

NORTH KELVIN MEADOW CAMPAIGN

Press Release

MARYHILL RESIDENTS VOW TO STOP LUXURY HOMES DEVELOPMENT ON NORTH KELVIN MEADOW

Glasgow, 13th May 2012:

Residents in the Maryhill area of Glasgow have launched a campaign to stop a developer building 90 luxury homes on the North Kelvin Meadow, an **award-winning** community green space.

The developer, New City Vision Ltd (NCV), submitted a planning application for a residential development on the North Kelvin Meadow to Glasgow City Council (GCC) on 8 May 2012. The application has not yet been made public, but is believed to concern 90 housing units with an asking price of up to £600k each.

Douglas Peacock, chair of the North Kelvin Meadow Campaign, said: "We will fight this application every step of the way. All the research clearly shows that local residents do not want this development, which will destroy an important community green space resource and create congestion in an area that is already densely populated and where a number of large building developments are currently underway."

A survey conducted by the North Kelvin Meadow Campaign in Dec 2010 revealed that 94% of local residents opposed a residential development on the land, which is on the site of the former Clouston Street playing fields and has never been built on. An online petition to save the Meadow has so far attracted more than 1,260 signatures.

GCC has previously indicated that NCV is its preferred developer for the site. However, the proposed development contravenes GCC policy as set out in City Plan II.

Mr Peacock said: "The Meadow is a designated green space within the West End Conservation area. City Plan II states that new development should be on brown spaces only."

Local residents have also expressed concern about the timing of the application.

Fiona Rintoul, a financial journalist living locally, said: "It's a strange time to build luxury homes in Maryhill. We are in the midst of the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, and it's not yet clear if the new private housing on Queen Margaret Drive will sell."

She added: "These flash pads will be outwith the reach of most local residents. It would make more sense to improve existing local housing, such as the Wyndford estate."

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Notes for editors:

The **North Kelvin Meadow Campaign** was launched on 13 October 2008 to look after the former Clouston Street pitches, which Glasgow City Council had left derelict for more than two decades.

Since its launch, the campaign group has transformed the former pitches into a multi-use community green space comprising allotments, a fruit garden, a wood and a wild meadow. Members of the local community have come together to clear the land of rubbish, repair and paint fences, and install composting facilities and raised-bed allotments. A disused outbuilding formerly strewn with broken bottles and used needles has been restored and turned into a community garden shed. The wood, which contains 480 trees, is used as a learning/play area by local children.

North Kelvin Meadow has won two Your Neighbourhood award from Beautiful Scotland.

More information:

For further information, please visit our web site at www.northkelvinmeadow.com

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