

# AGENDA ITEM 5

## APPENDIX 1b

2015/0214/DET

# REPRESENTATION SUPPORT



CNPA Planning  
The Square  
Grantown-on-Spey

17 July 2015

**Application No 2015/0214/DET**

Grantown Initiative is most supportive of the Application 2015/0214/DET for the formation of a Heritage Centre at Land East of Riverholm, PH26 3NJ.

Grantown Initiative (GI) is the local development company for the Post Code Area – PH26 3, which takes in Grantown as well as Cromdale. As such, GI is a community company – endorsed by Grantown Community Council as well as Grantown Business Association.

Being a development company, we obviously welcome development – but are always careful to ensure that the enormous qualities of the National Park are not put at risk by wrong or inappropriate developments. In this case, GI sees the Park being enhanced by a Heritage Centre on this site.

The location, on the A95 (T), is a fine one – as the road between Aberlour and Aviemore is very deficient in good stops for visitors. Any road safety issues can easily be worked through by sensible planning. Not only is it a good stop – but it will also be a fascinating stop for visitors, enhancing their experience in the area.

The recently-finalised Development Plan for Grantown states that “development should meet the needs of the local and wider communities and visitors .... in a way which complements Grantown and enhances its role as a tourism centre”. GI considers that the Heritage Centre will amply fulfil that component – especially as it will admirably complement the Railway Heritage being brought to Grantown by the extension of the Strathspey Steam Railway on the other Beeching-cut railway line. This, as you know, is the first-stated focus of the Development Plan, as the CNPA sees that as “essential to fulfil Grantown’s role”.

GI will be most glad if the CNPA, as planning authority, takes this submission into account.

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Company Secretary

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