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Jacobite's Loch Ness development delayed

A DECISION on a major Loch Ness harbour development was delayed by Highland councillors this morning.

Members of the Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey planning applications committee deferred the application to visit the site of Jacobite Cruises' proposed £2.3 million scheme.

The company wants to build a harbour at Brackla, off the A82, with a visitor centre, cafe and car park.

Council officials recommended conditional approval of the plans but councillors, including committee chairman Jimmy Gray, agreed they would benefit from a site visit before making a decision.

Today The Inverness Courier reported that those behind a rival development, a short distance away, had contacted planners asking if both applications could be considered together.

The Bremner family, who owns the nearby Loch Ness Exhibition Centre, hopes to construct its own £2 million facility only 800 metres away, beside the Clansman Hotel, incorporating jetties for small boats and canoes, a cafe and shop.

Its application is not due to be heard until March.

Cllr Gray told councillors they could only consider the plans which were in front of them and could not take into account any others which were in the pipeline.