

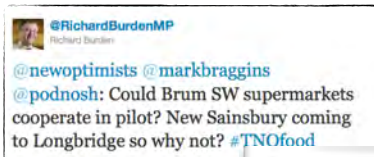
the new  
**optimists**  
FORUM



Prof Jim Parle



Prof Hanifa Shah



10 Responses to "How self-sufficient can Birmingham be? Should we even bother trying?"

spin-out:  
growingbirmingham.org



35 people, 24 scientists,  
~12 hours conversations analysed,  
80+ blogposts, 7 video interviews,  
5 podcasts, 7 reports published



Dr Christopher Brewster



Prof Laura Green

completed

scenario planning process  
exploratory, divergent phase

THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY  
CHALLENGE  
*feeding megacities/conurbations*  
Warwick Crop Centre Seminar  
with scientists & social scientists  
23rd May 2012

THE SEMANTIC WEB  
New Optimists dinner discussion  
after EU SmartAgriFood meeting  
at Aston Business School  
11th June 2012

ENERGY: A GAME-CHANGER  
New Optimists dinner discussion  
on the potential of distributed  
energy systems - EBRI technology  
May or June 2012 (tbd)

BIRMINGHAM HINTERLANDS  
FOOD PRODUCTION CAPACITY  
Food access & diet: Harper Adams  
MSc dissertation: Warwick  
by August 2012

GENERATING SCENARIOS  
June-August 2012

TESTING  
DRAFT SCENARIOS  
with key stakeholders  
September 2012

SCENARIOS PUBLISHED  
December 2012

LARGE-SCALE PUBLIC EVENT  
WORKING TITLE  
*Feeding Birmingham:*  
*The Challenge Facing Conurbations*  
Spring 2013

scenario planning process  
convergent phase

just starting

**birmingham 2050**  
SCENARIOS FOOD FUTURES

## The scenario planning: Who's already taken part at April 2012

- ❖ [Dr Lucy Bastin](#), population ecologist at Aston University.
- ❖ [Professor Robert Berry](#), Executive Dean of Aston's School of Engineering & Applied Science
- ❖ [Nick Booth of Podnosh](#), a business that helps people use social media for social good.
- ❖ [Jayne Bradley](#), Development Director of the CIC Kitchen, Project Director of EdibleEastside.
- ❖ [Dr Christopher Brewster](#) of Aston Business School, PI on the [EU Smart AgriFood](#) project.
- ❖ [Professor Vicky Buchanan-Wollaston](#), plant scientist in the Department of Life Sciences at Warwick University.
- ❖ [David Bull](#), development strategist at Birmingham City Council.
- ❖ [Dr Rosemary Collier](#), entomologist and Director of the Warwick Crop Centre
- ❖ [Professor Liz Dowler](#), public health nutritionist at Warwick University.
- ❖ [Professor Peter Fryer](#), chemical engineer at Birmingham University.
- ❖ [Professor Laura Green](#), veterinary epidemiologist at Warwick University.
- ❖ [Dr Gareth Griffiths](#), biochemist at Aston University.
- ❖ [Professor Helen Griffiths](#), biomedical scientist at Aston University.
- ❖ [Dr Rob Lillywhite](#) an environmental scientist from the Warwick Crop Centre.
- ❖ [Parveen Mehta](#), Operations Director at Minor Weir and Willis.
- ❖ [Dr Lynsey Melville](#), engineer leading BCU's Bioenergy Research Group.
- ❖ [Professor Ian Nabney](#), mathematician and computer scientist at Aston University
- ❖ [Professor Jim Parle](#), from Birmingham Medical School, also a practising GP.

- ❖ [Professor David Pink](#), plant scientist at Harper Adams University College.
- ❖ [Professor Ruth Reed](#) from Birmingham City University, also a practising architect.
- ❖ [Dr Mark Rutter](#), Head of Animal Health and Welfare at Harper Adams University College.
- ❖ [Dr Eugenio Sanchez](#), plant scientist at Birmingham University.
- ❖ [Professor Alister Scott](#), social scientist and human geographer from Birmingham City University
- ❖ [Professor Hanifa Shah](#), IT strategist at Birmingham City University.
- ❖ [Sandy Taylor](#), Head of Climate Change and Sustainability at Birmingham City Council.
- ❖ [Professor Adam Tickell](#), economic geographer and Pro-VC at Birmingham University.

plus:

- ❖ [Associate Professor Frances O'Brien](#) from Warwick Business School for her guidance on the scenario planning process.
- ❖ [Dr Maureen Meadows](#) of the Open University Business School who also helps with the scenario planning.
- ❖ [Norman Leet](#) for co-managing the project and facilitating the Forum events.
- ❖ [Dr Nicci MacLeod](#) for her linguistic analysis of Forum conversations.
- ❖ [Matthew Green](#) for advice on economic and policy matters, including drafting our response to *Places for the Future* draft SPD.
- ❖ Ellie Richards for her analyses of the content of the conversations.
- ❖ [The Podnosh team](#) for their organisation and delivery of social media reporting: Nick Booth, Jon Bounds, Steph Jennings & Gavin Wray as well as their video crew.

## REPORTS/PAMPHLETS

- Forum newsletters in [February 2012](#) & [April 2012](#)
- Explorations in food poverty: [Pathways to Feast](#) & [Pathways to Famine](#)
- [Agroecology & urban farming](#): a compilation of blogposts and links, published in March 2012
- New Optimists [Response to Places for the Future](#), a draft SPD from Birmingham City Council



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