

[REDACTED]

From:

[REDACTED]
30 December 2020 18:09

To:

Subject:

[REDACTED]
Local Biodiversity Sites in Scottish Borders - Cumledge Wood

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Dear [REDACTED]

Many thanks for your letter of 29th October, stating that "Cumledge Wood" is a Local Biodiversity Site proposed for adoption as part of the Scottish Borders Council's Proposed Local Development Plan (LDP).

For clarification:

1. The area to the south and east of Cumledge House forms part of the grounds/garden of Cumledge House (as it has always done) and it continues to be managed as a garden and includes both the rear and front drives to Cumledge House. I am curious as to how that sits alongside a designation as a Local Biodiversity Site?
2. My wife and I have, over the years, thought about putting either a duck pond and/or a micro-hydro installation on Cumledge Burn to the south of Cumledge House, so we would wish to understand the implications of LBS designation on such plans.
3. I do not think the site would qualify as ancient woodland, as described in the Biodiversity Features section of the Site Statement.
4. In the Notable Species section of the Site Statement, red squirrel is mentioned, but there have been no red squirrel locally for a number of years now.
5. It says under Access and Use in the Site Statement that "BSBI undertake regular systematic biodiversity recording on site". We would object to this, we do not want people in our garden and we would not want the LBS designation impacting our gardening activities.

Yours sincerely,

Scott Holmes