

Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Community

Hamilton House

prospectus

coexist cic

August 2008

What?

A catalyst for coexistence

For Who?

Individuals and public, private and third sector organisations

Why?

To learn the skills required to build sustainable communities



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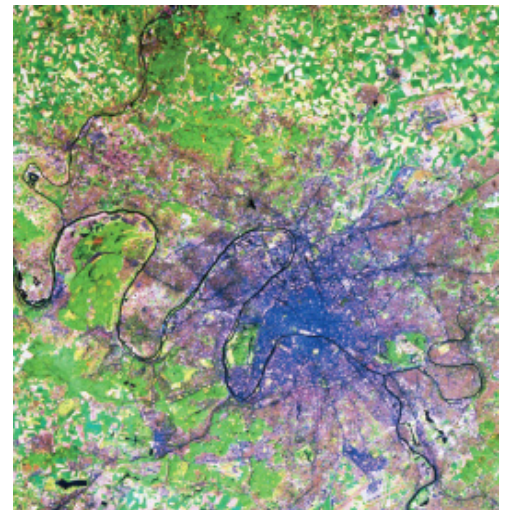
Context

The Government has laid out a bold vision for the sustainable development of the UK in a time of rapid, environmental, economic, and social change. One of the key priorities is the need to catalyse “community action helping people get involved by providing skills and improved access to funding and mentors” (“Securing the Future”, appendix.1)

Both at regional and national levels there is a wealth of online initiatives that aim to raise awareness, educate and bring people together to support sustainable development for our communities (appendix.2). Unfortunately there are no good examples of places where both physical and virtual networks can combine at a local level.



coexist
exist peacefully together



coexist
kō-ig-zist

1 : to exist together or at the same time

2. to live in peace with each other especially as a matter of policy

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Opportunity



being; beingness; existence
coexistence



Bristol along with the South West has become an exemplar in its commitment to sustainable practice at every level. This has led to a rapidly growing market for information, and spaces of exchange and where people can learn the skills needed for the future.

This is the niche that coexist has identified and is aiming to fill. The opportunity is to cluster ethically minded and sustainably focussed business in order to promote excellence through collaboration. By doing this we can promote skills sharing and market growth for the mutual benefit of all.

coexistence
kō-ig-zis-tən(t)s

1. Contemporaneousness

conjunction, coequality, concurrence; see coincidence.

2. Harmony

peaceful coexistence, accord, détente, rapprochement; see peace.

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VISION

Hamilton House

The vision for 55,000 sq.ft. of mixed uses.

-Community Space

The main entrance and groundfloor will be a lively cafe/hub/venue/retail space and advice centre. This will be the interface between what happens in the building and the wider community. A meeting and exchange point. Here is where information can flow in and out of the building in physical space, face to face.

-Working Space

Office: The central body of the building is to be home to an eclectic mix of future thinking, public, private and third sector organisations.

Workshop/Studio: This dynamic space will provide a hotbed for education, arts and practical skills. Creativity leading to innovation and innovation to sustainable solutions.

-Event Space

From music and performance in the groundfloor community spaces to cutting edge conferences, exhibitions and cinema, the front block of the building will be a hive of culture, knowledge and publicity machine for sustainable community.



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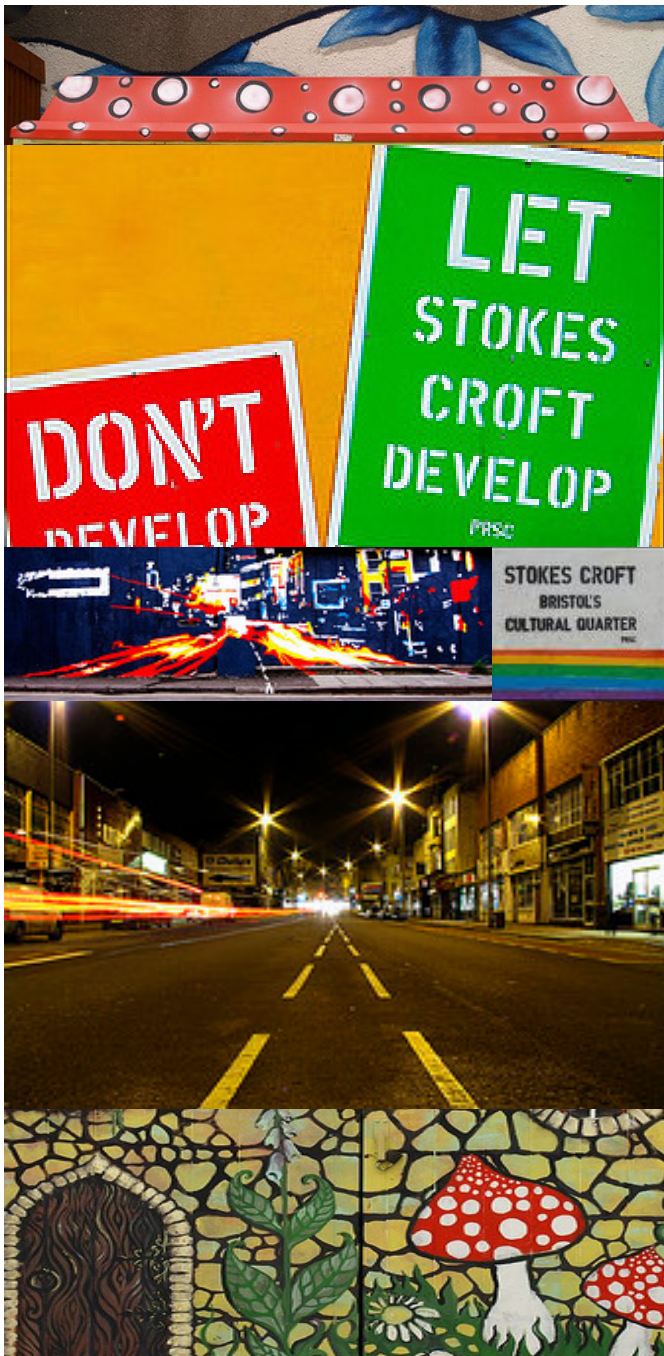
AREA Stokes Croft

Stokes Croft working space study shows:

- The area is low in A1, A2, and A3-5 classes (comparison retail, food and drink)
- “Striking” number of businesses are sustainable compared to other areas and national multiples, sourcing inputs locally, sourcing local markets, and employing local staff.
- This makes Stokes Croft highly economically self-contained, suggesting robustness in global uncertainties.
- Business outlook (based on turnover)
 - 60% expanding
 - 25% stable
 - 15% declining
- Future workspace demand.
 - 25% seeking larger premises

“There is a clear role for St. Paul’s in providing an independent trade character for the central business district”

Prof. Anthony Plumeridge



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Operating

Develop sustainability learning and skills. Explain and promote the 'what', 'why' and 'how' of sustainability and develop 'systemic thinking', professional skills and leadership to support sustainable solutions.

Improve physical and mental well being. Reduce health inequalities by supporting: healthy, balanced lifestyles; healthy homes and workplaces; clean, safe and green environments; and supportive and inclusive communities.

Improve equality in meeting basic needs. Reduce inequalities (prioritising those who are most in need) in access to: decent and affordable housing; essential goods and services; an adequate income; and safe and satisfying employment, learning and leisure opportunities.

Be resource wise. Cut consumption of resources and adopt highly efficient energy and water use at home and at work; maximise the use of local, renewable energy; minimise waste and prevent pollution.

Support thriving low carbon economies. Boost competitiveness, business markets and employment opportunities by supporting a low carbon approach to innovation, enterprise and economic development in ways which meet local workforce needs eg local renewable energy, sustainable construction and renovation, environmental technologies and local/regional supply chains.

Courtesy of South West Development Strategy
<http://www.shapersw.net>

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Principles

Reduce high carbon travel, promote and plan for low carbon access/ travel eg walking & cycling, home-working, mobile services, ICT/ video-conferencing, online facilities, demand-responsive public transport and alternative fuels.

Use local and ethical goods & services. Use locally and ethically sourced goods and services - and strengthen local/regional supply chains - to boost our local economies and support people in other parts of the world.

Enhance regional and local distinctiveness and diversity, Protect and enhance our natural environment, biodiversity, culture and heritage.

Help everyone to join in public decision-making. Support wider, more informed participation in public and community decision-making to foster citizenship and involve people in the solutions to local and global challenges.

Take a long term approach. Take into account the needs of future generations including mitigating and adapting to climate change. Ensure the genuine sustainability and success of what you do by pursuing integrated, lasting 'win-win-win' outcomes for society, the economy and the environment.

Courtesy of South West Development Strategy
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Like what?

The Hub: for its vision for a
“a radically better world”

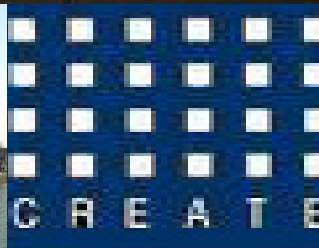
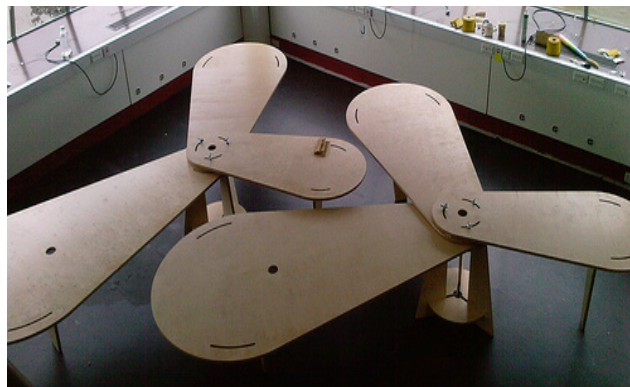
AND

we have 20 times more space
catering for larger more de-
veloped companies.

The Create Centre: for its-
values and its provision of
information on issues of sus-
tainable development

AND

we are independent from
council bureacracy.



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The Tobacco Factory: for its mixed use of spaces and creative richness

AND

we are community focussed with clear priorities for positive social change .



BRAVE Coachworks: for its quality of advice for supporting growing businesses,

AND

we provide proactively managed facilities.



**TOBACCO
FACTORY**



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get involved

We would like to hear from you and work collaboratively, if you are:

- An organisation or business looking for central affordable office space.
- A construction professional needing office/workshop combination.
- A tradesman looking to teach or learn the skills of sustainable construction.
- Environmental specialists.
- An event organiser looking for a new city centre venue.
- A local person or business who wants to know how to work collaboratively.
- A local food mover and shaker.
- A community group looking for connections or venues.
- A gardener interested in permaculture and urban gardening.
- Artists requiring studio, workshop or rehearsal space,
- The serious, the playful, and the downright productive or if you are simply are interested to find out more... please get in touch!

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