

AGENDA ITEM 5

APPENDIX 3A

2019/0247/DET

REPRESENTATIONS - SUPPORT



Planning Application - 2019/0247/DET Statement of Support

Badenoch and Strathspey Schools Snowsports Association are a local charity whom work in partnership with Cairngorm Mountain, local snowsports schools, DSUK and the 8 local primary schools in the valley to provide a 4 week block of skiing or snowboarding to in the region of 150-200 senior primary pupils each year.

The association are in support of the above planning application as we believe this could enhance the continuations of the local schools snowsports programme as well as enhance snowsports opportunities for all on cairngorm.

Last season was a challenging one for everyone involved in the snowsports industry with such changeable weather conditions and the loss of the funicular railway the opportunity to participate in snowsports was hindered. Fortunately for BSSA we were able to run 1 day of lessons for each of the 8 local primary schools. The weather was poor for the first week of the programme so lessons were delayed, by week 2 there had been fresh snow which held up at the beginning of the week to offer a fantastic day of lessons. Weather was then to get warm so with the use of the new snowmaking machines and a great effort from all the snowsports school and mountain staff they were able to make a beginners area and patched up as best they could the bottom slopes therefore allowing us to offer lessons to all pupils by the end of the week.

We believe that is a good example of how improving snowsports facilities at the bottom of the mountain can allow for more regular access for local children to experience Cairngorm mountain and what it has to offer which in turn provides pupils with the opportunity to experience the environment, sport, tourism, wildlife, industry and for some future employment opportunities.

Without these facilities our programme would only have been able to provide 1 day of lessons for 2 out of 8 of the local schools. We would be in support of any provisions on Cairngorm that would increase the likelihood of snowsports opportunities.

Kerrie Dickson

Chair

Badenoch & Strathspey Schools Snowsports Association

Comments for Planning Application 2019/0247/DET

Application Summary

Application Number: 2019/0247/DET

Address: Cairngorm Mountain Glenmore Aviemore Highland PH22 1RB

Proposal: Engineering works to smooth and re-grade land

Case Officer: Stephanie Wade

Customer Details

Name: Mr keith taylor

Address: caladesi insh kingussie

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Member of Public

Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: Cairngorm Mountain Trust supports the planning application.

I have had an onsite visit and Jim Cornfoot (CMSL Land Manager) explained in detail the proposed works.

The works are within the ski area and in an already well-developed area of ski runs. The works are on a small percentage of the ski area. The proposed works would ensure the best use of the snow making equipment currently on Cairngorm.

Having this area close to the Daylodge and carpark is a big advantage for novices, the ski schools, school groups and other snowsport enthusiasts. Having a better novice area will promote economic sustainability and employment throughout Badenoch and Strathspey.

For the novice the advantage of having a graded slope close to Ski Hire, Toilets, and Catering outlets is significant. It would bring their experience closer in line with other Scottish ski areas. For school groups and those sticking to an external (school bus) timetable. The ability to arrive at Cairngorm and getting straight onto improved beginner slopes means that they can maximise their time on snow.

For the more advanced skiers and boarder who would not generally use this prepared area it means that those still mastering the basic skills are not using the main pistes or attempting to ride ski lifts beyond their abilities. For skilled freestyle skiers and boarders, the more efficient use of snow making would enable features and jumps to be created.

When completed the ground works will extend the number of available snowsport days, this in turn will increase the commercial viability and sustainability of those business that rely on Cairngorm

Mountain. Looking at other Scottish ski areas (where ground works have already taken place) it is noticeable that it need less snow, either man made or natural to get snowsports operational.

For the above reasons - The Cairngorm Mountain Trust supports the application

Keith Taylor

Chair

Cairngorm Mountain Trust



PLANNING APPLICATION 2019/0247/DET - STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

Cairngorm Ski Club is a registered charity that has been providing performance ski coaching to young people, aged 8-18, on Cairngorm Mountain for over 40 years. Our mission is to increase participation in snowsports and we boast a number of Olympians as past members.

Skiing and snowsports is a significant part of the cultural heritage of the area and have played a significant role in the development of Aviemore. Over the past 5 years, the ski club has had as many as 100 young people involved in a 10-week winter ski programme. This number significantly reduced last year as a result of poor weather and operational challenges on Cairngorm.

The work subject to this application will enhance the ability of Cairngorm Mountain (Scotland) Limited to provide a ski area both using artificial snow (from the snow factory and snow cannons) and natural snow.

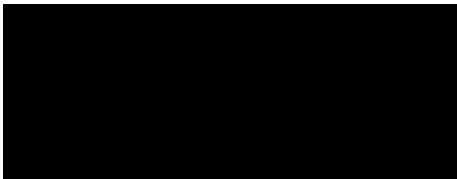
This will significantly help the ski club in the following ways:-

- It will enable/guarantee early season ski, race and freestyle, coaching on snow when the Club would otherwise need to use local artificial ski slopes or undertake non-ski training.
- It will offer full season facilities for freestyle ski training
- It will enable the club to offer on-snow training as part of our 10-week schools ski programme which offers on curricular ski coaching to young people from Kingussie High School and Grantown Grammar school. Significantly increasing participation. This programme was cancelled early last year, this would not have been the case had there been artificial snow provision.
- It will enable the club to continue to build participation.
- It will enable the club to sustain a programme which provides guaranteed employment for 6-10 qualified ski coaches.
- It will help ski schools to continue to provide beginner lessons throughout the season acting as a feeder for local children to Cairngorm and other ski and snowboard clubs increasing sports participation.
- When snow conditions are good it will enable better management of those developing their skiing and snowboarding and in turn ensure capacity on other uplift is maximised and ski coaching opportunities are maximised.

We believe that this work will support both the charitable objectives of Cairngorm Ski Club and the aims of the National Park in respect of:



- Preserving the cultural heritage of the area
- Promoting sustainable use of the natural resources of the area
- Promoting understanding and enjoyment (including in the form of recreation)
- Promoting sustainable economic development.



Chair,
Cairngorm Ski Club



Cairngorm Ski Club is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Charity number SC047401

Comments for Planning Application 2019/0247/DET

Application Summary

Application Number: 2019/0247/DET

Address: Cairngorm Mountain Glenmore Aviemore Highland PH22 1RB

Proposal: Engineering works to smooth and re-grade land

Case Officer: Stephanie Wade

Customer Details

Name: Mr Colin McFarlane

Address: 18 Viewfield Road Edinburgh

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Member of Public

Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: Any future masterplan for Cairngorm Mountain will include lift served wintersports. I believe this to be self-evident.

Changes to the working at height regulations are already in statute and regardless of how long the car park T-Bar remains in service they must be complied with. The proposed ground works at the current Car Park T-Bar loading area are a sensible solution.

Whilst the choice of uplift has still to be determined, neither option (aerial or surface) would influence the proposed ground works as these relate solely to the quality and delivery of skiing on the piste and not uplift.

The works as proposed will enhance an area for beginners skiing. This helps CMSL and other ski schools in delivering lessons and improves participation.

I believe that the application should be supported.



Planning Application 2019/0247/DET

Address Cairngorm Mountain, Glenmore, Highland PH22 1RB

Proposed engineering works to smooth and re-grade lower slopes

Case officer Stephanie Wade

I am Writing in response to the above proposal.

I am the Owner, Director of Free-Ski. A Snowsports School offering lessons on Cairngorm Mountain, Based in Aviemore and operating for 7 seasons.

The proposed works are a major, Positive step forward. I whole heartedly support the Proposal.

From a Ski Schools point of view it will greatly enhance the area that we are able to teach on.

With the grading and landscaping it will allow the teaching experience and outcome of clients to be a far more positive and enjoyable one. The existing terrain provides a challenge and this new

Area will allow safer, Wider slope angles making the learning outcomes greater. As a Ski School, we teach a great number of School children. On some days we may well have up to 80 out. They need suitable terrain to learn in, the proposal will help this.

The proposal will allow a greater number of Instructors work and employment. In busy periods, we could have 40 Instructors working.

This surely is a big step forward. The local area thrives on working and supporting each other. If we can develop this, it will massively improve the workable teaching and skiing area. It will boost visitor numbers, give greater employment and lift the local feeling which recently has been far too negative.

Kind regards

Jerry Craig,

Owner, Ski School Director

FREE-SKI