

NORTH KELVINSIDE GREEN SPACE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

Press Release

CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED FOR A COMMUNITY-RUN GREEN MEADOW SPACE IN THE FORMER CLOUSTON STREET PLAYING FIELDS

Glasgow, 13 October 2008:

A campaign was launched at the weekend by the **North Kelvinside Green Space Community Initiative** to turn the former Clouston Street Playing Fields into a community-run green meadow space.

The launch of the **North Kelvinside Meadow Campaign** follows the out-of-hand rejection by Glasgow City Councillor, Jim McKechnie, of the results of a survey which clearly revealed that local residents support the creation of a green space in the former playing fields.

The former Clouston Street Playing Fields, which constitute the largest piece of vacant land in the West End of Glasgow, are currently earmarked for a new development of 115 flats by Glasgow City Council. However, a survey of local residents conducted in August by Douglas Peacock, chairman of the **North Kelvinside Green Space Initiative**, showed that local residents are overwhelmingly against using the land – **which has never had housing on it** – for another residential development in an already crowded area of the city.

100% of local residents responding to the survey opposed the Council's plan to sell the land to a property developer and supported the North Kelvinside Green Space Initiative's proposal for a mixed-use green space comprising an allotment and community orchard, a wild meadow, and a small wood.

Commenting on Cllr McKechnie's negative response to the survey results, Douglas Peacock said: "This is another example of the Council not listening to the people. The local people have clearly stated that they want to keep this land for community use."

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The land is currently used as a children's play area and for dog walking. This use would be continued and extended under the **North Kelvinside Green Space Initiative's** proposal. The land would also contribute to biodiversity in the city, help preserve Scotland's apple varieties and provide local people with a place to grow their own food.

Speaking at the launch of the **North Kelvinside Meadow Campaign**, Mr Peacock said: "We hear so much about the importance of community and of breathing spaces in the city. This is a unique opportunity to create a community-run green space in the heart of Glasgow."

He added: "We hope that the **North Kelvinside Meadow Campaign** can save this important wild space for the people of Glasgow, who have clearly shown that this is what they want."

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