

# CONSULTATION

## Outdoor Gathering Space at Glascairn



### We'd like to know what you think

An outdoor gathering space has always been a part of our vision for the Culbokie Community Hub alongside the community building and cafe, accessible community housing and business units.

We want to know what you think of our ideas for this outdoor space. Details of how to respond are provided at the end of the document.

Richard Fyfe (CCT Chair) / Penny Edwards (CCT Director)

### Our Idea for the space

CCT envisages a beautiful new 'Garden Square' (working name) in this space where people can gather, socialise, work together, learn, relax and play.

The Garden Square would include interesting textures, materials, shapes and spaces that reflect local culture, creativity and community endeavour. While it is likely that the hard landscaping would be undertaken by contractor, the softer elements would be allocated for community implementation at a more leisurely timescale. This would provide opportunities for many different types of people, of all ages and abilities, to design and build parts of the garden, to recycle and reuse materials for garden construction, to grow and nurture plants and to utilise the products from the garden for culinary purposes, arts and crafts. We would also endeavour to create a link to Glascairn Wood (about 150 m away) which would be considered as a wild extension to the Garden Square for forest-based activities.

Some of the elements of the garden, subject to space and financial constraints, would include:

- Bee friendly borders, shrubs and wildflowers
- Accessible paths and seating in a pleasing arrangement to take advantage of planting and features
- Niches for family friendly games eg outdoor table tennis, hopscotch or hoop-la
- Safe places children can enjoy – maybe a sand pit, tunnels or balancing logs
- A space for community gatherings or outdoor classes with a small covered space for wet weather options and for young people to gather
- A sheltered growing space for salads and herbs for the future café, perhaps a polytunnel, a small community orchard and a willow patch for craft materials
- Design features to enhance educational value for children and adults around land and water management, plants and animals.
- A 'forest trail' leading directly into Glascairn Wood

If the Garden Square implementation ran ahead of the café /community hub proposal there would need to be a simple shelter / facility to support community activity (minimum: toilet, storage and outside tap). This could range from a temporary porta-cabin to a more permanent hut, perhaps using a self-build model.

### **The Area and the Timescale**

Within the next 18 - 24 months it is expected that a new Sustainable Urban Drainage Scheme (SUDS), extending to about half an acre, will be built on the corner between the B1969 and the Glascairn Road. This is basically a basin designed to avoid local flooding. An adjacent area, of a similar size, will be handed over to CCT for the creation of a new outdoor gathering place in the heart of the village. Together these areas amount to a little over half the size of a standard football pitch. Tulloch Homes will be leading this work.

The space is relatively small so it will be important that the SUDS scheme contributes to the visual and functional elements of the community open space.

### **Working Group**

CCT has established a small working group to take forward proposals for the open space. Their remit will be to:

- Research the best approach to the SUDS and agree it with Tulloch Homes
- Consult with and involve the community in the process
- Engage with other project supporters
- Develop a detailed design and funding package

### **How to Respond**

Please tell us what you think of our ideas. We'd particularly welcome comments from individuals and organisations on the following questions:

- What do you think of the overall concept?
- What else would you like to see included or is there anything you don't like?
- Do you have any practical skills that you could offer?
- Would you like to attend a meeting to participate in more detailed planning?

Responses can be sent:

- By email to [info@culbokiect.org](mailto:info@culbokiect.org)
- By post / hand to Penny Edwards, CCT Director, Stoneybank, Culbokie. IV7 8JH
- By text to 07880 507793
- **Comments should be submitted by 5pm on Oct 15<sup>th</sup> 2018**