

**LLANTWIT FARDRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANILLTUD FAERDREF**



BIODIVERSITY POLICY

- 1.1 In accordance with **SECTION 6 of the ENVIRONMENTAL (WALES) ACT, 2016** this Community Councils will seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of functions in relation to the Community of Llantwit Fardre and the Wards that it serves namely, Church Village, Efail Isaf, Llantwit

Fardre and Tonteg, and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems, so far as consistent with the proper exercise of those functions.

- 1.2 This means, that when managing our parks and outdoor spaces the Council should also be seeking opportunities to maintain and enhance wildlife that these areas support and manage the habitats that they live in such as grassland and trees.
- 1.3 The duty also supports our wider remit under the Wellbeing and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 so that Wales benefits from a more prosperous economy, a healthier and more resilient environment and a more vibrant, cohesive communities.

2 Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 The object of this policy is to work towards enhancing and protecting the biodiversity of the areas that are maintained by the Llantwit Fardre Community Council.
- 2.2 All committees of Llantwit Fardre Community Council will consider sustainability, Environmental impact and biodiversity when making decisions and will develop and implement policies and strategies as required. Llantwit Fardre Community Council will aim to improve the biodiversity of the areas in the following ways:
- Consider the potential impact on biodiversity represented by planning applications
 - Manage its land and property using environmentally friendly practices that will promote biodiversity
 - Support local businesses & council operations where possible in adoption of negligible impact practices
 - Support residents and local groups / organisations with activities to enhance and promote biodiversity.

3. Actions

3.1 Planning applications

- Where Members consider and comment on any planning application, they are reminded take to consider all aspects of biodiversity and look for conservation and integration of existing habitats or the provision of new habitats.
- support protection of sensitive habitats from development and will consider whether the development would mean the loss of important habitats for wildlife in respect of all applications.
- Members are reminded to consider what each proposed development might make in terms of biodiversity net gain and seek to go over and above 10% where possible.

3.2 Local Community

- The Community Council will raise public awareness of biodiversity issues, including through its website and social media platforms
- The Community Council will engage with local businesses and residents regarding biodiversity in the community and how members of the community can assist and have influence.
- It will where feasible, involve the community in biodiversity projects on its land including for example tree planting, wildflower planting and litter picking.

3.3 Partnership Working

- Llantwit Fardre Community Council will work in partnership with other organisations to protect, promote and enhance biodiversity within its community.
- The Council will review any local recovery strategies, species conservations strategies, or protected sites in respect of local special scientific interest and consider how to become more involved to implement the strategies recommendations

- An action plan has been drawn up and will be updated each year to show the progress made against its objectives and will be reported annually at the meeting of the Community Council and incorporated within the Annual Report.

MAIN ACTION PLAN

	SITE / OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OUTCOME	Target	Reporting /Publicity
A	Whole Council Area protect and support biodiversity	1.Raise local awareness of biodiversity.	To Gain local support for action	Ongoing Create social media posts about areas of local interest	Website Social media Notice boards Council Meetings
		2. Encourage suitable planting to support biodiversity.	Connect & diversify habitats to meet the needs of a variety of wildlife species	Ongoing Work with RCTCBC trees officer	Website Social media Notice boards Council Meetings
		3. Take expert advice on the management of sites	Sustain & enhance natural habitats	Ongoing Liaise with RCT and One Voice Wales local places for nature officer	Website Social media Council Meetings
		4. Encourage residents to remove litter and pick up after themselves and their dogs.	Protected and encourage residents to love where they live and take pride in all areas of Llantwit Fardre Community Council	Ongoing Support the setup of a litter picking group	Website Social media Notice boards Council Meetings

		5. Work with volunteers. Contractors and other agencies to enhance the area of the Council's environment.	Protected and encourage residents to love where they live and take pride in all areas of Llantwit Fardre Community Council, Enhancing our environment and community engagement.	Ongoing Support the set up of a new litter picking group	Website Social media Notice boards Council Meetings
		6. Plant more diverse hedging and wildflowers wherever possible.	Enhancing the habitat for all species	Ongoing Work with RCTCBC trees officer Plant wild flower seed	Website Social media Notice boards Council Meetings
		7. Cutting back hedges, providing bird boxes and maintaining paths to take place outside of nesting season	Enhancing the habitat for all species	Ongoing New bird boxes to be made from any scrap or left over timber from other projects	Website Social media Notice boards Council Meetings
		8. Plant new trees and replace any trees that have been felled due to the being unsafe.	Enhancing the habitat for all species, making safe areas for residents to use and admire.	Ongoing Work with RCTCBC trees officer	Social media Notice boards Council Meetings Website

				Purchase new trees to be planted	
B	Tonteg & Station Rd Allotments	1.Encourage allotment holders to continue to embrace biodiversity and recognise their contribution	Protecting / enhancing habitats Protection Wildlife	Ongoing Work with our allotment committees	Social media Notice boards Council Meetings Website
		2.Encourage the use of organic treat rather than chemicals and pesticides	Protecting / enhancing habitats Protection Wildlife	Ongoing	Social media Notice boards Council Meetings Website
		3.Hedge cutting to take place outside of bird nesting season	Protecting / enhancing habitats Protection Wildlife	Ongoing	Social media Notice boards Council Meetings Website
C	The Built Landscape	1.Ensure that planning consultations are considered against the requirement of the LDP.	Enhancing the habitat and environment	Ongoing	
		2.Provision of land for allotment space should be considered on all suitable larger applications to assist LFCC in its	Enhancing and extending habitats alone with encouraging a healthy lifestyle of residents and their wellbeing.	Ongoing	Social media Notice boards Council Meetings Website

		statutory duty to provide these and further biodiversity			
		Encourage hedgehog /small animals highways with permeable boundaries	Enhancing and extending habitats	Ongoing Consider this when any new fence installations take place	
D	Increase Community awareness of biodiversity	Ask residents for their views on what they would like to see done to conserve biodiversity within the Community Council areas	Engagement / ownership of biodiversity	Ongoing	Social media Notice boards Council Meetings Website. Consultations
		Raise awareness of the importance of gardens as habitats for wildlife , with ideas for actions highlighted on website.	Promote Biodiversity	Ongoing Create a social media post about our local wildlife	Social media Notice boards Website
		Maintain a page on Community Councils website for actions taken along with on going projects	Promote Biodiversity	Ongoing	Promote Biodiversity

E	Support Community Projects	Support hedge/ tree planting in any appropriate area	Extending habitats	Ongoing Working with RCTCBC tree officer Purchase new trees and hedging	Social media Notice boards Council Meetings Website.
		Working in partnership with schools to develop young people's awareness of environmental areas within the Community Council Land	Engagement / ownership of biodiversity and encouraging the next generation to be aware of its surroundings	Ongoing	
		Consider events and offer volunteering opportunities to support biodiversity working with local organisations.	Engagement / ownership of biodiversity	Ongoing	

