

21 September meeting

Requests

Closed Self defence training every week – approved. Referred to booking collective to work out a time.

Drumming workshop – a teacher wants to use the common place to hold drumming workshops at £5 per head. – Refused.

Short term storage for hanover – approved. Must be labelled with contact details and the date of removal

Matters arising.

Keir has been trying to get into contact with solicitor (he has been away but is back next week)

Andy has done the bottles poster and the recycling one is in hand

Simon is yet to mark off storage space for upstairs

Tommo has not found out about key safe yet

Tommo has fixed the hot tap but the cold tap now doesn't work

Dave wrote to the council about rough sleepers

No Borders / Repressed have had initial conversation about office stuff TBC

Collective feedback

Events

The new system of making people event co-ordinators after running a successful event is going well

Café

Discussed the vegan issue. Decided that they need a clear policy on vegan or non vegan food.

They have decided that the café will be vegan. There will be info explaining why it is vegan displayed.

The current position is that groups are allowed to bring non vegan food into the premises but non vegan food can not be prepared or stored on the premises. Groups may only bring meat for consumption into the premises under exceptional circumstances and by prior arrangement of a general meeting

There will be a fuller talk on food politics at the next General Meeting, the first Thursday in October.

Finance

Balance £2881 with no bills outstanding.

Monthly outgoings are about £1600

Membership

There are currently 3 members of the membership group. The Backlog is being cleared. They are also looking at contacting people who were members last year but have not renewed. They are going to try to put all emails into the main 'common place announce' list to keep everyone updated with what is going on

Fridge

We are going to get the fridge

Piano

We are going to get the piano

PA

There is £400 in the PA fund

We will move £600 from the current account as a loan into the PA account

Kier will get £1000 loan to match this and Kier will arrange to get the person in to buy a PA and e-mail the list to arrange a meeting time where interested parties can talk about it's set-up.

The fundraiser for the PA will occur in November

Repressed Key

Repressed can have a key and have to contact paul to get it

Refurbishment

We has a big brainstorming session on what we wanted to see happen to the Common Place during the refurbishment. We drew up three main lists: maintenance work urgently needed; practical things we needed to have or sort; and aesthetic changes we'd like to make the place look a bit nicer.

Maintenance	Practicalities	Aesthetics
Stop the rain coming in by gas exhaust and by leaflet table	Alter black out curtains so they can be opened more easily	Need to lighten the room, make it feel cleaner and brighter
Unblock outside drain again	Build lockable Bar by middle fire exit (glass fronted lockable fridges ??)	Need to improve lighting in café room / and gig room
First toilet leaking; needs a new lock	Build lockable free shop to stop drunks messing it up	Some sort of way of making the place more open / accessible
Replace carpet in toilets with lino	Change kitchen (see below)	Paint outside windows etc to make building look open and usable, attractive
Pipe leaking under kitchen sink	Build a Cleaning cupboard (for cloths, cleaner, hoover, brush)	Buy some lights and stuff
Whole sink cupboards need repairing	Change leaflet table: either, demolish; turn into cupboards; take skanky carpet off & paint	Make another 1 or 2 windows in café room
Repair floor in gig/cinema room Clean entire floor in CP	Demolish the big table where the leaflets usually are (or build cupboards under it)	Exhibition space possible for gig room
Replace glass in broken windows in gig & café room	Stackable, nice tables & chairs for café	(Off) white paint everywhere – use posters and art to give walls colour; get rid of orange and green (except GP dave who likes it)
Make windows in gig room open/improve air vent	Make one wall for leaflet racks	Paint non-tiled floor
Hot water in toilets	Make one wall for events / demos / posters etc	Sort garden – bit messy
Find/replace disabled ramp	Get stage lighting?	
Replace dead lightbulbs		

Take down art before refurb	Get PA (actioned)	
Put up more, clear no-smoking signs and other signs	Make computer area better (new table); printer etc	
Sort out fly problem – food, plus compost plus drain	Think about pinning white boards to walls for art installations	
Repair cinema seats / remove some	Place for bookshop?	

The discussion came up with a number of principles:

- need to make common place multifunctional and multiusable with quick turn around time for things, from gigs, to cinema, to meetings etc

Café to come back with proposal for smaller kitchen: things dicussed were –

make it a bit smaller; move coffee machine / cookers round; put up storage units, nothing to be on floor; get a decent cooker; remove vinyl from café counter, replace with proper worktop/metal/clean vinyl; make café lockable (but only source of water is café); separate drinks from café; maybe get rid of tables and have two huge tables with benches or have very small tables.

Cinema to come back with proposal for seats

Bar collective to come back with plan for new bar – bar needs to be where people can see gigs

Everyone else to come back with ideas for how to make the general ideas actually happen – come up with concrete proposals / plans / drawings / floorplans etc

NEXT REFURB MEETING

NEXT TUESDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER, 7-9PM AT THE COMMON PLACE;

THIS IS WHEN WE WILL COME UP WITH PLANS AND STRATEGY FOR EACH AREA, LIST OF MATERIALS AND NAMED COORDINATORS