

CONVERSATIONS

ALL ABOUT

FOOD AND COMMUNITY SPACE

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2017
WOLVES LANE HORTICULTURAL CENTRE
WOOD GREEN, LONDON N22 5JD

REPORT

JANUARY 2018



FACILITATED BY
THE UBELE INITIATIVE



FUNDED BY
POWER TO CHANGE - BRIGHT IDEAS FUND



LONDON GROWN
WORKERS CO-OP



organicLea



THE SELBY TRUST
Many Cultures, One Community



Wolves Lane
Good Food Skills

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BACKGROUND

This report provides insight into an innovative series of group conversations and an afternoon festive market exploring food and community space based at Wolves Lane Horticultural Centre, Haringey.

Open and often challenging conversations, a collaborative creative exercise followed by time to reflect, afforded 7 organisations a unique 'learning through doing' opportunity.

The Wolves Lane Horticulture Centre is currently being managed by an informal consortium – led by Organiclea. Other consortium members are Crop Drop, Dee Woods and London Grown Workers Co-op.

Organiclea's proposal to develop a community food hub was accepted by Haringey Council in January 2017 and the consortium of groups started the handover of management of the site in April 2017 with the council. Haringey council cited central government cuts to funding as the reason for stopping management and funding of the Wolves Lane Horticultural Centre. (Refer to Appendix 1 and 2 for more background information)



The Wolves Lane Horticultural Centre is a unique community resource on Wolves Lane in Wood Green, N22 5JD. The former 3 acre plant nursery has commercial glasshouses, a rare palm house with tropical plants, cactus garden, rainforest area, professional standard kitchen, classroom space, barn and woodland area. The buildings and glasshouses are in need of refurbishment which the consortium has committed to in development stages as well as investment in sustainable energy systems to heat the palmhouse to reduce previously high gas bills.

As part of the council handover of management a 25 year lease is being finalised between Organiclea and Haringey council in which the council is holding management of an area of the site including polytunnels for a potential depot.



Organiclea's consortium bid to Haringey council focused on five themes:

- Food growing - sustainable foods
- Training and volunteering - work experience and accredited courses
- Healthy eating - culturally-appropriate, nutritious foods
- Food distribution - box scheme, market
- Community activities - focused in the palmhouse, cactus garden, cafe areas

Alongside this a sliding scale of space hire for a range of events and activities will also generate income to support covering running costs and social programmes.



Wolves Lane food growing volunteer day - June 2017

The plan is that in the first 2-3 years Organiclea with relevant experience of site management, food growing and education programmes will hold the lease while programmes and activities are developed with partners. New Wolves Lane organisation and legal structures will be formed and tested that can take on the lease of the site.

The aim is that organisational structures are developed to reflect the programmes and commitments of groups on site through finding innovative models - one such example is a multi-stakeholder cooperative approach. (See Appendix 1 for further info)

WHY COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS?

With the context of community spaces in London being increasingly under threat linked to inequitable processes of area regeneration, government austerity, and escalating property values, for example.

The overarching aim of the 'community conversations' was to see how a co-designed process with community organisations could support cooperative relationships in future initiatives, and find methods and activities to document ideas for programmes and democratic models around the Wolves Lane Centre.

This initial 4 day process with some funding would help to inform future community approaches, and would be documented so that any learnings may contribute to 'best practice' around community space practice.

Collaborative

A co-design approach was taken to work with 5 community-based organisations to make collaborative decisions on how to create and document an equitable space/methods for different people in the area to contribute ideas and capacity in developing the hub.

A reason for working with a co-design approach was to also develop practices with community partners working towards Wolves Lane contributing to collaborative community and food cultures in the area. For this reason the initial session developed conversations on food and community space and what these meant to different people and how organisations' work related to these.

Action-based learning

The process was based in 'learning by doing' with a community market at the Wolves Lane site being chosen as a joint activity to see if there was a positive response to this kind of event, collate viewpoints and interest in future programmes at the site, and develop working relationships with organisations for more collaborations.

GETTING READY FOR THE CONVERSATIONS

In preparation for the 'community conversations' it was felt important to secure funding for financial contribution to organisations involved, childcare and travel costs.

London Grown Workers Co-op led on a funding bid with Dee Woods to source funding including facilitation and materials for the process. Once this bid was successful organisations were approached to co-design the 4 day process aiming to:

- shape future activities and programmes at the Wolves Lane Centre
- develop democratic processes around the Wolves Lane Centre
- document learnings from the process in terms of best practice in community-based approaches to public land and community assets
- develop relationships between organisations for future collaborations
- enable future community-based participatory processes to shape activities at the Wolves Lane Centre

The organisations which participated in our conversations all about food and space and contributed to the highly successful festive market were:

- Crop Drop
- Friends of Wolves Lane (FOWL)
- Go Grow!
- Haringey Migrant Support Centre (HMSC)
- Living Under One Sun (LUOS)
- London Grown Workers Co-op
- Organiclea
- Selby Centre
- The Ubele Initiative
- Wolves Lane Good Food Skills

For further info on the groups involved see Appendix 3.

One of the unique and commendable aspects of this initiative, was that all of the organisations generously gave their time and brought a high degree of expertise, to co-create a rich process which truly reflected the diversity of communities found in Haringey.

The conversations were a key element of London Grown's Bright Ideas bid, which is funded by Power to Change.



Several of the groups and individuals invited to the community conversations had previous knowledge of either the consortium members and /or of each other – some had worked together on food and growing projects, some had connections to the previously council-run Wolves Lane site, and others on community space campaigns.

Friends of Wolves Lane, Go Grow!, HMSC, LUOS and the Selby Centre were invited to the conversations via Rob Logan from London Grown Co-op and Deirdre Woods developing the Good Food Skills programmes at the Wolves Lane centre. Some were deeply rooted in Haringey – others located in other London boroughs. Several organisations were led by people from ethnic minority communities, others were designed to work with and support members of minority communities.

Whilst securing the involvement of 5 new groups, the Ubele Initiative was approached and subsequently commissioned to support the design and facilitation of the process.

Haringey is exceptionally diverse. Whilst the Office of National Statistics (ONS) population profile (2014) suggests that almost two-thirds of the population, and over 70% of our young people, are from ethnic minority backgrounds, and over 100 languages are spoken in the borough. Haringey's population is the fifth most ethnically diverse in the country and is the 30th most deprived borough in England and the 6th most deprived in London.

Inviting groups which often experience marginalisation and exclusion into a process of real power sharing can be both exciting and yet rather daunting. This is especially the case when anecdotal evidence suggests that Black and Minority Ethnic communities are not offered leases for the development of new community assets and / or spaces. The stark reality of this situation can be seen when new spaces become available in their own neighbourhoods even when local authorities offload under-utilised assets which are deemed no longer fit for purpose or they create opportunities for 'meanwhile' space prior to planned major new developments.

KEY METHODS

At the community market as part of the action research two approaches were taken to document ideas and interest for programme development at the Wolves Lane centre:

One-to-one interviews using community organising approach led by Moussa Amine-Sylla from the Selby Trust

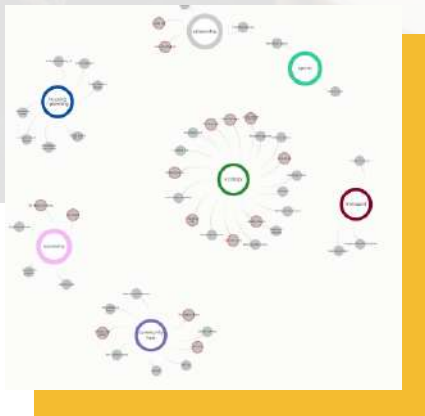
Community organising is a process where people who live in proximity to each other come together into an organisation that acts in their shared self-interest.

It has as a core goal of the generation of durable power for an organisation representing the community, allowing it to influence key decision-makers on a range of issues over time.

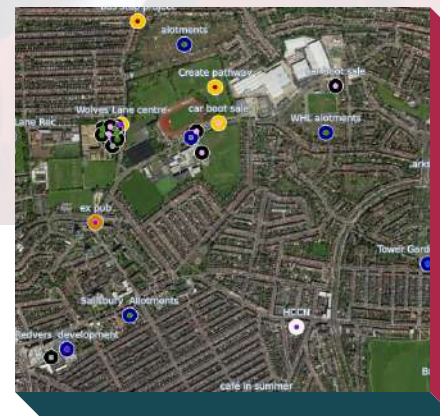
Results of these discussions are in the Day 3 - Festive market notes.

Mapping community projects and spaces in the area led by Nikolas Fonty and Santa Pedone from Just Map

Click the icons below to see the maps



MAP OF THEMES



GEOGRAPHICAL MAP



DAY 1

TUESDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2017

The objectives of the first day were:

- To hear more about the background to the Community Conversations process and begin to scope the key objectives, activities and timeframe for the future 3 days work together;
- To learn about the work of the different organisations and how initiatives at Wolves Lane Horticultural Centre & Queensland Avenue market garden can complement these;
- To share and explore what a collaborative approach might look and feel like in this process around food and community space.

Day 1 conversations focused on what each organisation currently does to promote food justice and /or create community space. It also enables us to have deep and challenging conversations about:

- The boundary of the potential opportunity to get involved
- Who was missing from the conversation?
- How to support local production?
- How to engage and motivate the local community?
- How to generate income?

Short Sensing Journeys adapted from Otto Sharmer's U Process were organised. These not only allowed participants to see aspects of the site that they might not have seen before, but also to suspend their voice of judgement and use their sense of curiosity to ultimately create new possibilities for the centre. (See Appendix 4 for more info on the U Process)



QUESTIONS THAT WERE REFLECTED ON AFTER THE SENSING JOURNEY INCLUDED:

What was most surprising / unexpected?

- The size of the centre
- How hard people are working
- Support and provide growing space for person currently homeless

What touched you? What connected to you personally?

- The Palm House, fish etc.
- The huge green houses

If Wolves Lane was a 'being', what would it be and what would it want to morph into?

- An oasis in a concrete jungle
- A valuable community resource
- An earth people extension
- Changing the needs of many, not just the few
- Homeless person having a complete make over
- Larvae turning into a caterpillar
- It could become the central hub or a spiral which connects with and impacts on all the other sites in Haringey

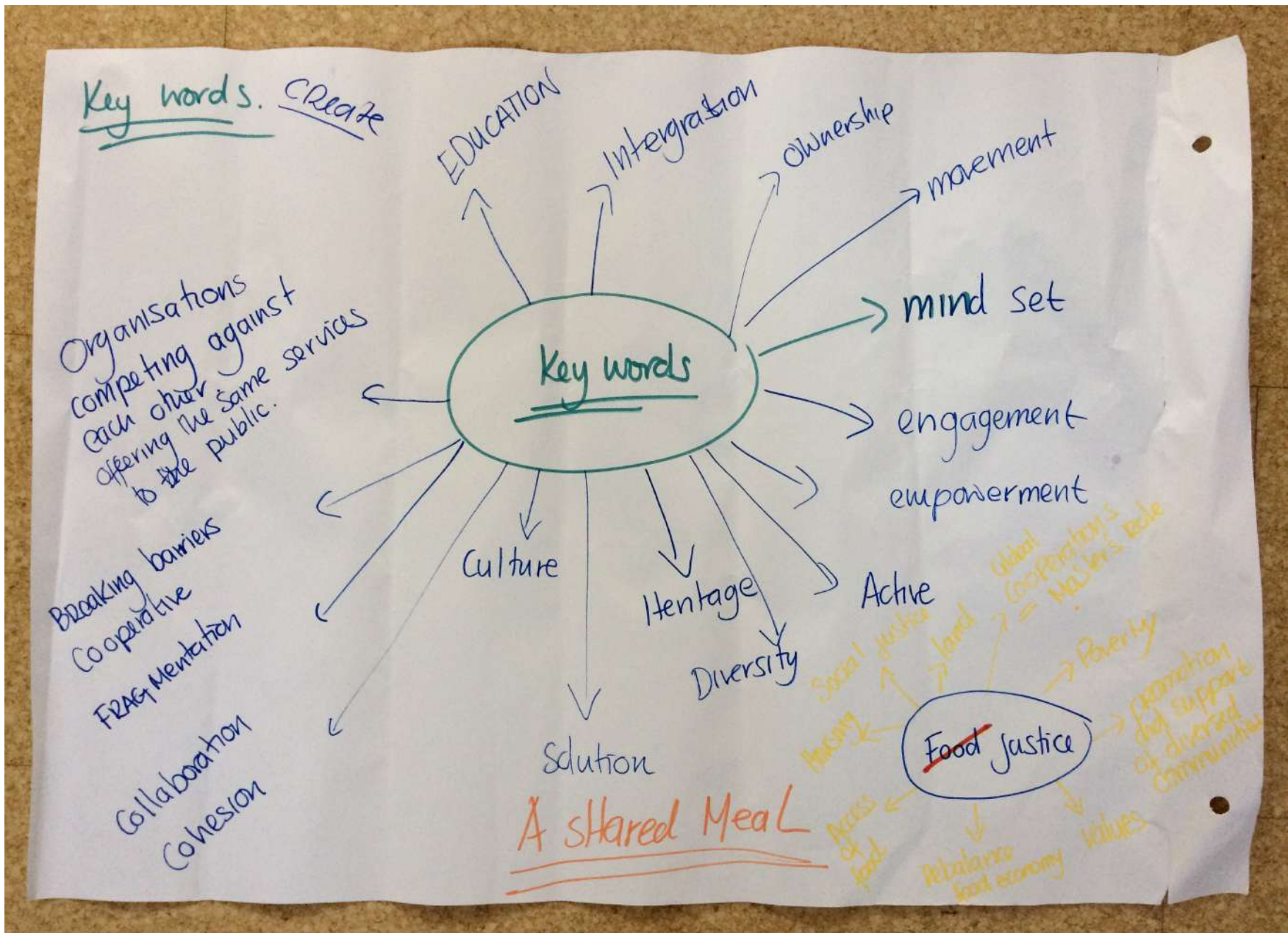
If Wolves Lane could talk what would it say?

- Love me!
- Give me attention
- Give me some tender, but slightly rough love (like your grandmother gives!)
- Treasure me
- Help me to be here

Moving 'in and out' of the sensing journey what did you notice about yourself?

- I transported to Gambia and/or Jamaica!
- I felt some sadness and conflicted – a great space for people could be created but the centre needs a lot of work including major fundraising





Notes from exercise exploring perspectives on community space and food.

A key discussion was on the importance of collaborative working between community groups so as not to compete for shrinking resources.



STAYING IN THE CONVERSATION

The afternoon's conversation ended earlier than had been originally anticipated. Major concerns were expressed about the current management arrangements and information was requested about this, about the use of the centre as well as how the site had been secured by a group based outside of Haringey with minimal contact with experienced community food groups in the area. There was honest discussions to learn different experiences of communication around the council bid, and if members of consortium groups lived or had grown up in Haringey.

Although this appeared to present a challenging moment in Day 1, some participants felt able to express their concerns and a level of frustration at what could be perceived as a somewhat familiar 'land-grab'. However, the group stayed in the conversation in order to understand more of the wider context and until agreement was reached.

As a result, Consortium members present and the Ubele Initiative agreed to speak to Organiclea prior to the next session. Several conversations took place during the following month between differing stakeholders (including with those present on Day 1) the outcome of which saw Organiclea producing a statement of clarification about their future intention for the management of the site, which was discussed at length at the beginning of Day 2.

(Refer to Appendix 1)



DAY 2

TUESDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2017:

CLARIFYING, BUILDING TRUST AND PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE IDEAS INTO ACTION

The objectives of the second day were:

- To review the outcomes of Day 1 and to agree additions to the existing notes from the day
- To discuss Organiclea's proposal for future partnerships and management arrangement of Wolves Lane Horticultural Centre
- To develop ideas for how organisations might develop activities, programmes and partnerships which contribute to the development of the Centre over the next 12 -24 months
- To begin the process of co-designing an open day for local people, the outcomes of which could contribute to the future development of the centre.

The group reflected on:

- What has happened since it met last month?
- What they felt about the day?
- What they had reported back to their respective organisations?
- Some of the conversations they had.

Conversations about the first day had taken place with line managers, colleagues, community organisers and other food projects. There appeared to be overwhelming support for this initiative and agreement to share outputs.

Some reflections about Day 1 included:

- We were getting to know each other
– it is a slow process but an important starting point
- Excited about the possibilities
- Putting roots down; building a foundation
- Massive opportunity, also very hard work needing passion, dedication and good relationships
- Would like further collaboration



The positive feedback did not distract from a process which created space for the group to express and explore deeper concerns. It also gave another opportunity for further dialogue. One main focus was organisation's experience of a lack of transparency in relation to local authority strategies leading to the exclusion of local organisations from securing new resources including community assets.

It was suggested that this systemic exclusion was occurring locally even when they had an excellent track record of delivery and had contributed to the development of communities locally, in some cases, for decades. The May 2018 local council elections were also mentioned in the light of a largescale deselection process of existing councillors in favour of candidates that are being viewed as more supportive of local communities and local people.

The statement produced by Organiclea future management arrangements and partnerships led to an in-depth discussion.

Clarification was sought on a number of key issues including:

- Nature of the bids submitted to Haringey council for the site
- Length of lease and rent payable
- Opening of the site – full public access versus ‘community resource’
- Site safety and security

It was suggested that Organiclea would support a 12 month plan of activities going forward to help build relationships, trust, new partnerships and start to generate income. Some participants felt they needed more information to better understand what is happening including who makes decisions and how are they made before the committing to developing projects.

Although the discussion was unable to answer all questions raised, by the end of this conversation there was a general consensus that the situation was becoming clearer which helped to begin to build trust amongst the groups.



As a result, the group agreed to spend the afternoon exploring possibilities for the centre including the design of a collaborative event which would constitute their third day.

IDEAS INTO ACTION

The first part of the afternoon was spent creating a group collage to explore possibilities for the centre Ideas that were generated included using the space for markets, cultural events and for the small scale commercial production of foods that are grown at the centre.

Some members of the group suggested the importance of food growing knowledge and cultural food heritage as ways of educating children and adults on holistic health and well-being as well as food and land justice and environmental issues.

The remainder of the day focuses on designing a festive market event at the centre on Sunday 10th December 2017, the purpose of which was to:

- Invite the views and ideas of a wide range of potential stakeholders about the types of activities and events that could happen at Wolves Lane Horticulture Centre and to feed this into the ongoing development process
- To assess how the organisations collaborate to design and implement a partnership event
- To test out local interest in such an event and to see if it could become a regular feature of Wolves Lane.

It was acknowledged that the event was ambitious, given the relatively short timescale involved. It was agreed that progress would be reviewed late November and adjustments made in order to ensure its' success.



DAY 3

SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2017:

WOLVES LANE FESTIVE MARKET

Unexpected overnight snow did not deter organisers, stall holders, supporters and shoppers from turning up to Wolves Lane on 10th December.

A month of frenetic activity co-ordinated by an Ubele Project Manager saw more than 100 children, young people and adults brave the cold weather to collaborate and celebrate as a community from early afternoon into the early evening.

Twenty-five stalls selling organic fruit and vegetables, various arts and crafts, plus offering community information alongside vegan food, mulled wine and cakes.

Children's and adult festive workshops, fundraising raffles all offered within a lively and vibrant background of non-traditional festive music.

Wolves Lane Festive Market

Sunday 10th December 2017

1pm – 6pm

Stalls - Festive gifts and ideas
Organic and Vegan Food
Cakes
Mulled Apple and Mulled Wine

Creative Activities for Children
and Adults
Festive Entertainment
Raffles

If you are interested in having a stall at this event,
please contact Rob: londongrown@gmail.com

Wolves Lane Horticultural Centre
Wood Green, London N22 5JD



Bus W4 stops right outside and
there is free parking at weekends
on Wolves Lane

Participating organisations



#wolveslanefestivemarket

Reflecting on the event, some of the things that participating organisations noticed included:

- The positive vibe
- Warm energy despite the cold
- A spirit of happiness
- Held in derelict build - made it look nice
- Young people presence!
- Youth leadership!
- Kids running around
- Good food
- Great music
- Stunning stalls!

Some of the planned food arrangements were hampered by the bad weather and subsequent travel disruptions.

As a result some of the feedback from participants also reflected on this and other issues:

- Snow: sub-zero temperature
- No coffee/tea at the beginning
- Confusion re: Coffee/tea leadership made it difficult to access
- Broken glass/ Looked shabby



Just Maps mapping community assets and connections



Leyla and Moussa at LUOS stall

FEEDBACK FROM LOCAL PEOPLE ABOUT THE FESTIVE EVENT

People who came to the festive event commented that they liked the following about the centre:

- Close to my house
- Community Spirit
- Great feeling and good ambiance
- The atmosphere, the space, the crowd
- Seems like a good diverse community hub
- Big, of space, lots of potential
- The connection with nature
- The architecture of the centre
- The green houses
- The Palm House
- The terrapins
- My grandson had his birthday party in this building!

Their vision for the centre included:

- Sustainable community hub
- Community centre for migrants and refugees
- Different organisations working together towards a fully sustainable development
- Small scales businesses
- Creative businesses
- A performance and showcase space
- Learning botany and horticulture
- Horticulture and herbal medicine
- Growing organic food locally and serving the community
- Medicinal plants including links with herbalist workshops
- Weekly or Sunday market
- Café and restaurant – a place where people can socialise
- Promoting diversity and cultural exchange
- Teaching workshops and learning opportunities
- Health and well-being workshops
- Wonderful centre in which children could learn
- Educational trips for young people
- Cookery Workshops
- Wood works
- Forest dwelling

Some project ideas that were suggested to help create the vision:

- Improving / producing the soil
- All kinds of workshops
- Teaching and training in horticulture
- Mapping the system
- Making a film about nature
- A social co-operative enterprise that makes cheese and offers education and development of Kurdish women
- Decorate the area using textiles and Kurdish artistic designs
- Live and direct tropical food and vegetables
- Bike maintenance
- Children's cookery classes
- Dance, theatre, drumming
- Teaching for people with disabilities
- Pottery classes





NOELIA CLAVIJO

Originally from Granada, Spain
Resident of Wood Green

'This is the first time I came to this place. I saw the invitation on Facebook from a friend of mine. This is a great place to hang out with friends doing some useful work for the community I live in.'



PAUL STERLING

Originally from Jamaica
Long-standing resident of Tottenham

'I have known this place for a long time and I would like it to continue to provide activities for the local community - food growing but also hosting different functions to be able to raise money for maintaining and running the space'.



Santa Pedone from 'Just Maps' interviewing Romy

ROMY STRUBEL

Resident in Bruce Grove, Tottenham

"I learned about this wonderful space through Organiclea, because I was a trainee there. I think Wolves Lane centre should provide space for food growing, but also for developing community activities, evening classes, summer schools and training. I think the biggest challenge will be to harness all the potential this space has to offer."

DAVID EVARS

Born in London - lives in Seven Sisters, Tottenham

'I volunteer at Organiclea and would like to volunteer here at Wolves Lane as well, because I live in this neighbourhood. There are not many places like this with greenhouses so close to central London! I imagine this place developing food growing and selling produce to local schools, it could also connect with the many allotments in the area. Most importantly, this space has always been a community hub and needs to continue working as a community hub, like running a cafe and other community activities, providing a service for the local community.'



STALL HOLDERS



Recognising the success of the event, participating organisations reflected on what could be created going forward ideas included:

- Creating a small business place
- Offer regular markets - more than once a month including a Sunday Market
- Scope for business support for food growing/cooking/preserving

Furthermore, they recognised the need:

- To look at financial + social impact
- To look at business model
- To clarify purpose of stalls/volunteers role
- For more engagement with community to help shape what happens at the site.





DAY 4

TUESDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2017:

REFLECTION ON THE 4 DAY PROCESS

- To review the Wolves Lane Festive Market, Sunday 10th December 2017;
- To review the Conversations about Food and Space process over the past 3 months and to identify key learning points;
- To explore some general considerations going forward and to begin to plan the next steps.

We had insufficient time to reflect deeply on the process on Day 4 – this was due to a focus on the festive event, clarifications on discussions from Day 2, as well as the lack of time between Days 3 and 4 for internal reflection as well as pressure to wrap up the project within the agreed timeframe.

Learning and new ideas are still emerging and unfolding. However, some feedback received indicate that it was a very useful and important process in building trust, shifting perspectives and allowing a new collective vision to begin to be create. We are still very much at the beginning of this complex process and the need to secure new resources to support this as on-going process needs serious attention.

FOLLOW UP FROM DAY 2

Leyla requested further information on:

- the rental payments for the site
- the other liabilities
- the contract from the Council (and to have sight of it) and how the site is being registered
- the level of commitment being required of the different groups.

Rob informed the group that there is was a financial plan submitted with Organiclea's council bid and that this was being developed during the transition period with the council handover of site management.

REVIEW OF THE PAST 3 MONTHS



The group was asked to reflect on the journey travelled over the past three months and to consider:

- Where did you/your organisation start in this process?
- Where are you/your organisation now?
- What is the potential of this group?
- Where do you see opportunities for partnership work going forward with those already involved and with those yet to be included?

MANDY - FOWL

- Volunteer base
- Big database of people
- 10-15 active people
- Sadness / Scepticism (still working through that)
- Mistrust/Doubt
- Clare become Sole Trader
- FOWL meets monthly at the centre
- Taken part in Social Impact interviews
- Major input into Festive Event
- Linking individual people - opportunity to develop this in the future
- No funding
- Started at 5-6 / Now 7
- The Friends of Wolves Lane want to volunteer in the near future so that the palm house can open once a month to the public. A rota will be needed for this



SANDY - GO GROW!

- Feel positive (more than at the start of the process)
- Felt very attached to centre
- Wanted to stay connected to the centre
- Some of the questions asked by Leyla were answered
- Feel more relaxed
- Acquired office space
- Feel more involved + included
- Brought a lot of people to the centre - rich communities/connections!



ROB - LONDON GROWN

- Lots happened- learnt more about communications during the bidding process
- Thought there was a partnership with Friends Group
- Feels like questions raised for next steps in how to develop equitable and democratic structures, and how the Centre can contribute to cooperative working in surrounding area
- From London Grown values want a community-led, justice approach
- London Grown coop would like to continue developing collaborative partnerships

LEYLA - LUOS

- Had two events on same day
- Warm feelings generated/felt positive
- Was 2-3 in the beginning, now 5
- Important that honest conversations are captured
- More discussions needed on how not to compete with each other in selling food - more cooperation in Haringey
- Likes process + accountability, got to know people better
- Still very confused - why we don't have local people?
- Captured the amazing experience people have
- Opportunity of cooking for the events could be more transparent and open

DEE - WOLVES

LANE GOOD

FOOD SKILLS

- Here to support community based survival
- Started on '0' (as someone coming from outside Haringey)
- Now on '5'
- We are talking; things on the table (good/bad/ugly)
- Trying to work together still on that journey

MOUSSA - SELBY

CENTRE

- Need complete clarity/consider contributing to it
- Community empowerment/organising
- Started at 3 / Now at 5

KEY AREAS OF LEARNING INCLUDED:

- Understanding more why other local groups want to get involved with the development of the Wolves Lane Centre around the production of food/plants in terms of improving community cohesion.
- Clarity on what people want in the process - felt like there were different intentions linked to capacity and investment in development of Wolves Lane as a centre. It was good to hear this early on so to know where everyone is at. It also felt that it was important for early discussions on what were expectations of groups involved in the process.
- Having greater clarity of purpose about my role in the consortium.
- Trust between individuals and groups is so important and building strength in this takes time- with an aim to develop a cooperative and supportive community sectors in Haringey and London when resources/land/opportunities seem to be shrinking.





- Reflections on whether it would have been better to approach groups prior to the funding bid to collaboratively design the process from the funding stage - due to power dynamics around money and who has ability to distribute it.
- I reflected on the fact that the Centre is in a richly diverse area of Haringey and what benefits the development of it could further bring to the local community.
- I learnt that the consortium is very dynamic with lots of knowledge about food growing and urban farming with will really benefit the space.
- want to explore more what is 'local'? who is 'local'? How does this relate to power dynamics around who's voices are heard in shaping process around community space? And what is 'local' in London?
- Learning more about the area, and various organisations and how they could fit into current vision for site but also develop it so that Wolves Lane truly responds to the needs of the local community.

- Importance of how development of community space relates to what's going on in the area it's in - like the Haringey Development Vehicle (HDV) and what this means with Wolves Lane with a potential long-term lease if the aim is that it can be a place in Haringey where there is community ownership and runs activities and programmes that many people find important/special.
- To reflect on the terms of the lease and what this means in terms of a long-term plan at Wolves Lane relating to cost of rent, building community support and strength so the space has longevity in a fast changing area.
- A lot of patience is needed as there are people involved with different emotional ties. Trust is almost a big factor there was a general feeling of distrust and apprehension, it is important to build this amongst the with maybe team building exercises & socials etc.
- Participants valued having the space and opportunity to discuss issues about the site, process, wider community issues.



THE CONTENT TO QUESTIONS BELOW WERE VIA E-MAIL FROM ORGANISATIONS AFTER DAY 4

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE KEY THINGS THAT THE GROUP WILL NEED TO CONSIDER AND/OR DO TO SUPPORT THE STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS FOR WOLVES LANE IN FUTURE?

- What do long-term decision-making structures look like at Wolves Lane so that the people/groups working in the space have a voice in the direction of the centre? And also this is flexible depending on people's capacity and how much they want to be involved in management decisions. Feel that there is a lot of potential in innovative democratic model being developed.
- Better communication between all groups. I felt there were a lot of barriers up so did not allow the conversations to run as smoothly. More of an open mind about how the different groups involved could contribute to making Wolves Lane and successful community and commercial space.
- Maintaining transparency and open communication
- How do different groups want to collaborate in developing activities and programmes at the space, and how is this coordinated?
- Having co-created democratic processes that allow community partners to participate in the development of the site.
- The Friends of Wolves Lane are happy to be involved in strategic planning sessions with the members of the Consortium. There is an obvious need for planning and discussion going forwards. We have discussed this with the local ward Councillors.

WHAT ARE YOU/YOUR ORGANISATION WILLING TO CONTRIBUTE OVER THE NEXT YEAR INCLUDING TYPES OF INTERVENTION AND TIMESCALES?

- Time
- Skills
- Event organisation
- Project management
- Support...currently exploring funding to support the development of culturally appropriate healthy eating, cooking skills and other food activities
- Public Access to the Centre – The Friends want to help facilitate regular public access to the site. We recognise that this will not be possible immediately for a number of reasons. The site is currently far less safe than it was when run by the Council. Certain issues need to be resolved before access could be considered. For examples: areas of broken glass in the Palm House, Desert Garden, Kitchen etc. Need to be repaired; equipment on site needs to be made safe. We assume that public liability insurance will be provided by the Consortium. We will need to agree the regular dates and organise a rota. Practically it is unlikely to happen before late Spring

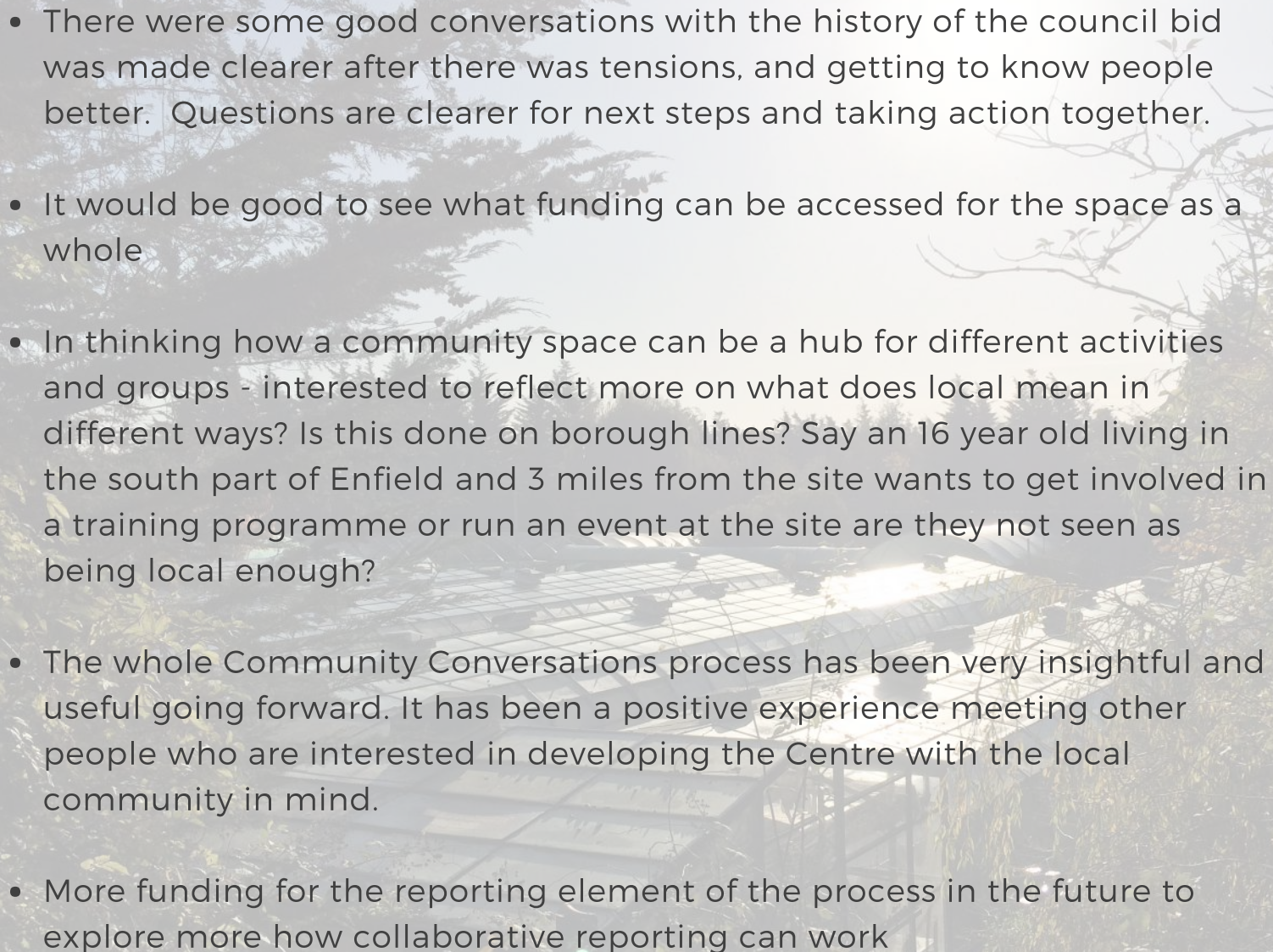
- Community Garden – We would want the area above the front gate by the tarmac drive to once again be a community garden. The Friends could take responsibility for this. We would not want it to merely form an extension of the area used by the Wolves Lane Flower Company. We have found it frustrating that their promised planting suggestion has not been produced and as a result a whole gardening season has been lost. We have all the expertise and experience to put this into effect, noting that we developed the garden initially over a 2-year period.
- We can move forward by setting up a working group of different Haringey food growing groups to work together by sharing resources, running joint programmes, and collaborating on distribution around a food sovereignty approach. Wolves Lane could be a hub to support this.
- Friends of Wolves Lane - Intervention/delivery timescales the next 1 to 2 years
- Running a gardening volunteering programme one day a week
- Developing horticultural trainings with adults, schools and young people. Production of natural culturally-appropriate foods.



FINAL REFLECTIONS ON THE PROCESS

- It would be good to start thinking how we could fund an extension of this process and make it wider to include other groups
- In the future it would be good to have opportunities for different groups to do the cooking for events and workshops
- I am eager to see how we move forward. I would like to see a local market similar to the Festive Market in the spring summer and eventually build up a following to do one once a month with different hubs this could generate income for maintenance and small improvements on site
- Something dramatic has to change soon because the site is becoming very run down and derelict. At the present time it is extremely worrying about the lack of heating because now a lot of plants in the palm house and rainforest area are really suffering or have died because of the cold weather. The terrapins and goldfish are also always a concern as well.



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- There were some good conversations with the history of the council bid was made clearer after there was tensions, and getting to know people better. Questions are clearer for next steps and taking action together.
 - It would be good to see what funding can be accessed for the space as a whole
 - In thinking how a community space can be a hub for different activities and groups - interested to reflect more on what does local mean in different ways? Is this done on borough lines? Say an 16 year old living in the south part of Enfield and 3 miles from the site wants to get involved in a training programme or run an event at the site are they not seen as being local enough?
 - The whole Community Conversations process has been very insightful and useful going forward. It has been a positive experience meeting other people who are interested in developing the Centre with the local community in mind.
 - More funding for the reporting element of the process in the future to explore more how collaborative reporting can work

APPENDIX 1

Update on Plan for Partnership and Governance Development at Wolves Lane Horticulture Centre, October 2017

Organiclea is finalising a 25 year lease with Haringey Council for the management of Wolves Lane Horticultural Centre. The bid outlines a community food hub with elements of food production, food distribution, education programmes, and community enterprise.

There is an informal consortium of partner groups in Organiclea's bid to take on management of the site - these are London Grown, Dee Woods, and Crop Drop.

The plan is that in 2-3 years time Organiclea steps back from being the leaseholder of the site as a legal entity, governance structure and sustainable finances are developed to be able to take on the lease.

The process of developing the legal entity and management structures is aimed to be over the next 12 months and then begin to start using these structures and processes in site management as part of a transition period so Organiclea no longer hold the lease.

APPENDIX 1

The aim is to develop collaborative partnerships with different community-based organisations around food growing, food skills, education programmes, and community enterprise that shape activities at Wolves Lane and complement and can contribute to community food activities in the area.

This development of the legal entity and management structure is in its early stages and the focus is to get activities happening at Wolves Lane with partnerships developing different strands such as education programmes in the next year that can help to inform the structures of a governance model i.e. what are the different activities and partnerships developed, and what are groups commitments to developing a community food hub in the long-term.

One structure that has been proposed is a multi-stakeholder cooperative for example which has flexibility for different roles and involvement.

APPENDIX 2

Blog on Organiclea website on future developments of the Wolves Lane Horticultural Centre
<https://www.organiclea.org.uk/2017/03/wolves-lane/>

APPENDIX 3

Web links for more information on the organisations involved in the 'Community Conversations' and the festive market event:

Crop Drop- www.cropdrop.co.uk

Friends of Wolves Lane - www.wolveslane.wordpress.com

Go Grow! - www.facebook.com/GoGrowWithLove

Haringey Migrant Support Centre (HMSC)- www.haringeymsc.org

Just Map - www.justplace-london.blogspot.co.uk/

Living Under One Sun- www.livingunderonesun.co.uk

London Grown Workers Co-op- www.facebook.com/londongrown

Organiclea- www.organiclea.org.uk

Selby Centre- www.selbytrust.co.uk

The Ubele Initiative- www.ubele.org

Wolves Lane Good Food Skills (Dee Woods)- www.twitter.com/Didara

APPENDIX 4

For more information on U Process see <https://www.presencing.com/theoryu>