

The Great Name and Logo Hunt

You may have noticed a beautiful and original design adorning the front of our first bulletin this is the result of much hard work from the children of Polbeth and West Calder.

Since the start of the Community Garden Project everyone has called it Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden. It is a real mouthful but described what we are aiming for perfectly. We knew that at some point we would need a better name and a logo that people would recognise. That point came at the end of October 2011 and we issued a challenge to the children of Polbeth and West Calder through our local schools, scouts and other children's groups to come up with a name and a logo. We had a great response and some fantastic entries. At the end of November the current management committee for the garden got together and whittled the entries down to eight logos and five names. These were then displayed in the Thistle Coffee Shop in West Calder during December 2011. We were lucky to have the help of Dr Mike Hewitt (West Calder Medical Centre) and Mrs Marion Grindlay (Thistle Coffee Shop) to do the very difficult job of judging as all the logos and names were super. Thanks again to all the participants and our judges.

The winning logo was designed by Julie Baird (Parkhead Primary), second place went to Michaela Humphrey (West Calder High) and in third place was Emma Porter (Parkhead Primary). Kaitlyn Haggarty and Peighton Harris (Polbeth Nursery), Mathew Johnston and Rebecca Boyd (St Mary's Primary) and Calum Cox (West Calder High) all received commendations for their hard work.

In the naming competition there were 5 finalists. Commendations went to Michaela Humphrey and Calum Cox (West Calder High), Cerys Meechan (St Mary's Primary) and Julie Baird (Parkhead Primary). The winner was Chloe Coats (St Mary's Primary) with the name *GARDEN FOR LIFE*.

Thank you again to all entrants and congratulations to both winners who each win a £25 voucher for Dobbies Garden Centre in Uphall. Thank You

Finally many thanks to Joann Buchan for all her support in making our logo come to life through her expertise in graphic design.

Bulletin One – Spring 2012



Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden

Interested?

If you are interested in finding out more you can follow us on **Facebook** (search for Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden) where we have regular updates and lots of photos, or check out our website <http://polbethandwestcaldergarden.weebly.com/>

If reading this has inspired you to become involved, then please come along to our meetings and find out more you can email pwccg@yahoo.co.uk for more information on dates, times and venues.

OPEN CONSULTATION DAY 12th MAY 2012 POLBETH VILLAGE HALL & WEST CALDER COMMUNITY CENTRE – see posters around the villages for more details

Progress

Welcome to the first update of Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden. Since our information stalls at last year's Gala days we have been very busy behind the scenes getting the project off the ground. The purpose of our first bulletin is to let you know some of the activities we have been involved in and what has been happening with the plans for a Community Garden.

We have been meeting every month, either at West Calder Community Centre or at Brewers Fayre, usually on the last Monday of the month. The Group now has 12 committee members and is growing so if you are interested please come along to the next meeting.

We were lucky enough to be chosen by the Scottish Community Foundation for their mentoring programme '**Our Community, Our Future**' last autumn. Our mentors, Rachel, Margaret and Sara, have been helping us develop and strengthen as a group through activities and exercises which have been thought provoking and fun!

A detailed proposal and financial plan for our bid to the Council for the lease of the old 'Polbeth Market Garden', which is our preferred location for the Community garden, is now complete. The Council will be considering the merits of our plan and comparing this to another proposals, before making their final decision. We remain optimistic that our plan will be successful and we will have a lease by early summer and facilitating a full programme of activities to prepare the site.

It is hoped the first activity that will take place will be a detailed survey of the area, which we will carry out with local schools and other youth groups. This will help us to find out what kind of plants, trees, flowers, and wildlife are on the site and how best to preserve these while we develop the Garden.

There are many species of plants which are attractive to wildlife, and humans! We have already unearthed a great example during one of our visits to the site and hope that we can, with the help of the community find and keep many more.



Teasels Growing at the Site

Scottish Agriculture College

We have been lucky to get the chance to work with the Scottish Agricultural College and some of their design students. They have been looking at how we might be able to put some of the great ideas given to us at the Gala Days into action. So far the outline ideas are fantastic, but until we know where the Garden for Life will be we won't be able to finalize the plans. Once we do know what site we will be using they plan to create whole site designs which we intend to display at community consultations before finalising. We look forward to seeing you at these consultations. *We have also received confirmation from Sport relief indicating that a recent application to help bring some of these designs to life has been accepted.*

Litter Pick

There will be a community litter pick on Sunday 13th May at 10am this is being organised by Polbeth Community Council. If you wish to find out more and get involved please contact John on:

johnandpauline@btconnect.com

Local schools are taking part in litter picks in their area during the month of May.