# Celebrating 50 years of Hellman cartoons

It's 1967. The 'Summer of Love' is over, signalling the end of the hippy dream of a world in love and peace. Labour Prime Minister Harold Wilson shows the public that the devalued pound in the pocket is still worth a pound and yet another (abortive) scheme to extend the Palace of Westminster is on unveiled. The following year a gas explosion high in the council tower block Roman point causes the prefabricated external walls to collapse, kills four people and one of the main (precast) planks in the modern movement's edifice of precepts starts to crumble. What better time to start publishing satirical cartoons on architecture and the built environment?

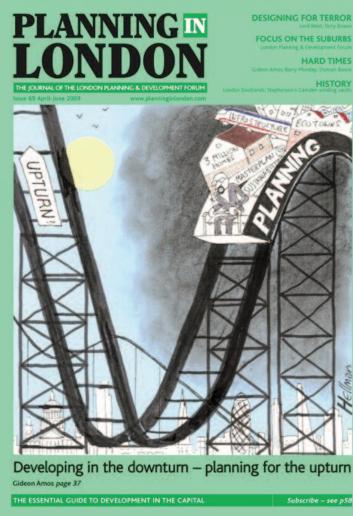
In the intervening decades I have tracked the demise of high rise, the bruising of New Brutalism, the less than spectacular Neo-Vernacular, the posturing of Post-Modernism, the thrashing from Thatcherism, the dogmas of Docklands developments, the chagrin of Prince Charlatan, the conundrum of Community Architecture, the contortions of Conservation, the mono mania of Mock Classicism, the compulsion of computer-aided design, the decompositions of Deconstructivism, the Neologisms of New Labour neophytes, the hegemony of High-Tec and the bluster of Blobitecture.

Fifty years on history burps and repeats itself. Another tower block tragedy brings cost-cutting developers and government into disrepute, a severe economic crisis rages as Great Britain shoots itself in the proverbial 30cm, (i.e. Brexit) and the world trembles in fear of a nuclear holocaust as the US and communism rattle their missile sabres. But it's an ill wind as all this is grist to the mill of satirical cartooning and always will be.

Louis Hellman











THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO DEVELOPMENT IN THE CAPITAL

Alan Davidson of Hayes Davids







GLA's chief planner Fiona Fletcher Smith page 23, Lee Mallett page 28, Stuart Robinson page 7, CLIPBOARD page 10, and a Planning in London

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#### IT'S A RIOT

Space Syntax' 2011 London Riots location analysis suggests a connection between the nearby presence of large, post-war housing estates, and the antisocial behaviour that took place in town centres during the summer; page 21

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conference on 11 November – see page 4.

Issue 56, 2000

King Ken, the new London Mayor as the scourge of the boroughs.

#### Issue 65 2008

The projected third Heathrow runway. Will profit and pollution take off or will protest touch down?

#### Issue 68 2009

An emperor's new clothes variation. Mayor Johnson promotes high rise offices and apartments which may claim to be "sustainable", a meaningless term much used by politicians. Vastly more energy and carbon would be saved by not building these megaliths. This cartoon annoyed architects.

#### Issue 69 2009

Planning is riding the economic crisis switchback with lots of ideas for when the upturn comes. It never does.

#### Issue 70 2009

Like Livinstone Mayor Johnson cosies up to developers and foreign specula-

tors with their architect poodles to pepper the capital with office and residential towers and destroy London's special character. They are the new symbols of wealth and power to supersede church and state.

#### Issue 71 2009

London housing in crisis due to a scarcity of affordable homes, bad planning,

dereliction and carbon guzzling. Quack doctors in housing organisations and government have no diagnosis to offer while CABE gives ignored advice.

#### Issue 73 2010

Prime Minister Cameron as Humpty Dumpty in Alice in Wonderland spouting his vague and contradictory planning policies.

#### Issue 74 2010

Mayor Johnson tackles Pizza di Londra and its plethora of bureaucratic agencies and makes a hash of it as he does of most things.

#### Issue 75 2010

The Cameron government's pretence at promoting "localism" which is an excuse for cuts to planning agencies and regulations as part of the imposition of austerity on the most vulnerable. A parody of The League of Gentlemen's Royston Vasey sketches.

#### Issue 79 2011

The London riots were said to be the result of underprivileged youth from sink housing estates taking revenge on the wasteful consumer society. I enjoyed the pun of "Loot Fockers".

#### Issue 82 2012

The myth of "localism" and its development plans while corporate speculators make hay and austerity bites the poor and disabled.

#### Yearbook 2012

Ken Livingstone challenges the incumbent Mayor Boris Johnson who has

Chelsheld

the London Olympics to spur him on while Middle East potentates build residential towers as cash cows. New planning legislation hurdles are in position for winner Johnson to knock

#### Yearbook 2013

London's housing crisis explodes with census predictions of population growth

with Mayor Johnson trying to fit a quart into a pint pot of inadequate homes while social cleansing is rife and new housing is grabbed by overseas speculators.

#### Issue 87

Foreign vultures descend on the capital for easy pickings.

#### Issue 89

The Green Belt old cow in danger of being milked by vested interests.

#### Issue 98

New Mayor Kahn tries to take control.



Issue 82 July-September 2012 www.planninginton

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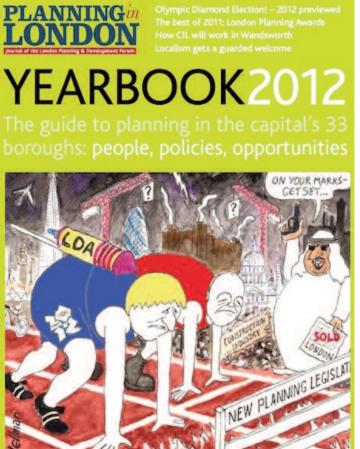


#### LOCALISM AND LONDON

Westminster's Rosemarie MacQueen, Keynote page 7; The changing face of London, Robert Gordon Clark page 16; Neighbourhood planning, Simon Ricketts page 41; The King's Cross neighbourhood forum, Robert Milne page 43.

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It's elementary: London needs more homes

Air-fix kit: Daniel Moylan bigs up aviation

Very taxing: why CLL is winding up developers

Fading fast:

## YEARBOOK 2013

The guide to planning in the capital's 33 boroughs: people, policies, opportunities





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LINEAR PARK



## FOREIGN INVESTMENT is a very good thing, Leader, page 5 and Faraz Baber of London First, page 18; A Pocket for the squeezed middle – Marc Vlessing, page 42; London Finance Commission – devolution for the Capital, page 20; West End Commission – defining the West End, page 22; The Office – Frank Duffy, page 44

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to the Daviss Commission, page 10

THE FARRELL NEVEW in pictures, page 14

RESPONDING TO LONDON'S. ROBULATION BOOM Se Edward Lister, page 17

FOREIGN BEVESTORS AND LONDON'S HOUSING MILREST Service Saving, plage 30



CARVING UP THE SACRED COW?

#### LONDON'S GREEN BELT AND THE HOUSING CRISIS

Paul Cheshire dissects the myth versus the reality of London's green belt; the case for a Municipal Investment Corporation is set out by Nicholas Falk; the Town & Country Planning Association has brought the 1946 Act up to date. Hugh Ellis explains how; Extending London and rethinking the green belt – the TEN Group. Pages 39-49.

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New planning Act, new mayor\_p.30 'PRE-APPS' need to get the buzz back Grant Leggett p.41



#### **BREXIT AND PLANNING**

– Janice Morphet page 9; BREXIT AND DEVOLUTION, Ben Rogers page 12; LONDEXIT MIGHT BE GOOD FOR US, Leader page 5; LONDON ELECTIONS – THE OUTCOME Snapdragon Consulting page 43; TRANSPORT AND DEVELOPMENT – Mind the gaps says Nicholas Falk page 55; Autonomous vehicles and future placemaking, Farrell's Nigel Bidwell page 71

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