

## Parallel Activity

### Ardoyne Youth Club and Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership

The Ardoyne Youth Club application originated as an element of the Princes Trust scheme then taking place at St Gabriels College. The young people involved surveyed friends and local shoppers to nominate the worst eyesores in the local area and the interface on Alliance Avenue/Berwick Road merited frequent mention. With input from local residents, the young people designed a layout that would make the derelict site usable and accessible.

Under the Parallel Activity programme Urban II awarded the project almost £50,000 to enable the young people to realise their designs for the interface. With this grant money, the site has been completely transformed from an area of waste ground into a well-designed urban park.

The Parallel project for the Alliance Avenue/Berwick Road Community Interface Garden is the Wheatfield Community Garden. Although work on the site at the junction of Glenbryn Gardens and Alliance Avenue has not yet begun, the Wheatfield garden will include design and project ideas that could be developed as part of the school curriculum. It is also envisaged that the local community, in particular senior citizens and young people will be involved in the design and running of the project. In addition to the physical activities in the two areas, residents from both areas participated in a number of study visits to other parts of Belfast to explore models of good practice in cross community initiatives.

Both these community garden projects will be a visible demonstration of community action on the ground and provide tangible evidence of a high degree of positive energy within their respective communities.

These projects will help to build community relations not only between the young people of the area and other residents, but also, we hope, with their counterparts on the other side of the Parallel Activity.



**Before and After Photos of Ardoyne Community Garden**