New urban movements?
Resistance and altruism in territorial planning and localism
Professor Mark Tewdwr-Jones
Themes of the talk

• ‘Changing geographies of statehood’: is localism a real difference?
• Emerging trends: popular local resistance
• What are the characteristics of new urban movements: some recent examples
• Conceptual thoughts and conclusions
‘Changing geographies of statehood’: Is localism a real difference?
Big Society/Localism & Urban Planning

• ‘…we need a planning system that enables local people to shape their surroundings in a way that… is also sensitive to the history and character of a given location.’

• ‘Our conception of local planning is rooted in civic engagement and collaborative democracy as the means of reconciling economic development with quality of life… the planning system can play a major role in decentralising power and strengthening society.’

*Conservative Party (2010), Open Source Planning*
Localism Act 2011

- Transfer of powers on some issues from local authority and professional planners to neighbourhood forums/parishes
- Preparation of neighbourhood plans that have to be in conformity with local plans of the LPA
- Legal right from 2012 for businesses to prepare their own local plans
- Greater use of incentives regimes to encourage development
- Key implications – referenda in local neighbourhoods, negotiation and mediation to become more important between developer and public, bypassing direct control of the planners
Neighbourhood Planning

• In areas with a parish council, the parish council will take the lead for neighbourhood planning
• In areas without a parish council, local groups (new or existing) will come together in groups of 21+ people in a Neighbourhood Forum
• Organisations apply to LPA for legitimation
• Groups then prepare the Neighbourhood Plan (general or detailed)
• Create Neighbourhood Development Order (granting automatic permission)
• Have the right to embark on community right to build
• Can adopt plan and/or an order, but cannot block LPA growth plan but can increase numbers and influence design, density, mix etc.
• Independent examination of NP plus community referendum within and adjacent to area, requiring simple majority for approval
A growing trend?
Popular local resistance
New urban movements: Some recent examples
Four examples

• London
  Bermondsey, LB of Southwark
  Stoke Newington, LB of Hackney

• Newcastle upon Tyne
  Byker
  Benwell and Scotswood
STAMFORD HILL NEIGHBOURHOOD
Planning The Growing Future

Children, 29% of Our Population
100% Of Our Future!

stamfordhillhood.org.uk  facebook.com/thestamfordhill  twitter.com/shtforum
The Sustainable Stoke Newington Pledge
STOKEY says NO

Reject the Sainsbury's Wilmer Place development

stokeylocal.org.uk
Stokey Local presents

STOKE NEWINGTON ZOMBIE-A-THON

SATURDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2011
ASSEMBLE 12PM
WILMER PLACE CAR PARK N16

IN STOKE NEWINGTON, EVEN THE DEAD ARE RISING UP TO SAY ‘NO’ TO A PROPOSED SAINSBURY’S DEVELOPMENT. SHOW YOUR SUPPORT BY JOINING US ON 1 OCTOBER FOR A FUNERAL FOR THE LOCAL ECONOMY {ACCOMPANIED BY A ZOMBIE PARADE}. THE EVENT WILL HIGHLIGHT THE THREAT TO LOCAL BUSINESSES THE DEVELOPMENT POSES.

VISIT STOKEYLOCAL.ORG.UK :: FRIEND ON FACEBOOK :: FOLLOW @STOKEYLOCAL ON TWITTER: STOKE NEWINGTON ZOMBIE-A-THON: HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EVENT.PHP?EID=245447122167366
SAY NO!

To an unrepresentative ‘neighbourhood forum’ that seeks to represent you
Byker Lives:
a sense of place
Still Moving
Films & Photographs of Newcastle’s West End
Free shows: Saturday 11th, Monday 13th & Tuesday 14th May 2013. Drop in anytime 11-4pm
St James’ Church Benwell

Films and slideshows of West Newcastle, from the collections of Archive for Change & West Newcastle Picture History Collection
Monday 13th May 2.30 - 4pm
Special showing of new short films by local residents working with Archive for Change

A St James’ Centre for Heritage and Culture event run by Archive for Change and West Newcastle Picture History Collection
Conceptual thoughts and conclusions
## Characteristics of new urban movements

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<td>Website, New social media, Media campaigns, Legal threats</td>
<td>v. LPA, v. Other groups, Developers</td>
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<td>Website, Film and photography</td>
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Implications

• Neighbourhoods have more power over what happens in their areas
• Takes territorial change issues directly to citizens
• Professionals and mediators play a supporting role but patchy and variable
• Developers have to negotiate directly with communities, rather than with municipal politicians and regulators
• Communities becoming more entrepreneurial in the demands from developers in return for allowing projects
• Communities and neighbourhoods being viewed as a partner by the municipality and information source
Themes

- Emergence of discrete social groupings (Newman, 2007) and interest groups (Marsh and Rhodes, 1992), networked community governance (Stoker, 2007)
- State regulatory capacities have been customised according to place and scale and jurisdiction conditions (Brenner, 2004)
- New forms of territorial entrepreneurialism, ‘seizing the moment’
- Local configurations are searching for short term advantage based on place identity and place assets
- Globalized diffusion becoming more apparent when focus is on the locale
- An era of conflictual politics (Fung and Wright, 2003)
- Legitimation deficits apparent in oppositional social forces: state mediated forms
- Shifting contexts caused by regulatory undercutting
- Articulation of new social and territorial inequalities
- Assisting the reinvigoration of public debates on territorial inequality but not necessarily integrated across local territories but have potential (Moulaert, 2000)
- Challenging the wider forces of transnational neoliberalism: reification of the central state though ‘muscular localism’