

St Brides Minor Community Council – Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Reporting – The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty

<p>Short description of PA & its functions and context in relation to biodiversity (e.g. management of land, influence over land management, or indirect influence through procurement, funding projects, etc)</p>	<p>The Community Council has responsibility for/influence over land at the following sites, which have an impact on biodiversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heol y Mynydd Community Gardens• Rights of Way footpaths within the Bryncethin, Bryncoch and Sarn wards <p>Heol y Mynydd Community Gardens is a community allotment site set on two areas of land divided by a footpath which leads on to Coity Wallia Common, which is managed by Coity Wallia Conservators. The Gardens are run by a volunteer committee. The Community Council give grants for projects at the site.</p> <p>The Rights of Way are maintained by a contractor working on behalf of the Community Council. The footpaths are maintained under an Agency Agreement between the Local Authority, Bridgend County Borough Council and St Brides Minor Community Council. The Community Council makes a claim for reimbursement of some of the costs of maintaining the footpaths from the Local Authority each year.</p> <p>In addition, the Community Council employs a contractor to cut grass at the following green spaces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y Cymdda, Sarn• Sarn Cemetery <p>and we organise flower beds and hanging baskets along the main spine roads through the 3 wards of Bryncethin, Bryncoch and Sarn.</p> <p>We serve approximately 4,689 residents. The precept for 2019-20 was £58,170.</p>
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Action carried out to:		Monitored by:
-embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement	Takes into account biodiversity considerations when considering planning applications and other associated matters, such as footpath diversion orders.	Consideration of biodiversity demonstrated in discussions and decisions on planning applications
-raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance	-----	-----
-safeguard principal species and habitats	-----	-----
-restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	Planted hanging baskets and flower beds with native pollinator friendly flowers. There are several bird boxes at the Community Gardens.	Area of habitat increased
-tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species	Waste paper shredded and recycled Toner cartridges recycled	The Clerk to ensure sustainable procurement of office supplies including paper
-use, improve and share evidence	Work with Coity Wallia Conservators and Commoners to maintain footpaths and ensure fly tipping is removed on Coity Wallia Common. The Commoners also help protect habitats and have built ponds to improve the biodiversity on the Common.	Use their expert advice
-support capacity, and/or other organisations	-----	-----
Key outcomes: use narrative and metrics where possible	The creation of flower beds and provision of hanging baskets has been a success, especially as they enhance the	

	<p>attractiveness of the community to residents in addition to helping biodiversity.</p>
<p>Review points, for e.g. enablers and barriers to action, improvements to forward plan</p>	<p>There is a lack of expertise within the Community Council to identify best practice, but with research and consideration given to biodiversity when employing contractors this will improve.</p> <p>We will work with the Local Biodiversity Officer to seek advice.</p>
<p>How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed?</p>	<p>The duty will be monitored by reporting back to the council on the success or otherwise of the actions taken through regular inspections.</p> <p>The Community Council will review the S6 plan in light of this reporting and any other evidence or information that is made available to the Council. At the time of this report's publication, there is no specific time or date set for the plan to be reviewed, but this will be done within the next year.</p>