

The Richmond Allotments are in Rutherglen, South Lanarkshire and they run alongside the Railway line Glasgow to the South, they are situated in Richmond Court. There are 17 in total and each one measures 30yds.x 10yds. South Lanarkshire Council own the land and re allocate them when they become vacant. To my knowledge the Allotments have been there over 50 years, and as the ground changed ownership, under the various control of British Rail, Burgh of Rutherglen, Glasgow City Council and finally due to another change in the Boundary- South Lanarkshire.

Until we came under the control of South Lanarkshire the site had become an eyesore. The Plottolders were not organized, no Constitution, no Committee and of course no Funds, some of them decided enough was enough.

At the end of 1999 an approach was made to South Lanarkshire and with their help a Constitution was raised, the Plottolders formed a Committee and due to this we began to move forward. The Council assisted us in getting rid of 50 years of rubbish (which was considerable). However a lot was still to be done. Although each Plottolder contributed £5.00 at every Quarterly meeting our funds would never cover any improvements so the idea of finding out about a Grant sprang to mind. In 2001 an approach was made again to South Lanarkshire with costs etc. to cover laying in a water supply and paths with the manual work being done by the Committee. The application was successful and our request for a Grant of £760 was accepted. As these Grants can be requested every year we are in the process of costing other improvements and shall apply once more this year.

In the short time we have been up and running a lot of hard work has been done by ourselves and with the assistance of South Lanarkshire (who inspect the site on a regular basis) an eyesore has been changed to an area that looks very good.

Jessie Clark
Richmond Allotments