

PORTMOAK COMMUNITY COUNCIL**AREA 47**

Roseanna Cunningham MP,
House of Commons,
LONDON.
SW1A 0AA

Copied to Bruce Crawford

20th June 1995

Our Ref : RMS/PPCC/mpmoss.doc

Dear Ms Cunningham,

REF : PORTMOAK MOSS

I am writing to you on behalf of the community of Portmoak Parish , Kinross-shire. We have a problem that we feel should be brought to your attention. In order to do this coherently, I need to give you some background information.

Last year we heard that Forest Enterprise were considering selling Portmoak Moss as part of their declared programme of sales. A public meeting was called by the community council to ascertain the community view on this. There was overwhelming opposition to a private sale as it was felt that the use of the wood as a public amenity could be lost. It was also felt that the most likely action by a private owner would be to strip fell the woods.

The community would wish to see the wood held in trust for public use and the best option appeared to be to purchase the wood in partmnership with Woodland Trust. However, in pursuing this option we consider the price asked (£75,000.00) to be excessive.

It is our contention that we should not have to pay for property which is already in the public domain. Is it right for a public amenity to be put at risk for the sake of such a paltry sum for the Treasury ? Why can't Forest Enterprise hand over the management of the woods to Woodland Trust and the community to hold in trust for the general public ? Or is there some other alternative that would give us control without having to raise so large a sum before the deadline of September 1995.

It would be helpful to us if you could pursue this question on our behalf. We are ensuring that our local councillor, Bruce Crawford , is kept informed of our actions on this topic.

Yours sincerely,



Bob Spilsted
Community Councillor

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