Self-renovating neighbourhoods

Challenges and opportunities of community led regeneration

Jess Steele

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£11.4 million pier boost by £11.4m of lottery cash



jackpot

BY HANNAH COLLISSON hannah.collisson@jpress.co.uk @HastingsObs

THE REBUILDING of the pier has moved a giant leap closer thanks to £11.4 million of lottery funding.

It was announced on Monday (November 19) that the Hastings Pier and White Rock Trust (HP-WRT) bid for money from the Heritage Lottery Fundhadbeen

This is the bulk of the total £13.9million needed.

Simon Opie, chief executive of HPWRT, admitted there had been no Plan Band said: "This is a brilliant decision by the Heritage Lottery Fund for the future of the pier and the future of Hastings.

PWRT members and supporters celebrate the good news



THE GUIDE: NIGHT OF STAND-UP COMEDY IN AID OF PIER

Comedian Jo Brand lends support to Hastings Pier

JOBRAND STANDS UP FOR

up of comics led by Jo Brand,

will join forces in support of the restoration of the pier. Jo Brand Stands Up for Hastgs Pier, will take place at the hite Rock Theatre, Hastings,

on March 30, 2013. The BAFTA-winning come-in, who hails from Hastings, as lent her support to the pie

and I'm really happy to be able to help rescue it!" Jo Brand, 55, is a comedian. riter and actress, who began y swapping psychiatric nurs-

She has gone on to appear on The Brain Drain, Channel 4's Jo Brand Through the Cake plash and as a regular guest on

of the 50 funniest acts in Reitbeen described by Chartle as ish comedy, and in 2011 won a BAFTA for best female performmedy with emotional in-Doon Mackichan is hest ance in a comedy role and a Brit

known as one of the stars of the Channel 4 comedy series Smack the Pony.
She has also appeared in The night of stand up comedy will include support from

Angela Barnes, Ouincy, Doon Hour, The Day Today, and Brass Angela Barnes won BBC Ra dio 2's New Comedy Award in Channel 4 drama A Very Social

aron the stand-up "I spent some of the reuit. I spent some of the acomedian, actor she has also best days of my life and writer, who on the pier News on BBC Three, and per-formed at Latitude Festival and

ppeared on tel-

evision and radio including Russell

Howard's Good

the Edinburgh Fringe.

BBC Radio 4 Extra's Comedy On

from his starring role in the Orange mobile phone adpearances in a range of theatre

dian, presenter, writer, actor ain, Skins, The Wright Stuff, and and host, who has appeared on Comedy Central's Comedy Blue,

Matilda The Musical. Performers are donating

Funding is also to come from ange of other sources, and by the end of this year the HPWRT opes that it will be in a position o start making detailed plans is a familiar face

to the Hastings Pier and White

Pier is a £14 million project

tructure ravaged by fire in

ar, though this relies upon a

bid for just over £11 million from

ngs Borough Council securing a Compulsory Purchase Order to take control of the pier from its Panamanian owner Ravenclaw, which had failed to star repairs. This was given the goshead earlier this year.

Tickets are selling fast, and cost £22,50. To book call the box office on 01424 462288 or visi





Architect's impression of the view of the proposed development of the old pavilion. Inset: Simon Opie

Pier plans given

Continued from page 1

MrOpie added: "Now we need to get ready to deliver the project. We have a terrific responsibility that comes alongside this award from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

"Having said that it is a momentous decision and we should celebrate our success.

"We have to take the opportunity to say thank you for all of the support that has been given to this project. Without the level of commitment the project would never have got to this stage."

He added that the level of public engagement with the project so far had been a unique

Councillor Jeremy Birch. leader of Hastings Borough Council, said: "This is excellent news for Hastings Pier and White Rock Trust (HPWRT), all supporters and of course residents of and visitors to Hast-

The remainder of the funding is to come from a variety of sources, including the Coastal Communities Fund, Hastings Borough Council, and a Community Shares Scheme, which is to be launched by Jo Brand at her Stand Up for Hastings Pier comedy show on March 30, and will give ordinary people a chance to have a say in running

Hastings MP Amber Rudd said: "I am in awe of the talent and commitment of the local people supporting the Hastings Pier and White Rock Trust, and believe the whole town owes them a huge debt of gratitude for their determination and enthusiasm that led to this fantas-

tic result." The designs for the new pier have been drawn up by firm of architects dRMM, and aim to provide a modern pier, but with links to its Victorian history.

What readers said online

Fionall: "Hooray!! This is great news "Well done to all the people that

worked to make this happen."

BourneFree: "Well done to the dedicated people who have got us this far. "I never really thought that funds would be found to rebuild it, so I'm re-

ally pleased that it's going to happen."

1Heritage: "Congratulations to all those involved over the past few years in working on this objective, and keeping the faith during the dark months

"Lets look towards something arising from the ashes not just for the 21st but for the 22nd century."

The next step is for the Compulsory Purchase Order to be activated by the council and ownership of the pier to be transferred to HPWRT.

Following this, work is due to begin in Spring 2013. The structure, ravaged by fire in October 2010, will be made safe before the first phase of development, which will bring a new visitor centre, a redeveloped Western Pavilion as bar and bar and restaurant, and an open space extremely flexible in terms of seasonal uses.

The programme is likely to include the likes of musical events, outdoor cinema, public art, a summer circus, and winterice skating.

A community showroom is to be established at White Rock Baths, where members of the public will have access to the detailed plans, and be able to see

how work is progressing. Speaking of the importance of the pier to Hastings and St Leonards, Mr Opie said: "If you can demonstrate to people that something like that can be turned around, that has a really important psychological effect as well as an economic effect."

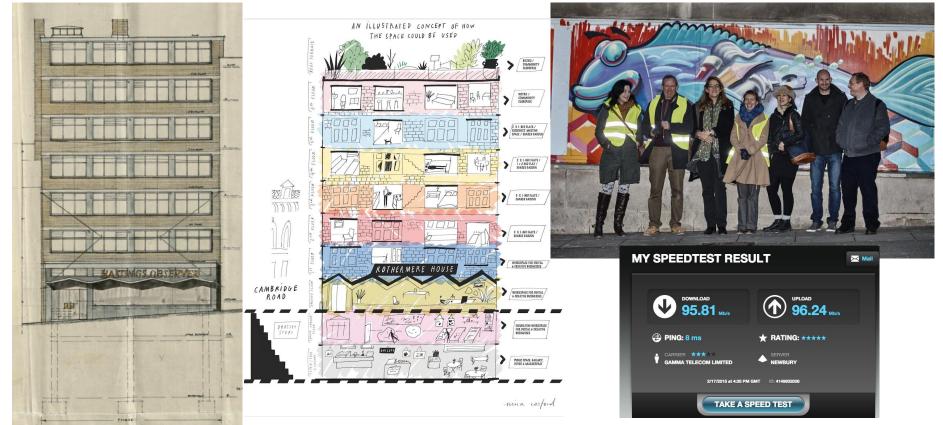
"All along it has been clear that people want us to respect the heritage but provide something that is relevant to the 21st century. There won't be another pier like it."











What is Regeneration?

The retro-fitting of sustainability into neighbourhoods that have missed out on appropriate maintenance investment.



What is Regeneration?

The unleashing of resources to nurture transformational local change



The Jericho Road

"On the one hand we are called to play the Good Samaritan on life's roadside, but that will only be an initial act. One day we must come to see that the whole Jericho Road must be transformed so that men and women will not be constantly beaten and robbed as they make their journey on life's history."

Martin Luther King A Time To Break Silence (1967)

It is collective local action that will transform the Jericho Road...

Resources?

An entrepreneur is someone who sets out to do something without (yet) controlling the resources to achieve it.



Unlocking resources

- People
- Land & buildings
- Money



Unlocking individuals...

PEOPLE

Community Organising

Wake people up
to the possibility
of a different world
and join them together
to make change
on the ground





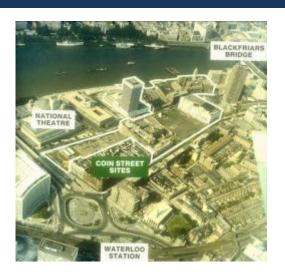
www.cocollaborative.org.uk

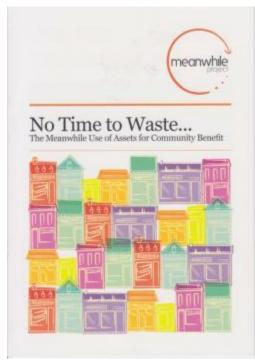
Unlocking space...

LAND & BUILDINGS

- Asset transfer and asset development
- Meanwhile use
- Neighbourhood planning
- Campaign against delinquent ownership
- Self-renovating the fine grain
- Locking in affordability

www.mycommunity.org.uk www.meanwhile.org.uk





Unlocking investment

MONEY

- Engaged investment
- Joint ventures
- Matching funds



- Community shares
- Neighbourhood bonds
- Investment readiness funds and support

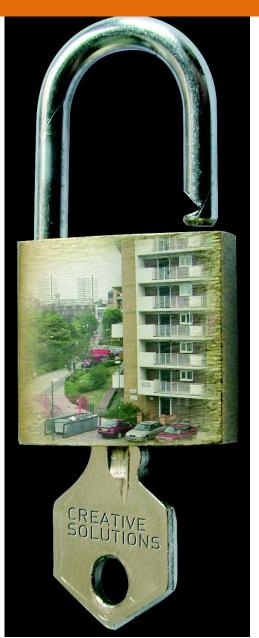


www.communityshares.org.uk http://www.sibgroup.org.uk/bigpotential/

Unlocking resources

- Actual not abstract
- Strengths not needs
- Right now
 as well as long term

Identify
Encourage
Unleash
Anchor



Learning or Doing?

"There's too much navel-gazing in regen and it's what you can see on the ground that matters – delivery, delivery, delivery."

No, there's a scarcity of reflective thinking, an appalling lack of archives and shared learning (despite lots of expensive evaluations), and not enough properly facilitated crossneighbourhood visiting.

What is regeneration for?

Social Justice?

Social Control?

or the Pursuit of Happiness?

Who is it for?

- To what extent is regeneration a process of 'social engineering'?
- Grafitti in Deptford 1992 'RESIST THE YUPPIE INVASION'
- Dilution of statistical need, displacement of people.
- Gentrification starts well but ends in sterilisation.

Principles of regeneration

- No-one should be disadvantaged by where they live
- Spirals of decline or success vicious/virtuous circles
- Multiple aspects of deprivation are mutually reinforcing
- Local people are best placed to understand their own areas but they also need to see beyond the horizon
- The genius of place local distinctiveness, renewal without destruction
- The unpredictability of interventions
- Building social capital human resource is the most important asset of all

Challenges & Opportunities

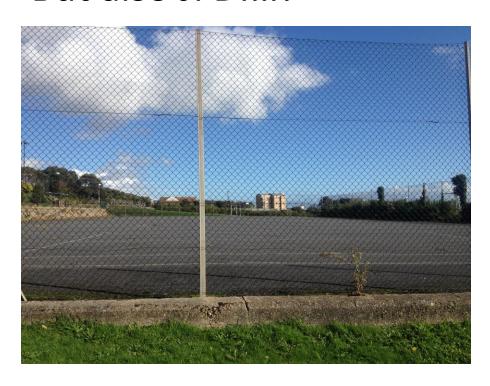
Mobilisation – community organising

Cooperation – partnerships & alliances

Gentrification – community freehold

Planning or Action?

Fail to plan – plan to fail Plan, act, reflect, plan But also JFDI...!





"To be truly radical is to make hope possible rather than despair convincing"

- Raymond Williams (1921-1988)







Culture eats strategy...

But culture is dynamic as well as infectious

Like bacteria it colonises

Like bacteria it mutates

Like bacteria it's out of our control

But responsive to our interventions...



for breakfast



Bruce Flye