

## **Annex 13**

### 9.1

#### **Introduction**

The map supplied in section 8.2 (Annex 10) shows that there is no immediate green space of this nature in close proximity to Woollcombe Square. The previous playing field to the south of Woollcombe Square has already been built upon with housing.

This area used to be played on by children of all ages in the area. They have been unable to do this since the fencing was erected and the area allowed to become overgrown. There is a clear community need for this land to be better managed and utilised for the many who live in the area and not for the land bank of a private owner. The public interest is quite clear – A Residents Associations wish to purchase the land to enable the community to benefit from it. The current owners have no desire to use the land and have made no effort to manage the land throughout their ownership.

#### **Social, Environmental & Economic Advantages of Community Ownership**

##### 1) Social Benefits

The association would regenerate an area that has been neglected and would bring it back for both residential and community use, at a time when the green spaces within Scone are under considerable pressure. There are currently over 150 housing units – houses and flats – being constructed in Scone, with no provision of any green open spaces. There is further provision within Perth and Kinross Council's Local Development Plan for a further 700-800 houses, again with little provision for green open spaces. Whilst the area in question is not large, it will provide an area of potential usage by many members of the community.

A green open space with seating will provide an area of calm and tranquillity for the physical and mental well-being of both residents of the square and members of the wider community. The space will provide the means to improve the physical and mental well being of local residents and the wider community of Scone and will provide volunteering opportunities for residents and others throughout the year.

##### 2) Environmental Benefits

The Association will ensure that the trees receive the professional work they require and will ensure that the area becomes a wildlife haven in line with the Scottish Governments Biodiversity Strategy and Pollinator Strategy. This will include getting professional advice on what the best planting would be for the area.

##### 3) Economic benefits

The Association is small and the planned purchase and investment are relatively small amounts. However, the active management of the land will provide some local employment and will ensure that the benefits of the site are for all in the area not just for one owner.