



24th March 2018
(sent by post and email)

Ms Buxton
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Dear Ms. Buxton

Moorfoot Farm – Woodland Creation Proposals
Moorfoot Community Council

In our role as agents working for Scottish Woodlands Ltd and Rosebery Estates we have drawn up woodland creation proposals for hill land on Moorfoot Farm.

In brief the proposals will entail the creation of a total of roughly 185 hectares of new woodland, on a 340 hectare site on Hog and Cotly Hills. The woodlands will mainly comprise of a mixture of productive coniferous species, but with approximately 10% of the planting being broadleaved in nature, with a further 5% being Scots pine. I have attached maps showing the location of the site and the design proposals.

Open ground, amounting to roughly 45% of the site, will be retained to protect existing biodiversity interest; to safeguard archaeological features; where peat is present; and for landscape purposes, notably on higher ground. The woodlands will be protected with a deer fence around the perimeter.

The objectives behind the woodland planting include timber production, as well as addressing climate change issues, and enhancing biodiversity through native woodland planting, particularly along the burns. Access for establishment works will be via the existing track off the C42 road (north of Tweeddaleburn Cottage).

The proposals have been informed by a number of specialist studies, covering habitats, birds, and archaeological interests. Informal consultations have been held with Scottish Natural Heritage, Midlothian Council, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Scottish Water.

Public access will be permitted throughout the woodlands, in line with the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, but not actively promoted. No path construction or car parking facilities are proposed.

This woodland creation proposal will be submitted to the Forestry Commission Scotland* for their approval. It is hoped to undertake the works in 2019 or 2020.

Further information on the proposals can be viewed at an informal drop event, planned for **Wednesday, 11th April at Carrington Village Hall, between 4.00pm and 7.30pm**. Staff will be on hand to provide further information and to field questions.

If the Community Council have any comments on the proposals, please send them to me by post or by e-mail. It would be appreciated if you could provide any response by the 16th April, but if this date is not practical for you then please let me know. In the meantime I would be happy to provide clarification on any aspect of the proposals. Similar information has delivered to roughly 30 private residencies in the general vicinity of the site

All comments received, and any responses we make, will be made available to the Forestry Commission Scotland (contact details below).

Yours sincerely,



Mark Hamilton

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