

A reminder that CAN's first Annual General Meeting of members will be held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm in Moffat Town Hall (Enter by side door).

This will be a chance to hear details about our development over the last year, ask questions, suggest events you would like us to organise, and agree next year's Board of Directors, as well as a social occasion for all members.

## Newsletter 5

## The Garden

After very frustrating delays with various Council departments, work finally got underway creating the garden at the end of May. In just three weeks of hard toil we managed to make the site ready for the allotment holders. Some 30 people gathered for chat, drinks and hard work; the last gardener stopped work at 10.30pm that night, and the first started the next morning at 7.30am!

The raised beds took a little longer to build and fill with soil and compost, but now, two months on the site is transformed.

Twenty-seven households now have a raised bed or allotment on site.



**Before (mid May)**



**After (early July)**

## Garden Sales

We are researching different potential ways of selling our own produce from the garden, in order to maximise the long-term economic sustainability of the garden.

Starting with salad leaves and vegetables, freshly picked each morning, our range will widen as the season progresses.



**Fresh Veg!**

**If you have received this on a paper copy, it means we don't have an e-mail address for you. If you have an e-mail address please send it to us so we can save postage and carbon in future.**

## Recycling

The recycling collections started in mid-April, coinciding, as planned, with the end of the Council's doorstep collections. Organising a weekly collection from 8,000 households is a large logistical exercise, and the delays in getting into the building made the early weeks very difficult, but we are glad things now seem to be going smoothly – though with apologies to anyone whose bin has been missed while the lads get used to the routes. We're currently recycling around 3.5 tonnes a week.

We're now selling animal bedding at the CAN shop shredded in Galloway from our recycled newspaper collections – horses and rabbits love it! Ask us for details.

We've received lots of positive responses and thanks from members of the public for providing this service – it's really popular!



## Training and Jobs

All of this progress has been made possible by the team of workers we've recruited through the Future Jobs Fund. We have a fantastic team who have consistently worked hard for the project.

The Future Jobs Fund was set up to help long-term unemployed and young people. Through this scheme CAN has been able to offer jobs and training; eight people took an Emergency First Aid at Work course, three have passed their forklift truck competency test, and two have gained their CSCS Building Skills certificate.

Moffat CAN's FJF programme was selected for inclusion in the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations' report on the benefits of the Fund, which has made CAN the leading community regeneration project in the area.

## Building Work

Building work continues on the site. So far we have been concentrating on repairs to the church to make it wind and watertight. We've had the roofs and guttering repaired, stabilised the chimney, and repaired and repainted windows. We've also repainted the allotments shed, put a new door into it and replaced the guttering.

We have just received Building Warrant permission for the work of turning the annexe into an office, kitchen and accessible toilet, so we have now cleared this out, and work will start on that shortly.

We've had our ground source heat pipes laid, for our renewable heating supply, and hope to have the solar PV panels fitted to the roof by the time you receive this.

**Many thanks for reading about our progress - we will be in touch again soon with our latest news.**