

# Baillie's praise for toilet plan

BENNACHIE'S senior baillie today praised the "excellent idea" of providing a public convenience for visitors to the Garioch's famous mountain.

Dr Danny Gordon, of Coldwells, Inverurie, has been leading a campaign for the past two years to have a toilet built on the east side at the Mither Tap.

But, as he explained, the conservationists came up against a convenience.

"As the Baillies are a conservation society we were keen to get cracking with the idea, but we discovered that we could not. For, although we could put up the toilet, we could not service it," he said.

However, before yesterday's meeting of Gordon District Council's environmental and miscellaneous services committee, was an invitation from the Countryside Commission for Scotland, inviting the committee to submit applications for Government grant aid of up to 75% for projects designed to enhance the amenities of the countryside.

### COULDN'T COPE

Among the suggestions suitable for grant application was the Bennachie toilet, to be situated at the Piodrie car park.

Dr Gordon said there are already toilets at the Pitodrie site in the Rowan Tree restaurant, but they could not cope with the number of people turning up on a fine weekend.

"In good weather we are getting about 100 cars which means about 300 or 400 visitors and although the owner of the restaurant, Mr Theo Smith, has been sympathetic he just cannot allow that number of people to use the facilities," added Dr Gordon.

"However, Mr Smith has promised that he would supply the water and allow the use of the septic tank, which is a tremendous help," he said.

Toilet facilities in other areas of Bennachie are good and if the grant application for conveniences at the Mither Tap is accepted the Baillies expect to get plans started at the beginning of next season.