



Planning application: 2019/0252/DET

Submitted 13/01/19

Application Summary

Address: Land Adjacent And To West Of Balmaha House
Balmaha Stirling

Proposal: Change in the use of vacant land to car park (70 spaces) including engineering works and installation of boundary fence (retrospective)

Case Officer: Vivien Emery

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Customer Details

Name: Mr James Fraser

Email: jamesbfraser@aol.com

Address: Carrochan Carrochan, Carrochan Road, Balloch

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Organisation/body

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, the independent conservation charity for the National Park, I am writing to confirm our strong support for the much needed additional car parking that will be provided if this planning application is approved.

We are aware of the acute car parking problems on East Loch Lomondside, and in Balmaha in particular, as a result of a dramatic reduction of formal and informal car parking linked to visitor management measures including the introduction of clearways, blocking off laybys with boulders and the introduction a camp site at Salloch. There has also been a substantial loss of temporary parking (200 plus) at Manse Bay which used to help alleviate parking problems in Balmaha. Overall in the past 15 years we estimate there has been a net loss of over 300 parking spaces on East Loch Lomond while there has been significant growth in visitors arriving by car with no improvements in public transport serving the area.

We are strongly of the view that the additional parking

will:

- contribute in a positive and tangible way to help improve visitor management in Balmaha and East Loch Lomond;
- provide a welcome and much needed increase in car parking capacity in the village to relieve the regular congestion that is increasingly occurring on fair weather days;

- help to improve the visitor experience in line with National Park objectives;

- help improve the carrying capacity of the village to deal more effectively with large influxes of car borne visitors;

and

- contribute to the well being of local businesses and the enjoyment of village amenities and nearby outdoor attractions such as Tom Weir's Rest, the Park Visitor Centre, Conic Hill, Inchcailloch and loch boat trips.

We have been impressed by the major contribution Mr Sandy Fraser has made to the overall quality of the public realm and this is another welcome addition to helping improve village amenities