

Dunblane Development Trust

Press Release

12 September 2011

Project plans for a major new garden in the heart of Dunblane have been unveiled by Dunblane Development Trust. The War Memorial in the Haugh, the park just below the Cathedral, will be at the centre of the new designed space. The project has been developed over the last few months in close association with the Royal British Legion Scotland Dunblane and Stirling Council.

Janice Stewart, the Chair of DDT's Environment Group explained: "This time last year we began thinking about how to make the Haugh an attractive destination for the people of Dunblane and our visitors, rather than an area used only by dog walkers and those passing through. We took soundings from the community and from the Dunblane schools eco-groups and the consensus was that a formal garden should be established around the cenotaph, enclosed by hedging, whilst the areas to the north and south of it should remain informal.

The project remained a gleam in the eye until the Royal British Legion Scotland Dunblane, having completed repair work to the War Memorial, asked DDT to come up with ideas for a garden. We then produced a design which the Royal British Legion Scotland Dunblane quickly approved. The project received a major boost in the middle of the summer when Stirling Council's Land Services offered to fund and install the beech hedging which will form the perimeter of the new garden."

The illustration shows a bird's eye view of the new garden with the War Memorial at its centre.

Monica Cessford, designer of the garden, added: "The garden is intended to be a peaceful place for contemplation and remembrance. The planting plan is made up of colourful shrubs and perennial flowers suggested by the Royal Horticultural Society's 'Perfect for Pollinators' plant list. This will provide food for bees and other insects which we hope will attract small birds to return to the park. There will still be plenty of room for those attending the annual Remembrance Service to assemble on the grass."

DDT's plans for the War Memorial will be on view at the Braeport Centre on Tuesday 20th September from 3pm to 7pm. 'We hope lots of people will come along to give us their views' said Monica.

Ends

Contacts

Monica Cessford 822752

Janice Stewart 824993

