

Duhonw Community Council

Biodiversity Plan

November 2022



Environment Wales Act 2016 Section 6

1. Introduction

Community & Town Councils are required under the Environment Wales Act 2016 Section 6 to prepare and publish a plan setting out what it proposes to do to comply with the duty to Maintain and Enhance Biodiversity within their current work areas.

Public authorities must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of functions in relation to Wales, and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems, so far as consistent with the proper exercise of those functions.

This plan demonstrates Duhonw Community Council's commitment to and responsibility for complying with the duty.

2. Duhonw

Duhonw Community Council was created following a 1985 review by the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales, amalgamating the four small communities of Llanddewi'r Cwm, Llangynog, Llanynis and Maesmynis. It lies to the south of Builth Wells. The Community Council area covers 4375.74 hectares and, at the 2011 census had a population of 294 people. It thus has a population density of 0.1 person per hectare.

The Church Hall is an important community facility.

3. Wildlife and Biodiversity

Duhonw Community Council area sits within the Epynt , Natural Landscape Area (NLCA 28). The Sennybridge Military Ranges make up a large part of this area and are off limits to the public, except via The Epynt Way Trail. They are a SSSI.

The Epynt Ranges are important for grassland wax cap fungi. They support mammals such as hares and birds such as Red Kite. Elsewhere in the Community Council area includes woodlands important for species such as wood warbler and pied flycatcher.

4. Audit of Functions – What we do now

Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales Objective	Action carried out to:	Duhonw Action
Objective 1: Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels	<p>-embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement</p> <p>-raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance</p>	<p>The Community Council will:</p> <p>Review its policies to ensure that biodiversity is at the heart of all it does.</p> <p>Reflect its commitment to biodiversity and natural areas in the Council's Annual Report.</p> <p>Take into account biodiversity considerations when considering planning applications and other associated matters.</p> <p>Support local organisations to embed biodiversity into local activity e.g. Church and Church Hall.</p>
Objective 2: Safeguard species and habitats of principal importance and improve their management	-safeguard principal species and habitats	The Community Council does not own or manage any land but will support those organisations that do in the area. In particular it will liaise with the MOD to support its biodiversity activities.
Objective 3: Increase the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and habitat creation	-restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	It will pass any concerns to the relevant officers in Powys County Council.
Objective 4: Tackle key pressures on species and habitats	-tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature-based solutions, address invasive species	

Objective 5: Improve our evidence, understanding and monitoring	-use, improve and share evidence	The Community Council will continue to work with other organisations including for the well-being of the community.
Objective 6: Put in place a framework of governance and support for enhancing biodiversity. Warmer temperatures over time are changing weather patterns and disrupting the usual patterns of nature, This poses many risks to human beings and the forms of life on earth.	-support capacity, and/or other organisations	

5. Barriers and enablers

Barriers

Limited ability to impact on biodiversity:

- The Community Council does not manage or own any land.
- It does not undertake any maintenance work but reports issues directly to the relevant organisations.

Enablers

As a small community it is easy to work with other community groups on joint projects. The Community Council has excellent links with other community groups.

6. Monitoring and Review

This plan will be reviewed in 2025

Adopted by Duhonw Community Council

Date...10/01/2023.....

Signed ...L Samuel..... Chairperson