

# HIGH STREETS IN E16!

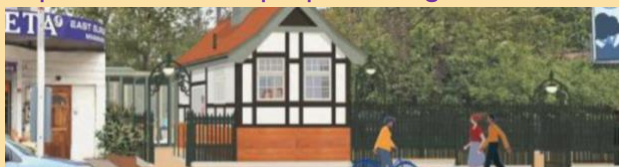
## SHOPS AND SERVICES BUILDING COMMUNITY WEALTH.

There is lots of existing evidence showing that community ownership of high street assets can bring significant benefits to an area including increasing productivity, local economic improvements and long-term community resilience. Community businesses and engaged community groups can play an important role in reimagining the high street, bringing people back to these spaces and reviving them as thriving local centres of the community. For more information, see *Saving The High Street: Community Takeover, Power To Change, 2020*.

## HAS IT BEEN DONE BEFORE? YES!



The redevelopment of **Midsteeples Quarter** in Dumfries demonstrates how local authorities can support communities to take ownership of disused buildings on a high street, refurbish them and steward them for the community, offering affordable enterprise space and good quality flats for rent on the floors above. See <https://www.midsteeplesquarter.org/>



The piloting of a new **'Community Wealth Building Lease'** in Haringey is an innovative example of how councils can maximise the public benefits of their built assets through lease arrangements which build and retain wealth in the local community. See <https://www.local.gov.uk/case-studies/dealing-empty-shops-haringey-council>

## HOW COULD IT WORK?

There are numerous ways for communities to own, manage or steward commercial and non-residential properties. Groups can be gifted underused properties by a Local Authority, raise funding to purchase or use policies like Community Asset Transfer to transfer ownership. Community organisations can also take on short-term leases as a way to test a business model before taking on longer-term responsibilities. E16 Community Land Trust are currently exploring these options and keen to hear from anyone who would like to get involved.

## HOW DO WE MAKE IT HAPPEN?

### Join E16 CLT as a member!

Get behind the movement to build Newham's first Community Land Trust for just £1.25.

### Come along!

We hold regular meetings and events to plan how to deliver affordable homes and spaces that meet the needs of residents and communities.

### Join a working group!

We are looking for people with experience in communications, community organising, planning and development, housing and finance. If you have one of these skills and you'd like to lend a hand, please get in touch!

## GET IN TOUCH!

Visit: [www.e16clt.co.uk](http://www.e16clt.co.uk)

Email: [info@e16clt.co.uk](mailto:info@e16clt.co.uk)

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