

THE BRISTOL COMMONS

A Movement for Sustainable Community Prosperity

Circomedia 9.30am - 5.30pm Saturday, 18th November 2023

Welcome. You have been invited here to explore co-creating a movement to support communities and community hubs across Bristol. Many vital spaces and places - as well as organisations and services - are under threat. This network of people, infrastructure, knowledge and expertise is essential for individuals and communities to thrive.

We are individuals, community groups and organisations from all over the city, and we have the potential to build a network of strength. Neither Bristol City Council or the government have been able to mitigate the multiple crises we face. These crises are systemic, endemic and intersectional: Many converge and affect the most marginalised people in our city.

We therefore need a new, strategic, dynamic and collaborative movement to tackle these problems. We need people and organisations working together - not competing with each other - to foster a regenerative culture and build a movement for change. Most of all, we need the space and resources to be able to meet the challenges at hand and create a bright future.

In this city there is a great spirit of radicalism. So much good has grown from the grassroots up. Between us all, we have the skills, capacities and hold the possibility for change. Our invitation is that we light a fire of hope for future generations; that we tend to it with love, and kindle it with belief. We need to illuminate these dark times with collective action, experience new ways of working and shaping our shared future, and provide shelter from the various storms that buffet our communities. We will grow a movement of change - re-commoning our city and remembering that collectively we have real power.

Together we will ***Rebuild The Commons!***

Programme

| <i>Time</i> | <i>Session</i> | <i>Details</i> |
|---------------|--|--|
| 9.00 - 9.30 | Teas & Coffees | |
| 9.30 - 10.00 | <p>Welcome Session Rachel DeGarang, Coexist Daniel Balla, Coexist Sherien Elsheikh, Diverse Artists Network Sayambrita Mukherjee, Diverse Artists Network</p> | A brief introduction to The Bristol Commons, a welcome from Coexist & Diverse Artists Network, and an opportunity to land in the space and connect with yourself and others. |
| 10.00 - 11.15 | <p>Rebuild The Commons! Manifesto Making Workshop held by Coexist with support from ecosystem builders Evolutsix</p> | A participatory social-sculpture process that generates offerings for a co-created manifesto. This session will invite a level of personal sharing and relationship-building that participants can opt-in/out of depending on comfort and capacity levels. |
| 11.15 - 11.45 | Teas & Coffees | |
| 11.45 - 1.00 | <p>Working Group Sessions 1. Mapping & Resources 2. Communication & Narrative Building 3. Strategy & Membership</p> | Take your pick from three concurrent sessions focusing on different areas of imagining, forming and growing The Bristol Commons. Anyone is able to join working groups. |
| 1.00 - 1.50 | Lunch provided by <i>Houria</i> | |
| 1.50 - 2.00 | <p>A Moment to Reconnect Sherien Elsheikh, Diverse Artists Network Sayambrita Mukherjee, Diverse Artists Network</p> | A guided practice for connection with self, others and the wider world aiming to settle our nervous systems and bring us back together after lunch. |
| 2.00 - 3.00 | <p>Panel Discussion: Lost Spaces, Community Trauma & Collective Resurgence Facilitated by Coexist</p> | <i>Panellists: Phoenix (Climate Emergency Centre Network), Deasy (D.A.N / Theatre Bristol), Neil (All Hallows Hall)</i> |
| 3.00 - 3.30 | Teas & Coffees | |
| 3.30 - 4.45 | <p>Charting The Path Ahead <i>Open Space to Explore Emerging Strategies for the Co-Creation of The Bristol Commons</i></p> | An opportunity to hold discussion topics, move between conversations, hold short workshops, and explore next steps and strategies for movement building. Anyone can hold a session. |
| 4.45 - 5.00 | Teas & Coffees | |
| 5.00 - 5.20 | <p>Sharing Back Held by Coexist</p> | A whistle-stop round-up of the day including drawing out key learnings, ideas and sharing opportunities and next steps, |
| 5.20 - 5.30 | <p>Closing Session Held by Diverse Artists Network</p> | A moment of gratitude to acknowledge everyone's participation and contribution. |
| 5.30 - 6.00 | Close | |