

# *ERSKINE COMMUNITY ALLOTMENTS SCIO*

is a Registered  
Scottish Charity No. SC052678

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Secretary

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Erskine  
PA8 7JB

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3 January 2024

## **Community Asset Transfer of Erskine Community Allotments and adjoining vacant plot, Barrhill Road, Erskine PA8 6EZ by Erskine Community Allotments SCIO**

### **Response to Representations Received**

I am writing on behalf of the Trustees of Erskine Community Allotments SCIO to respond to the 2 representations that have been received against our application for Community Asset Transfer of the Allotments and adjoining plot of land and have read these carefully and can respond as indicated below:

### **Response to: Representation 231214 #1 (undated)**

#### **1. Expansion of Erskine Community Allotments into the cross hatched area shown on the map E2654B**

##### **(a) The Ground**

ECA were asked through the Growing Grounds Forum of Renfrewshire Council to take on this ground to reduce the number of people in the local area waiting for an allotment. We knew the ground was contaminated and the only way was to install raised starter beds to make any use of the ground without disturbing it.

An options appraisal determined this area as the only suitable space available to increase growing spaces as the field referred to in the objection is under lease to Lamont Farm.

##### **(b) Parking**

To alleviate potential parking issues, Erskine Community Allotments SCIO have included a clause in our annual Allotment Lease/Missives form that states that

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plot holders, with the exception of wheelchair users, can only drop off at the Extension gates but then must park up beyond the main allotments' gates.

It should be noted that not all plot holders use vehicles or visit the allotments at the same time or on the same day. A lot of them work and call in on an evening to tend their plot. On most occasions there are only 3 or 4 people in the allotments at any given time and some actually walk or cycle there to tend their plots. The only day we have a lot of visitors to the allotments is our open day and again the majority of visitors are within walking distance to the allotments.

## **2. Community Asset Transfer of the Allotments**

It is noted that the objector has no actual objections to Erskine Community Allotments acquiring ownership of the existing site but on 3 conditions. Response to these conditions, as follows:

1. The parking issues by the Allotments have been addressed as mentioned above. However, it should be noted that ECA cannot be held responsible for those visiting Lamont Farm on a daily basis.
2. The Trustees cannot agree to erect a fence along the boundary at the back area of the current allotment ground as this is detrimental to our area. A gate was previously installed and permanent access is permitted to the resident for hedge maintenance. Our offer to the Council will include a condition for permanent access and a written guarantee will be provided to the resident on completion. Access will also be guaranteed for the resident to the rear of the proposed extension to enable them to carry out the maintenance of their front hedge as with the hedge at the rear of the property.
3. We confirm that planning permission will be sought if it is required for the work in the Extension and when we are able to fund an education centre within the main allotments in the future

### **Response to: Representation 231214 #2 (dated 14/12/2023)**

#### **Asset Transfer of Vacant Land (Site Plan E2645B) Opposite 9 Barrhill Road, Erskine**

The response below solely addresses issues raised concerning the Asset Transfer of Erskine Community Allotments and the adjoining plot of land.

##### **(a) Transfer of Vacant Land**

This has been covered in our response to Representation 231214 No. 1 (undated) above.

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