

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6

The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty

Report 2019

Llantysilio Community Council

Introduction and Context

Llantysilio Community Council provide a range of services to its local community which have an impact on biodiversity. These include: -

- Responsibility for a number of green spaces including the local cemetery.
- Funding - we give grants for projects in the Council's area. This impacts on biodiversity through cascading funding criteria. For example, the Council has provided grants to both community centres in its area.
- We promote sustainability and biodiversity by pursuing sustainability goals and sustainable practices whenever possible.
- We serve approximately 375 residents. The precept for 2019-20 is £10,200.

Action Report

How the Council assists biodiversity (through functions with regard to land management, grant funding, educational activities).

(Please note in respect of Public services delivery the Council is not subject to the Well-being of Future Generations Act as its precept is below £200.00).

The Council has taken into account biodiversity considerations when considering planning applications and other associated matters, such as footpath diversion orders and neighbourhood services matters. Developing adaptation and mitigation responses to the impacts of climate change.

Action carried out	Example	Monitored by
Embedded diversity into decision making and procurement	Reflected the commitment to biodiversity and natural areas in the Council's 2019 Annual Audit and documentation. Taken into account biodiversity considerations when considering planning applications and other associated matters, such as footpath diversion orders and neighbourhood services matters. Developing adaptation and mitigation responses to the impacts of climate change through working with the AONB, NRW and the County Council.	Commitments made in documents and minutes.

Raise awareness of biodiversity and its importance.	Encouraged the community to volunteer in the context of nature and green spaces by advertising information on the Council's Facebook page, website and newsletter.	Through feedback from Council members and residents.
Safeguard principle species and habitats.	Supported DCC Countryside Services in providing habitat for flora and fauna on land adjoining the Horseshoe Falls and Picnic area. Also supported and assisted with the introduction of a wildflower verge project at Eglwyseg. Championed the case of woodland by planting deciduous and native trees in the cemetery and surrounding area to encourage wildlife.	Recorded in the Council's minutes and newsletter.
Restore and create habitats and resilient ecological networks.	Installed bat and bird boxes in the cemetery and surrounding countryside. Assisted with landscaping to encourage a diverse wildlife population. Changed mowing regimes by reducing the frequency of cuts to encourage wildflowers and other pollinator friendly plants. Installed nest boxes in the cemetery and churchyard to provide a safe place for species of birds that are struggling to survive.	Project supported by local residents and DCC Countryside Services.
Tackle negative factors: e.g, reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species.	Purchased composting bins for the cemetery. In time this will be used to replace peat compost. Reduced the use of pesticides to only where absolutely necessary such as to control invasive non-native species such as Japanese Knotweed.	Recorded in Council Minutes.
Use, improve and share evidence.	Work in partnership with Denbighshire Countryside Services to provide extra volunteers to improve local wildlife area. Share information with Countryside Services when necessary. Work with DCC Countryside Officer in protecting local wildlife and green spaces. Work with local farmers to help protect the local environment.	Partnership formed to deliver biodiversity benefit. Information and feedback provided by members of the Council and residents.

Review of Section 6 duty

What has worked well?

The creation of wildflower and plant areas has been a success at Eglwyseg and the Cemetery and Churchyard. Work undertaken at the Horseshoe Falls and picnic area by DCC Countryside Services has greatly improved the area to the benefit of residents and visitors, in addition to helping biodiversity.

Although the Council doesn't have any formal agreement with DCC the Council's do work well together with issues of biodiversity

What have the barriers been?

The Council doesn't own a great deal of land so can only encourage and recommend to other land-owners in the community to embrace biodiversity.

What will you change?

Will seek to encourage the planting of wildflower areas to encourage bees and other pollinating insects. Will also support other ecology groups.

How and when will the Section 6 duty be monitored and the Section 6 Plan reviewed?

The Duty will be monitored by Council Members and the Clerk reporting back to the Council through a regular agenda item at Council meetings

The Section 6 Plan will be developed and reviewed in response to such reporting and any other evidence or information that may be made available to the Council. At the time of publication of this report there is no specific time or date set for the plan to be reviewed but this will be done in the next six months.

Signed for Llantysilio Community Council

Cllr. Mrs S. Smith

Chairman

Mrs J. S. Baker

Clerk to the Council

2nd March 2020

Date