



Knocknagael: a Green Hub for our Community

www.knocknagael.org.uk

Contact: grow@knocknagael.org.uk

Newsletter 2025/2

Community Consultation Update: We have been holding off with our Spring Newsletter as we are now in the final stages of negotiation to complete the Asset Transfer of the Smiddy Field. We hope to be able to share good news with you very soon!

As Des Kelly, one of our Directors updated in the last newsletter we have been working with Iglu Studio of Edinburgh to undertake the detailed design work for the field.



They have worked with us to prepare the detailed site layout. This includes design of the entrance-way, car and bicycle parking areas, design of a central hub with container storage, toilets, community orchard, and associated access pathways.

A key part of this process was the community consultation at the Green Drive Hall on Wednesday 19th February 2025 where we sought feedback from members of the public on the detailed preliminary layout proposals. Comments were taken on board and design changes made, based on public opinion, before submission of the planning application to Highland Council, which we anticipate will be ready soon. We will seek your support for the planning application at the appropriate stage of the process.

Some 60-70 members of the public attended the event and we are extremely grateful for all the engagement and support that we received. Over 95% of those who responded to the survey were highly supportive. Useful feedback was received with many supportive comments confirming the strong support for the project and proposals as below:

So excited - been waiting for it for so long!'

Excellent proposal. Something a growing city requires

Great idea, important to connect with food growing and nature in an urban environment, as well as increasing knowledge and skills and reducing food miles

Well put together and comprehensive.'

Love the idea of having access to this community asset

Great consideration of accessibility, community, active travel, biodiversity and visuals



Coming Soon (we hope!)

Confirmation of the transfer of the Smiddy Field to community ownership. Watch this space!

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