

# A New Sustainable Landscape for Haghill?

Now



The future?



There is currently a large plot of land beside Appin Road, empty except for some weeds and lots of rubbish. Milnbank Housing Association (working with the local community), are keen to turn it into a beautiful and useable park space. A space that can be enjoyed by everyone who wants to.

A planning application has been made to begin the transformation of the land into something similar to the concept above. In short the ground will be transformed from a lifeless, weedy bank that is pretty unusable; to a park space that can be used for the community to grow together and enjoy spending time.

So what exactly is happening? Initially green 'waste' will be deposited in the site in the form of Hugel Trenches. This organic material will enrich the soil, allowing more and more planting to be introduced over time.

There was a very positive and well attended public meeting held on 7th Feb 2015, but we realise that you may have questions about what is going to happen, we have answered a few of them over the page, but if you would like to know more please contact Lorraine McKenna or Cindy Mathie on 0141 551 8131.

**Milnbank**  
HOUSING ASSOCIATION  
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<b>Concerns</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<b><i>What are the alternatives?</i></b>	Nothing really. The area is not suitable for building houses on, as the steep slope and hence the cost it would take to make it viable for a developer is prohibitive.
<b><i>Will the gardens that back on to it be vulnerable?</i></b>	The area directly behind the gardens of the homes in Corsock Street can be further safeguarded by planting specific species that deter people climbing the fences; i.e. thorny or stinging plants. If anything we will improve the security of the fences.
<b><i>Will there be noisy trucks here all the time?</i></b>	Mostly, it will be the Milnbank Estates team of vans that will be at the site dropping off our green waste (grass, hedge cuttings, tree branches), although there may be the very odd occasion when large equipment is needed.
<b><i>How is this going to benefit me? What's in it for me?</i></b>	You can do as much or as little as you would like in the new community garden. Milnbank Housing Association are taking an existing eyesore of a derelict piece of land and turning it into a useful area that people can enjoy spending time in.
<b><i>Is this going to encourage other people to dump rubbish?</i></b>	The fact that there will be people on the site during office hours means that it is less likely to be used for dumping rubbish on than it is right now.
<b><i>Will piles of grass not get blown about all over the place?</i></b>	One of the first things we will do, will be to put in a 'storage area' for green waste deposits; this will include wind breaks. Green waste will then be used as quickly as possible by burying them into the 'Hugel Trenches.'
<b><i>There will be lots of mud, and this will be walked into my house.</i></b>	We are not anticipated any more mess or rubbish than there is at the moment. Part of the proposal is that there will be well defined and maintained pathways throughout the site that will be kept as clean as possible for public access.
<b><i>How long is this going to take?</i></b>	As with all gardens, it will be a work in progress for generations to come—as we improve, define and install new methods whilst tweaking. The specification as shown in the planning application will be mostly finished within 24 months of starting, but we hope that the area will continue to develop with the community.
<b><i>Will the Green Waste be smelly?</i></b>	The grass in the community garden shouldn't smell anymore than grass cut and left in any other garden. Once the green waste is on site, it will be put into Hugel Trenches as quickly as possible where it will be absorbed into the soil; creating lovely, rich compost that is smell free.
<b><i>Can we see an example of this anywhere else?</i></b>	There is not one site in Scotland that has all of the proposed improvements in the same area. There is an amazing community garden in Fife that has a eco Earthship visitors centre; and a great community garden at Lambhill Stables which has been welcomed by the community as a place to meet and volunteer, learning about organic growing.