

Cities, Communities and Homes: Is the Urban Future Livable?

- **Paper / Proposal Title:**

Towards a Livable Community Through Emergent Community Governance

- **Format:**

Written paper

- **Author(s) Name:**

Craig Stott & Simon Warren

- **University or Company Affiliation:**

Leeds Beckett University

- **Abstract (300 words):**

Since 2009 a collaborative process between New Wortley Community Association and Leeds Beckett University has sought to establish a more cohesive and livable community environment in Leeds' most deprived area. With the project still on-going, this piece of research establishes the social, cultural and economic impact to date.

The enthusiastic collaboration empowered this previously marginalised community to establish a diverse collective of stakeholders including students and tutors of six disciplines, client, local people, centre users, contractors and design consultants in a groundswell of mutual action referred to by the writers as 'Emergent Community Governance'. Significant outputs include Our Place initiative grants, an NHS pilot scheme to create a Health & Wellbeing Centre, and £759,497 BIG Lottery funding to construct a new Community Centre.

To determine the positive and negative impact upon the community of the collective endeavour, evidence is gathered through interviewing numerous stakeholders. The conclusions are considered alongside the pre and post quantitative data available, with the findings presented visually enabling a holistic evaluation of the urban environment to be observed and helping define the continued future regeneration of New Wortley.

The results suggest, and therefore this paper advocates, that the successes observed in New Wortley confirm one strand of creating Livable Urban Futures is through a co-production model where university students use their academic learning environments and productive endeavour to support a network of social participants to achieve meaningful and positive contributions to society.

• **Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

Craig Stott (MEng, BArch, MA, ARB) is a Project Office co-director, Architect and Senior Architecture Lecturer at the Leeds School of Architecture, Leeds Beckett University. Originally trained as a Structural Engineer, Craig's research attempts to determine the impact of 'Live' project learning within architectural education by establishing its value for both the students involved and the communities who act as client for the work undertaken. The intention is to utilise the power of student design to foster ecological and social sustainability in deprived communities through this pedagogic tool.

Craig is the undergraduate Technology coordinator and leads the BA studio CITYzen Agency which situates its explorations in neglected places of post-industrial cities. They consider global imperatives and local issues together, exploring their interconnection and consequence of each on the other. The studio is linked to Project Office.

Craig's work has been published internationally in exhibitions, edited books and conference journals including: *The Crash Test City (What is the Future of Architecture?)*, *The Nectar Project*, and *The Future Lifecycle of Intelligent Facades (27th International Conference on Passive and Low Energy Architecture)*, *Learning Through Imaginative Play (2016 Value and Virtue in Practice-Based Research Conference)*, and *Emergent Community Governance (2016 SEEDS International Conference)*.

Research: www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/staff/craig-stott/

Selected publications: leedsbeckett.academia.edu/CraigStott

Simon Warren (BA, Dip, PQCAP, ARB, RIBA, FRSA) is a Project Office co-director, Architect and Senior Architecture Lecturer at the Leeds School of Architecture, Leeds Beckett University.

Simon is currently working on the doctoral dissertation *Live Project Pedagogy - Architecture in the Making*. The research explores the architecture live project – a real life architectural design project which involves meaningful collaboration between students and a constituency outside the academic institution – as an essential pedagogical instrument in architecture, and proposes its necessary role in a pluralist architectural education. Climate change and energy depletion, computer advances in design and making, and more volatile economic conditions all contribute to the architect facing increasingly dilemmas of how to practice. Live projects give students the possibility to encounter these realities in a direct way.

Simon has authored and co-authored papers about architecture live projects. The Fareshare Project is included in the book *Architecture Live Projects: Pedagogy into Practice*.

Simon leads the Post Graduate Diploma in Architectural Professional Practice (RIBA/ARB Part 3) course.

As a director of Bauman Lyons Architects Simon was project architect for Arc Light York, accommodation for homeless men and women, Longside Gallery at Yorkshire Sculpture Park and The Media Centre Huddersfield. He was an architect for Bridlington South Promenade and contributed to Bauman Lyons' book, *How to be a Happy Architect*.

Research: www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/staff/simon-warren/

Selected publications: leedsbeckett.academia.edu/SimonWarren2

Website: <http://simonwarrenarchitect.tumblr.com>

Project Office is a design and research collaboration of staff and students. It is a RIBA Chartered Architecture Practice making ethical, social and resilient architecture and design. In 2017 Project Office won the Live Project Network Category of the SEED (Social, Economic, Environmental Design) Awards, presented at SFI17 (Structures for Inclusion Conference) in Portland, Oregon.

Website: cagd.co.uk/projectoffice/