

CYNGOR CYMUNED DYSERTH

DYSERTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL



ENVIRONMENT (WALES) ACT 2016

SECTION 6 BIODIVERSITY and RESILIENCE

OF ECOSYSTEMS DUTY

POLICY STATEMENT & ACTION PLAN

2021 - 2026

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – Section 6, the Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty.

Dyserth sits on the boundary of the Clwydian range AONB, encompassing two areas designated as SSSI; Maes Hiraddug a neutral grassland and Moel Hiraddug designated for both its geology and limestone grassland.

The population of the Dyserth Council area is 2,028 (January 2023 Register of Electors).

The Dyserth Community Council precept for the financial year 2023 / 2024 is £48,500.00. This amount is precept on residential properties within the community and equates to a figure of £41.92p per household on a Band D property.

Currently the Community Council have a green area of land which consists of a children's play area and multi-use games area. The Council are the owners of a field on the perimeter of the Council boundary, whereby this area is currently being cultivated for bio-diversity.

Objective ⁱ	Action	Proposed date	Reporting / Monitoring
Engage and support participation and understanding	Whole Council introduction workshop with use of WG produced slides	November, 2021	Councilors' provided with WG slides prior to meeting, together with Pdf copy of

to embed biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels			Supporting Nature
	Develop and publish the plan	November, 2021	Leave blank
	Consider embedding biodiversity in processes considering planning applications/ procurement/reports to council	On-going	Bio-diversity comments passed in relevant planning applications.
	Consider further carbon and nature literacy training	End of 2022 / 2023 financial year	Awaiting suitable course
	Support wider community understanding – articles in local publications, social media posts	On-going	Relevant articles received are shared within Council reports to residents
Safeguard species and habitats of principal importance and improve their management	Manage landholdings for the benefit of nature	Creating a Wildflower meadow at the Community Council owned Burial ground, Preserving habitat (Large area of native trees) in the recently purchased Lime Kiln area whilst creating a space for the community to enjoy, and learn about local history.	
	Promote species recording	The Council have promoted the recording of species to COFNOD, the local recording centre, to inform potential developers of protected species.	
	Promote links with local conservation projects	Links to local projects are generally received from both the Welsh Government and Denbighshire County Council. This information is forwarded to Councillors and others within the community	
Increase the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and	Manage landholdings for the benefit of nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating a Wildflower meadow at the Burial ground, Obtaining bee friendly status for Weavers Lane grassland and sewing 1kg native wildflower mix, Preserving habitat (Large area of native trees) in the recently purchased Lime Kiln area whilst 	

<p>habitat creation</p>		<p>creating a space for the community to enjoy, and learn about local history.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite the community to plant native trees around the burial ground perimeter, to provide a haven for wildlife with berry varieties such as Fruit, Yew, Blackthorn (Sloe) and Haw etc, whilst preparing the area for future use as a memorial garden. • Plant a Native Hedgerow within the burial area along the length of old fencing adjacent to the old road where the fence is to be recovered. • Encourage Biodiversity at St Georges field such as allowing growth as has been done around the perimeter of the football field, maybe planting more native trees where there are none. • Proceed with the "Millennium garden" at the Pavilion with careful selection of pollinators where possible.
	<p>Promote links with local conservation projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installing 28 swift boxes within the village with Dyserth Environmental group and North Wales Wildlife Trust. • Installed bird boxes in Gibb's wood with D.E.G and pupils from Ysgol Hiraddug. • Invite the community to plant native trees around the burial ground perimeter, to provide a haven for wildlife with berry varieties such as Fruit, Yew, Blackthorn (Sloe) and Haw etc, whilst preparing the area for future use as a memorial garden. D.E.G members and Dyserth W.I. have assisted along with local community members.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant a Native Hedgerow within the burial area along the length of old fencing adjacent to the old road where the fence is to be recovered. D.E.G members and Dyserth W.I. have assisted along with local community members. • Work as we do with the Dyserth Environmental Group and Wildlife Trust to promote good practice with regards Biodiversity, and supporting the local Maes Hiraddug SSSI fields wherever we can.
	<p>Apply for bee friendly status</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtaining bee friendly status for Weavers Lane grassland and sewing 1kg native wildflower mix. • Creating a wildflower area in a section of St. Bridget's Churchyard • Creating a Wildflower meadow at the Burial ground, and applying for Bee friendly status at both sites.
	<p>Promote private residential biodiversity enhancement (E.g. planting for pollinators, bird and bat boxes) and uptake of schemes like hedgehog street</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both encouragement for wildlife and "untidy" areas in gardens are continually promoted via our local Dyserth Times magazine, by members of the Community Council and articles have been written regarding the use of "Hedgehog Highway" by council members which have been well received locally. • Bird boxes have been installed all over the village including Swift, Tawny Owl, and mixed passerine boxes on private land and property with the owners kind permissions to great effect. Local school pupils have been involved in building and providing some of these boxes.

	Consider community consultation for biodiversity enhancement opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of wildlife garden at Ysgol Hiraddug in partnership with North Wales Wildlife Trust • Creating a wildflower area in a section of St. Bridget's Churchyard • Careful regulation and restraint by contractors hired to cut back foliage and grass so as not to ruin wildflower sensitive areas when undertaking the work. • Engage local farmers and land owners to avoid early cutting of Berry bearing hedgerows where safety is not an issue, ideally reduce the number of heavy cuts from annual to every few years on internal field hedgerows where it can be done realistically. This will massively assist migratory birds that rely on these vital sources of winter food, and provide better nesting sites for resident and Summer migrant species. 	
Tackle key pressures on species and habitats	Save energy, reduce waste, sustainable procurement	On-going	The Council forward to both Councillors and residents relevant information
<i>Action towards mitigating impact of Climate change, Invasive Non native species, Habitat Loss</i>	Support community climate action	On-going	Councillors have completed a number of on-line surveys – with a request to forward to residents for completion
	Support action on key biodiversity threats, this can include, control of invasive non native species, prevention of habitat loss and/or degradation	On-going	Councillors have completed a number of on-line surveys – with a request to forward to residents

Improve our evidence, understanding and monitoring	Link with DCC and other Town/Community Councils	The Council are linked by a global e-mail contact list with all Town & Community Councils in Denbighshire	
	Share information and evidence with local conservation groups and charities	On-going	Relevant information is shared
	Promote national environmental recording schemes like Big garden birdwatch, big butterfly count	On-going	Relevant information is shared
Put in place a framework of governance and support for delivery.	Publish a Section 6 Biodiversity Plan	November 2021	Completed and adopted and published on the 8 th November, 2021
	Appoint a lead Officer or Champion	Chair of Council and all Council Members	
	Create an Environment Committee to progress actions	Chair of Council and all Council Members	
	Schedule progress updates	See updates section on last page	
	Schedule annual review of the plan	This bio-diversity plan will be reviewed by full Council in October of each year, or earlier, if necessary and recorded in minute book	

This Section 6 Bio-diversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty was adopted by Dyserth Community Council on Monday 8th November, 2021 - Minute number: 7(C). 196/21 - and will be reviewed in October of each year, or prior, if necessary.

The Community Council are extremely grateful to the Members of the Dyserth Environmental Group for their assistance.

Updates:

December, 2022

In accordance with the Environmental (Wales) Act, 2016 – this Council provides the following update as required up to December, 2022.

The Dyserth Community Council have actively promoted biodiversity within the community:

- Continue to share information with residents
- Completed on-line surveys
- Receive County reports and continue to liaise with the Denbighshire County Council Bio-diversity Officers
- The Council have further increased biodiversity on Council owned land (as reported below in March 2022 and March 2023)
- Continue to include bio-diversity comments to planning applications, when applicable

- Created a Community Garden adjacent to the children’s play area. Council will discuss further planting wildflowers in this area

Community Tree Planting Day - March 2022

420 saplings planted by volunteers and provided free of charge by the Woodland Trust



Community Tree Planting Day - March 2023

A further 420 saplings planted by volunteers and provided free of charge by the Woodland Trust



