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Attn: Editorial

Tense time for Cultybraggan

Villagers in Comrie face a crucial week in their bid to purchase Cultybraggan Army Camp. A decision will be made by a major national charitable trust on an interest free loan to secure the purchase of the camp. On Monday the 20th August, every member of the Comrie Development Trust will have a final vote on whether or not they want to proceed with the purchase. Local people are urged to join the Trust ahead of the vote to ensure they have their say.

On Monday night a packed White Church heard the consultants and members of the Comrie Development Trust outline the plans for the site and the case for purchase. Cathy Tilbrook, chair of the Trust said, “Everyone can be reassured that there is no financial risk for the village in buying the site. The value of the land, and our ability to sell if we really need to, makes it all possible.” Cathy went on to explain that the Trust was convinced that once the land was in community ownership funds will start to flow from supportive organisations.

There was a call from locals at the meeting for more information on the finances of the project and exactly how the early stages would be managed ahead of the vote on Monday night. The Trust will be issuing a further Comrie Bulletin to every household in the area this weekend and making a presentation on Monday evening in response to this request.

The proposed plans for the site will be displayed in the village at the weekend. Sandy Morrison the architect who has helped prepare the plans said, “These drawings begin to show how the camp might be used over the next 10 years to bring community benefit and generate a financial return for the village.”

Cathy Tilbrook closed the meeting highlighting the importance of purchasing the site saying, “On the 8th of September Comrie will either own the camp or the MOD will put it on the open market. It will be a huge undertaking for the village but without ownership we will have very

little control over what happens to the land. 90 acres is a huge resource for £350 000!”

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