
Frank Park, Chairman

Callander Community Development
Trust,

C/O 10b Leny Road,

Callander, FK17 8BA.

14 October 2020

▶ **Rebecca Carr,
Community Asset Transfer Manager**

Forestry and Land Scotland,

Silvan House,

231 Corstorphine Road,

Edinburgh, EH12 5EH.

Dear Rebecca,
Asset Transfer Request, Coilhallan Wood, Callander

Thank you for your letter dated 21 April 2020 providing the Decision Notice approving the asset transfer for the Coilhallan Wood on the provided Terms and based upon an updated Valuation for the Wood.

You will be aware that since that date the Callander Community Development Trust (CCDT) proceeded to commission the updated valuation from the District Valuer that was submitted in the amount of £370,000. This was then used to update the Business Plan demonstrating the long-term viability for the Community to own and operate the Wood for enhanced biodiversity habitats creation, social amenity and the economic development of the town. An Application was submitted to the Scottish Land Fund requesting a grant to cover 95% of the Valuation to enable the land transfer from FLS. Unfortunately, the Scottish Land Fund was significantly over-subscribed and their Committee found that there were other projects around the country that required support and were able to demonstrate a more immediate impact on anchoring their communities and environments so our application was declined. There may be future opportunities for us to re-apply for funds or we may be able to ask the Scottish Government to consider the transfer of land into community management under alternative arrangements.

We are therefore not in a position to currently make a meaningful offer for the purchase of the Coilhallan Wood from FLS in accordance with your letter dated 21/4/20. We must, therefore, formally advise that we will not be pursuing the land transfer in accordance with your Terms. We will, however, be very keen to continue working with FLS and our volunteers to make the proposed interventions into the woodland management and habitat allocation so that we are able to achieve enhanced biodiversity and access for the range of learning and recreational activities that you have advised you should be supporting. We will

continue to seek this support and assistance through the established liaison forums such as the Callander Landscape Partnership and will encourage direct approaches to you from our educational institutions who are keen to achieve more outdoor activities in a covid safe environment and deliver demonstrably sustainable and beneficial learning activities.

Thank you for your assistance through this rather protracted initiative to find a mutually effective way of delivering enhancements to the Coilhallan Wood. We look forward to your continuing support.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Frank Park', written in a cursive style.

Frank Park, Chairman
Callander Community Development Trust