

AGENDA ITEM 6

APPENDIX 2

2020/0097/DET

**REPRESENTATIONS
OBJECTIONS**

Comments for Planning Application 2020/0097/DET

Application Summary

Application Number: 2020/0097/DET

Address: Cairngorm Mountain Glenmore Aviemore Highland PH22 1RB

Proposal: Installation of car park barriers

Case Officer: Robbie Calvert

Customer Details

Name: Mrs Jude Smith

Address: 8 Stobhill Crescent Ayr

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Member of Public

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: I think the idea of a barrier system is an ill-thought out plan. Cairngorm need to be rebuilding customer base and a barrier system will have the opposite effect especially if the reasons for installing it are to introduce compulsory charging! The practicalities have also not been thought through especially in the winter months when there is an influx of skiers - any barrier system will not be able to cope with the volume of cars going up to ski. Also you already charge a lot for ski passes! If people are simply going walking why should they have to pay for parking? Perhaps once again Cairngorm need to look at the successful ski centres in Scotland and realise that none of them charge for parking. This plan needs to be shelved. On another note - to have this barrier solar powered is farcical in Scotland - there are too many days throughout the year when there will not be enough solar power generated to operate this barrier system!



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Objection to planning application 2020/0097/DET
Installation of Car Park Barriers, Cairngorm

This objection is made on behalf of the members of the Cairngorms Campaign.

There is no information on the actual location of the barriers and their physical relationship with one another and no indication of how they are to be used: –

Will they be in operation all year round? If so what is their reliability in winter conditions. What happens if they fail and a winter storm comes in with people still in the car park? Will they be charging skiers for parking and if so why not incorporate it into the lift passes? How will the volume of skiers be managed? Is it for summer only? If so, why and will it deter visitors? Is it to limit visitor numbers or motor homes?

Without such information how can the CNPA assess whether the scheme will work and any economic benefit to the area?

The covering letter states that the supporting statement explains how the planning applications being and to be submitted on Cairngorm relate to one another, but all the supporting statement does is list the applications. There isn't any information on how they relate to one another.

What is going on with Cairngorm Mountain (Scotland) Ltd (CML) on Cairngorm? The last application for funicular repairs didn't even include the area affected by the application and this one is also missing information and being a simple one it isn't difficult to include this.

It appears that the Cairngorm National Park Authority and the interested public are being treated with a total lack of respect for their views. Therefore we assume it is either incompetence by CML/Highlands and Islands Enterprise or they are so confident of getting planning applications approved they are not bothering to put any effort in. Either way, this standard in content and detail for an application isn't acceptable and we request that the CNPA not only refuse it but also provide some guidance and training to CML on how an application should be put together and the standards to be met.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment

Susan Matthews

Convenor, Cairngorms Campaign

11th May 2020

BSCG
info

From: BSCG info
Sent: 12 May 2020 22:11:00 +0100
To: Planning
Subject: 2020/0097/DET BSCG Comments

Badenoch & Strathspey Conservation Group

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Email info@bscg.org.uk

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CNPA
planning@ Cairngorms.co.uk

12 May 2020

Dear Robbie Calvert

2020/0097/DET | Installation of car park barriers | Cairngorm Mountain Glenmore
Aviemore Highland PH22 1RB

BSCG wishes to object to this planning application and we request the opportunity to address the planning committee when this application is determined if this is possible in terms of covid-19 requirements.

The applicant's assertion that their multiple proposals are coordinated is unconvincing and is not supported with evidence. There is no explanation in the applicant's supporting statement as to why no Masterplan has been provided. We consider that the disappointing lack of a Masterplan is unacceptable, especially given the problematic planning history, sensitivity and strategic importance of this site. The omission of a Masterplan has prevented proper public engagement at this key site, that has numerous stakeholders spanning a wide range of interests.

It is premature to determine this application. CMSL has lodged it before even the results of the public consultation on a Master Plan have been made public, far less any Master Plan having been produced by HIE.

In its Working Principles for CairnGorm Mountain, approved by the Board only a little over a year ago, the CNPA has given the impression to the public that development up the hill will not go ahead until a Master Plan is in place (“B. Any proposals should be part of a masterplan for the ski area as per the proposed new Local Development Plan”). It is unclear why the CNPA does not appear to be upholding this undertaking. It is also unclear why the CNPA could not have advised the applicant that this application is premature.

The information provided is inadequate. For example, there is no indication of what the purposes of the barriers are intended to be and the uses to which they are to be put; whether the barriers will be in use all year or only seasonally; what contribution the proposed solar power is anticipated to make to energy use.

The covering letter does not provide any additional information relevant to the specific application in terms of the context (all the text is a direct repetition of what is in the supporting statement), even though the supporting statement claims that this will be provided.

The present time of extreme uncertainty over what the future may hold, due to Covid-19, provides a uniquely uncertain context for this application. This is an important car park in terms of recreation, tourism, visitors and residents, businesses, and so on. To commit such an important car park to a future pathway given such uncertainty about the future is premature. There is no sound basis for assessing the appropriateness of barriers, whatever their uses are intended to be, when we do not know what new shape tourism, recreation, transport and so on up the hill will need to take in the post-pandemic context.

Yours sincerely

Gus Jones

Convener