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13th September 2019

Councillor Aileen Morton
Kilmory Castle
Lochgilphead
PA31 8RT

Dear Councillor Morton

FLOODING PROBLEMS – CASTLE WOOD, HELENSBURGH

We are seeking your assistance in relation to problems we are experiencing regarding flooding from Castle Woods.

Our garden is being seriously flooded from the Castle Woods. We believe that when the land was owned by the MOD they annually cleared out the soakaway and filled it with gravel to assist with drainage but this has not been carried out since the land was sold to Marjory Osbourne and Thomas Paterson.

From discussions with Redacted at Redacted this has been an ongoing issue before we bought the house just over three years ago. The previous owner of the property, Redacted, had many meetings with Council staff to try to resolve the problem but obviously to no avail.

Recently, our garden looks like a pond, it is absolutely terrible and there is a river of water running all the way from the woods, through our back garden and down the front path onto the main road.

We would very much appreciate your assistance in resolving this problem.

Yours sincerely

Redacted

Dear Redacted

Thanks for getting in touch again – I was actually about to write to you this week regarding this issue.

Unfortunately the response I've had from both our Building Standards and Environmental Health teams is that there is no role for the Council to get involved here, and that this would be a civil matter between yourselves and the owners of the woodland. I appreciate that's probably a disappointing update and if you do want to discuss further please do get in touch but I think at this point the focus does need to be on the landowner.

I don't know if you have been in touch with Helensburgh Community Woodland Group (<https://www.hcwg.co.uk/>)? I think in relation to your point regarding statements by the landowner to the press that would be your best route in terms of highlighting the alternate view; and HCWG would probably welcome evidence on existing issues to support their bid for the buyout.
Best wishes

Aileen

*Cllr Aileen Morton
Leader – Argyll & Bute Council
01436 658969*

From: Redacted
Sent: 06 October 2019 18:25
To: Morton, Aileen <Redacted@argyll-bute.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: Flooding at Castlewood, Helensburgh

Dear Councillor Morton

Further to my letter to you dated 13th September 2019 regarding the flooding being caused to our garden from Castlewood, Helensburgh I thought I would also forward you on some photos following last night's rainfall showing the flooding to our garden. I noted in the Helensburgh Advertiser a couple of weeks ago there was an article inserted by Marjory Osbourne stating the woods are not being mis-managed and there is no issue with flooding, as you will see from the photos this is totally untrue.

I hope you find the pictures helpful. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Kind Regards

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