Would you like your local group to sign up to the RoS manifesto?

Get in touch!

Stay informed via the google group:
Reclaim-Our-Spaces_London@googlegroups.com

Sign the petition at: http://bit.ly/2sAvFMk

WHO ARE WE?
Reclaim Our Spaces (RoS) was born on 25 June 2016 at Conway Hall where grassroots groups realised the potential for a London-wide coalition to protect London’s community spaces, which are the fabric of London’s diversity.

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY COMMUNITY SPACES?
By community spaces, we include community centres, music venues, libraries, pubs, open spaces and public spaces, youth centres, land for community food growing and street markets. Many community spaces across London have been lost in recent years and others are under threat of closure through a combination of austerity, privatisation and development pressure.

GENERAL AIM
RoS coalition aims to give a voice to the diverse needs for community space across London’s communities, particularly the needs of those under-represented or excluded.

Three main areas of activity have been identified:

- Designing grassroots activities (e.g. “learning journeys”) enabling us to reach out to the many current campaigns in London and raising their visibility through tools such as the creation of a digital platform.
- Supporting each other as a network of communities and community spaces, through sharing information, joint initiatives and practical solidarity.
- Influencing the London Plan, and other strategies of the Mayor of London, around the following proposals

#1 Help produce a shift in thinking so that access to and the value of community spaces is not based on business plans and income generation but on the social value of the community space and its contribution to health and wellbeing, inclusion, integration, empowerment and poverty reduction.

#2 Recognising the irreplaceability and uniqueness of many community spaces and looking after them for future generations is part of a continuing legacy.

#3 Valuing and resourcing community-centred knowledge and creativity for the contribution this can make to policy discussions and a whole system approach to community engagement across the GLA.

#4 Community spaces are not just physical buildings, but social spaces where cultural expression takes place. These social spaces provide movement and interaction between different cultures and it is important they are integrated as well as truly accessible to all.

#5 Community spaces are essential to the achievement of lifetime neighbourhoods in which housing, health and education facilities, shops and other local amenities are affordable and accessible to everyone, now and for future generations, and there is support for community networks based on social co-operation and mutual aid.

#6 Housing estates provide a wide range of community spaces – community halls, open spaces, playgrounds and other facilities – which must be protected and their use encouraged.