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**From:** [Moira Deveci](#)

**Sent:** Wed, 19 Sep 2018 21:56:53

**To:** Planning

**Subject:** Aviemore:Spaven Drive, Proposed Change of Designation of Land

**Sensitivity:** Normal

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To whom it may concern,

We are writing to express our absolute opposition to the proposed change to the designation of the Open Land at Spaven Drive, Aviemore to that of Community Land.

- This land is well used by locals and tourists alike as a recreation area. Particularly during the evenings and school holidays, many children and adults use this space for sporting and leisure activities.
- Many houses and flats on this development are for holiday use, either rental or second home. As tourism is so vital for the local economy, then such spaces need to be preserved for local amenity.
- There is very limited open space in the village of Aviemore for leisure activities. Where else can children kick a ball around at a moment's notice? The pitches at the school need to be booked and are often unavailable to locals as the space is rented out to non-local groups. They also close early on a Sunday just at a time when children are free of school and could benefit from the freedom of play in an open space.
- I do not understand why a National Park Authority should be open to the loss of open land within a housing development. This change of designation will only open the way to the building of yet more flats and houses, by the usual money-grabbing developers. Surely they have enough sites in the village already and the proposed development of an entirely new village just across the river provides adequate housing provision for locals provided sales are managed properly.
- Any suggestion that the Aviemore Community Enterprise Company will build a Community Centre is pie in the sky. Who would pay for, maintain, run and staff such a facility? Surely not cash strapped Highland Council!! The reclassification request is purely to open the way for development.
- There is already a very new community facility within half a mile of this proposed Centre, well used and providing all the facilities required locally.
- Each owner of properties in the Lochan Mor development paid £500 towards keeping this land free of development. While I appreciate that Highland Council has adopted and maintains this land, I do not comprehend that the Council can now sell this land on.

To conclude, we would hope that the Cairngorms National Park Authority will do the right thing and refuse to allow this excellent facility to be sold on for development, for that is what this proposed reclassification is all about. Surely some more environmentally friendly solutions could be suggested if Highland Council really feels that it can no longer maintain this land.

- A community garden cared for by local volunteers
- A wild flower garden
- Sporting facilities - a bike track for example.
- Allotments

Would this not be more in keeping with the aims of a National Park Authority?

We would appreciate acknowledgement of the receipt of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Moira Deveci and Donnie Ross

