

## Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6

### The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2022

#### Llanyre Community Council

##### Introduction and Context

Llanyre 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:

- Play Park
- Recreation Field
- Woodland
- Two Sites of Special Scientific Interest (ref Turbaries)
- Village Green
- Two laybys

Funding and project support - we can give small grants for projects in the Council's area and support community lead projects. These can impact on biodiversity through cascading funding criteria.

We promote sustainability and biodiversity by pursuing sustainability goals and sustainable practices whenever possible.

The precept for 2022-23 was £13,349.79.

##### Review of s6 duty: Positive actions

- A grant application to the Heritage Lottery for habitat restoration of one of the Turbary areas and improved access with the intention of creating a community nature reserve has been successful. Pre application work identified community members interested in volunteering to support the care of Aberithon Turbary. During the development of the project a small survey also indicated the interest and knowledge of local people in the natural environment around them.
- Worked with Radnorshire Wildlife Trust to develop a wildflower verge in Newbridge on Wye.
- During the Pandemic we planted flowers through a Local Places for Nature scheme (part of the Welsh Government's 'Local Places for Nature fund') in Newbridge on Wye. These have been enjoyed and we look forward to seeing them thrive over the next couple of years.
- In Llanyre the pandemic increased the number of people using the outdoor spaces, in particular the recreation field where although general cutting has been reduced a 'pathway' has been cut to increase easy access around the outside of the field.
- Community members have planted trees in a small area of the field and an active community group working with the Community Council to redevelop the Childrens play area raised sponsorship to plant bulbs and wild flowers.
- In Pritchard's Wood we continue to use bark/wood chippings on pathways and where hedges and small trees are cut back brush and branches are piled to provide habitats for invertebrates.

## Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6

### The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2022

- The council supported a community lead redesigned information board for the Wood – this not only described some of the flora and fauna found there and the benefits of the wood to biodiversity but was also produced using locally sourced recycled materials.
- In 2021 a plant list for the Llanyre Open spaces was produced.

What have the barriers been?

Barriers have included limited resources to undertake projects and to actively promote the value of biodiversity to others .

Covid-19 reduced the opportunity for new project development events and discouraged community engagement in some of the planned projects. During the lockdown periods the council did not received small community grant applications and during 2022 the cost of living crisis has appeared to continue to discourage community activity and volunteering.

How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed?

Biodiversity and the environment are an underpinning principle of the Community Council and consideration to these is given appropriately when planning new projects, commenting on planning applications, we will continue to consider the environmental impact of its procurement decisions, and will give due priority to environmental concerns alongside price and other determining factors.

S6 will be a policy agenda item at the Annual Meeting of the Council and we will seek to report as required.

Action carried out to:		Monitored by:
embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement	Take into account biodiversity considerations when considering planning applications and other associated matters.  Reflected in the management of our green spaces.	Decisions on planning applications.  Grass cutting contract.
raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance	Encourage the community to volunteer in the context of nature/green spaces.  Encourage contractor to engage with residents whilst undertaking management of our green spaces.	Through feedback from Council members and residents.
safeguard principal species and habitats	Ensured no negative impacts on protected species.	Species diversity maintained or improved.

## Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6

### The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2022

	<p>Appropriate cutting regimes for green spaces.</p> <p>Control of invasive and competing species.</p> <p>Limit use of herbicides.</p>	
restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	<p>Late hay cut taken from recreation field.</p> <p>Limit the number of cuts from non-amenity areas.</p> <p>Work with NRW to develop appropriate management plans for SSSIs.</p>	Species diversity maintained or improved.
tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species	<p>Green waste is composted.</p> <p>Ensure contractor has necessary qualifications and works to industry environmental standards.</p> <p>Limit use of pesticides, relying more on mechanical measures.</p>	<p>Record of invasive species tackled.</p> <p>Amount of pesticide applied.</p>
use improve and share evidence	<p>Take advice from NRW.</p> <p>Proactively work with contractor to manage green spaces.</p> <p>Open Council meetings.</p> <p>Report our actions on our website and noticeboards</p>	<p>Use of expert advice.</p> <p>Flexible contracts.</p>
support capacity and/or other organisations	<p>Organised working group to improve appearance of play park.</p> <p>Developing plan for residents to become involved in managing woodland area.</p> <p>Encourage use of green spaces by residents.</p>	<p>Number of people attending working group.</p> <p>Number of residents regularly using green spaces.</p>

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	Actively promote biodiversity support opportunities by sharing information.	
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