
Poets' Neuk: Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016, Part 5 CRTB Application

Proposals for the Land (Reference Section 7.1)

The intention of the community body is to develop the site as a poetry garden featuring, on permanent plaques, an interpretation of its history as the location of the chapel of the medieval Franciscan (Greyfriars) Monastery, as well as poetry by and about Mary Queen of Scots whose association with the town is well documented. A plaque in the garden will refer to a historical document, the disposition made by Mary Stuart in 1567, which in the circumstances of the time, gifted the Greyfriars Monastery and other church lands to the St Andrews community.

The garden will be accessible to the public. Efforts will be made to make provision for disabled people including those visually impaired and will feature:

- Lowering the boundary wall on the St Mary's Place elevation to make it visible
- A path connecting the two entrances, on St Mary's Street and Greyfriars Garden
- Planting of shrubs, hedges, and roses in cultivation in Mary Stuart's time
- Seating located on the perimeter
- A landscaped central area
- An interpretive board providing an illustration of the Chapel which once stood there.
- Permanent plaques, featuring extracts from poems by and about Mary Queen of Scots, and the Geddy medieval map of the town an extract of which is provided as **[Document 9]**
- In the second phase of the project, when funds have been raised, a statue of Mary Stuart.

The garden will be made available for poetry readings and other events.

The Planning Authority's Planning Permission Notice is provided as **[Document 7]**.

Copies of the approved plans for the site are provided as **[Documents 8]**.

The Planning Authority's Planning Report of Handling is provided as **[Document 14]**

A visualisation of the completed garden is provided as **[Document 15]**.

The poetry garden has been designed by internationally renowned architect, Dr Robert Steedman, and extant planning permission for the garden includes the possibility in the future of erecting what would be one of the few publicly accessible statues in Scotland of Mary Queen of Scots. It is considered that this project when realised will provide a quiet green space in the busy centre of St Andrews and also a visitor attraction for domestic and international visitors.