



**Scottish Campaign for National Parks:  
ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2012**

Scottish Charity number: SC 31008

**Legal and Administrative Information.**

**Full name:**

Scottish Campaign for National Parks

**Registered Scottish Charity Number:**

SC 31008

**Governing Document:**

Constitution

**Hon. President:**

Vacant

**Honorary Vice President:**

Michael Dower CBE FRICS MRTPI HonFLI

John Foster CBE FRSGS

Robert Maund FRTPI(rtd)

Adrian Phillips CBE MRTPI HonFLI

**Executive Committee:**

William G McDermott - Chairman

Sybil Simpson - Honorary Treasurer

Ross Anderson – Vice Chairman

John Thomson - Honorary Secretary

James B Fraser (PR Officer)

Bill Dalrymple

Charles Strang

(Kate Walsham – Asst. Secretary)

**Principal Office:**

The Barony

2 Glebe Road

Kilbirnie

Ayrshire

KA25 6HX

**Bankers:**

Bank of Scotland

26 Colquhoun Square

Helensburgh

G84 8AP

**Independent Examiner:**

Roy Tait Dip Com PCES

## SCOTTISH CAMPAIGN FOR NATIONAL PARKS: ANNUAL REPORT 2012

This report is presented, along with the accounts for 2012, in conformity with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The report sets out how the Council is seeking to meet its purposes as set out in its constitution. The purposes can be summarized as follows:

*The SCNP's primary aim is to promote the protection, enhancement and enjoyment of nationally outstanding areas that are National Parks, or are appropriate to be designated as such, or are of sufficient merit to warrant special protection. This is manifest in our support for good stewardship of the country's best environmental assets and encouragement of environmentally sustainable methods of development, particularly within areas of national park potential. SCNP is a recognised Scottish Charity (No. SC 31008.).*

We seek to meet these purposes through regular meetings with Scottish Natural Heritage, the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs and Cairngorms National Parks, the Scottish Government's Minister for the Environment and other public bodies and environmental groups, as necessary. We are members of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Scottish Environment LINK and contribute to LINK's National Parks, Landscape, and Planning Task Forces.

We also respond to public consultations from the Scottish Government, Forestry Commission, SEPA, SNH, Park Authorities and Local Government, on a range of planning and environmental issues. In addition, we seek to monitor progress of the Parks and comment and offer advice on policy issues and particular development control casework. Where necessary, we have also made formal objections to Local Plans and to development proposals which we consider would be damaging to fine landscapes and sensitive environments and habitats, including wind farm proposals in the Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park (CMRP) and elsewhere. SCNP joined forces with the Save Your Regional Park campaign (SYRP) to fight appeals by developers at public inquiries into wind farm applications in CMRP. Wind Energy proposals in sensitive locations remain a developer-led countrywide problem.

This has seemed like a year of stasis for the national parks movement in Scotland. There have been no Government initiatives to speak of, no debates in Parliament about the work of the national park authorities and no sign of any additions to the family of national parks. Over the year, the legal action that SCNP is taking in the Court of Session in conjunction with the Cairngorms Campaign and the Badenoch and Strathspey Conservation Group has hung like the Sword of Damocles over our affairs. Our original appeal against the adoption of the Cairngorms Local Plan went before Lord Glennie in the Court of Session in January 2012. Our argument specifically targeted the inclusion of major housing developments in the Local Plan, which had been identified in the Local Plan Inquiry of 2010 as problematical in the context of the primary aim of the National Park Authority to conserve the natural and cultural heritage. More acutely, we felt that the NPA was not ensuring that the natural heritage interests in the River Spey Special Area of Conservation were being safeguarded by all the housing development being proposed and as is required by European Law. The judgement was expected to take three months to deliver, but in the event it finally appeared in September, fully nine months later.

A fairly rosy expectation that some of our case would at least have contained some issues to be addressed by the NPA quickly turned sour as the whole of our legal argument was comprehensively dismissed by Lord Glennie. In effect Lord Glennie took the position that because the NPA had a policy to safeguard natural heritage, then, irrespective of the possible negative consequences of proposed housing developments, the NPA as the competent authority would have to determine whether the developments could proceed. Such was the appellants amazement at this decision, which was described by our senior advocate as irrational, that we determined to appeal it, albeit on a narrow point of law that the judgement did not uphold the purpose of the European legislation.

### **The Established National Parks.**

In last year's Annual Report, we commented that it had been an important year for the two authorities as they reviewed their National Park Plans. SCNP responded to both. We were particularly concerned at the developmental nature of both documents as they stretched the meaning of sustainable development, but we nevertheless recognized the good work that was being done in land management and visitor information. One of the criticisms directed at the Cairngorms NPA by the planning inspectors was that its housing land supply was far too generous for the projected population, based on the assumption in the first NPP that the population would see only organic growth. The new NPP, signed off by the Minister at the Royal Highland Show in June, after only a few weeks from its adoption by the NPA, in contra-distinction now projects a 20% increase in population, fully 40% of which will be an increase in retirees! This compares with a 12.5% reduction in population in the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park. We remain skeptical of the process and the approach to housing taken by Cairngorms NPA.

### **SCNP-APRS Project**

The National Park Strategy Project entered its final year under John Mayhew, Director of the association for the Protection of Rural Scotland. At the time of writing it is in the process of being printed for publication to launch at Battleby to coincide with the Annual General Meeting.

### **Scottish Environment LINK**

The Chairman and Convener of the NPTF was able to secure a small amount of funding for a study visit to the Peak Park to look at housing issues. This was written up and adopted by the NPTF as a significant improvement on the current housing policies operating in the Cairngorms National Park.

### **Publicity.**

Our quarterly Newsletters help keep members up to date with the national park scene in Scotland and is being sent to an increasingly wide audience of non-members. All MSPs in the Scottish Parliament receive copies. Contributions continue to be submitted to the CNP bulletins. We have also made some useful impact through national and local papers when key issues arose.

### **Finance.**

SCNP is run entirely by volunteers. Our main sources of income are the annual subscriptions of our members, donations, gift aid and any grants that we can secure from time to time from public bodies and various grant giving charities. In 2012, our main funding came from the Mountaineering Trust, Gatliffe Trust, Save Your Regional Park Campaign and our members. We are fortunate that many of our members take part in the Gift Aid process. Given the difficult financial climate, we are aware that finding sources of funding is becoming more difficult. We have also registered with Easyfundraising.co.uk. The members of the Executive are considering different approaches to a wide variety of Trusts as well as other fund raising initiatives. Gift Aid claims for 2012 have been processed and appear in the accounts.

Our main expenditures in 2012, as shown on the accompanying page, relate to the Joint Project with APRS.

## Membership

The membership figures at the end of 2011 show changes

	2012	2011	2010	2009
Members	46	44	40	32 (5)
Friends	37(14)	36(9)	38(7)	46(2)
Overseas	3	3	4	4
Affiliates	23	23	23	23

*N.B. The figures in brackets are those who have missed one annual payment.*

### Executive Committee.

During 2012, the Executive met on 8 occasions. John Thompson was elected as Hon Secretary and Kate Walsham became Assistant Secretary. During the year, representatives met with the National Parks senior staff, our annual meeting in Carlisle with our sister body, the Campaign for National Parks was cancelled because of staffing difficulties and we still await a meeting with the Minister.

### Responses to consultations:

None

### Risk Review.

The Executive has examined the business and operational risks, which the Charity faces and confirms that systems are in place to produce regular reports so that necessary steps can be taken to minimize such risks.

### Executive Responsibility for the Financial Statement.

The Executive is required to prepare a financial statement for each financial period, which reflects the financial affairs at the end of the period and the surplus or deficit arising within the period. In preparing those financial statements, the Executive is required to:

Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;  
Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;  
Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue to operate.

The Executive is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Charity. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Executive on 19 March 2013 and signed on their behalf and with authorization by:

**Bill McDermott**  
Chairman

**John Thomson**  
Hon.Secretary

Scottish Charity number: SC 31008

## SCOTTISH CAMPAIGN FOR NATIONAL PARKS

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2012

<b>INCOME</b>	2012	2011
Subscriptions	£1,512.76	£1,439.00
Grants/Donations	£3,155.00	£3,412.60
AGM Income	£138.00	£132.00
Gift Aid	£308.38	£367.80
Bank Interest	£0.00	£5.89
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£5,114.14</b>	<b>£5,357.29</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Postages, Stationery & Printing (+Due £649.17)	£709.17	£752.24
AGM Expenses	£240.00	£508.90
Consultant Costs	£8,499.96	£6,494.87
Travel Expenses	£75.60	£88.36
Subscriptions to other bodies:		
IUCN (+ Due £303.46)	£323.46	£328.54
LINK	-	£100.00
CNP	-	£125.00
The Solicitors Group	£125.00	-
Sundries	-	-
Tax deducted at Bank	-	£0.34
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£9,973.19</b>	<b>£8,398.25</b>
<b>Deficit at year end</b>	<b>(£4,859.05)</b>	<b>(£3,040.96)</b>

### Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2012

	2012	2011
Bank at 1 January 2012	£11,975.82	£15,016.78
Less Deficit for year		(£3,040.96)
{Add back Accruals (£952.63)}	<b>£3,906.42</b>	
<b>Balance at HBOS Account</b>	<b>£8,069.40</b>	<b>£11,975.82</b>

SCOTTISH CAMPAIGN FOR NATIONAL PARKS

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS - FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 DECEMBER 2012

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2012	Total 2011
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
<b>Voluntary Receipts</b>				
Grants/Donations	1	£3,155.00	£3,155.00	£3,412.60
Gift Aid		£308.38	£308.38	£367.80
Bank Interest		£0.00	£0.00	£5.89
<b>Receipts from Charitable Activities</b>				
Subscriptions		£1,512.76	£1,512.76	£1,439.00
AGM Income		£138.00	£138.00	£132.00
Total Receipts			<u>£5,114.14</u>	£5,357.29
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Postages, Stationery & Printing		£60.00	£60.00	£752.24
AGM Expenses		£240.00	£240.00	£508.90
Consultant Costs	2	£8,499.96	£8,499.96	£6,494.87
Travel Expenses		£75.60	£75.60	£88.36
Subscriptions to other Bodies	3	£145.00	£145.00	£553.54
Sundry Expenses		-	-	-
Tax Deducted at Bank		-	-	£0.34
Total Payments			<u>£9,020.56</u>	£8,398.25
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>			<b>(£3,906.42)</b>	<b>(£3,040.96)</b>

STATEMENT OF BALANCES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2012

Funds Reconciliation	TOTAL 2012
Cash at Bank Opening Balance	£11,975.82
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(£3,906.42)
Cash at Bank Closing Balance	<u>£8,069.40</u>

All funds are unrestricted, and the notes on the following page form an integral part of these accounts.

Treasurer:

Chair:

SCOTTISH CAMPAIGN FOR NATIONAL PARKS

Notes to the Accounts - for the year ended 31 December 2012

**Note 1: Grants/Donations Received**

	2012	2011
Gatliffe Trust	-	£387.60
Scottish Mountain Trust	£2,500.00	£2,500.00
Save Your Regional Parks (SYRP)	-	£400.00
Donations from Members	£655.00	£125.00
	<u>£3,155.00</u>	£3,412.60

**Note 2: Consultant Costs**

Remuneration	£8,499.96	£6,291.69
Expenses	£75.60	£203.18
	<u>£8,575.56</u>	£6,494.87

**Note 3: Subscriptions to Other Bodies**

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (Sum due for 2012 - £303.46)	£20.00	£328.54
Scottish Environment LINK	-	£100.00
Campaign for National Parks (CNP)	-	£125.00
The Solicitors Group	£125.00	-
	<u>£145.00</u>	£553.54

**Note 4: Bank Balance**

Balances at Bank of Scotland at Year End	£8,069.40	£11,975.82
Accruals pending 2012:		
IUCN Subscription	£303.46	
Postages, Printing & Stationery	<u>£649.17</u>	£952.63

**Basis of Accounting**

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts & Payments basis in