

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLYSFAEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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**LLYSFAEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
BIODIVERSITY REPORT**

under

Environment (Wales) Act 2016

December 2022

Llysfaen Community Council and its functions in relation to biodiversity

Llysfaen Community Council is a small village Council made up of volunteer Councillors from the communities of Llysfaen village and Parc Peulwys. The Council runs a Community Cemetery, however does not own any other specific areas of land directly, and hence only has direct management over this one area of land. It has influence over the land management as owned by Conwy County Borough Council. It potentially has indirect influence over local community groups and individuals through project funding, procurement, grant funding and environment.

Llysfaen Community Council actions carried out

Action carried out to:-	Actions carried out	Being monitored by:
- embed biodiversity into decision making and procurement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council have reviewed all policies, processes and procedures within its work to ensure that biodiversity is considered within all decision making and discussions.• In our role as a statutory consultee within planning matters, full Council is mindful of potential impact to the biodiversity of the area.	The Environment Committee.
- raise awareness of biodiversity and its importance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council have been involved in the promotion and enhancement of the butterfly population on Mynydd Marian, as part of the Marian Action Group.• Council promoted the engagement of the community to the Marian butterfly events.• Councillors have attended regular meetings and events as part of the Marian Action Group.• Councillors consulted with the community at a local event about biodiversity and the key priorities that the Council were working on, gaining feedback on the plan.• Actively promoted the big bird count by sharing information on our socials and	The Environment Committee.

	<p>encouraging village participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of village walks creating awareness of the natural beauty of the area. 	
- safeguard principle species and habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with Marian Action Group to safeguard species and habitats that are within the area of the Mynydd Marian. • Council has worked with the local horticultural society and provided pollinator friendly seed packs to individuals attending their events. • Supportive of Conwy Councils program of grass cutting that allows grass and borders to grow to enhance biodiversity. 	The Environment Committee.
- restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council are in the process of reviewing the potential for the creation of new habitats. • Council are investigating the opportunity to be a 'Bee Friendly Village'. 	The Environment Committee.
- tackle negative factors; for instance reducing pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tidy up Llysfyaen Initiative undertaken at least annually to tidy up the village, and litter pick around the main areas of the village. • Council has challenged idling of buses within the village and continue to monitor this village air pollution factor. • Council has challenged the environmental impact of the landfill in regards to the smells emanating from the site. Worked to reduce the impact to the community with the Landfill management group. • Provision of Dog waste bags for free in the village and encourage clean pathways. 	The Environment Committee.
- use, improve and share evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council have provided information to the community, via the notice boards, on the Butterfly population and events. • Council has added content to the website to inform the community about the biodiversity plan, and outcomes. • Council seeks to implement an edible garden within the village, for which budget has been made available. • Council has encouraged the community to plant pollinator friendly plants within their gardens. • 	The Environment Committee.
- support capacity, and/or other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council has and will continue to support the Marian Advisory Group and any 	The Environment

organisations	<p>initiatives that it develops to maintain and enhance biodiversity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council continues to support the horticultural society in whichever ways it can to enhance growing of produce and plants within the village gardens. • Council are in the processes of developing website content to promote the various environmental organisations within the area. • Council supports the County Council in its endeavours to reduce the impact of cotoneaster on the Marian. • Council continues to work with the County Council and open spaces to support all activities within the area. 	Committee.
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Key outcomes

Council is committed to build on the foundations it has developed over the past 3 years. Council are working towards further actions within the next 3 years which will see a wider range of activities to protect, enhance and create the habitats required to ensure biodiversity within the village. The pandemic has impacted the ability of Council to move forward with some of the activities it planned for 2019-22, these activities are currently being reviewed and a new action plan is being launched in December 2022. Council are also intent on being pro-active in challenging retrospective planning applications that have damaged the habitats of the local species.

Review points

As a rural village with farms and green spaces abundant, there is already a good emphasis on biodiversity within the area – and equally in the residential areas, such as within the local Hedgehog watch group, and the Marian Action Group.

There is now a plan for 2023 onwards to move forward a number of initiatives to further educate, communicate, engage and develop awareness and activities for biodiversity from the Community Council.

Regular monitoring of Biodiversity action plan

The biodiversity action plan, discussed and agreed at full Council, will form the activities of the Environment Committee, who will meet on a monthly basis, and who will implement the plan according to the agreed schedule. Terms of reference for the committee have been produced.

County Council Activities

Council County Council work to preserve the SSI limestone grassland on the Marian, which is work funded by Natural Resources Wales and Conwy County Council. They ensure that the site is monitored for inappropriate use, clear litter and maintain site infrastructure. Work has recently been carried out on the quarry face to remove loose rock caused by natural erosion with special care to preserve the site.

