

Customer Details

Name: Mr James Fraser

Address: Friends of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Carrochan
Balloch

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of Public

Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Planning Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments: On behalf of the Friends of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs I am writing to confirm our support for the erection of a 22 bedroom extension at the rear of Woodbank Inn.

In policy terms this planned expansion is a 'good fit' with the wider plans to strengthen the tourist accommodation stock in Balloch as part turning the village into a more significant overnight stay resort destination as opposed to a predominantly short stay day trip place to visit.

There is still a shortage of medium priced tourist accommodation in Balloch and this proposed development will meet a market need in the centre of the village with spin off benefits for the struggling ground floor restaurant and nearby businesses.

The planned development will greatly increase the viability and the sustainability of the Woodbank Hotel and Restaurant and is well located for meeting the needs of travellers arriving by public transport (train and bus).

We note some reservations have been expressed about the availability of on site parking but, given this is in effect a town centre/village centre business within close proximity to the train station and with a bus stop outside its frontage, we consider the parking standards should be relaxed in this instance.

If the NPA is minded to adopt the Road Department's suggestion of a significant financial contribution from the developer to car parking elsewhere we would seek a reassurance that this will be spent providing parking close to the centre of the village.

We accept there are constraints in developing the site and the reasons why there is not more of a pitched roof on the extension. However, the extension will be largely unseen by passers-by so some of our reservations on the

design are perhaps not so critical in this instance.

In conclusion, the addition of an extra 20 bedrooms in the centre of Balloch is to be welcomed.

James Fraser
Chairman
Friends of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs