

NAVER TELESERVICE CENTRE

Bettyhill

By Thurso

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8 August 2025

RE Proposed Acquisition of Borgie Log Cabin by North Sutherland Community Forest Trust (NSCFT)

This is a letter in support of the above proposal. The site at Borgie Breco is an invaluable resource to people living in this remote area of the northern highlands.

NSCFT currently owns one cabin at Borgie Breco enabling a huge range of activities to take place for people of all ages and abilities and has the added advantage of being able to offer overnight accommodation. Current sessions and projects range from a few hours to several months/years. The purchase of the second cabin would: offer additional space allowing long-term projects to run smoothly alongside one-off activities; provide workshop space for local crafters/artists; promote the development of new ideas/projects; and secure a dedicated site for future generations.

Such a facility enables people living in small rural communities to come together to learn, skill-share and connect which is hugely beneficial to overall health and wellbeing, making this area a more attractive place to live and work. It also promotes partnership working between the many different statutory and voluntary groups operating in this area.

As a trust, NSCFT have a proven record of effective working, organisation and accountability. Naver Telecentre therefore wholly supports this proposed new acquisition to further benefit the local and wider communities in the far north.

T. A. Curtis

Director/Chair (on behalf of Naver Teleservice Centre Board of Directors)

Bettyhill, Altnaharra & Strathnaver Community Council
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As a trust, NSCFT have a proven record of effective working, organisation and accountability. Bettyhill, Altnaharra & Strathnaver Community Council support this proposed new acquisition to further benefit the local and wider communities in the far north.

R Celli

Chairman, Bettyhill, Altnaharra & Strathnaver Community Council



13 August 2025

This is a letter of support for the **Proposed Acquisition of the second Borgie Log Cabin by North Sutherland Community Forest Trust (NSCFT)**.

As Senior Project Officer for the **Species on the Edge** project on the north coast, and employee of **Plantlife** – the global voice for wild plants and fungi, I highly recommend this acquisition.

Species on the Edge has been involved in numerous events and activities in the existing cabin owned by NSCFT, and I know it to be a very popular event location for communities of the north Scotland coast region. The buildings and location at Borgie Breco provide a unique, beautiful, exciting and environmentally sensitive venue, immersed in nature. It is a superb setting for so many important activities that contribute to individual health, environmental awareness and community cohesion, being ideal for play, celebration, performance, training, learning, creativity, relaxation and mindfulness.

Acquisition of the second cabin will have multiple benefits for local people, local communities and NSCFT, including (but not limited to):

- Expansion and diversification of current activities
- More efficient use of buildings, so that different activities can run in parallel.
- Development of special facilities for wood working and/or other crafts.
- Separation of accommodation and working spaces if required.

- Increased opportunity for sharing skills
- Increased opportunity for partnership working

NSCFT have a proven record of effective working, organisation and accountability. I believe it is essential that the second cabin is acquired for the communities of the north coast, and that NSCFT are the right organisation to take this forward.

Sarah Bird

Senior Project Officer, Species on the Edge - North Coast

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Big Sing Community Choir

Kyle Centre

Tongue

(Email [REDACTED])

RE Proposed Acquisition of Borgie Log Cabin by North Sutherland Community Forest Trust (NSCFT)

As a local community choir, we fully support the above acquisition by NSCFT. The current log cabin facility is such a fantastic community resource and highly valued by all who use it. However, it is limited by its size as to how many people can be comfortably accommodated during events. Therefore, having the bigger cabin on board would extend the range of possibilities that could be offered.

The location of the cabins and proximity to the Gaelic Alphabet Spiral, within the woodland, led to our choir organising a very successful singing workshop for Seachdain na Gaidhlig 2025. We had a song written in Gaelic especially for the event which took place both at the cabin and at the Spiral. We would like to organise similar future events, which could involve more people so would definitely be keen on a bigger space!

The cabins are a perfect space for a range of music events and acquiring a bigger cabin could see possibilities of more workshops or community ceilidhs on a larger scale being organised. This would provide opportunities for developing new skills and for young musicians to develop their skills further as well as being a fantastic gathering spot for the local and wider community.

Members of the choir attended a recent fabulous family ceilidh at the cabin , the dancing space was a bit tight so a bigger space would definitely enhance the experience.

Ours is a remote community, having opportunities for meeting , learning and sharing skills is so important to counter isolation and loneliness and the cabins at Borgie certainly provide such opportunities. Extending the facilities can only be a positive.

In summary, The Big Sing Community Choir fully support NSCFT in this endeavour and wish them well in pursuing this.

Hilary Wilson

Musical director of The Big Sing.