Apple Orchard Valley,

Farmer’s Wood,

Old Oak Tree,

FX7, AOK.

Thursday 26th May 2016.

Dear Boggis, Bunce and Bean,

 I am writing to you concerning the situation we encountered in the last week, regarding in particular, the shooting of my tail.

 Firstly, I feel that I would like to apologise for all of the times that I’ve taken from you, but hope that you can realise that I’ve only really taken the bare minimum that I need to sustain my poor and needy family. Being as you have many chickens, turkeys and apples, I felt that it wouldn’t be too much trouble for you to allow me to have some every now and then, as we’re good neighbours and all.

 Secondly, I find it hard to believe that I can be that much of a nuisance to you as I live underground and only really come out at night. This isn’t really the characteristics of a bad neighbour, in fact it is you that are the bad neighbours every time you roll your tractors over our heads whilst we are asleep and more recently, shooting at me with your shotguns.

 It has also come to my attention that you appear to be taking turns to wear my tail as a scarf, keyring, brooch, belt or headband and this is beginning to hurt my feelings. If you would be so kind, I would very much like my tail back, so it can be worn by me in its rightful place once more.

 So I hereby propose a truce. I will promise never to steal your chickens, turkeys or apples again if you return my tail. I also hope that this can bring an end to all of the shooting and hard feelings between us. If you do decide that we can coexist peacefully, then please return my tail to the hole under the old oak tree and I’ll take this as a sign that you can agree to be friends.

I look forward to hearing from you soon,

Yours Sincerely,

Mr. Fox.

Valley Farm,

Farmer’s Wood,

Old Oak Lane,

FX7, OAK.

Friday 27th May 2016.

Dear Mr Fox,

 Thank you for your letter. After much consideration, I, Farmer Bunce and Farmer Bean have come to a conclusion which we hereby put forward to you.

 Regarding the theft of our chickens, geese, ducks, apples and cider we propose that half the value be paid in cash immediately, or that you earn this value back from us by working *for* us.

We also feel that your work for us could be paid for in your choice of one chicken, one goose, one duck, one bag of apples or 1 litre of cider for every day worked. We believe that this would satisfy your family’s need to eat but also remove your craving of our produce and stealing from us.

With regard to your living quarters under our land, we agree that you may remain in your current housing but no longer dig any more tunnels without our express permission. Even if permission is granted, we must enforce that any treasure or “items of interest” that you further find by digging will remain the property of the farmer who owns that land.

We would like to apologise for wearing your tail as a scarf, keyring, brooch, belt or headband as you rightly mentioned but would like you to consider this as a compliment. We recognise how soft and warm your fur is and how beautiful it looks and how comforting it is to touch and we will therefore return your tail as we now know how much you must miss it.

So in summary, with the return of your tail (as requested,) we begin a new partnership together. We very much hope that you will take on the job of “Farm Security Guard,” and protect our chickens, geese, ducks, apples and cider because you of all folk know our land better than anyone else and would be the best person to prevent any further stealing from others.

If you wish to accept our proposal, you should take your tail from the hole under the oak tree where we shall leave it, and tie a white handkerchief to the lowest branch of the oak tree as a sign of our new alliance.

Yours Sincerely,

Farmer Boggis,

Farmer Bunce,

Farmer Bean.