Charlie Fisher - CV

Berlin +491785299866 charlie@fshr.xvz

Charlie has been investigating novel models for investing in the commons since 2013, emphasizing the use of technology in the democratisation of investment and governance tools for public infrastructures such as housing. His work highlights the necessity of shifting away from top-down urban development models that primarily benefits private landowners and towards citizen-led investment approaches. Since 2021, Charlie has collaborated on developing modular smart contracts that utilize simple

bonding curves, one of which was deployed in 2023 through the Swiss Association he co-founded in Switzerland. He most recently led the Civic Tech Studio at Dark Matter Labs in which prototyping work provided valuable insights into decentralised finance mechanisms.

In October 2024, Charlie was awarded the Just Open Source Grant to further explore neighbourhood wealth mechanisms in Berlin co-operative developments through novel blockchain technologies.

Education

02/2016 - present (estimated completion May 2025)

PhD

Doctorate in Philosophy, Spatial Design, Oxford Brookes University

Thesis exploring urban citizen-led affordable housing schemes in England through an exploration of the practices of human and non-human components which combine in the ongoing delivery of homes. Embracing the complexity of emergent urban phenomena, an assemblage approach (DeLanda, 2016) is used to develop a delivery practices analytic explored through the lens of housing marketisation.

09/2012 - 07/2013

MA

Development and Emergency Practice, Oxford Brookes University

Thesis on open source technology in housing focusing on the Wikihouse project.

10/2010 - 07/2013

PgDip

Architecture (RIBA Pt.II), Oxford Brookes University

10/2006 - 06/2009

BArch

Architecture (RIBA Pt.I), Leicester School of Architecture

Relevant Work Experience

04/2023 - 09/2023

Strategic Designer

Dark Matter Laboratories B.V., The Netherlands

Contributing to research projects on the future of property, land and affordable housing in England, Portugal and South Korea. Leading the Civic Tech Studio on new technological advancements in AI and communication platforms. Dark Matter Labs is an international consultancy in the built environment sector.

Relevant research projects:

Community-led place stewardship 🔗

Leading a three person team in a 12 month research project on long-termist stewardship entities for large-scale new residential developments on the edges of villages, towns and cities across Europe as well as the possibilities for stewardship functions within retrofit. Case study methodologies.

Freehouse Berlin 🔗

Leading on mechanism design to demonstrate a self-owning housing concept in Berlin. The six month project included smart contract protocols for community ownership, Exit-to-Community workshops, forward financing mortgages, sensors for seamless engagement with houses, process design and AI chat bots. Resulted in a final internal ethnographic review of the model and led to many new lines of enquiry into automation.

Endowing the Future

Leading research on the endowment of neighbourhoods as part of a multi-capital approach to unlock and discover the capacities, capabilities and knowledges required for the people who live there to co-lead a courageous, bold and urgent transition, held in common. Included work on long-term bond structures for the creation of public goods, imagining how outcome buying might work and support in ascertaining land value.

11/2022 -

Co-Founder

Oasa, Switzerland

A network of autonomous DAOs, aiming to put 100k hectares into trust of which 95% must be regenerated or untouched. Founding role in the first token-issuer trust of trusts, developed as a Swiss Association and protyped with the first tokenised land trust putting 30ha into a regenerative co-living scheme in Portugal.

Oasa Whitepaper 🖉 [submitted as evidence of written work]

The founding document of the Oasa Network as registered with the Swiss financial authorities and published online at Oasa.earth. Includes a vision statement on the role of technology in regenerating land through rural coliving, and the technical implementation of a utility token and sales contracts.

01/2017 - 03/2023

Co-Founder

Collaborative Housing Hub, United Kingdom

Founding an enabling advisory hub for Community-Led Housing in the Thames Valley area in England which took on £150k UK government seed funding and has worked with over 50 citizen-led groups. Assisted in the founding of 16 organisations and the creation of a platform for effective communication and project management of land projects.

Relevant research projects:

Community Land Trust options at the Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village (2020) 🖉

West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC) commissioned Charlie Fisher on behalf of Collaborative Housing to undertake a scoping report that explored options for delivery and stewardship approaches for a Community Land Trust (CLT) at the Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village (now Salt Cross) including partnerships, finance, business modelling and mapping. This led to other work on large scale stewardship of new neighbourhoods.

05/2014 - 03/2023

Director

Transition by Design Co-operative, United Kingdom

Leadership roles within an architecture practice with a focus on Passivhaus housing and retrofit. I previously held lead roles for People Operations, Research and Consultancy. Responsible for technological implementation and in particularly the transformation of the business to make use of an Associates models of freelancers to supplement the core team of 8-14 people. This helped build strong financial and organisational resilience from 2019.

Relevant Training

Academia

University-level Teaching Certification, Oxford Brookes University (2017)

Development Economics, Management and Finance (Feb-May 16)

Qualitative Methods and Inquiry by Design (Feb-May 16)

Philosophy of Research (Sep-Dec 16)

ArcGIS Training - Mapping analytics software (April 16)

SPSS Training - Statistical software - (Mar 16)

Nvivo Training - Qualitative analysis software (Mar 16)

Business and organisational development

Reframing Conflict - One day training with Outlandish (2022) 🔗

Tools for the Regenerative Renaissance - 6 week course (Apr-May 21) 🔗

Organization Design Masterclass, Supermarkt Berlin (Oct 20) 🔗

Pamwin Development Modelling Training, M3 (2020)

Accredited Community-led Housing Adviser with Chartered Institute of Housing (2018)

The One Planet Living Framework, Training, Oxford (2017)

Nonviolent Communication: Two-day Foundations Training, Shared Space (2016) 🔊

Sociocracy 3.0 Foundations Course, James Priest (2015)