



John Urquhart
Vice Chair
Friends of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs
Carrochan
Balloch
G83 8EG

February 22nd 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Planning Application Ref 2020/0251/DET Trossachs Pier extension to existing car park and erection of extension to toilet block

On behalf of the Friends of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs, the independent conservation and heritage charity covering the National Park, I am writing to confirm our support for this application which involves extending the capacity of the car park at this busy visitor hub in a sensitive way and improving visitor facilities for visitors coming to Loch Katrine for boat trips, cycling and walking.

We support this package of proposals for the following reasons:

- this is a strategically important visitor hub in the heart of the National Park servicing the needs of a wide range of visitors who want to enjoy the special qualities scenic and outdoor recreation qualities of Loch Katrine and it is essential good quality visitor facilities are available here ;
- we welcome the provision of additional toilets, secure bike parking, litter recycling points, overnight parking and hook ups for campervans and additional car parking as they will make an important contribution to improving visitor management and the wider Trossachs Visitor Management Project;
- the proposals are in line with many of the policies aspirations set out in the Park Partnership Plan, the Local Development Plan and the draft Outdoor Recreation Plan;
- the proposals have strong community support including the support of the Trossachs Community Council and a number of other community groups, residents and businesses;
- the environmental impact will be minimal including in the small area at the southern end of the car park where additional parking is planned. This is an area of already where there already is disturbed land and the proposals will not result in the removal of any trees;
- the plans for low level stone boundary walls and additional native tree planting at the entrance to the main car park will improve the visual appearance of this main visitor gateway to Loch Katrine;

We commend these proposals and trust they will be approved by the end of March so that they can benefit from the Trossachs Visitor Management Project funding secured from VisitScotland. Along with the proposals at Stronachlachar, Ben A'an and the refresh of the Trossachs Trail, this scheme will make a valuable contribution to enhancing the visitor experience and help safeguard over 40 jobs at the Steamship Company which is one of the largest employers in the Trossachs

Yours sincerely,

John Urquhart
Vice Chair
Friends of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs

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