

Dear Mr Suzic,

We understand that the freeholder of Myddelton Square Gardens has suggested that a charge could be introduced for access to the Gardens – in effect that the Gardens could be privatised. Although we have not seen the detail of the proposal, the very idea in our view is not only highly undesirable but totally unworkable and unrealistic: we strongly oppose it. Myddelton Square Gardens were (as we understand it) laid out in the 19th Century and have been used and valued by the local community ever since as a public garden for all to use free of charge. It is rather a mystery to us how the Gardens can ever have been permitted to fall into the hands of a private landlord, but we are confident that if the freeholder ever attempted to try to impose a charge for access (even assuming that this were lawful, as to which we make no comment) the local community would boycott the Gardens and go elsewhere.

I should add that to our knowledge the freeholder has never conducted any consultation of local residents to gauge whether there is demand for a private, paid-access garden in Myddelton Square. As far as we know, there is no such demand.

Yours sincerely,

Anna and Tom Richards