

The logo for West Way Trust is a red, rounded rectangular shape with a wavy bottom edge. Inside the shape, the words "WEST", "WAY", and "TRUST" are stacked vertically in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

**WEST  
WAY  
TRUST**

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a multi-story building with a modern architectural style. It features a prominent balcony with a metal mesh railing. The ground floor has large glass windows and a grey door. A person is walking on the sidewalk in the foreground, and another person is visible further down the street. The lighting suggests it might be late afternoon or early morning.

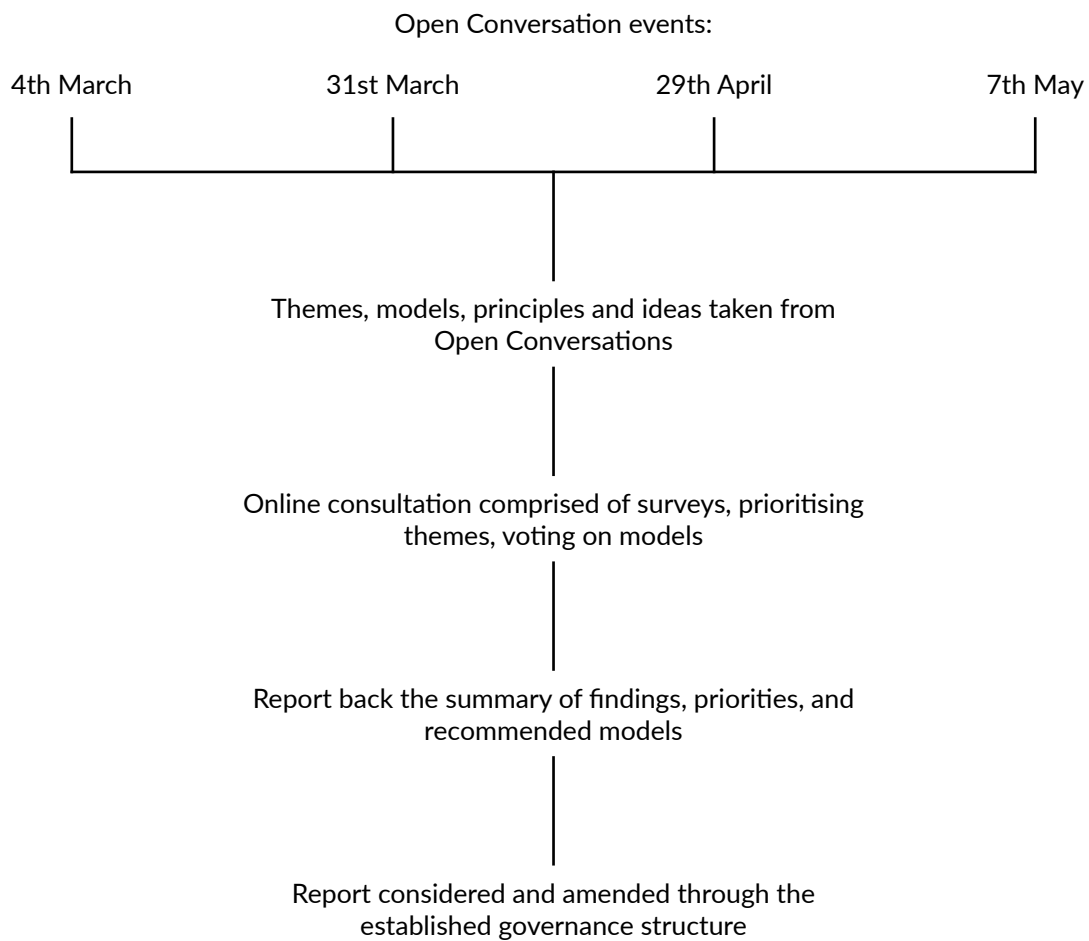
# **The Future of 3-5 Thorpe Close Feedback from Open Conversations**

March - May 2022

## TIMELINE OF THE SPACE

2004-06	Pool Hall	
2004-06	Inn On The Green	
2004-06	Flyover	A bar modelled after Inn On The Green, which had the space in the evenings. Westway Fitness and a cafe would use the space during the day.
2004-06	NOVA New Opportunities	A cafe and drop in centre run by a local charity
2017-20	Westbank Gallery	An art gallery which moved from a premises on Westbourne Grove. Space was rented out to the community for private functions.
2020-22	Vacant	

## CONSULTATION TIMELINE



## **NOTES AND ACTIONS**

Some enthusiasm was shown for redecoration of the outside of the building (111-113)

A lot of participants expressed a desire for the major works to be carried out by Westway in anticipation of the space being let (65, 71, 107). Most desirable was the access arrangements and the installation of a proper lift (32, 44).

Some participants wanted to see the space managed by Westway (40), with a Trust employee managing it and allotting different time and space to different community groups. Some participants did not want the Trust to remain involved, and instead wanted this role to be fulfilled by a financially independent community collective.

Many people raised communication issues with how the consultation process was being advertised, and suggested an audit of the Westway's contact log to remove old member orgs and contacts as well as a specific exercise to collect new ones and ensure that everyone in the community is contacted for future events

Everyone seemed to suggest some sort of multi-use space and some people asked that the Trust look at best practice for how this idea can be refined (193, 195, 209)

The room was split onto the financial model of the place and whether or not it should be profit-making (84, 117), or subsidised by the Trust and RBKC. Some participants suggested that the support from the Trust would be as part of reparations for the Trust's perceived mismanagement of Flyover (125)

Everyone was agreed that the community use needed to be at the heart of any proposal for the space, as opposed to just one arm of its operation

A lot of people raised the issue of finding one suitable individual to manage the space, as it would be a large commitment for someone and requires them to put a certain amount of themselves into the project

Some people wished to see the space split between a number of different programmes formally, but others were concerned about over-complicating the space as had happened at Flyover (29/4 T1). Huey cited the timetable being split between too many different groups as a reason for its failure. The ad-hoc nature of the multi-use that was done at Inn On The Green was praised 'the answer was always yes' (29/4 T1)

There was a lot of interest in seeing the space provide some sort of educational benefit to the community, whether directly through lectures and classes or indirectly through opportunities for job progression, performance, or spaces to generate ideas.

A very small number of people complained about the provision of alcohol and noise licensing, and suggested that the new venue should not serve alcohol. This was not widely recognised.

The space was seen as being good for multiculturalism in North Kensington, as the music, food, and shared experiences of different cultures could all play out in one place. Some concern was stated over the space being 'taken over' by one particular group, and people worried that if an existing group took over the community space then it would become a clique and exclude certain other groups of people.

## **SUGGESTIONS**

Community space was priced too high when the space was Westbank (session 2, table 5) and it was suggested that Westway Trust could stipulate a community hire rate as part of the contract for the space

Event and entry tickets were priced accessibly at Inn On The Green and Flyover, and it was suggested that Westway could stipulate ticket costs as a condition of the lease, or insist on a particular ratio of free or discounted events for the community

Intergenerationality and a melange of different cultures were pointed out as aspects which made IOTG and Flyover successful and it was suggested that Westway could aid the tenant in diversity reporting and stipulate guidelines for supposed percentages of attendees and performers based on the demographics of the community

Westbank's erratic opening hours was seen as a problem, and the 'drop in' nature of Inn On The Green was praised. it was suggested that Westway could stipulate minimum opening hours as part of the contract for the premises

## **THEMES**

Intergenerational  
Community  
Performance  
Education  
Alcohol  
Price  
Multiculturalism  
Charitable

## **POTENTIAL MODELS**

**Village Hall**

**Arts Centre**

**Nightclub**

## MARCH 31ST MEETING NOTES

**TABLE 1**

Have you interacted with # 3 Thorpe Close in the past? If so, what was the nature of your interaction? I.e. Hosted an activity/project, attended an event, hired the space etc.

Rehersal storage, performance, youth space

If yes, what were the best features of the space as you remember it?

Safe, mutli-cultural, inclusive, professional, acessible, affordable, accessible, supportive, intergenerational, safe, networking

Based on your experience of North Kensington, how do you feel this space should be used? Please feel free to make as many suggestions as you can.

live streaming, education, free, accessible, community, multi-generational, gateway into education, histroy lectures, activist lectures on local area and carnival

Do you feel that this space should be dedicated to a particular theme or cause

Identification of learning issues, computer room and library, catagoeires: education, creative, arts, music - multi use. Timetables to refelct different demogrpahics. Include youth, multi-generational, multi-racial, multi-faith. 4 ssperate facilities: men (baby facilities), women (more floor space), mixed gender, disabled.

Do you have any preference over whether Westway Trust manages the space, or an external provider?

5 managers/unbaised, creative education, inependant external provider? Suspicion of the Trust must be taken into account. Whoever the operator is needs to be socially aware and have the relevant social media

Do you have anything else you would like to share?

**TABLE 2**

Have you interacted with # 3 Thorpe Close in the past? If so, what was the nature of your interaction? I.e. Hosted an activity/project, attended an event, hired the space etc.

Rehersal storage, performance, youth space

If yes, what were the best features of the space as you remember it?

Welcoming to young musicians, great soundsystem

Based on your experience of North Kensington, how do you feel this space should be used? Please feel free to make as many suggestions as you can.

A space for older people to congregate. Repairing the wrongs of the past.

Do you feel that this space should be dedicated to a particular theme or cause

A space to elevate underground sub-cultures. An archive of North Kensington. Celebrate activism in the area.

Do you have any preference over whether Westway Trust manages the space, or an external provider?

Whoever is selected should have values; transparency, equity and sustainability

Do you have anything else you would like to share?

**TABLE 3**

Have you interacted with # 3 Thorpe Close in the past? If so, what was the nature of your interaction? I.e. Hosted an activity/project, attended an event, hired the space etc.

If yes, what were the best features of the space as you remember it?

Based on your experience of North Kensington, how do you feel this space should be used? Please feel free to make as many suggestions as you can.

Do you feel that this space should be dedicated to a particular theme or cause

Do you have any preference over whether Westway Trust manages the space, or an external provider?

Do you have anything else you would like to share?

Welcoming to young musicians, great soundsystem

Film screenings, community reviews, spoken word, Open book share, live music, arts + creativity

Recovering, inclusivity, developing new ideas

As a known entity, yes. No - bookings were not co-ordinated efficiently in the past. Values must align.

Whoever is awarded the space must be capable of taking risks



**TABLE 4**

Have you interacted with # 3 Thorpe Close in the past? If so, what was the nature of your interaction? I.e. Hosted an activity/project, attended an event, hired the space etc.

Market trader toilets, snooker hall, meeting friends, caribbean food kitchen, exhibited artwork here, book launch, fundraiser, watching live music, film night, spoken word, performing, hired for birthday parties

If yes, what were the best features of the space as you remember it?

Feels like nightlife, flexibility, location/proximity to public transit, location within community (central to North Ken), fewer residential neighbours, balcony, accessible toilets for the able bodied, diverse spaces both small and large, large main room

Based on your experience of North Kensington, how do you feel this space should be used? Please feel free to make as many suggestions as you can.

Physical activities, culture, arts, community, financially accessible events, day party for younger people, used during the day and night, financially accessible hire.

Do you feel that this space should be dedicated to a particular theme or cause

Do you have any preference over whether Westway Trust manages the space, or an external provider?

Do you have anything else you would like to share?

**TABLE 5**

Have you interacted with # 3 Thorpe Close in the past? If so, what was the nature of your interaction? I.e. Hosted an activity/project, attended an event, hired the space etc.

Was underage when it was Westbank, came when it was Flyover, toilets were always blocked, westbank didn't fulfill the community remit when I came, Westbank didn't feel like community, lively when walking past as a child, walked past and thought that the balcony would be good for the elderly

If yes, what were the best features of the space as you remember it?

open to everyone, all cultures sharing music of high quality safe for women, community space at westbank was priced ridiculously high, accessible pricing, inclusive events, open to all, community focussed and intergenerational, youth-led, SHARING OF CULTURES, intergenerational, good vibe, being OEPN and just able to drop in, safe for women, transparency, reliability and appeal of the events which were on made it a cross community place which educated others to the music, food, and culture of their community

Based on your experience of North Kensington, how do you feel this space should be used? Please feel free to make as many suggestions as you can.

teaching, care company for the community, childcare, clubs and societies (sewing, cooking, table tennis were mentioned), gigging opportunities for musicians and performers within the community, creative space, turn up and jam attitude, open mic nights and spoken word, workshops, a school for behind the scenes workers such as technicians and producers, event space, rehearsal space, sports

Do you feel that this space should be dedicated to a particular theme or cause

NO! during the day and events by night, music, spoken word, dancing. Cinema, sharing people's personal archives and films of the local area. Intergenerationality and sharing cultures.

Do you have any preference over whether Westway Trust manages the space, or an external provider?

If an entity comes in to manage it then it should be independent of the Trust. If the trust can subsidise then there are repayments owed and should be paid like this. Show leniency to the tenant, supported by the trust but not controlled by it. In the style of Maxilla City/Bay20 we should create an entity specifically designed for the space. Community led startup supported by the trust. Does it need to be commercially viable (a la pods). Could we discount the rent to make an otherwise unviable business viable? What happens to the money that the business makes if the trust is involved (does the trust keep the profit) or if it is private (is the profit invested back in the community)?

Do you have anything else you would like to share?

You don't need to re-invent the wheel - look back at what you had.

**TABLE 6**

Have you interacted with # 3 Thorpe Close in the past? If so, what was the nature of your interaction? I.e. Hosted an activity/project, attended an event, hired the space etc.

1986, 2006, family birthday, lived here 2004, 1991, function, 2003, carnival office, Portobello Film Festival, Quiz Night, film screenings, live music, DJs, variety acts, international women's day, talks

If yes, what were the best features of the space as you remember it?

US, the right people, community minded, relationship with the community, enabling, food, inclusivity, intergenerational, freedom, safe for children, community interaction, safe space, 2nd home, unique

Based on your experience of North Kensington, how do you feel this space should be used? Please feel free to make as many suggestions as you can.

model of Inn on the Green, long-term sustainability, innovative, live music, wide variety of produce (drinks and food), not-for-profit, long lease, reduced rates, not a business model, consumer co-op, affordability

Do you feel that this space should be dedicated to a particular theme or cause

community, intergenerationality, education, performance arts, late night licence, entertainment, safe-space, arts, café bar, music lessons, music, rehearsal space

Do you have any preference over whether Westway Trust manages the space, or an external provider?

clear selection process for a partnership, participatory process, legacy of mistrust in a partnership, good governance, external local, transparency, accountability, community steering group which holds power

Do you have anything else you would like to share?

meanwhile use, music, timescale, sustainable, toilets, group that is not already under westway, pop-up events, No Vince Powell, community report, how much to fit to use

## APRIL 29TH MEETING NOTES

**TABLE 1**

Have you interacted with # 3 Thorpe Close in the past? If so, what was the nature of your interaction? I.e. Hosted an activity/project, attended an event, hired the space etc.

Carnival setup, managed Flyover, Rock Camp for Girls which led to her starting a band, rehearsal space, startup space for local performers. Performed here, rehearsed here, networking space, storage space, borrowed equipment for performances in other places. Carnival Mass Band rehearsal and setup space., Snooker Hall. Anything you needed - the answer was always 'yes'. Walking past it looked attractive and interesting and you could hear music - it's a pity no vibrancy is spilling out anymore

If yes, what were the best features of the space as you remember it?

It brought about activism [through the closures and re-tendering of the contract]. It brought the community together. Intergenerational and safe. Networking. Sense of surprise and wonder, not knowing what was going to be on any given time. Paid in the back, free in the front.

Based on your experience of North Kensington, how do you feel this space should be used? Please feel free to make as many suggestions as you can.

Learning through doing - music, rehearsal, performance, sharing of cultures, law lectures. Workshops, putting learning into practice. A place to showcase opportunity and provide progression for the community.

Do you feel that this space should be dedicated to a particular theme or cause

Music

Do you have any preference over whether Westway Trust manages the space, or an external provider?

Find funding, a new Tina and Dave. Set up a new community group which is underwritten by the Trust. Don't give a licence to someone who will exploit the community. Trust MUST NOT profit, but fund what happens here for the community good. Westway could split the space/time - timetables. Westway must set up an environment where a Tina and Dave could occur. Have the backing of a local group, Integrated community use, as opposed to x% of whatever. Not a group as that will lead to cliques, but a central person hired by the Trust with no agenda for the space. You can recruit a new Tina and Dave.

Do you have anything else you would like to share?

No drinking? Jazz events are 'high culture' but open to everyone. Finicanlyl you need to make the door money for the sake of the performers, there are part of the community too, but how do you square that with people of all classes having access to the space. Pay for your coffee so the music can be free. Spiltting the timetable between arts and academia. A space to explain the 'why' of our local culture. Carnival history. Duplication of spaces is accessibility, and ensures that there are safe spaces.

## TABLE 2

Have you interacted with # 3 Thorpe Close in the past? If so, what was the nature of your interaction? Ie. Hosted an activity/project, attended an event, hired the space etc.

Know about the big, varied, and contentious history of the space. Found it cool. Sense of community was important. Art days. Free hair and makeup. Youth club. Chances for young people to do work. Been in and out over the years.

If yes, what were the best features of the space as you remember it?

Allow people to gather. Place where connections can be made. Right thing in the right space. Multi-functional, inclusive, own energy. Working with others.

Based on your experience of North Kensington, how do you feel this space should be used? Please feel free to make as many suggestions as you can.

Music. We need a community centre. Why isn't this OUR community centre? Possibly an art gallery. intergenerationality is important. Affordable for the community, after school activities, workshops in the evenings - knit it together.

Do you feel that this space should be dedicated to a particular theme or cause

Should address Tutu report. Acknowledge that everyone coming is giving something then encourage them to stay and buy and make the project., Community unity. Offer invitation. Use an honesty system. Daring to be different. A place where people are coming to meet and be met. A place which is cultivating and creating a new way of being (more than just a space, a new approach).

Do you have any preference over whether Westway Trust manages the space, or an external provider?

Subsidised. Wash it's face. Sustainable. Budget should be transparent. Where people can they can face rent. The space belongs to the community and we are leveraging it and the take-out to make it work. Invite people to participate. Communities to volunteer people and we have to value those people.

Do you have anything else you would like to share?

We need to see things being done differently. We need to build new foundations for our community, this would be a good chance to work together on something new. Plurality and diversity, Needs support to get through some of the tensions and contradictions.. Not everyone has to agree. What is our conversation and response? How do you manage and support dependence? Network? How do you include everyone? Tell everyone we have a black and brown board and teams. We should use and showcase local talent and commerce. Support people to remove the shame and stigma of needing to ask for money.

### TABLE 3

Have you interacted with # 3 Thorpe Close in the past? If so, what was the nature of your interaction? I.e. Hosted an activity/project, attended an event, hired the space etc.

No connection to the building, but local to area. Parties at the premises, visual arts, exhibits. Came to previous consultations. Used to work for the Trust. NOVA carer and training scheme. Carnival committee, Pepperpot centre, withdrawn premises.

If yes, what were the best features of the space as you remember it?

Located central to the community. Fashion shows. Used by everyone. Good use of flexi-space. Balcony overlooking the gardens. Workshops training/NOVA. The size of the space and its decor.

Based on your experience of North Kensington, how do you feel this space should be used? Please feel free to make as many suggestions as you can.

Art and food. Resident artists. Teaching/dance. Affordable space to rent. Income. Connector of things in the area. Visual arts. Run for/by different artists and collectives. Workshops, events, and organisations. Day and night operation. More public use and improved scrutiny in the area. Arts officer/management of the space. Live music. Exhibit history of the space/area (film/music/people/culture)

Do you feel that this space should be dedicated to a particular theme or cause

Bringing all the public together. Different groups able to work together here. Young people (reason to visit/stay). Music. Training, employment, and skills (future employment in the arts). Arts. Affordable space.

Do you have any preference over whether Westway Trust manages the space, or an external provider?

The Trust is not trusted. Collective management. Overall view of area and requirement. External provider - local to area with history. Pros and cons of each

Do you have anything else you would like to share?

Timescale to action and opening. Reach out to the wider public. Who will be reviewing?

## MAY 7TH MEETING NOTES

### COLLATED FEEDBACK FORMS

Have you interacted with # 3 Thorpe Close in the past? If so, what was the nature of your interaction? I.e. Hosted an activity/project, attended an event, hired the space etc.

Inn on the Green - musical guests were great and they always attended. Yes - used to attend the Lancaster Youth Centre events. Annual events such as the Epic Show - old care home. Youth club, door work for Westbank (employee), pop-up events. Attended events music/meetings, meals for training events, bar/socialising. When it was NOVA/ Westbank, been a client of NOVA, then came to deliver services and sessions, delivered events and met local leaders. Music event, funerals, Inn on The Green. Yes, attended events. Worked at Inn on The Green, had a party here when it was a pool hall, ran a night here twice monthly, film night, live bands, live music. Event attendee, used the bar.

If yes, what were the best features of the space as you remember it?

Intergenerational. Togetherness. Bridge building. Music and the bar. Multi-use space, safe, good location, thought the space was wasted. Community. Seats on the balcony, comfy seats, good location, multi-use, short term rent for events, nice bar. Salsa class, location. Open access, always busy, location, well insulated for sound. Gallery, bar, inclusivity.

Based on your experience of North Kensington, how do you feel this space should be used? Please feel free to make as many suggestions as you can.

Music venue - but not every day. Café. Community connection - opportunities for upcoming musicians, more of a hub for cultural expression, aspiring designers, talent mix, cooking classes, opportunities for 18+. Training opportunities, showcases, singer, dancer, social networking events, role models for 16-18 year olds. Lots of money, talent, and interest (I own a mag). Music and bar, social space open most of the time and free to enter, funded by the bar and a few ticketed music events. Gallery, food, music, classes in the daytime, natural food classes, healing foods (eg:spelt instead of wheat). Could be multi-use, conferences, parties, needs security people, every Saturday or Sunday there should be a party here in the evening, Monday to Thursday events after 6pm. Community base - by the community for the community. Startups and the peppercorn rent. Should stay open until 2am, kids' parties, rehearsal space, community classes, creche for kids, Nine Nights. For the community, adults and kids activities, events, training (maths, english), food, art/cultural events. Community centre, art gallery, music school and trainman ground, displays, affordable prices, capitalise on the music history. Wellness and health centre, people have a lot of anxiety in their lives, more space is needed to address these issues. Intergenerational space, new sheils eg hospitality.

Do you feel that this space should be dedicated to a particular theme or cause

No. Broad creativity, entrepreneurship across the arts, creative industries. Public meetings and public parties. Music, poetry, local art displays, catering, daytime children/ arts events of half term. Many themes - art, children's space. Many themes, open opportunities for different organisations and attendees, which can help with income. No. Multi-use, open to suggestions, intergenerational, "togetherness". Many themes, coffee for £1.50 to 'keep it local', Thursday night art night, beer can £1.50. Should be a meeting place. Wellness, community health, teaching therapies, alternative therapies.

Do you have any preference over whether Westway Trust manages the space, or an external provider?

No preference.. Possibly the Westway trust. Timetable of days, programme, Westway could serve as a catalyst. An external provider with expertise. No preference, but if it is an external provider then there must be a social contract in place. Someone with a good head, who is community driven, doesn't matter if it's Westway or anyone else, make it a destination. Steering group overseen but the Westway Trust rather like Bay20, or leased for a certain number of years. Run by community volunteers. Another operator. Local operator, whether WT or otherwise. Westway running it with some sort of steering group. Work with Westway, to take on the space in total would be a challenge for a single provider.

Do you have anything else you would like to share?

More paper based door to door leaflets for marketing. Ask the Tabernacle, venture centre, and Harrow Club about this - get a 2am licence and must take a deposit. Balcony was closed at a set time each night to reduce sound pollution. Could be run as a membership organisation, could be run as a co-op. Could the space be privately rented?