

# Applecross Allotment Scheme

## Progress Report

19 September 2018

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### 1. Milestones achieved to date

- Established a working group
  - JP Vorster
  - Kirsten Mackie
  - May MacCuish
  - Elodie Matthews
  - Lynn Turner
- Established a register of interested parties – *see attached spreadsheet*
  - Identified number of plots required – currently 8 (layout to include 4 additional plots for near term expansion)
  - Identified interest in a shared poly tunnel, pallet sized spaces – currently 11
- Created a facebook group for communication
- Mission, Vision and Values
  - Vision - The purpose of organisation
    - To Establish Allotments
    - Administer scheme
    - Future development
  - Mission – *see next steps below*
  - Values – Shared beliefs to how we operate
    - Organic compost and pest control
    - Green energy – hydro scheme
    - Biodiversity – hedges and communal area
    - Cooperative
- Made contact with similar schemes in the Highlands
  - Contacted schemes in
    - Nairn
    - Inverness x 2
    - Ullapool
    - Fort William
  - Conducted a learning visit to Hawthorne Allotments in Inverness
    - Discussed potential for a Highland Allotment Association
      - Shared buying power to facilitate discount
      - Knowledge sharing visits
      - Social occasions
    - Initial superficial discussion around best practices, to be continued
      - Regulations
        - Crop rotation
        - Disused sites to re-allocate
      - Layout

## **2. Next steps**

- Identify site
- Identify any restrictions from landlord
- Establish formal organizational structure
  - Finalize scheme name
  - Register organization
  - Elect committee
  - Elect office bearers
  - Adopt constitution
- Site layout plan
  - To bear in mind potential expansion, both in near term and in future
- Cost initial setup - *see point 2.a. below*
- Running cost
  - Site rental to landlord
  - Operating costs
  - Plot rental cost to members
- Fund raising
  - Determine plot rental fee and what that would include
  - Identify potential funders
  - Write funding proposals
  - Identify other fundraising activities
- Develop rules and regulations based on identified best practices and in line with any restrictions from landlord
- Regular workshops by experts

### **2.a. Initial setup to cost**

- Poly tunnel
- Soil analysis
- 12 plots of 20m x 15m
  - Boundaries
  - Raised beds
  - Drainage
- Perimeter fencing
- Water supply
- Electricity supply
- Shipping container / shed for storage
- Porta-loo / composting toilet
- Communal area
  - Benches
  - Notice board
  - Barbeque area
- Access / Parking
- Cooperative buying
  - Sheds
  - Communal tools
  - Seeds / plants
  - Composting
  - Pest control
  - Learning resources

**2.b. Potential future development**

- Proper toilets
- Additional plots
- Additional poly tunnels
- Soil feeding
- Bee keeping
- Communal area for socializing and potential market days
- Learning visits, workshops by experts
- Market days
- Produce sales

**ENDS.**