

THE PEOPLE'S PLAN FOR THE ROYAL DOCKS

THE PEOPLE'S PLAN LIVES ON

LASTING LEGACY AND HOPE FOR THE FUTURE



Sue Brownill

The People's Plan is 40

Forty years after it was presented to the inquiry, the People's Plan is still very much alive. It is not just an historical document, or a collection of memories and its story is not just one of defeat. Since its publication it has taken on a life of its own and continues to influence and inspire in a variety of ways.

- Jessie Brennan's art work at Pontoon Dock DLR station pictured left, shows how the Plan still has a place in the contemporary Docklands landscape
- The people involved have also left a lasting legacy. A meeting room in the North Woolwich Library in Pier Parade is named after Connie Hunt.

Continuing to inspire...

This and other community-led plans have inspired later projects, planners and activists. In 2014 Royal Docks Revival (pictured below) set out a sustainable neighbourhood vision as an alternative to one of the many expansions to the airport. Communities in Canning Town and West Silvertown are developing their own buildings and plans. Today's planners still refer to it.

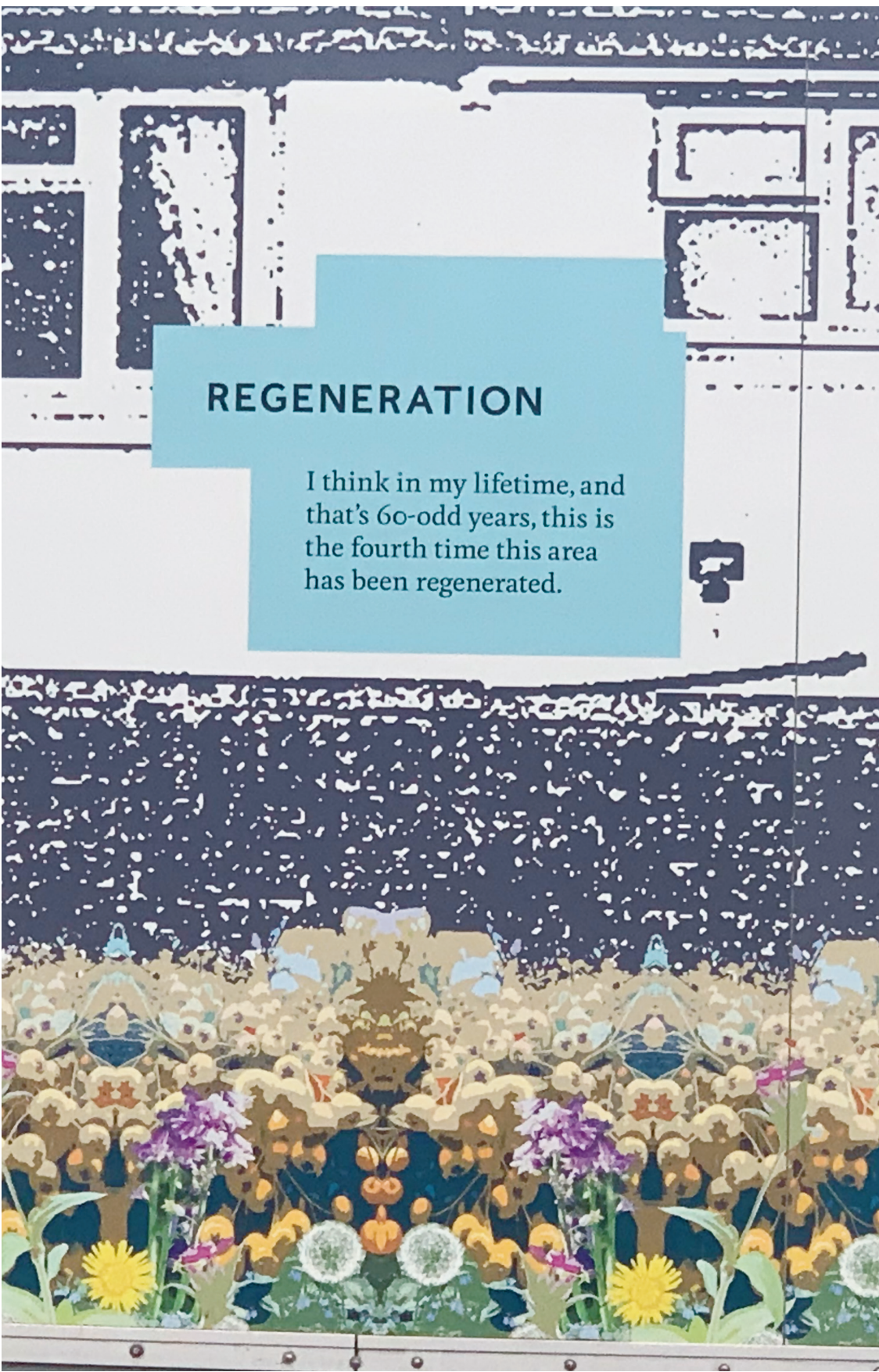
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What would a People's Plan look like today?

The situation today is very different; there is a consensus that planners and developers need to talk to communities and include some community benefits in development. However, while the battlelines may be less stark, communities are still on the receiving end of regeneration as the Crossrail wall shows.

Not all the land in Docklands is developed, but are the networks of support and the spaces for community-led alternatives there? Could there be a People's Plan now and what would it contain? Put your thoughts on the blank board next to this one.



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What the People's Plan tells us

The story of the People's Plan tells us there are alternatives and communities can come together and make a difference. It celebrates the people who make things happen and it reveals how ideas can have a lasting influence, even though they may not materialize at the time. Most of all it shows, as the Plan says, 'we can have hope for the future'.



Joe Bonomo

Shed 4 Sports Centre as it could have looked today.