

Minister  
Revd Norman A Smith  
8 Wardie Crescent  
Edinburgh  
EH5 1AG

Mar 2019

Edinburgh City Council

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have been parish minister in Granton for over 15 years now and in that time few organisations I've worked with have had the positive community impact that Granton Community Gardeners have had. From their first approach to use our hall for a community meal to seeing 50 plus people from very diverse backgrounds sitting down every week to cook and eat together, it has been wonderful to see how the community has embraced what they are attempting.

We are aware their current land usage is very tentative with the Council having an option to recall the land and effectively turf them out. This would be such a loss to our community.

That is why we wish to support their application for community ownership of the land. The security that offers would allow them to develop long term plans both in terms of fundraising support and usage. It would give the community a real boost as it would officially recognise their positive contribution to a very deprived community.

The current arrangement does not do this so is not preferable in the mid to long range.

Please show your confidence in our community by allowing this to happen and supporting a very able local organisation who have a track record for really helping people in Granton and beyond.

Reverend Norman A Smith  
Granton Parish Church

