



IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD - MARKING SHEET

Name of group: Garthdee Field Allotments Association	Assessment date: 17 .08.17
Name of assessors: Ian and Sandra Maclennan	
Introduction: It is always a joy to visit the Garthdee Field Allotments because there is always a surprise in store. Each time the group has moved forward with another impressive project to enhance their environment.	
Section A - Community Participation (40% or 40 points)	
<p>The group is working towards things such as: (e.g. involving local people, working in partnership, gaining support)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A major asset for the group is 'The Octagon' - a multi-purpose building which is used by volunteers, schools and students. The design is unusual and attractive and the clever shelving may be used as tables or folded down to create seating space. • The Octagon is decorated with informative displays to show how the group meets the criteria of the three pillars of It's Your Neighbourhood and also some of the activities completed by pupils from Kaimhill Primary during their regular visits. • The group has developed an Active Community Engagement Programme and works in partnership with Robert Gordon University Union and the Faculty of Health and Social Care; Macmillan Cancer Support; Kaimhill Primary School and TAMS (The Allotment Market Stalls). • The whole site is maintained to a very high standard and the group is to be congratulated for inspiring the Community Sunday volunteers to commit regularly and achieve such excellent results – (and enjoy the tea and cakes). • The group continues to make funding bids and has been successful in receiving grants from The Climate Challenge Fund, Tesco Bags of Help and Skipton Building Society. 	
Total points assessed for Section A (out of 40)	38
Section B - Environmental Responsibility (30% or 30 points)	
<p>The group is engaged in environmental activities such as: (e.g. conservation, composting, improving green space, reducing litter and dog fouling)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the group's efforts to implement the 2017 'Birds, Bees and Trees' theme, members have carried out tree, bee and bird surveys. They will use the results to increase plant choices to attract and support greater numbers. Six new bird boxes have been installed and nesting preferences will be monitored. • The New Zealand flatworm research study carried out by the University of Aberdeen has been completed. Helpful advice to avoid spreading the worms is given to members 	



and is also available on the group's website.

- The group continues to utilise compost, manure and leaf mould from Aberdeen City Council.
- Two tanks for collecting rainwater have been installed at the Octagon and it is planned to source more.
- A new wheelchair accessible toilet has also been installed to support the University's use of the raised beds.

Total points assessed for Section B (out of 30)

29



Gardening Achievement (30% or 30 points)

The group is employing good gardening practices appropriate to the area, such as: (e.g. good plant choice, creative design, maintenance of plants)

- The regeneration of the annual flower meadow has proved successful and there is a prolific and colourful display which has attracted bees and other insects throughout the summer.
- More daffodil bulbs from Aberdeen City Council were planted in the autumn.
- Kaimhill Primary School plot has been productive and the pupils await their potato crop with anticipation.
- The individual plots contain displays of fruit, vegetables and flowers according to the taste of the owners. Most are maintained to a very high standard and there are examples of creative design and innovative choice. One family has created their own 'back garden' and the children enjoy the space and activities available.

Total points assessed for Section C (out of 30)

29

GRAND TOTAL POINTS ASSESSED

96

LEVEL ACHIEVED

Level 5 - Outstanding

Areas of achievement:

- The drive and effort to keep moving forward to improve Garthdee Field in an innovative and meticulously managed manner.
- The commitment to implement the Active Community Engagement Plan to encourage and welcome the wider community.

Areas for development:

- Continue to review the South Bank area and choice of plant material.
- Consider the possibility of engaging Secondary age young people through school or local groups.

RESULTS

Level	Description	Points
Level 1	Establishing	0-35
Level 2	Improving	36-52
Level 3	Advancing	53-68
Level 4	Thriving	69-85
Level 5	Outstanding	86-100

