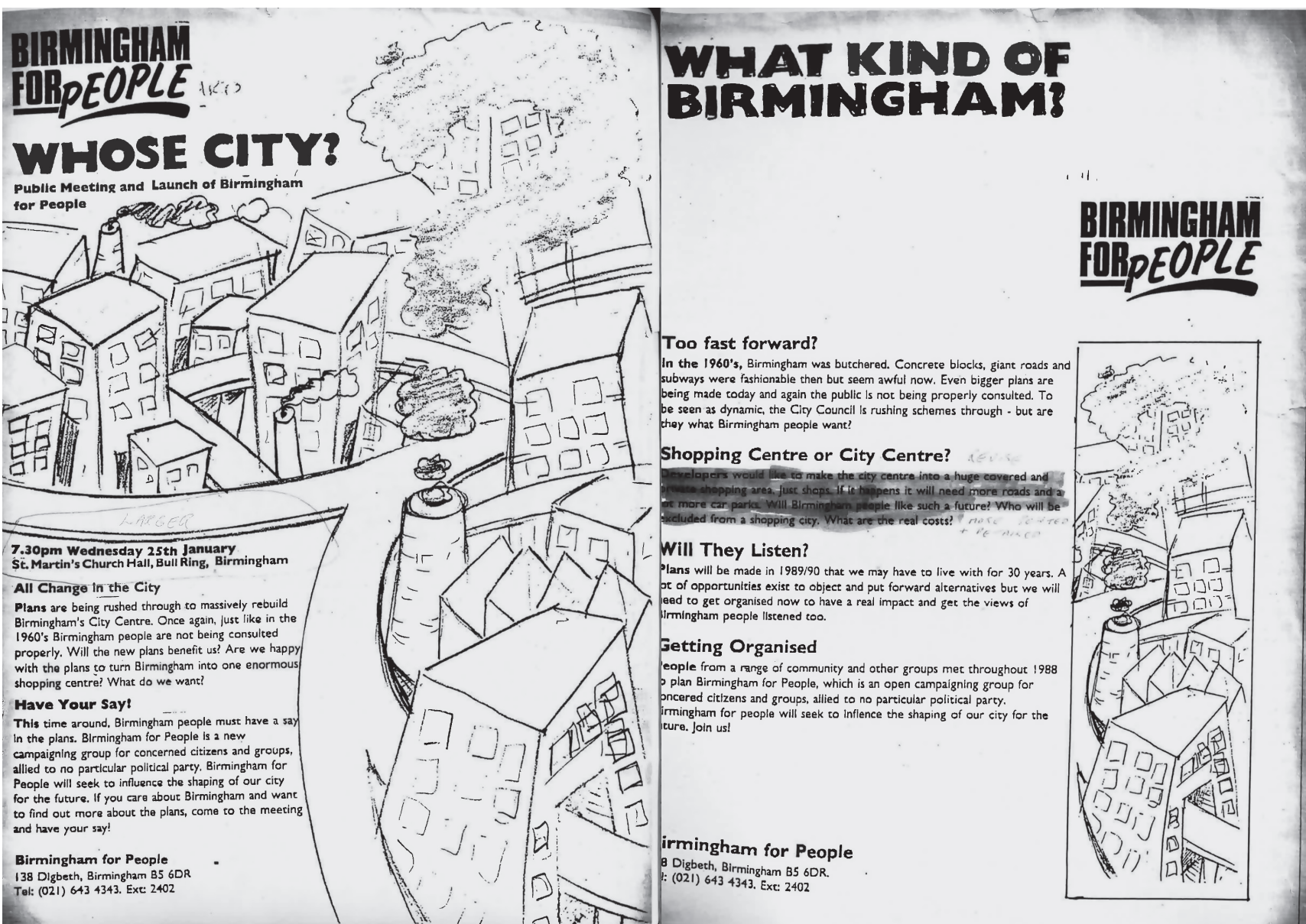


Reflections On Community-Led Planning

Coming together to do things differently

The demand for ‘community-led planning’ has been an important political slogan since the late 1960s. CLP takes many forms, including alternative ‘Peoples’ Plans’, fighting demolition and development, campaigns, community

education, and directly delivering buildings and services. A universal definition is impossible but the unifying thread is that CLP has always been a demand to do things differently and to democratise decision-making.



Source: Birmingham for People



1960-73

The Rise of Community Activism, Skeffington and Advocacy Planning



1973-1979

Opposition to Development and Building Alternatives



1979-1991

Competing Planning Ideologies, and Building Alliances and Networks



1991-

Partnership, Community Assets, and Austerity

Differences over time and place

CLP has an uneven history. We have found that the context in different times and places has contributed to differing levels of activity, demands and possibilities. This constant evolution is one of CLPs strengths, but fragmentation one of its weaknesses.



difficulties, tensions, contradictions and exclusions in these episodes which should not be forgotten. There are aspects of this history which deserve to be celebrated, but the key is to critically explore them so we can learn from their experiences.

Celebrating not romanticising

These initiatives have achieved much but there is a danger of over-claiming or suggesting a ‘golden-age’ of CLP that has now passed. But our case studies show the

What is hidden in hidden histories?

We have found that it is easier to trace the accounts of professional, white and mainly male activists while working class, diverse and non-professional perspectives remain underrepresented. We have made efforts to counter this but acknowledge a need to diversify the voices in our archive of and continuing work on CLP.



Photo: Chris Green



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



OXFORD
BROOKES
UNIVERSITY



University of
Sheffield



QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST



Middlesex
University
London



CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY
PRIFYSGOL
CAERDYDD