A night scene featuring a large, illuminated sculpture of a figure on the right, possibly a deity or historical figure, with a glowing orange and yellow light. The background is dark, with a large, intricate blue sculpture on the left. The sky is filled with numerous streaks of orange and red fireworks, creating a vibrant, celebratory atmosphere. A building with a grid-like facade is visible in the lower middle ground, illuminated with a blue light.

Made By Many

Mark Robinson
Thinking Practice



‘There is nothing as practical as a good theory’ Kurt Lewin

‘The capacity to remain productive and true to core purpose and identity whilst absorbing disturbance and adapting with integrity in response to changing circumstances’

‘The capacity to remain **productive** and true to core purpose and **identity** whilst absorbing disturbance and adapting with **integrity** in response to changing circumstances’

creative(ly)

‘The capacity to remain productive and true to core purpose and identity whilst absorbing disturbance and adapting with integrity in response to changing circumstances’

& using

& to shape



Turning The Place Over:
Art can be the disturbance -
Not just the vulnerable environment

Photo: Gilmar Ribiero



Stockton International Riverside Festival



SIRF: Art as Enabling Environment

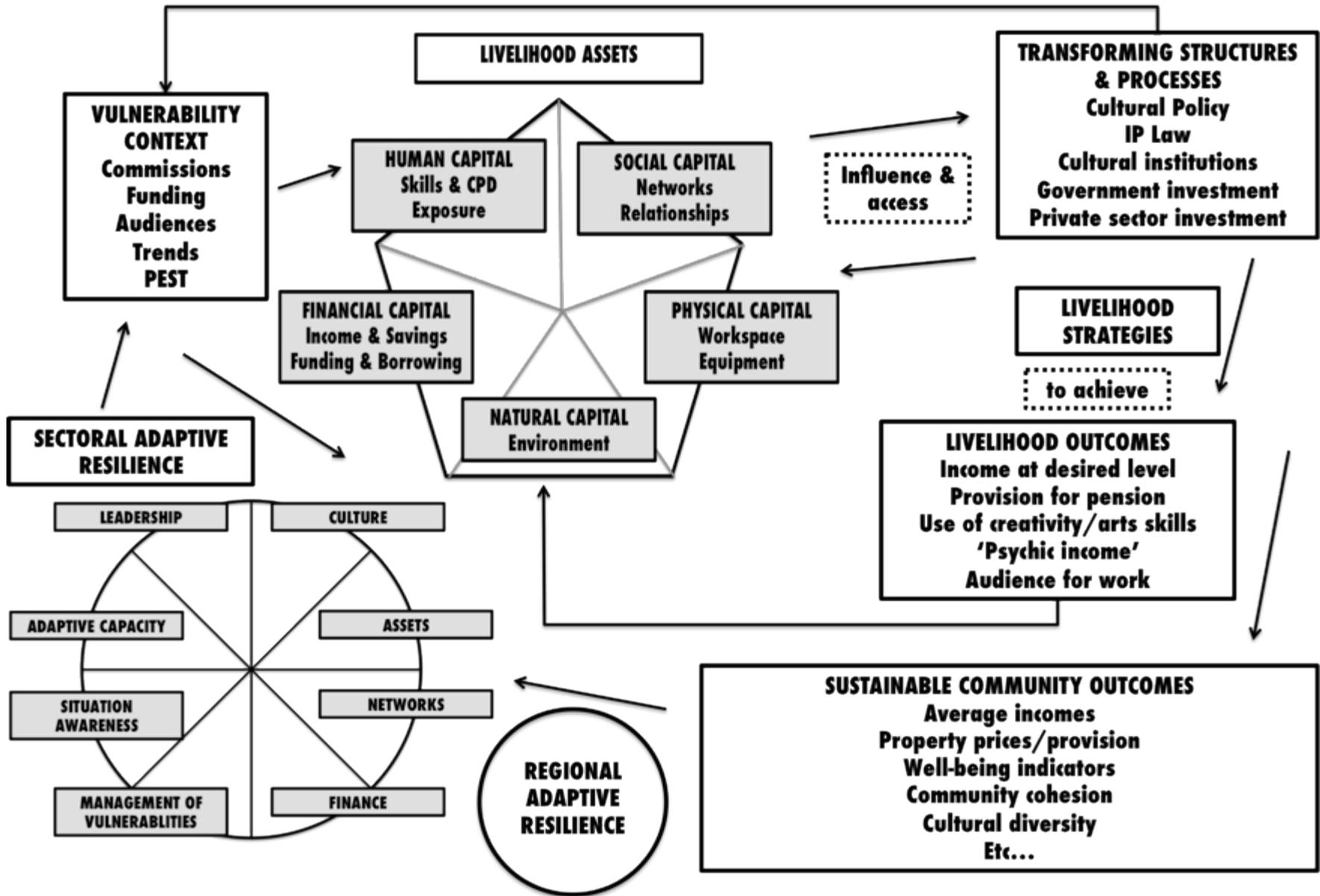
Community building

Trial into habit

Aspiration & development

Change

Confidence



Towards a virtuous circle?



Towards a virtuous circle?

Local

Too
Small

Regional

Too
Big

National

International



Reflective Open Adaptive Responsible

‘Parochialism and provincialism are direct opposites. The provincial has no mind of his own; he does not trust what his eyes see until he has heard what the metropolis - towards which his eyes are turned - has to say on the subject. This runs through all his activities.’

Patrick Kavanagh

So what's this all about? Just simply that this theatre is our roof-tree; here is no exclusion, no high art or low but only the best in which all can share. It is a theatre of the Tyne where all the diverse, rich threads can be gathered together at last. Here we can draw power from the massed voltage which in some strange and mysterious way makes us wholly and completely individual again. Here we can be together, yet private; members of a crowd but royalty all. Here when the temporal is shattered we can exist outside time, laugh, weep and be shriven. Here at last we can find our long-lost heritage. Such a heritage that, if dear old Jimmy Learmouth were to stroll on stage tonight and greet us, 'Hallo, kiddars! How's your luck?' the answer would surely go thundering back, 'Never better, hinny. Just look at what we've got!'

Northern Stage
@ St Stephens

Ignore the Empire

Eat, Drink and Plan

Diversity & Density

Positive Attention

Using Assets



Photo: Topher McGrillis



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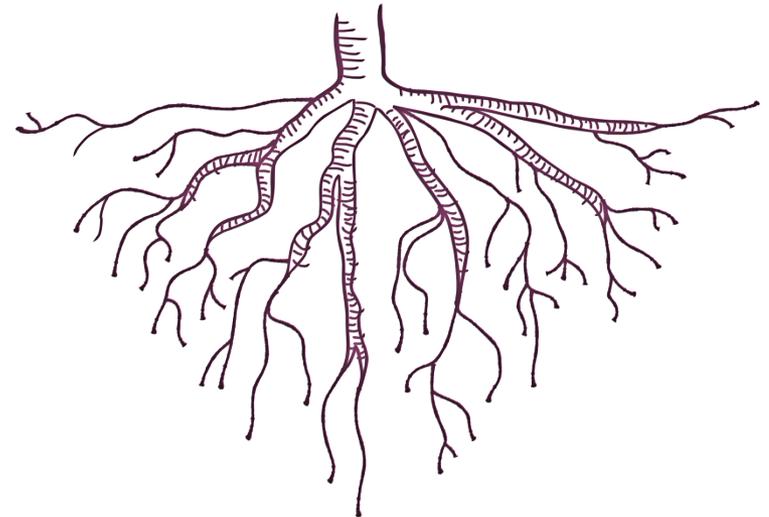


Photo: Topher McGrillis

From *21 Ways of Looking At The Sponsors Club* by Mark Robinson

For a short while there was a Northern office of ABSA as well as the Sponsors Club, but the two 'merged' in 2000. Although this relationship was a mutually beneficial one, the Sponsors Club retained its own identity within the Community Foundation, and its own regional steering group. At various times this led to suggestions of full merger. These were rejected, in a tone to which this writer can attest from attending a key meeting whilst working for Arts Council: this is our club, with regional interests at its heart, and must remain so in order to do its job.

The roots dictate the shape of the tree and the blossom thereon.



Sponsors Club

Conclusions

Resilience Matters
Stronger Together
Asset-based, people-
centred

Diversity within Identity
Dynamic and sustainable



From *21 Ways of Looking At The Sponsors Club* by Mark Robinson

21

As a Sonnet of Bridges across North East England



Photo: Alex Livet

Tyne, Transporter, Wearmouth, Chain,
Millenium, Swing, Redheugh, Wark,
Hikey, Carrick, Cricket Club, Hag,
Deadwater, Sheepwash and Sweethope Lough.

Featherstone, Eggleston, Beckstones, Wath,
Infinity, Chantry, Ogle Dean,
Chew Green, Mountain Ford, Preston Pipe,
Barn Flatt Stepping Stones and Jubilee.

Stobo, Fingland, Tweedshaw, Monk,
Croxdale, Furnace, Gasworks, Skinnery
Westfall, Daddry Shields, Duchess, Iron,
High Level, Long Plantation and Penny Ferry.

A place of bridges and connected spans.
An aqueduct for art, made by many hands.