed as you have done this bright morning, left their homes for a day's work, set out across Tooting to meet others, chatting amongst themselves, sharing stories. In the late 1700s, at the famed Rollinson's Nurseries, workers would be potting out the seedlings, beautiful plants. A dairy might once have stood on this spot. Imagine early morning milk rounds with churns and horse drawn carts drawing up. And later when Trams arrived, everyone coming in from all directions. So many communities of families have found their homes and workplaces here in spirited Tooting Town: a diverse, vibrant culture of shops, faith houses, restaurants, businesses. You might have seen the blue plaque above Tooting Market, celebrating the contribution of Migrants to Tooting: 'incredible, invincible. A community of all, for all'. Could any of these previous generations have imagined that today as a group we'd be gathering to conjure and imagine new possibilities that maybe do not exist yet even in our own imaginations. We could be making history today, just with our yearning, our longing, and our collaboration. After all, as the writer bell hooks says, "what we cannot imagine, cannot come into being".

Here we stand, looking ahead of us into empty space.

We bring you news that time travel to 2040 is possible today, that there is a small portal open, a window of opportunity for us to step into the future. There are many futures that lie ahead of us, different threads of possibility that stretch out in many different directions. Today we will be exploring the future that results from our collectively doing everything we could have possibly done to care for each other, the earth and all future generations

Today let's imagine that the foundations you have been laying, the different movements for change, the community networks, projects and organisations that have been seeking to bring initiatives together here in 2024 have created a cascade of imaginative, remarkable and positive change by 2040.

Imagine that despite ongoing social, climate and ecological challenges much has been done over 16 years to accept responsibility and find ways to reduce carbon emissions and live within the boundaries of our

planet; to reduce harm locally and globally and to work together in new regenerative ways to maximise our shared resources.

It could turn out to be the making of us.

For one day only we have a chance to travel together to 2040, to this imaginary town called Anywhere. What extraordinary good fortune we all have to be here today.

Over there in this world of the future we'll need to share the precious resources and knowledge we have in this town between us wisely and generously.

Over there, in the future, we will be more dependent on each other than ever before and inter-connection will be one of our strongest tools as we create and make: A fair, flourishing and resilient Town that cares for the earth and all future generations

Here in 2024 the dominant system that we are living and working within focuses on seemingly endless extractivist economic growth that dangerously oversteps our planet's natural boundaries. It's a system where wealth is concentrated in the hands of a few and injustice, inequality and individualism still dominates.

Over there in 2040 we can see and experience how a flourishing, interconnected, fair and resilient system could work together for all beings. We will have the opportunity to create homes, neighbourhoods, open spaces, systems of care, spaces of learning, new forms of governance, celebration and rituals.

We can bring to life, inhabit and breathe in the things we are longing for. And remember as author Dan Delillo says 'Longing on a large scale makes history'

We've got the day to raise the barn of Town Anywhere.

Look ahead of you, what do you see, empty space, possibility.

Look around you , all we have to build our town today is each other, our experience, our ideas, our imagination and a few simple resources ....

Before we set off I need to tell you about this sound Ding-a-ling..... that is our town bell, a signal to stop what you are doing so that we can give you the next bits of building blocks you will need to create the town.

Sometimes we will be working alone, in silence, in groups.

When we ring the bell we begin our time travel counting up from 2024 then when we arrive at 2040 lets step over the threshold and into the space

2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035 2036 2037 2038 2039 2040  
cut ribbon step over threshold

You are welcome to join us

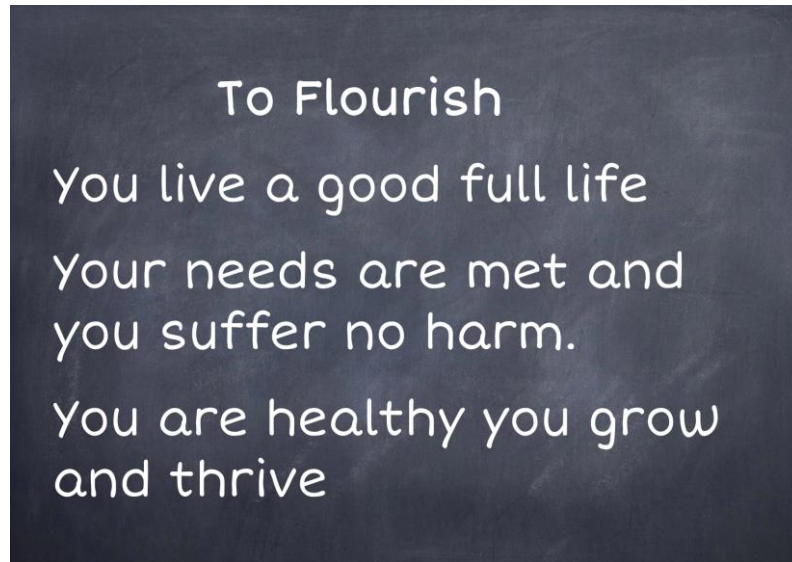




## You & your home....

- Choose somewhere in the room to build a 'home'
- Collect a blackboard, a chair, chalk & a cloth
- Write your first name on the blackboard and something that is helping you to flourish here in 2040
- Walk around and have a look at each others





Participants were asked - **what helps you flourish in 2040** - and invited to write their answers on a blackboard.

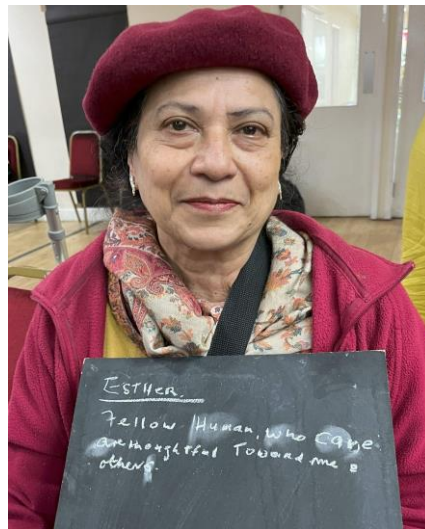
- Kindred people, green space - good soil, fair government
- Health + freedom, purpose, connection to God and Family
- Family, love, good friends
- Friends
- The world we're gonna make - blank page/unwritten - happy
- Conversation
- Friendship
- My sister
- Running on the common
- Community
- Laughter and love
- My garden
- Good food
- Love
- Support in old age
- Nature
- Family, friends in green spaces
- Family
- Young people at the heart
- Happy people who are open to each other and feel they belong
- Walking in the hills and through the woods somewhere with others or alone
- Feeling connection with my local community
- Community garden
- My friends
- Nature
- Kindness + humanity + love
- Accessible, low-carbon, transport network
- Caring neighbours, family and friends, green parks
- Sunlight, genuine community
- Sun, trees, chickens
- Happy
- Offspring
- Fellow humans who care and are thoughtful towards me and others
- Health, community
- My garden, growing veg and fruit, community
- Trees
- The clean air, people, friends, community
- Company, exchange, care, warmth, food, giving love, fresh air and water, plants and animals, living without oppression, free expression!
- Dance and drumming keeps me flourishing!
- Happy, healthy family, supportive community, fulfilling work, wild green space, affordable food and housing.
- I know people on my street and around the neighbourhood and some are good friends.
- Family, friends, work
- Community and friends, good food, clean space to swim, garden
- Home, sunshine, green space, river
- Trees, birds, green space
- Music
- Fishponds field (forever!), shared space



There were many common factors to each person's 'flourishing'. These included:

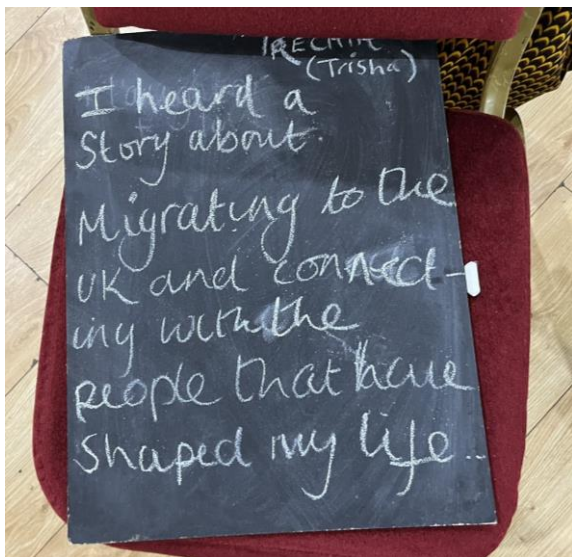
- **Social connections:** Family, friends, and community are repeatedly mentioned as essential for happiness and well-being.
- **Nature and environment:** Green spaces, gardens, and the natural world are seen as sources of joy and peace.
- **Health and well-being:** Physical health, mental health, and a sense of purpose are valued.
- **Spirituality:** Connection to a higher power or spiritual practice is important for some.
- **Basic needs:** Access to affordable housing, food, and healthcare is crucial.
- **Freedom and expression:** The ability to live without oppression and express oneself freely is essential.

**Overall - a combination of strong social bonds, connection to nature, personal fulfilment, and a supportive environment are key to flourishing in 2040.**



## You and your neighbour

- Find a neighbour. Get together in one of your houses
- Choose a story theme from the back of your blackboard and ask your neighbour to tell you a personal story on that theme
- Swap over- listen to each other then fill in the sentence I heard a story about..... on your blackboards.
- Leave the blackboard on a chair go for a walk together around your neighbourhood





# You and your street

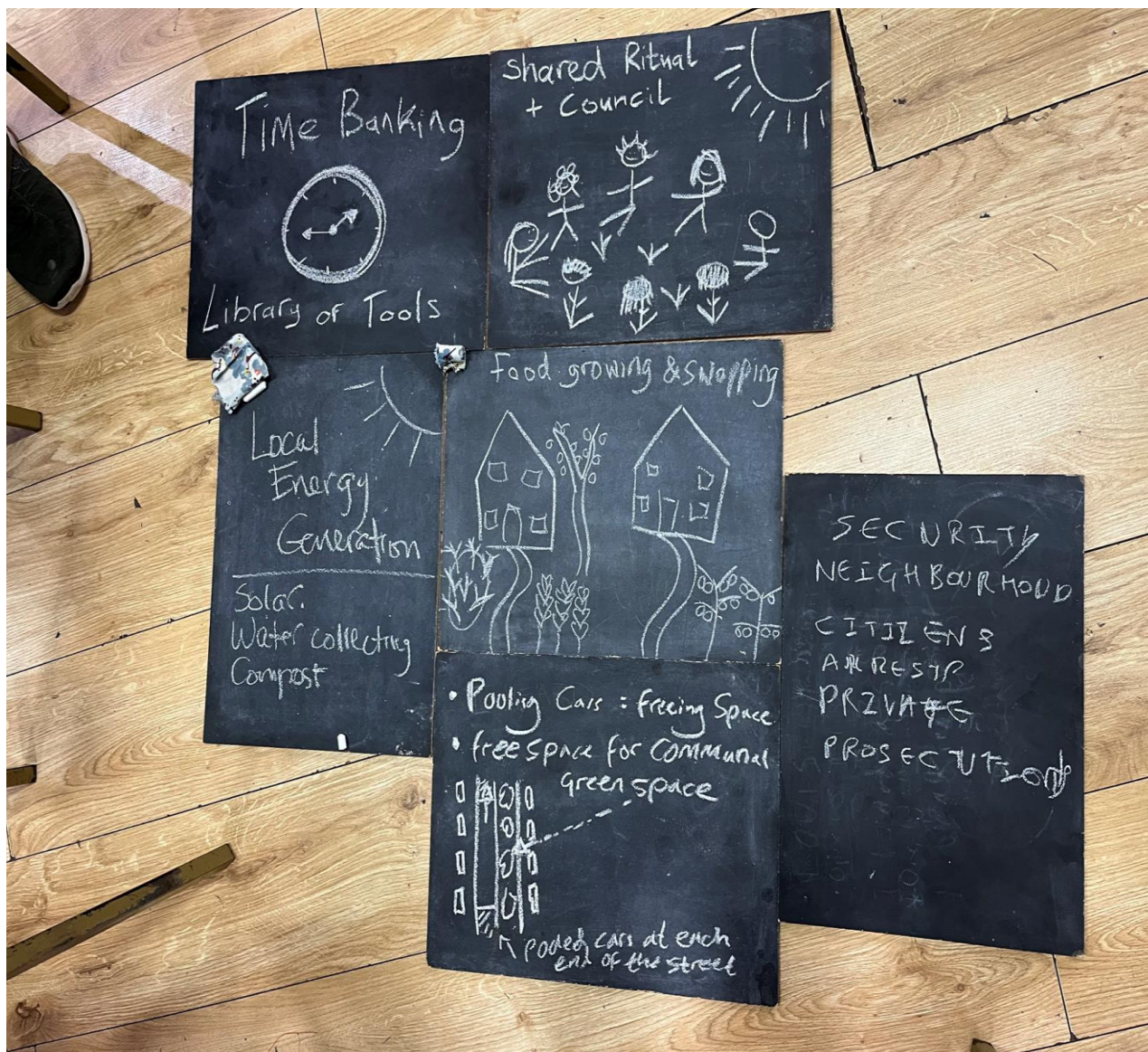
- Get together with other groups of neighbours and come together in a circle
- Go round say your name
- Explore how you can work together to create a street community that supports people places and nature to thrive
- Draw out your ideas on the blackboards and arrange them together
- Go and have a look at other streets



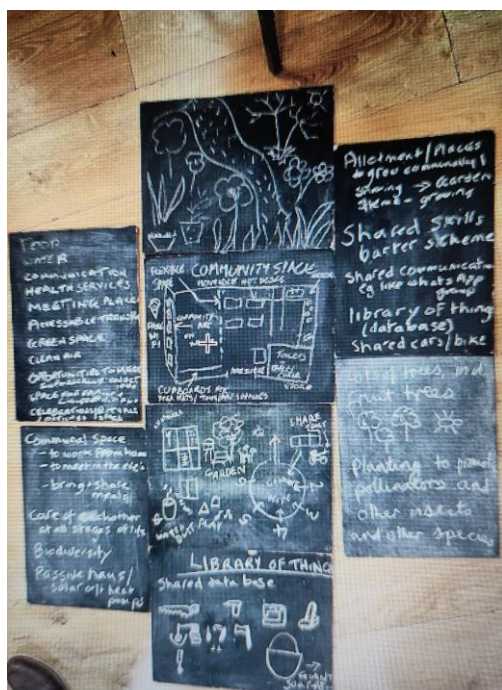
**What does a fair, resilient and flourishing town that cares for future generations of all beings look like at a street and neighbourhood level?**







Here are the flourishing streets in Town Anywhere







## You and the the wider community

- Visit the different themes around the room
- Leave requests, messages or ideas for the town designers about what could happen here to create a fair flourishing and resilient town that cares for the earth and all future generations





Below are **requests and ideas** left for the designers and makers of different aspects of: a fair, flourishing and resilient town that cares for future generations and all beings

### FOOD - Growing sourcing supplying processing selling cooking sharing

Urban farm  
Fruit trees  
Monthly gathering to eat together  
Communal growing spaces  
Less food chains more family food businesses  
Organically grown in our garden - we share food  
Community allotment garden  
Organic food - bad chemical free  
Be veggie  
Trading and sharing goods  
Inexpensive top quality healthy foods  
Schools to have kitchen gardens and children learn to grow and cook food  
Community meals  
Local produce/consumption equally shared  
Affordable for all

Shared pantries  
Garden spaces to grow  
Plastic free  
Community kitchen  
Food and social  
Local street olio  
Community cooking lessons and meals  
Street chicken coops  
Guerilla gardens  
Allotment/garden sharing  
Teach kids how to cook wholesome meals in school  
Plant based cruelty free  
Food from local apples - windrop etc  
Farms on every wall  
Avoid ultra processed foods

No one goes hungry  
Community meals  
Bottomless street tea urns

Lab protein farms  
British restaurants  
Zero waste whole food corner s

*Community and health were two key factors for people in a more sustainable food system. This also included shared gardens, a sense of belonging, communal meals and food security. There was a desire for a shift away from processed foods; affordable, organic produce with less waste. Local businesses and educating children about growing and cooking were emphasized. No one needs go hungry in a system where everyone has access to healthy food, resources are shared and practices are sustainable.*

## **GOODS - Services, local enterprise (sourcing selling sharing**

Fair prices  
Procurement by local organisations  
Sustainable, healthy  
Co-operatives community interest  
Fairtrade  
Fixing Factory  
Environmental friendly Last Mile service  
Swap and share  
Stroud Commoners lowimpact.com  
Shared workspaces/workshops  
Timesharing  
Nothing is wasted and thrown away  
Mending  
Sharing digital skills  
Platforms of need - Get it  
Free services

Skill swap  
Library of Things  
Local repair cfaé  
Skill share  
Reparable goods and clothes - teach everyone to sew  
Plastic free  
Viable repair businesses  
Circular chains between businesses on the High St.  
Innovation hubs guided by elders  
Sharing food growing skills  
Things made to last  
Graphine  
Electric bikes for all  
Basement mushroom farming

*Responsible consumption/production were key factors in a localised, community-driven economy, along with fair prices, local procurement, circular business models, environmentally friendly practices and plastic-free alternatives. Swap shops, skill-sharing, repair cafes, and a "Library of Things" showed how popular a desire for community sharing is. Innovation hubs can integrate traditional knowledge with modern techniques and durable, repairable goods foster local enterprises or co-operatives. A resilient, equitable economy has less waste and provides essential goods and services to all.*

## **HOME - Housing, buildings, shelter**

Homeswaps  
Build homes that stay warm/cool using new techniques and minimal resources  
Environmental building materials  
Actually affordable houses  
Subsidised and price controlled  
Sustainable low energy insulation of heat and sound  
Spaces/designs - square foot much more  
Natural insulation  
Good space standards  
Energy hubs  
Reuse of existing shared spaces  
Passivehouses and flats

Solar panels and water harvesting  
Co-housing intergenerational communities  
Air source heat pumps  
HUBS  
Community land trusts  
Rainwater harvest  
Accessible strategy  
Shared space - genuine and affordable  
Responsibly resourced materials - construction workers empowered to use them  
Free housing  
Community housing  
Taxed/penalising greedy developers  
Ecotent - camper van

Rent caps  
Decrease rents via coops

Retrofitted houses

*Affordable housing is paramount with calls for rent caps and community land trusts. Community-driven housing includes eco-friendly building materials, energy-efficient designs (passivhaus) and resource conservation (rainwater harvesting). Housing plans need better space standards; retrofitting existing homes; responsible resource use to ensure warm, comfortable, and accessible housing for all, while minimising environmental impact. Co-housing and shared spaces foster community.*

## **CREATIVITY - Design, making, creating, innovating**

Affordable crafts  
Creativity and learning skills  
Lots of space for street art  
Teaching, inspiring, others' creativity  
Time and space for mending and beautifying  
Craftivism  
Makers Space  
Community Made Carnival Giant Things  
Local enterprise makers economic town centre development - recover and upcycling  
Craft for fun  
Value everyone's art and creativity  
Groups - art music writing poetry acting improvisation  
Regular open mike evenings, music, spoken word, stories, community art exhibitions  
Make things to give to others for free  
Access and development opportunities to keep learning and growing regardless of age  
Use this for self growing and progress too  
Teaching people how to repair and maintain

Local skills swap site  
Adaptive and accessible spaces for autistic people and those with physical immobility  
Collective music making in streets  
Compassionable and creating for everyone  
Early encouragement  
Art and culture valued as essential for resilience  
Affordable studio space for creative enterprise  
Workshops group activities networking teaching new people new skills  
More innovation within spaces  
Good will/collective community projects  
Learn to play an instrument away from screen time  
Invent heating systems that do not pollute  
Invent water filters that deals with any pollution  
3D printing  
Municipal making factory  
Art loans so everyone can have an original art work at home

*In a resilient community, with a vibrant cultural landscape, all creative contributions are valued and creativity is accessible to all. Shared space is key: open community art spaces; maker spaces with skills exchanges, affordable crafts and the promotion of personal growth and collective good. Practical skills like repair and maintenance are valued, alongside innovation for environmental solutions.*

## **GOVERNANCE - Law, Justice, and community decision making**

A fair unbiased government that respects and understands  
Free legal advice/representation/community law centre  
Nature's Voice represented  
Street Assembly  
No violence against women  
Every voice heard  
A plurality of ways to govern  
Voices - voice of the child, the community, the elderly

Participatory budgeting and evolved democratic structures  
Direct democracy  
Government chosen by lottery- the type of person who wants to be in charge don;t always deserve to be  
Fun and enjoyable ways to make decisions together  
Sociocracy  
Restorative justice  
Homelessness task force  
Reformation

Listening to all voices  
 Education at school to allow educated decision-making  
 Co-creative practices (eg in policy making)  
 Diverse rep of community  
 Stop drug dealing on roads in daylight drug users group together and feel scarey  
 Somebody represents the interests of birds, trees etc  
 Systems thinking approach

Citizens assemblies  
 Learn from Scandi model  
 Teach value of democracy  
 Citizens Assembly  
 No police  
 Bare arms  
 Co-produce/co-deliver lived experiences

*Direct and participatory democracy are favoured - inclusive, equitable and fair - with citizens assemblies, community representation and lottery-selected officials. Nature's voice is included as are diverse voices, especially children and the elderly. Restorative justice and co-creative policy-making are advocated. Informed decision-making is taught. Governance models utilise innovative, participatory methods. Legal aid is free.*

## **ECONOMY - Flow and Exchange**

Neighbourhood renewal fund is activated  
 Just enough for all in balance  
 4 days working week  
 Universal income for all  
 Fair tax rules for all  
 Uncomplicated borrowing interest free  
 Solar growing towns  
 Good work life balance suitable for families  
 Engage and volunteer  
 Circular economy  
 Sharing exchange  
 No tax for workers  
 Tax luxury not necessity  
 The skills swap/exchange  
 Repair and reuse and appropriate  
 Space for new businesses  
 Universal basic services (internet, water, heat etc)  
 No monopoly  
 Wealth tax

Tax sharing consumption and not reduce new things to make reusable again  
 Growth economy  
 Economic local plan by ward  
 Don't drive out  
 Workshops and factories  
 AI robots  
 Capacity building  
 The Tooting Pound  
 Timebank/skills bank for community  
 Tax carbon  
 Space and freedom for those who want to work outside the community, who want to work a lot to do so but they have to share the rewards and value the community  
 Tax carbon  
 Lowimpact.org Stroud  
 Co-working hubs  
 Tooting Pound  
 The economy driven by social justice

*A balanced, social justice driven and equitable economy involves universal income, fair taxation (luxury, not labour) and a four-day working week. Key to this are circular economy principles, skill-sharing and local economic planning. Universal basic services and interest-free borrowing are advocated, alongside wealth and carbon taxes.*

## **OUTDOOR SPACES - Green, blue, brown, grey public and play**

Green wards and public recreation  
 Green space suitable for all ages  
 Costa del Tooting  
 Performance spaces  
 Wild playground

More parks and loos  
 Grow food free for all  
 Wildflower meadow/garden  
 Recreation/team sports/access for all  
 Ad free city

Uncover more of the river Graveney to create local green life spaces  
 Outdoor gym  
 Safety  
 Water  
 Exercise spaces  
 Connect up green spaces for walking and cycling  
 Green corridors  
 Accessible for all  
 Make front gardens great again  
 Art outdoors  
 Lots of trees and small green spaces  
 Fruit forest  
 No chemicals  
 Edible food growing - centre of town  
 Grow food everywhere  
 Green lung walking routes

Green corridors  
 Natural not plastic  
 Rewilding initiatives  
 Roundabouts create power for light  
 Less concrete more grass  
 Jet packs  
 Open air concert space  
 Get children playing outside again - no ipads  
 Walking in nature, feeding the ducks  
 Natural play  
 Biodiversity experiment via citizen service - + surveys + monitoring  
 Frisbee, golf free to play in a public park  
 Guerilla garden/more murals  
 Outdoor and public arts  
 A tree for each person  
 An amphitheatre

*People wanted thriving, natural environments that promote health, recreation and community connection with a focus on biodiversity and citizens' involvement. Public spaces would be inclusive, with performance areas, gyms, and accessible green corridors. Accessible, biodiverse outdoor spaces would include urban rewilding, wild playgrounds, uncovering rivers and planting fruit forests. Natural play areas were a priority, along with free food growing and ad-free zones.*

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Information exchanges and civic networks

Cherish libraries  
 Needs not complaints  
 Listening spaces  
 Carrier pigeons  
 Over a meal 1 to 1  
 Ideas box  
 Brain chip  
 Notice boards better education system that involves so leads to a responsible communication  
 Compassionate exchange - non judgemental  
 A local letters delivery system to get to know your neighbours  
 Listening skills  
 Citizens assemblies  
 Research what you hear before you believe it  
 Skilling older people for technology  
 Involve younger people in comms and decision making  
 Support services to help individuals  
 communication is key  
 Storytelling  
 AI Hub

Plain English/other languages  
 Community Hub centres  
 Talking in person  
 Coaching and facilitation of transformative approaches  
 Shared drive or central point for important documents  
 Local journalism not chick bait  
 Reaching the homes of isolated people/human interaction  
 Mediation resources  
 Community hub - library and shared meeting space  
 Smart phone free childhood  
 Citizen Assembly  
 Trust  
 Face to face meetups  
 Peace  
 Building conflict transformation skills learnt  
 Easy reading resourcing materials - ie pictures and symbols and emojis

*There was a great desire for informed and respectful exchanges that build community through compassionate, accessible communication and networks. Listening spaces, community hubs and face-to-*



*face interactions help combat misinformation. Libraries are cherished, and digital literacy for all ages is crucial. Plain language, diverse languages, and visual aids are advocated. Trust and mediation resources are essential.*

## **LEARNING**

### **Formal and informal skills training reflecting discovering and exchanging**

Repair clubs	Learning to be OK with uncertainty
Learn and share fixing skills	Street skill sharing
Mutual learning exercise	Community skill sharing events
Life long learning taken seriously	Never stops
University course for all who want it	Core skills drill
Autism and hidden disability training workshop for all - health care practitioners and local authorities etc	Building: basic solar/communication/anger management/consensus building sessions
Community members giving lectures or community centres of places of worship/hubs	Sharing resources Early exposure to reading, thinking and encouragement
Value and pass on traditional skills	Systems thinking sessions
Arts education for all who want it	Skills share and breath work
All children's learning to include music and art	Art and music
Focus on life skills	All children to go to local school in catchment area regardless of capability and socio-economic background
Mending and repair of clothes and furniture	Standing up and moving - outdoor learning
Practice the art of whistling	Acceptance of learning styles and neuro diversity
Sharing skills amongst individuals	Horticulture/permaculture/carpentry
No university until life experience	

*Learning should be inclusive, life-long and community-driven, fostering resilience and practical abilities. Skill-sharing through repair clubs and community events can value both traditional and modern skills. Arts education and life skills would be prioritised, alongside neurodiversity awareness.*

## **CELEBRATING**

### **Rituals, ceremonies, heritage, culture, faith**

Community celebrations for all religious holidays	Seasonal outdoor celebrations with food sharing
Multi faith services and celebrations - everything	All faiths working together
History - now and then	Tolerance
Every faith and non-faith represented	Celebration with meaning, personalised to the individuals
Food brings people together	Life
Reactivating unused space for celebrations	Belonging
Sharing traditions and cultures	Celebrate achievement and people
Singing	Drumming circle creating music
Celebrating shared values	Opportunity to learn, explore and enjoy
Tooting has so many cultures and religious diasporas - let's get them mixing and connecting	Street party
Revive pagan rituals	Experiences of awe in everyday
Respecting all faiths and beliefs	New rituals to be created aligned to community living
Nagar kirtan	Bring back whistling and everyday singing
Theatre in disused and outdoor spaces	

*Meaningful rituals and celebrations foster tolerance, belonging and shared values through diverse and inclusive, community-led celebrations. Shared cultural traditions; multi-faith events and the increased availability of public spaces for gatherings. Food, music, and storytelling will be unifying elements.*

## HEALTH

### Caring, wellbeing, solidarity

Access to knowledge leading to good health throughout life feeding into a renewed culture  
 Polyclinic quick access to healthcare trainees for minor to moderate health issues make use of hospital and medical school  
 Joined up healthcare  
 Communal living room /loneliness  
 Sexual health wellbeing support for autistic and disability community  
 Personal responsibility for wellbeing  
 Affordable  
 Empathy  
 Pets as therapy  
 No 'e's in food  
 Drug awareness  
 Free medication for all  
 Yoga  
 Nurse/doctor for each street who visits homes  
 Support facilitators to make health classes free at point of delivery - dance, sing, make, move  
 Psychotherapeutic sessions and communal activities  
 Open to new ideas of wellbeing  
 Raj Yoga  
 Mental health awareness

Choice  
 Well peoples hubs  
 Good food in nature essential part of education  
 Educations on herbalism  
 Communal exercise for fun as well as fitness  
 Dignity  
 Support that reflects the needs of all/inclusion and diversity a must  
 £ - less work  
 More listening  
 Talking therapy  
 Increased on focus of causes of ill health  
 Look after our elders  
 Reduce isolation and loneliness  
 Holistic wellbeing  
 Lots of community co-production and wellbeing events  
 15 minutes town's exercise  
 Power of breath  
 More focus on prevention  
 Public health comms re who and what our streets are for  
 A hub with all of the above  
 Gardens for all

*A real emphasis on addressing the root causes of ill health and reducing isolation.*

*Thus, empathy, dignity and inclusivity build holistic, community-centered healthcare. This would include preventative care, mental wellbeing and services accessible for all, such as polyclinics for quick access, free medication and personalised care with street-level nurses. Communal activities, like yoga and dance, address loneliness and promote wellbeing. There is interest in holistic therapies, herbalism education and nature-based learning.*

### INFRASTRUCTURE - Energy, Water, Death (was added), Transport, Waste

No private cars  
 Shared cars - bikes  
 Community substation to connect to local green space  
 A common compost area - many of these in each street  
 Car share - public  
 Using heat from St Georges to power homes  
 Heat from the tube could heat homes  
 Solar power/energy  
 Power storage sustainable heating  
 Public transport e bikes for students and affordable for all

Local power generation eg community-owned, distributed solar power and management to reduce energy waste  
 Safe cycling lanes everywhere, free of cars  
 Retrofitting air source heat pumps  
 Rainwater gardens - sustainable urban drainage  
 People friendly streets  
 Shared solar units and storage  
 Fix leaking pipes  
 Reuse of waste water  
 Funding for private solar power energy  
 Small modular reactors  
 Reduce or free transport for carers

More research to waste use  
 Kinetic energy - paths/roads/corridors  
 Street house (drawn in square with following  
 arrows from each corner) solar, storage, heat,  
 hotwater

WONDER streets  
 Street owned van share  
 Environmental choices for the dead body  
 including composting

*Resilient, eco-conscious infrastructures benefit everybody. Sustainable, community-owned infrastructure is key, including eco-friendly end-of-life options. A transition to renewable energy. Public transport needs to be enhanced along with a reduction in car use. Implement Sustainable water management needs to be implemented, along with people-friendly streets. And innovative waste management schemes.*

## You and the whole Town

- Look at everything and go to the theme that you want to focus your time and energy on
- Read what has been requested
- Decide a role or something you would like to do to bring this aspect of the town to life
- Write it on a blackboard look at each others
- Self organise into projects and ventures for the town 4 people max

Residents of Town Anywhere responded to the requests and created a role for themselves to help build the town as listed below:

- Greening facilitator (helping people to green streets./neighbourhoods)
- Infrastructure - sustainable streets in terms of liveability/biodiversity
- Advise on use of space to prioritise people and planet
- Teach others how to grow food
- Community leader to help those in need
- Facilitator of IT/tech, upskilling and sharing elders and others
- Teaching children value of democracy and education
- Persuading people to swap car parking for parks
- I would share my sewing skills
- Education and exploration of holistic healthcare
- Facilitator of participatory building design
- Developing street energy hubs
- Learning community organiser and facilitator
- Creative co producer with schools, health and council
- Fixing and making ambassador
- Friend, social activity, shared experiences arts and craft community

- Help feed community affordable food for all
- Leading/creating rituals/celebrations/occasions for communality
- Life story telling, film, photography, writing
- I would like to share facilitating poetry, dance and art
- Goods and services - managing a library of tools, appliances and gear
- Friend of AI hub
- Getting people together to celebrate as a community
- Making cooking, decorating - inclusive and diverse
- Wassail
- Facilitator of transformational learning
- Creating an inclusive wellness spaces - mental and physical
- Facilitate a health hub for joined up health care - accessing mental physical public young people /elderly



- Ritual and heritage....bring it to life in 2040
- Citizens assembly organiser
- Food community kitchen
- Multi faith lunches weekly with whistling lessons
- Community garden co ordinator
- Caring, wellbeing and solidarity supporting all parent, carers and children and young adults to maintain a healthy wellbeing
- Supporting autism and disability and elderly community events
- Psycho educator drug counsellor
- Community nurse health advocate - providing healing and health through food, vegan, raw food
- Help people to responsibly keep their homes warm in winter to prevent heat loss



- Develop affordable housing, collaborate and approach communities
- Empty houses scout to set up free community housing
- Putting up notice boards everywhere and making sure no one is left out
- Communications - enabling through social media, posters, leaflets and empathy - graphic Designer sharing events, opportunities, celebrating people and community's success
- Ensure the hidden community is not forgotten - encourage inclusivity
- Bringing production repair to the locality. Fixing broken things
- Human interaction co ordinator support work
- Create network, facilitate for community wealth building, £Tooting Pound
- Reviewing and enforcing fair distribution
- Have mediation hubs to guide mediations
- Recreator and problem solver
- Coordinator of community gardeners and maintainers of park and walking routes
- Effective altruist and creator
- Planner: helping people to make their plans reality
- Supplying electric infrastructure
- Innovation guide
- Goods circular economy innovation facilitator
- Packaging plastic free for goods
- I will teach children to grow and cook vegetables
- Decision making - Mayor of the Town, connecting the town
- Energy efficiency advisor
- Energising participation in local decision making and democracy
- To run and manage the plastic free refill shop



## Working together to build the Town

- Fill in the Town Anywhere charter
- Build a 3D physical representation of your project, big enough for people to visit
- Go and visit the Town Charter clerk and choose where you want your project to be based

People with different roles joined together to vision, and make Ventures for the Town. Each venture filled in a charter and registered it on a map.





**Town Anywhere Charter**  
Please consider the following and write your responses underneath.

Write down the roles you each wrote on your blackboards.

What Town theme does your venture relate to?  
**HOME, HOUSING, SHELTER**

What is the overarching purpose of your venture or project?  
**Affordable co-living communities in re-purposed buildings for those in need**

Whose needs does it meet and how?  
**Young women + their children; artists, low income.**

How does it contribute to a Fair Flourishing and Resilient Town that cares for the Earth and all Future Generations?  
**shared resources; repurposing empty buildings; providing housing for all**

Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange? As a volunteer?  
**All live here affordable or on a social contract on long leases + capped rent.**

What kind of site do you need? A building? An open space? Other?  
**An empty large building or abandoned home.**

What exchanges did you make?  
**get it done - will run workshops in mending. Glorious gardens will teach us to increase bio-diversity + grow food**

Title of Venture: **Co-Living Centre**  
PLOT NUMBER: **19**

referred for the care hub.

**Town Anywhere Charter**  
Please consider the following and write your responses underneath.

Write down the roles you each wrote on your blackboards.

- Coordinating urban food recovery community restaurant
- To run and manage the plastic free refill shop
- Creating affordable nutritious food for all
- Multi-faith workshop club

What Town theme does your venture relate to?  
**FOOD / CELEBRATION COMBO**

What is the overarching purpose of your venture or project?  
**Multi-faith Community project for tackling food poverty, health, nutrition, loneliness serving meals, affordable prices.**

Whose needs does it meet and how?  
**Everyone of all faiths - eat/drink and who need to eat! Eating good, healthy food together**

How does it contribute to a Fair Flourishing and Resilient Town that cares for the Earth and all Future Generations?  
**Local food, affordable, nutritious for all. Community Focused, multi-faith setting Sustainable, low/no packaging**

Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange? As a volunteer?  
**Chef plus staff and volunteers T&C meals / refills paid for but can be subsidised on a need's basis.**

What kind of site do you need? A building? An open space? Other?  
**Large building/open space for refill shop, community dining, storage and kitchen.**

What exchanges did you make?  
**- Work with the other community kitchen for health prep subsidised in house meal prep  
- plastic free refill shop  
- Supply agreement to local fresh fruit + veg from Gloria**

Title of Venture: **Replenish, a community food centre.**  
PLOT NUMBER: **18**

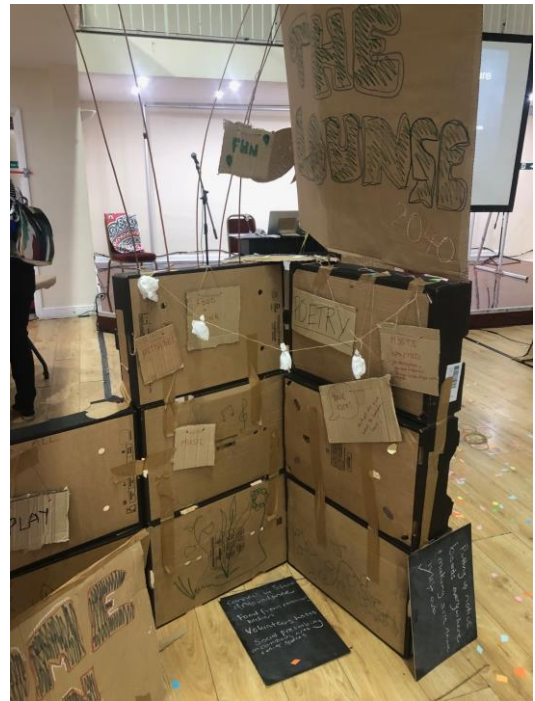
**ter Map**

PLOT No.	NAME	PLOT	NAME
1.	The Lounge	14.	Get It Done Hub
2.	Health is Wealth	15.	The Green Consciousness Centre
3.	St. George's Super Site	16.	The Wellbeing Pods
4.	The Glorious Garden	17.	Community Care Centre
5.	The Town Anywhere Kitchen	18.	Community Food Centre
6.	Inspiration	19.	Co-Living Centre
7.	The Ministry of Ceremonies	20.	NOW 1 vision
8.	Artificial Intelligence	21.	Town Anywhere AVB
9.	Good Growth Hub	22.	
10.	Parking to Parklets	23.	
11.	Tooting Democracy Hub	24.	
12.	School of Abundance	25.	
13.	Stitch in Time	26.	

# Town Anywhere Charters

## Name : The Lounge 1

What is overarching purpose of your project  
Physical comms ; Inclusion  
Whose needs does it meet and how?  
People who are excluded --> to overcome barriers  
How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?  
Heart of town, building connections  
Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?  
Hosts; community-lead  
What kind of site do you need ?  
Empty building



## Name :Health is Wealth 2.

What is overarching purpose of your project  
Providing physical +mental health services  
Whose needs does it meet and how?  
Meets the needs of everyone, its so important for everyone to have physical and mental health  
How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?  
It keeps people healthy and happy enough to have a full tank they can then give to people. Good mental health also helps people think about more things they can do.  
Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?  
Everyone who works here only works one day a week and accepts a small payment  
What kind of site do you need ?  
We needed a small building for ours





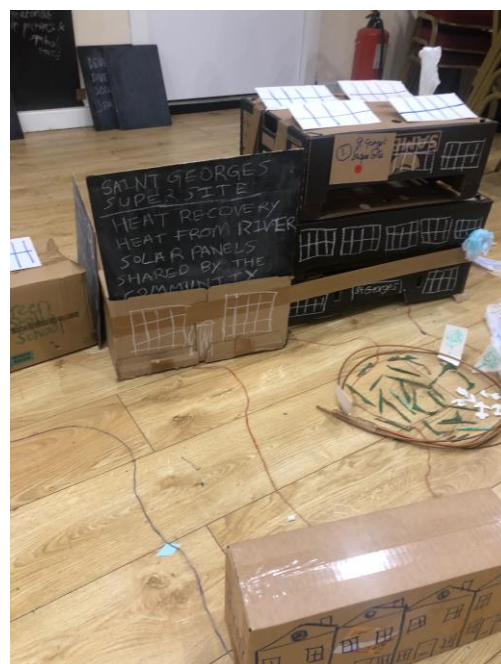
### Name : Tooting Community Hub ?

What is overarching purpose of your project  
Facilitate people working together  
Whose needs does it meet and how?  
socially isolated, elderly, families, young people - these looking for connection providing a space  
How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?  
Community garden - referrals accepted; Energy advice - sign posting service  
Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?  
volunteers (schools and other organisations) +2 paid staff to manage the building.  
What kind of site do you need ?  
Building with outside space



### Name : St. George's Super Site 3

What is the overarching purpose of your project  
local generation+distribution of heat, energy and data centre provision = clean green infrastructure  
Whose needs does it meet and how?  
residents, business, local government, hospital  
How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?  
saves electricity, heat and data costs for locals, and offgrid to make us resilient and more environmentally friendly  
Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?  
apprentices, computer technicians, hospital workers, energy workers, take a profit and energy/heat share  
What kind of site do you need ?  
St George's Hospital site and surrounds



### Name : The Glorious Garden 4

What is the overarching purpose of your project:  
To bring people together for biodiverse gardening; To showcase what is possible in a town garden  
Whose needs does it meet and how?  
Local residents, other creatures, unemployed young people, exchanging skills, connecting with nature, improving habitat and acquiring  
How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?  
Growing food locally; increasing biodiversity; passing on skills  
Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?  
Local resident, some paid and some as volunteers. Some payment to volunteers in produce  
What kind of site do you need ? Open space



**Name : Tooting Anywhere Community Kitchen 5**

What is the overarching purpose of your project:

Reducing food waste, Teaching people how to sow, grow and harvest food (locally produced seasonal food)

Whose needs does it meet and how?

the whole community

How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?

Using locally produced food reduces the carbon footprint.

Encourages health, eating and a healthy community; community integration/interaction; Therapeutic benefits - nature/good nutrition

Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?

A mixture of paid (eg. Caretaker), volunteers and barter system

What kind of site do you need ?

Mixture of a building and garden space for growing ; demo kitchen/sitting and eating/storage

**Name :Inspiration Street. 6.**

What is the overarching purpose of your project

Demonstration street

Whose needs does it meet and how?

Everyone! People at risk of extreme weather/flooding

How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?

Low energy, happy, healthy streets; car reduction - communal transport centre, energy centre; play park; growing area; swimming pond; waste and recycling hub; communal garden/area

Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?

No money, people just are there!

What kind of site do you need ?

Street

**Name :Ministry of Ceremonies 7.**

What is the overarching purpose of your project :

To bring cultural and religious diaspora together to share and connect. To create rituals in response to community needs.

Whose needs does it meet and how?

The universal need to mark and honour life transitions and cultural seasons and festivals.

How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?

The ministry of Ceremonies responds to peoples' desire to mark important life events and connect there with the natural world; welcomes people in; educate each other; safe space to be inquisitive





Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?  
 mostly volunteers from the community with paid staff  
 What kind of site do you need ?  
 we need a small space, but can go to where the community needs us

### Name :AI Hub 8.

What is the overarching purpose of your project:  
 Truth- teaching AI about good things not emphasising bad  
 Whose needs does it meet and how?  
 It's for all  
 How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?  
 Harnessing, feeding and policing AI  
 Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?  
 The entire community  
 What kind of site do you need ?  
 other



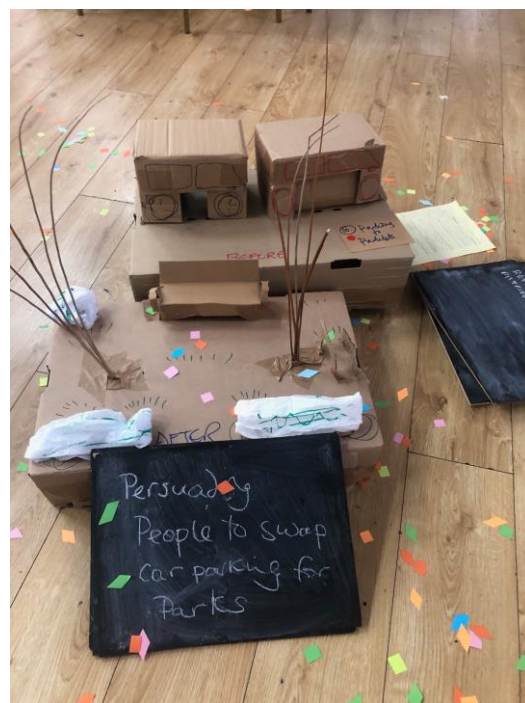
### Name :Tooting Good Growth Hub 9.

What is the overarching purpose of your project :  
 To support a fair, equal, thriving, innovative local economy  
 Whose needs does it meet and how?  
 Place to help make new enterprise reality, everyone:  
 ensure economy is service local population  
 How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?  
 Ensure the economy serves the local population now into the future. Impact modelling ensures mission of enterprise is for good of all  
 Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?  
 Lean team paid. Community board - governance. Small business getting support for free with expectation of exchange of their support for others. Find attached.  
 What kind of site do you need ?  
 Centrally located, on high street



### Name :Parking to Parklets 10

What is the overarching purpose of your project :  
 Enabling reallocating of space - reclaiming it from cars  
 Whose needs does it meet and how?  
 Resident's needs for more community space (to enable more neighbourly streets)  
 How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?  
 Community resilience and cohesion; Mental health +wellbeing; planting - ecological & climate benefits; fairer, esp. for car-free households  
 Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?  
 Mix - volunteers working with paid council worker  
 What kind of site do you need ?  
 Section of public highway (local streets) - could join existing derelict land adjacent to street



### Name :Tooting Democracy Hub 11.

What is the overarching purpose of your project:  
 Enabling and promoting democratic participation, learning from each other - the model in the hub reflecting that idea in community spaces - see the slide  
 Whose needs does it meet and how?  
 The whole community of Town Anywhere  
 How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?  
 A hub space - outdoors+sheltered that is a centre, drawing together local space proactive of discussion, learning and decision making taking responsibility for education ourselves and community about all aspects of the community.  
 Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?  
 A mixture of skills and abilities needed and life experiences all valued - at hub and in the community spaces  
 What kind of site do you need ?  
 An open site with access and shelter for community meeting where voices are heard and an wellbeing playground







### Name : Get It Done Hub 14

What is overarching purpose of your project  
repair, reuse and maintain locally and teach people to reduce plastic and generate alternative and creating a local hub to promote this

Whose needs does it meet and how?

-

How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?

-

Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?

-

What kind of site do you need ?

-



### Name : Green Consciousness Centre 15

What is overarching purpose of your project  
To connect people to local urban nature; to increase the value & awareness of urban nature

Whose needs does it meet and how?

fosters connection between humans and nature; celebrates the history and legacy of nature and who enhances it

How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?

Makes importance of local nature connection visible - making it a factor in daily decision making

Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?

Everyone connects -->a community resource

What kind of site do you need ?

whole community



### Name :Open to All - Well being Pods 16

What is the overarching purpose of your project  
open to all

Whose needs does it meet and how?

all ages, types

How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?

open green space, can come to help you with pets

Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?

voluntary donation base, scheme of fruit and food

What kind of site do you need ?

building and open space





### Name :Community Care Centre 17

What is the overarching purpose of your project

Centralised hub for health and wellbeing one stop shop

Whose needs does it meet and how?

The community in general, but specifically those more likely to be marginalised or less able to access support

How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?

Enables equal access to health care, socialising, green space and education

Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?

Core team, salaried, volunteers from local communities other local organisations as pop-ups/clinics

What kind of site do you need ?

Building and large garden space



### Name :Replenish, A community food centre 18.

What is overarching purpose of your project?

Multi faith community project, tackling food poverty, health, nutrition, loneliness, serving meals, affordable prices

Whose needs does it meet and how?

Everyone of all faiths and who needs to eat! Eating good healthy food together

How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?

Local food, affordable, nutritious for all. Community focused, multi-faith setting, sustainable,

Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?

Chef plus staff and volunteers TBC meals/refills paid for but can be subsidised on a needs basis.

What kind of site do you need ?

Large building/open space for refill shop, community dining, storage and kitchen



### Name : Co-Living Centre 19

What is overarching purpose of your project

Affordable, co-living communities in re-purposed buildings for those in need

Whose needs does it meet and how?

Young and women and their children; artists; low income

How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?

shared resource repurposing empty buildings; providing housing for all

Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?

All live here affordably or on a social contract on long leases and capped rent

What kind of site do you need ?

An empty large building or abandoned home



### Name : 2040 - Now1Vision 20

What is overarching purpose of your project

To improve mental health and support families in need

Whose needs does it meet and how?

Individuals and families with invisible/visible disabilities including autism

How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?

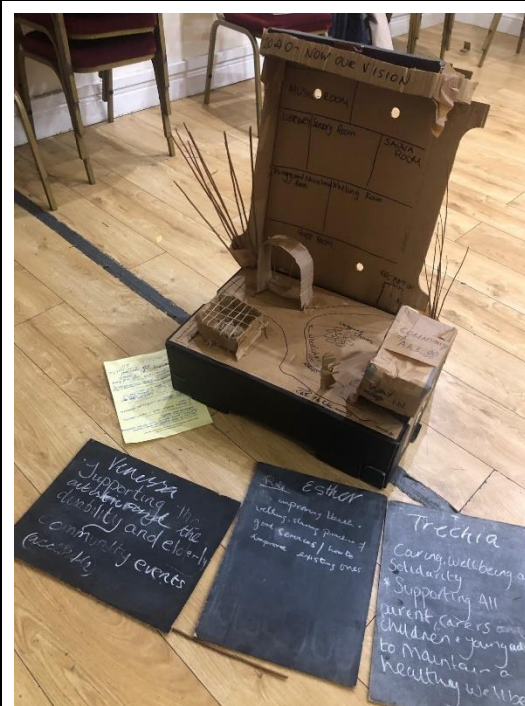
Our commitment and support will help town flourish and grow and continue to expand and share the practices that will support a good wellbeing

Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?

We have paid employees and volunteers that work to support the services with [??] friendly

What kind of site do you need ?

open space with soft and hard areal



### Name : Town Anywhere Arts - Community Arts and Social prescribing 21

What is overarching purpose of your project

A space for creating and sharing creative projects

Whose needs does it meet and how?

Creativity, empathy, connection, understanding

How does it contribute to a fair, regenerative and thriving town that cares for future generations of all beings?

creates and enhances connections between people

Who works here? For money? For another kind of exchange?

skills exchange. Paid work

What kind of site do you need ?

a modular building









# Town Anywhere 2040 Official Opening



## Town Anywhere walkabout

- Go for a walk around your town
- Visit some of the projects and ventures and make pledges about how your ventures could connect and work together
- What might you exchange? How could you support each other to thrive and flourish?
- If you are a project being visited use blackboards to write down the agreements you make with your visitors....
- Return to your ventures, how have they evolved?



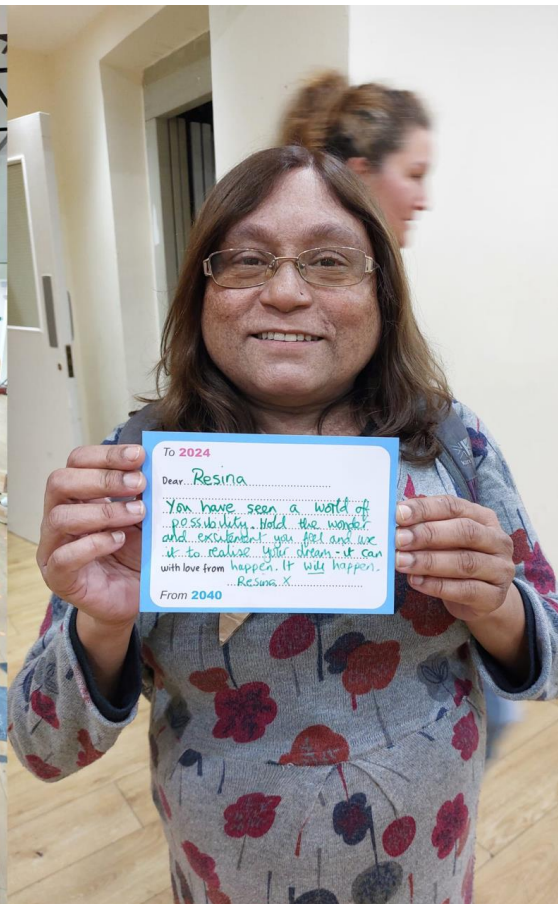
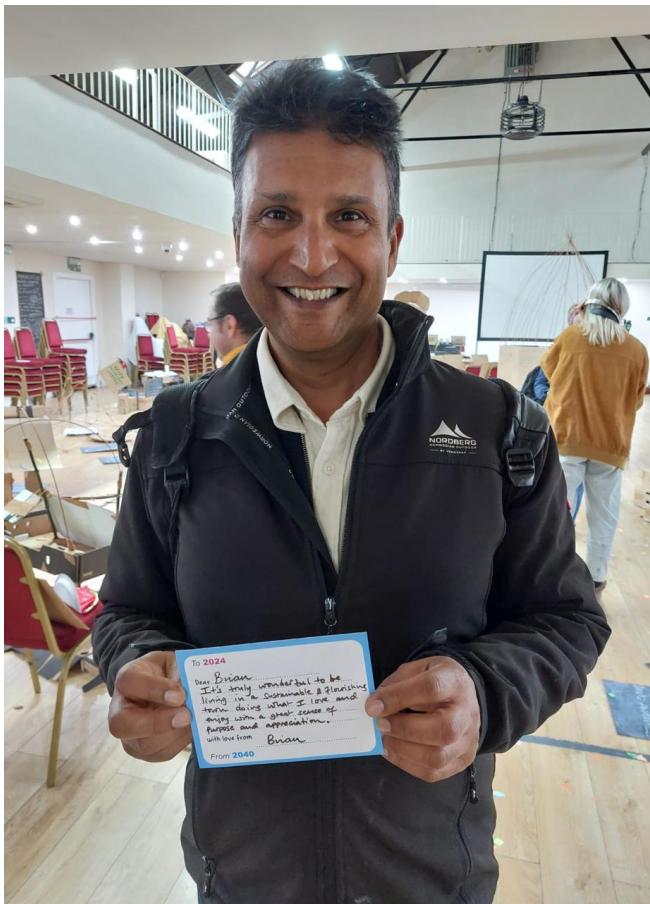


# You and Town Anywhere

Write your 2024 self a postcard in response to these questions

- What did this opportunity open up for you?
- What did you see perhaps for the first time
- What did you feel and experience that don't want to forget
- What reflections are you taking away with you?
- What steps would you advise your 2024 self to take?









***“If you want to go fast go alone. If you want to go further go together”***



## Breakfast meeting the following Day

The next day a brief breakfast meeting was held at Mushkil Aasaan for a handful of key Tooting people, including two Councillors; Council staff responsible for town management and leading community activists working in community cohesion, reclaiming open green space, a culture of fixing and repair and community gardening.

Materials generated the day before - venture charters, town themes, postcards from the future were laid out to get a more detailed sense of what had emerged in the process. The objective was to capture and reflect on the energy and ideas from the day.



How could some of these individuals' collective insights help initiatives and projects in the 'real 2024' world of the town work more effectively? How might we continue to build together a fair, flourishing and resilient Tooting town now and in the future. **What had been seen and heard? What had the experience opened up for people - including themselves?** What had people seen in a new way that connected to Tooting and its future? Was a different 'route' to the future now open to people? **Where might we go from here - together?**

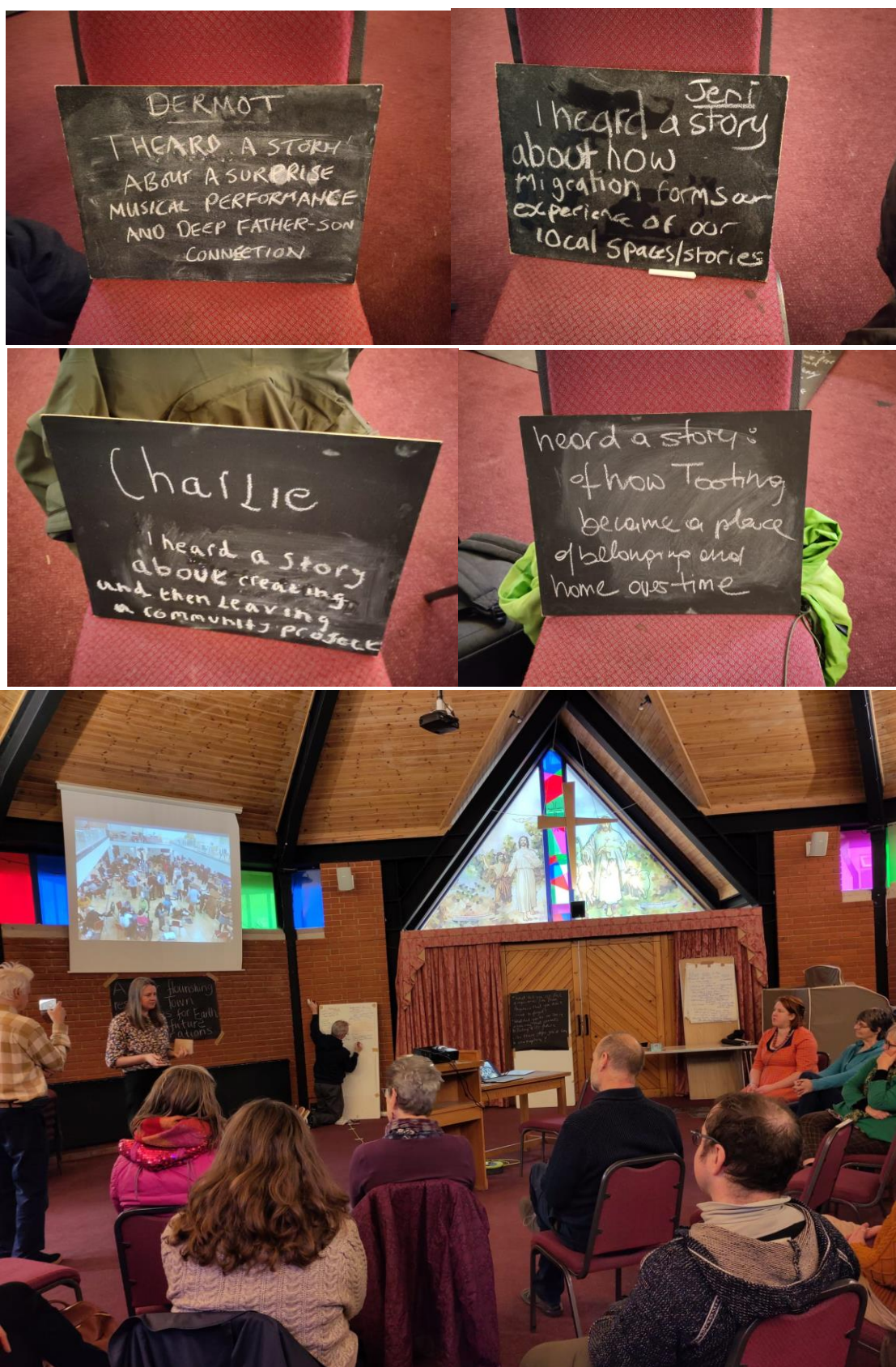
The shared knowledge of Tooting in the room, affirmed both the town's untapped potential for community resilience, well-being and resourcefulness as well as the challenges - for example there are few central gathering places in the town - both indoors and out. It was acknowledged the Council could feel too TownHall centred. Town Anywhere had been a source or 're-energising' for most, with new belief in trusting local knowledge and skills. There was a sense that momentum, one way or another - both existing and catalysed by the day before - would be maintained



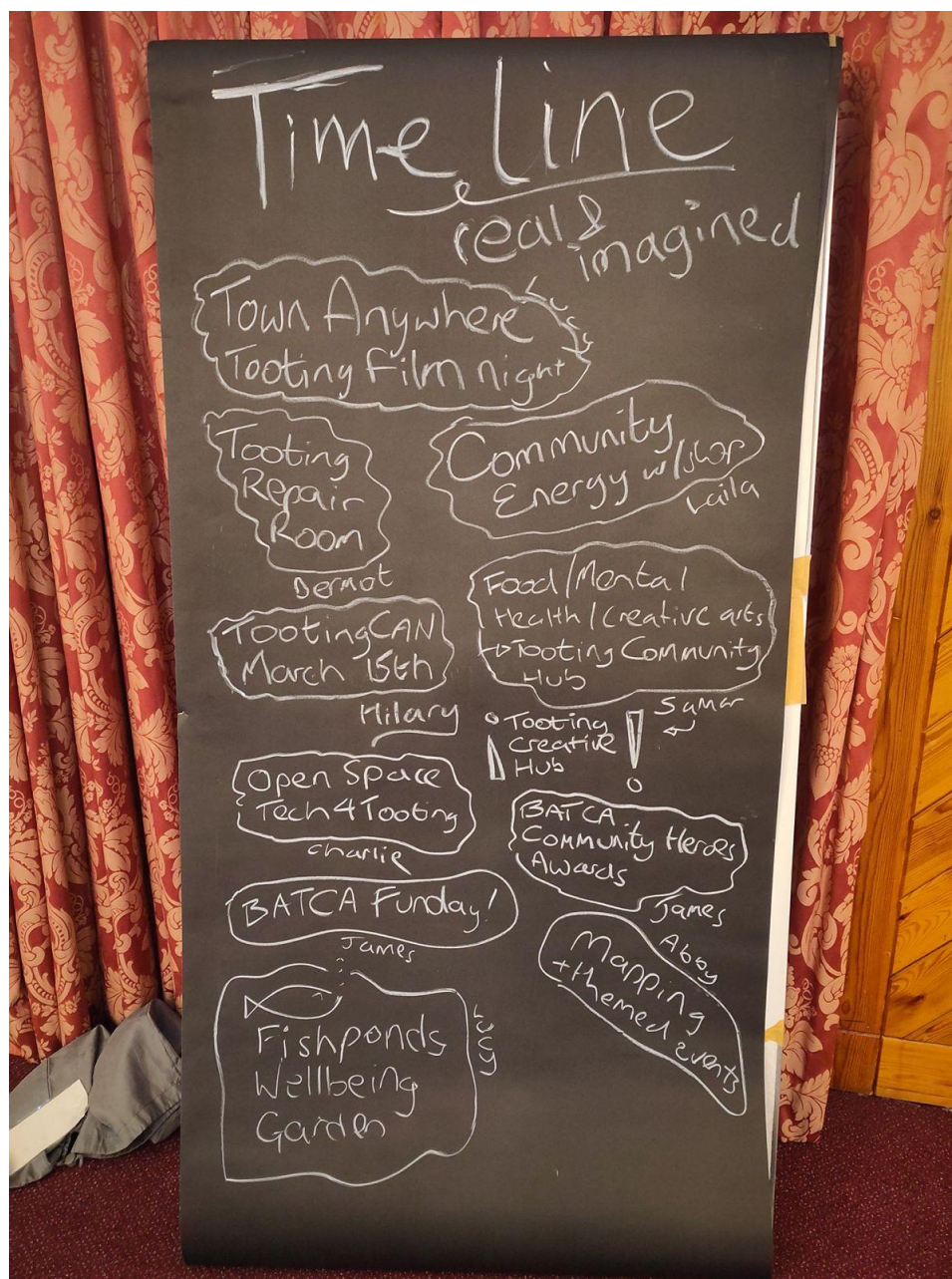


## November 'Regathering' 2024 in United Reform Church (URC)

Participants from Town Anywhere relayed their reflections of the day; all those present exchanged stories (as an example of how the day was experienced) and onward discussions were had about a number of key 'ventures' people were keen to pursue over time in Tooting. This work continues with a screening of the Town Anywhere Tooting film on March 29th in the same venue (URC) made by Lily Lowe Myers from Leytonstone - hoping to host Town Anywhere in October 2025 with Transition Leytonstone.







Town Anywhere 2040 was bought to Tooting by Transition Town Tooting with support from The National Lottery Community Fund, distributed by Transition. Thanks to National Lottery players for making this possible. Look for more information about Transition Tooting at <https://transitiontooting.org> and Transition Together at <https://transitiontogether.org.uk/>