

Interwood,  
Herdley Village,  
Near Bordon,  
Hampshire.

15th March 1975.

Dear Mr Ellis,

Broxhead Commoners' Association.

Further to my telephone conversation of yesterday with regard to your letter dated the 1st instant, and attached documents.

My wife and I are delighted that the recent hearing before the Chief Commons Commissioner has resulted in a decision which confirms the ancient rights. We understand that insofar as my wife's property is concerned the customary rights over Broxhead are also preserved for all time.

In accordance with my wife's guarantee dated the 7 Nov 1974 I enclose a cheque for £5 as a contribution toward the costs of the Association expenses.

I feel that this is also an opportunity to thank you for your very considerable efforts as Chairman. We are certain that had it not been for your enthusiastic work the cause might well have been lost.

I must mention, however, that I am distressed and concerned that the Commissioner has apparently not advised that the very substantial legal costs of the Association should be recoverable. I understand from what you have told me that that there was, and possibly still is, only one landowner who has opposed and obstructed the ancient commoners' rights, and that had it not been for this stand by this landowner our legal costs might well have been minimal. In these circumstances may I enquire whether an appeal has been considered concerning the Commissioner's decision on costs? I feel if there is provision for such an appeal then it should be made most vigorously, even if only to demonstrate the determination of the commoners to uphold and maintain their rights free of financial burden.

Yours sincerely,

(Brian Nicholson)

J.H. Ellis, Esq.,  
Chairman: Broxhead Commoners' Association.