

DIY Streets Fenham: a Participatory Approach to the Co-production of Urban Space

Councillor Marion Talbot

Armelle Tardiveau (School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape, Newcastle University)

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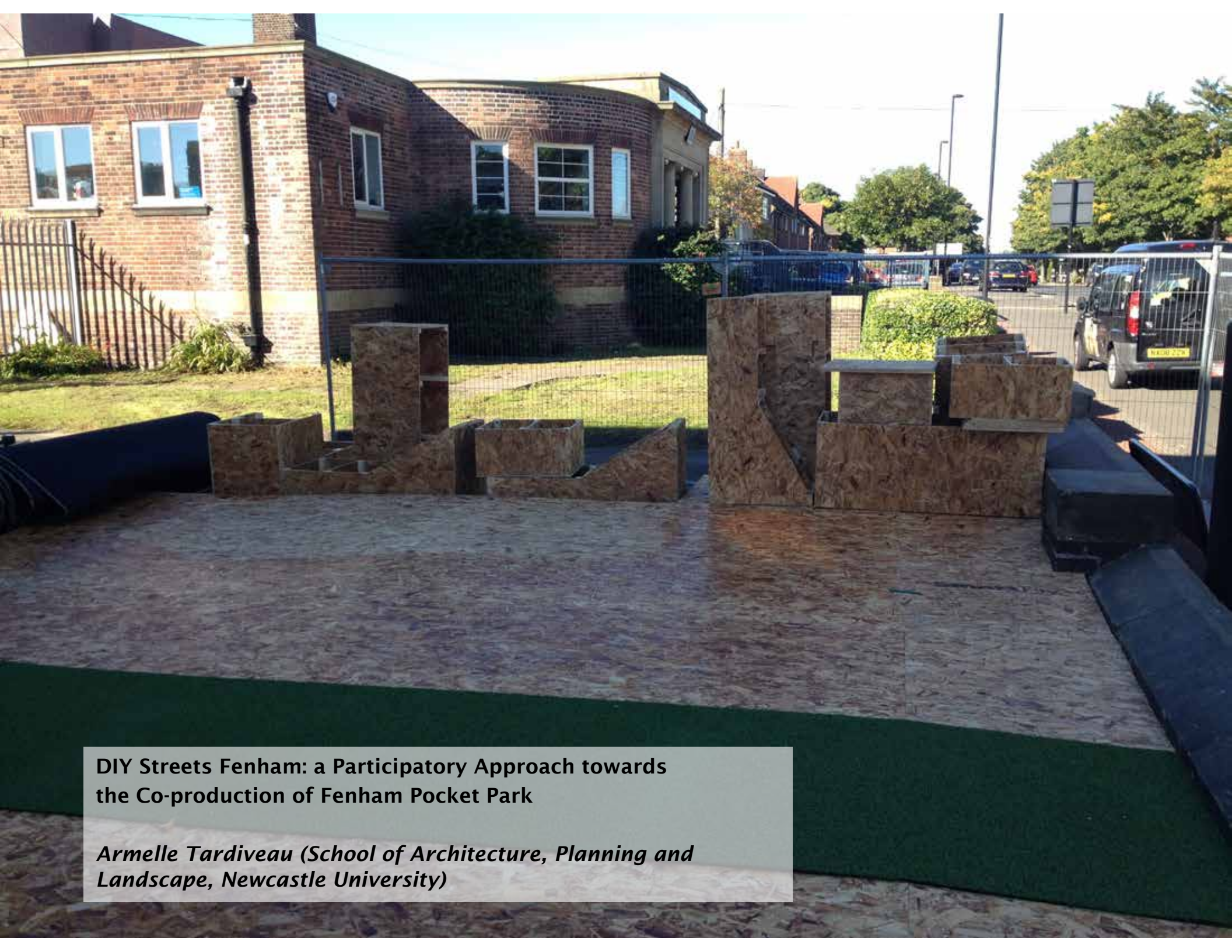




Fenham Hall Drive

**DIY Streets Fenham (Newcastle upon Tyne):
18 months of engagement leading to Fenham Pocket Park**

Councillor Marion Talbot



**DIY Streets Fenham: a Participatory Approach towards
the Co-production of Fenham Pocket Park**

***Armelle Tardiveau (School of Architecture, Planning and
Landscape, Newcastle University)***



1 Situating Newcastle University's research within Sustran's DIY streets



2 What was our approach? How do we define inspirational participation?



Method:

Sensory mapping

The sensory mapping consists of a physical model including elements that are “mysterious and elusive” (Gaver et al., 2004, 55) aiming to awake existing senses and evoke an imaginary feel for the street.

Approach:

open ended / inspirational

Activities:

making and telling



Method:

Mobile benches for street trial

Mobile benches intended to inhabit and enact the street for one day. Mobile street furniture was installed temporarily on a parking-on-pavement location with view to raise awareness, question parking practices and elicit passers-by reactions.

Approach:

design activism / open ended

Activities:

enacting and telling

Focus group meeting, June 2015



Method:

Focus group / Constituted group

Large photographs were used to facilitate a discussion between stakeholders in a focus group and prompted ideas shared during previous events. Through sketching over the photographs, the ideas were rendered tangible and users immersed themselves in a process of envisioning the space. The focus group later crystallised into a constituted group, which granted the capacity to apply for funding and consolidated the future sustainability of the space.

Approach:

design participation

Activities:

telling and making

Temporary intervention. October 2015



Method:

Temporary intervention

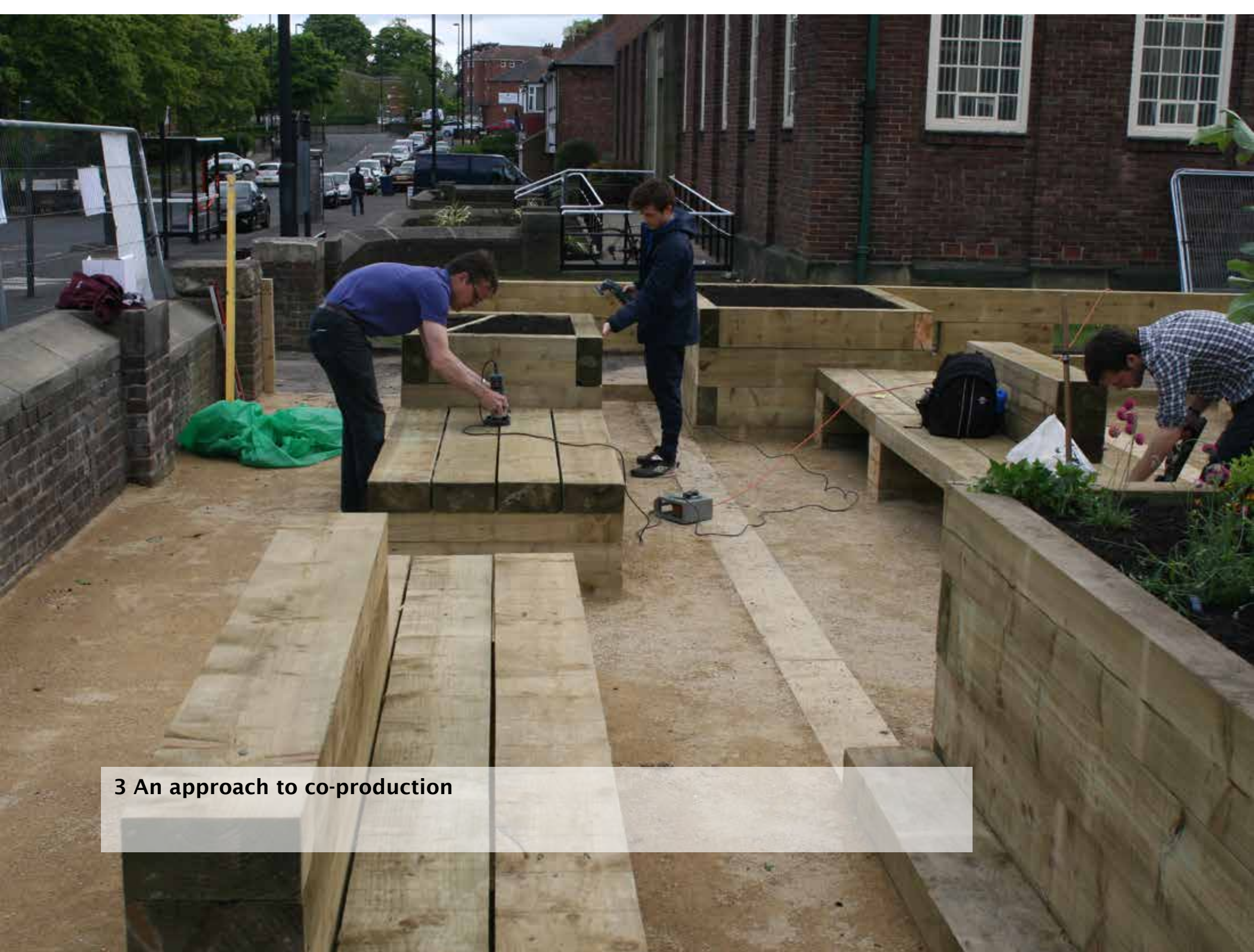
A temporary public space was built outside the Library and Pool to enact previous telling and making. The space enabled participants to tell in both verbal and embodied ways.

Approach:

open ended / inspirational

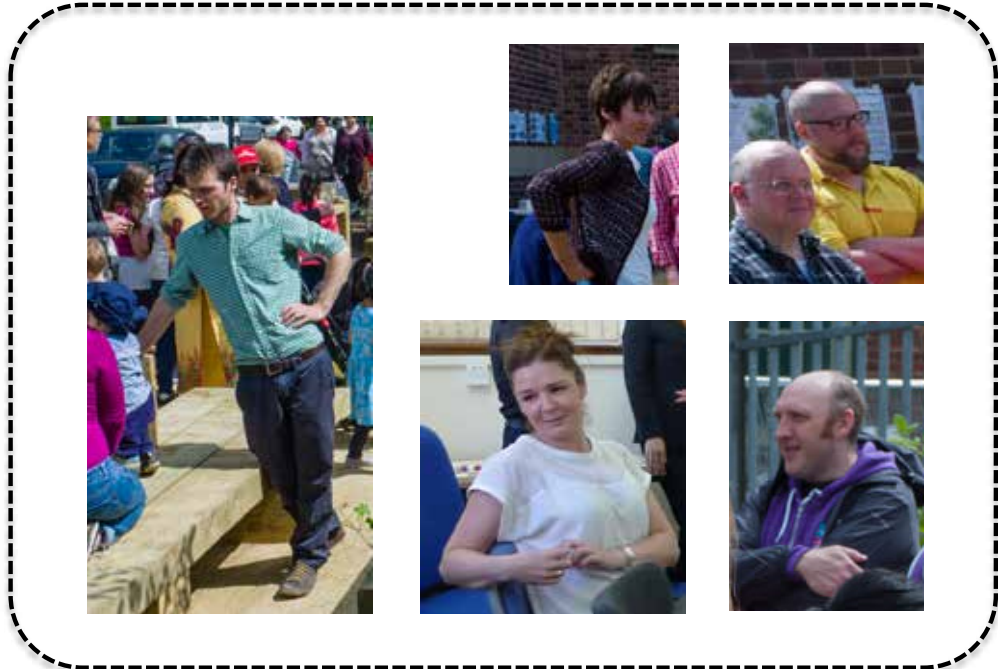
Activities:

telling and enacting



3 An approach to co-production

Organisations: Sustrans, YHN, Fenham Pool, Fenham Association of Residents, Fenham Allotment and Newcastle University



Elected Council Members and Council Community Officer



Core Focus / Constituted Group



Local Schools (Sacred Heart & English Martyrs) and Council's Allotment Officer





Friends of Fenham Pocket Park: How did we form a community group?

- Encouraged by Amy Stillwell (Council) and Armelle Tardiveau to form a constituted group so that we could raise funding and have more of a stake with regards to the public realm in the area.
- Developed a constitution with help from Newcastle CVS
- Drew members from the Focus group to fulfil committee functions including Chair, Communications officer, Fundraiser, Gardening guru, Secretary and Treasurer.



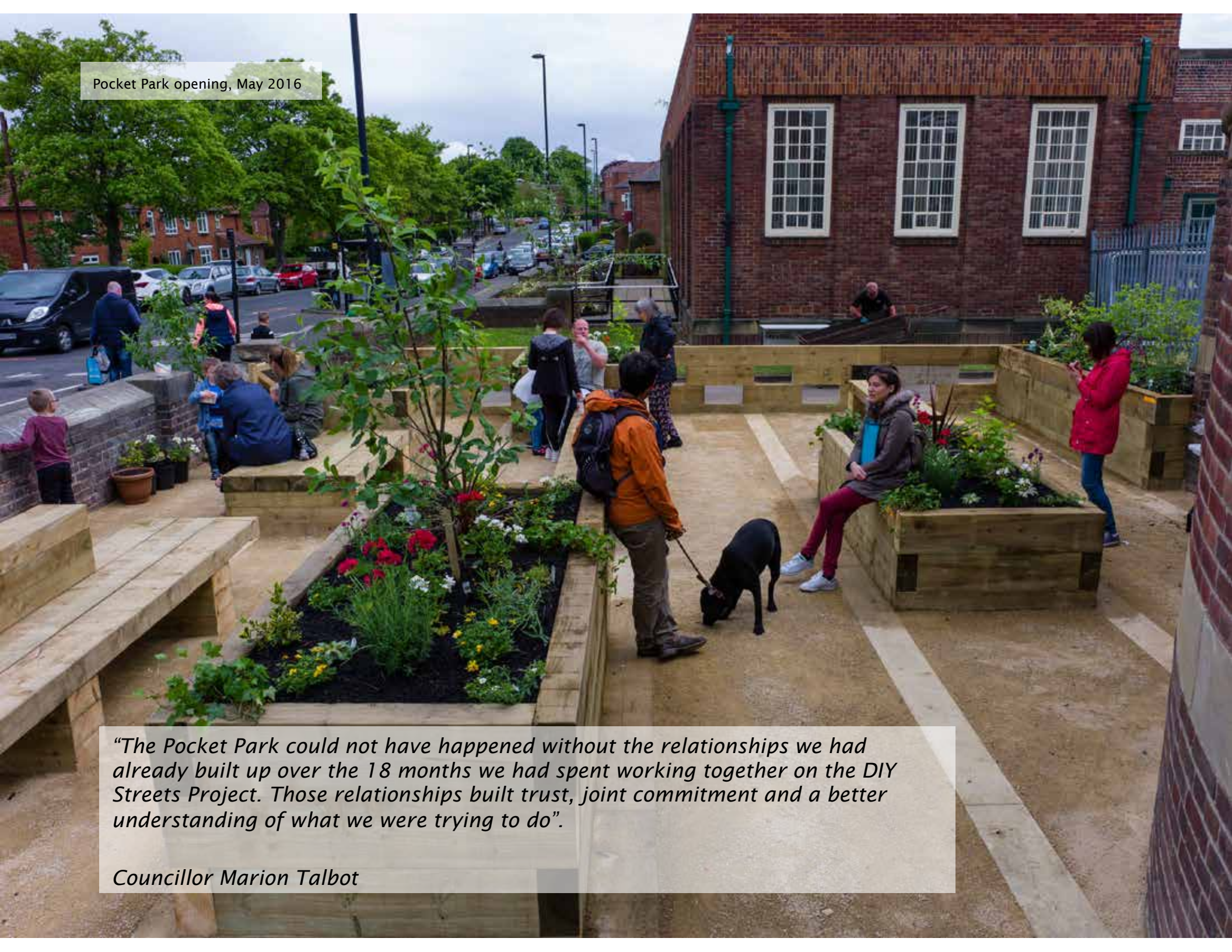
Aims of Friends of Fenham Pocket Park

- **Promote use of Fenham Pocket Park by local residents and visitors of all ages**
- **Provide opportunities for people to relax and enjoy a playful, green space, where people can meet and connect with others**
- **Encourage people to volunteer, learn new skills and help support the Pocket Park's future development and maintenance**
- **Increase access to green space and nature for people of all ages in Fenham**
- **Improve the public realm within the Fenham area to advocate public health and wellbeing**



What about the future?

- **Generate funding to pay for maintenance and plants**
- **Organise community events with the allotment, library & pool**
- **Collaborate with Fenham Hall Medical Group and Fenham Pool on their plans for alterations / extension**



Pocket Park opening, May 2016

“The Pocket Park could not have happened without the relationships we had already built up over the 18 months we had spent working together on the DIY Streets Project. Those relationships built trust, joint commitment and a better understanding of what we were trying to do”.

Councillor Marion Talbot