

Contact Iain Bruce  
for the Nairn Spa & Lido Company  
nairnspandlido@gmail.com  
mobile 07887571361

# Press Release

**embargoed until 12:00 noon Monday 1st March**

## Nairn Community Spa & Lido

The Directors of the Nairn Spa & Lido Company Ltd are pleased to announce the launch of their community consultation programme and to minimise the delay caused by the current pandemic, NCSL are beginning this consultation through the launch of their website [www.nairnspandlido.com](http://www.nairnspandlido.com). Residents are encouraged to comment on the proposals and to sign-up to participate in this exciting venture to safeguard and future-proof the existing swimming pool and exploit opportunities that could lead to Nairn becoming the jewel in the crown of the Moray Firth tourist economy.

### The project comprises 2 elements:

1. The refurbishment of the existing Leisure Centre to include
  - ☀ the replacement of the current 38 year old plant by renewable energy sources.
  - ☀ A new glazed dome containing photo-voltaic and photo chromatic panels to replace the current 'industrial shed' envelope and re-create the light and shade of the original Nairn Swimming Baths.
2. The new state of the art Spa facility on the foreshore between the high and low water mark to include
  - ☀ Lagoon pool - an unheated sea level pool with open water swimming depending on the state of the tide, sauna and plant room
  - ☀ Reception, Changing rooms, Healthy eating bistro and the prom extended around the outside of the building
  - ☀ New synchro and hydrotherapy pools
  - ☀ Scented steam rooms and spa treatment rooms run in conjunction with local treatment businesses
  - ☀ Top deck open horizon pool heated to 34 degC with open views across the firth to the black isle and beyond

To realise this ambition, NCSL is seeking to secure Community ownership of the existing Nairn Leisure Centre and Swimming Pool via Community Asset Transfer and using state of the art renewable technologies, create Nairn's answer to the Thermae Spa in Bath<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> [www.thermaebathspa.com](http://www.thermaebathspa.com)

**Sustainable development principles** incorporating green technologies not only fulfil Scottish Government climate change targets<sup>2</sup> but in replacing the current 38 year old oil fired plant with renewable energy sources, the proposals future proof and provide greater security for the town's swimming facilities in the post-pandemic economic climate. The marine heat pump technology uses a heat-exchanger to extract the energy embodied within the sea in a reversal of the process of the domestic fridge. The technology is tried and tested and operates successfully both in the UK and abroad. With the aid of funding support from the Davidson Trust, a study by Ramboll, an international engineering consultancy has validated the NCSL's renewable energy approach.

**The business case** for NCSL has been subjected to rigorous independent economic and financial assessments by an international consultancy, regional government enterprise agency and a market-leading private sector enterprise.

An economic appraisal undertaken by international consultants Upper Quartile Consulting and funded by Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) in 2016, concluded that the NCSL project could be 'a game changer' for Nairn. The project has since been further developed and forecasts a turnover of around £4m after 4 years and generating an annual sustainable surplus of at least £0.9m for the benefit off the local community.

Additional spin off in the form of not less than 57 jobs (fte) and income multiplier effects create a 'honey-pot' effect further benefit the town's tourist economy. Equally important is the all year/all weather nature of the facilities which will stimulate demand out-with the traditional Nairn holiday season.

This unique proposition has the prospects not only to deliver sustainable revenue funding to the community but in the process provide multi-faceted benefits to future health and wellbeing in Nairn.

**Iain Bruce, a director of the company said**

"We're confident that the Nairn community will get behind this exciting initiative to have a community owned charity deliver not only new income streams for Nairn but facilities which will be at the cutting edge of the Health and Wellbeing culture, something which will become increasingly important in our post covid world.

Despite the community consultation being undertaken against the constraints of current Covid 19 restrictions, we are exploiting the power of social media and are confident we will achieve representative participation to enable us to proceed with the process."

**notes to editors:**

The Nairn Spa & Lido Company is a registered Charity SC 050128 with the charitable purpose of The provision of recreational facilities and the organisation of water based recreational activities

---

<sup>2</sup> [Climate change - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot)

The Nairn Spa & Lido Company is a Community Enterprise Company limited by Guarantee Company no.SC585904

The Nairn Synchro Club are the only such club in the North of Scotland and Scottish National solo, duet and team gold medallists.