

Blair Atholl and Killiecrankie
Thursday 6 October 2011, 7pm
Blair Atholl Village Hall

Main points from the National Parks Outcomes
(Main bullet points taken from the discussion)

Outcome 6

The economy of the Park will have grown and diversified drawing on the Park's special qualities.

- Working relationship with Visit Scotland. Important to develop a closer relationship with the Cairngorms Business Partnership, would like to have a meeting set up with the Partnership.
- Promote Highland Perthshire as a new area included in the Park
- Long distance paths should be used to link various parts of the Park.
- Needs to be more evidence of the Park brand in the area.
- Needs to be a better understanding of what the Park is and what it represents: scale, objectives etc. It is not a theme Park.
- People need to understand what the logo means.
- Need to look at broadening the local economy (more than tourism) so that there are better paid jobs for the whole year.
- Look at examples from other National Parks around the world.
- Forestry is an important resource that can benefit the local economy.
- Developing IT technology, eg broadband masts at the expense of the landscape (survey currently being undertaken by the Highland Perthshire Partnership - Contact Heartland Radio). CNPA to make contact to avoid duplication of effort.
- Hydro schemes having an impact on water flows (River Garry)
- Jobs rely on workers who need affordable housing.

Outcome 9

The Park's communities will be more empowered and able to develop their own models of sustainability.

- Concern about affordable housing applications that come in while we get the new plan adopted.
- LEADER confusion about which one Blair Atholl apply to.
- Request made for the CNPA Housing Officer to come and talk through options to meet local need.
- Low wages in the area – need for better jobs/diversification of the local economy.
- Transport links could be better.
- Need to keep the economy going/jobs going during the winter.
- Impact of a few large land owners.

Main points from the Local Development Plan (Main Issues Report) (Main bullet points taken from the discussion)

Option 5

Spatial Strategy – *Allow the right level of new development in communities that suits their needs and builds on what they already have.*

- The economy should be more explicit in the options in the Local Development Plan (Main Issues Report).
- Planning does not have a good reputation in the area. The system seems to pick up small planning details but allows big, unpopular developments through.
- The role of the CNPA in planning matters needs to be clarified in Highland Perthshire, people are confused.
- There is concern that landowners are specifying which sites will be developed for housing, whether the community agree with it or not.
- Issues around flooding on proposed sites.
- Need more housing in the area, want development to be more sympathetic to the rest of the village especially as it is now in the National Park.
- National Park Authority should support growing communities need children, jobs and places to live to have thriving communities.
- Need for supported housing for older people (falls under affordable housing).
- Local school (primary) is vulnerable.
- Concerns about building new housing as there is not the local infrastructure: sewage, next to the railway, traffic congestion.
- Need to look at alternative sites for development: ie Lude Drive/Old Bridge of Tilt, on the road to Bruar.
- There will be a chance to discuss alternative sites in more detail at the Community Council meetings: Blair Atholl, 18 October and Killiecrankie, 17 October.
- There are also developments happening in Killiecrankie.
- There is a need to make the approach to Blair Atholl more attractive – landscaping.
- **Way to influence is to engage with the Local Development Plan consultation** (online at Cairngorms National Park website www.cairngorms.co.uk, in writing, hard copies of the plans are at service points/libraries and post office and by e-mail. Important to put comments in writing.)
- Speed limit through the village needs to be reinforced.