ANNO 696667 11th. January 1986

Mr R. Marnie Forestry Commission Buchan District Office Bogie Street Huntly

Dear Mr Marnie,

I enclose a copy of the minute of the last council meeting, for your information, incease the Conservator's, or Mr Aitken's copy has not yet reached you. As you will see there were one or two items discussed which related specifically to the Forestry Commission.

Under Matters Arising, you will note that the drainage of the field at the Back o' Bennachie was briefly discussed, and that Mr Lindsay Cook had offered us futther help if this proved necessary.

I was asked to write to the F.C. regarding the possible removal of some trees, from beside the path which ascends the S.E. side of Millstone Hill. As the trees have grown-up along this path, the view down the Don, has become more restricted, particularly in the area around the seat , not far short of the tree-line. It was felt that, if there was a selective removal of some of the spruce trees, the view might be improved and a feature m made of the remaining pines, thereby softening the forest edge. A similar situation exists at the seat near the tree-line on the Back o' Bennachie - Oxen Craig path. If you feel you could accomodate our suggestions, then we would be most grateful.

Under A.O.C.B., the matter of Afforsk Pond was raised. I was asked to write to the F.C., requesting a progress report on the repairs being carried out on the dam. I understand that a Mr Cooke was dealing with the matter, but perhaps you will have the information to hand.

Finally, you will have noticed that yet again, the proposed Bennachie - Lumsden footpath was discussed. I would be interested to know your views on pprsuing the Lumsden to Brindy Hill section, as a route in its own right. It makes a wonderful walk or ski if you can get through the trees on Knock Saul! It would be a pity to not open this section to pedesttians, if a suitable route can be agreed. We can always hope that the final link to Bennachie will eventually be achieved. I understand that you have a suggested route and I would be pleased if you could send me a copy.

Yours sincerely,

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