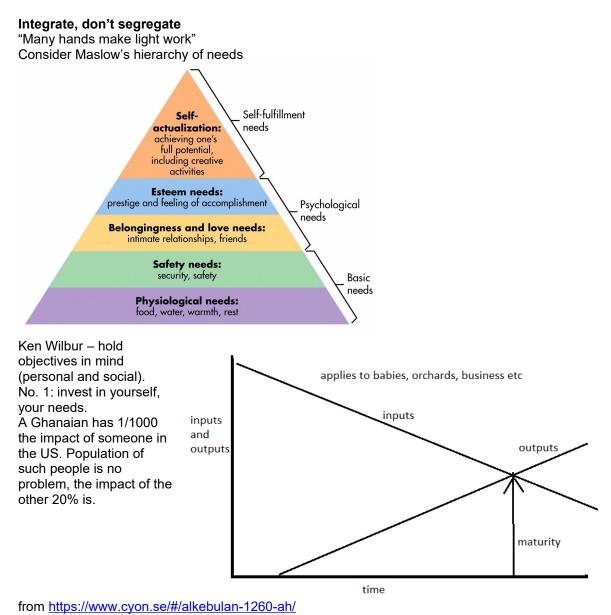
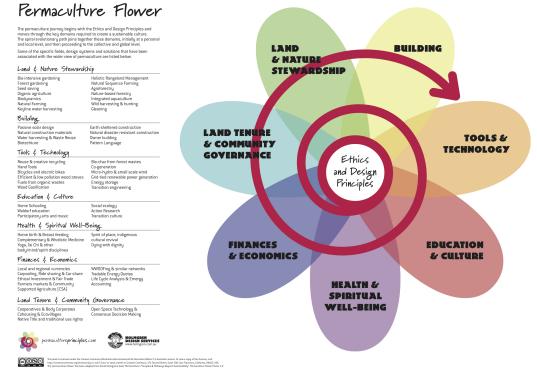
### Permaculture in Chester, Week 8: with Steve





## Africa: pre-colonisation map



There are overlap areas, eg money and health.

It only works if you look after yourself.

<u>Silver Tent</u> is an online network, a community of over 50s females. Some are interested in cohousing; <u>Siobhan's asked Steve</u> for advice.

https://www.facebook.com/siobhana.riordan

The Permaculture Academy - starts with people.

What do you want? Rather than what I want, we want.

Then – dinnertime, the ultimate collaborate time.

Fire was civilising, a time to share food. Michael Pollan says we've outsourced cooking!

Food connects to land, further delaying gratification.

On to energy, buildings, money, surplus

Then communication, and draw in more people.

Resources on Sector 39: <u>http://www.sector39.co.uk/fg/</u> <u>https://www.korewildfruitnursery.co.uk/</u> unusual plants for permaculture, based Lampeter. Pointed at from <u>http://www.80bola.com.sector39.co.uk/clips.htm</u> <u>http://www.sector39.co.uk/yurt/yurt\_notes.pdf</u> food fire energy land buildings money communication

Adversarial thinking: ⇒ ⇔

Parallel thinking:  $\Rightarrow$ 

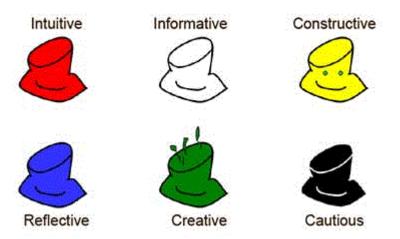
Consensus process: needs a facilitator who isn't connected, who hasn't a vested interest in the outcome.

He discusses with stakeholders and agrees a procedure. Either gets total agreement, or lets non-compliants drift off. The issues are broken into manageable chunks to be discussed in groups. They reach agreement. They then discuss how to resolve the issues by breaking the tasks into manageable chunks, again discussed in groups.

<u>Chicken Shack</u> is a housing coop in Tywyn (<u>facebook</u>), so is <u>Radical Roots</u>, which is more of a network.

An ecological guild all the plants together are strong; it need all the components.

# Six thinking hats



Full description at <u>http://www.designorate.com/the-six-hats-of-critical-thinking-and-how-to-use-them/</u>

White - information and research

Red – emotions, intuition

Black - possible problems, difficulties, risks, caution

Yellow – benefits, positives, values, can it work

Green - creative ideas

Blue – facilitate, which hats to use, summary, what next. Independent, removes ego. Brainstorm – for ideas. Then each can have 10 votes.

www.catalystcollective.org

"In the last 17 years, catalyst collective has worked with over 200 housing co-operatives, about 75 worker co-ops, some charities, and a variety of different companies with co-operative aims.

Many successful social enterprises have been registered with the help of catalyst. Many people are now living without bosses or landlords, after setting up cooperatives to buy housing, or develop ethical businesses. Catalyst was set up specifically to help people create a cooperative life."

This makes coops, including housing, more possible, and provides a rule set. <u>www.radicalroutes.org.uk</u>

"Radical Routes is a network of radical co-ops whose members are committed to working for positive social change. The network is made up mainly of housing co-ops of various sizes (none with more than 17 members), a few workers co-ops and a couple of social centres." They announce vacancies.

To buy land? Maybe easier buying a big property.

### Types of coop:

Worker coop retail coop (for the benefit of customers) Chester Energy, and Manchester Carbon Coop.

### A history of coops

Robert Owen, around 1800, owned New Lanark Cotton Mill. He refused to employ anyone younger than 10, he believed they should be in education. He didn't believe in religion, reckoning it removes the need to think. He gave employees allotments, as they'd formerly been in agriculture but had been displaced by the system. He influenced Karl Marx. He created a factory shop for his workers, so they wouldn't be milked by outsiders. It was a mutual shop, where profits would be returned to customers. He went to the US and tried to set up cooperatives there (see <u>New Harmony</u>), before returning to the UK. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert\_Owen

The <u>Rochdale Pioneers</u> were skilled workers displaced by mechanisation, so they set up the cooperative society. They looked at existing coops, and drew up the best for their 7 principles:

1: membership should be open and voluntary, providing you abide by the rules

2: there should be democratic control by members, ideally by consensus

3: economic participation, whether you invested £1 or £1000, you get the same vote.

4: autonomy and independence, that cannot be given away

5: educate, train and inform, to members and others about the coop

6: cooperation with other cooperatives

7: concern for the community whilst focussing on member needs, work for the sustainable development of the community (it's in the interest of the coop!)

Principles in full - http://www.catalystcollective.org/cms/co-op-principles

CAT had difficulty as a coop.

Silver Tent Radio – see Silver Tent website.

Dragons Cooperative. Steve bought the village shop, seeing as no-one else was going to do anything with it other than turn it into a holiday let. Not having had a steady income, his chances of a mortgage were none, so he built a business plan and went to the bank – they accepted. It's a legal entity as a business. It's managed by who lives there and pays rent, ie themselves. The shop is in the housing coop, it pays rent too. If you're raising money for a coop, you can get support from other coops. Steve sometimes lets a coop go. Dragons is on facebook.

www.diggersanddreamers.org.uk