

Templeton Community Council

Biodiversity and ecosystem resilience report – in accordance with Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

Templeton Community Council is committed to reducing the decline of biodiversity in its area and realises the importance of biodiversity conservation and enhancement for our community's health and wellbeing and enables behaviour change towards a sustainable lifestyle.

Under the Environment (Wales) Act (2016) all public bodies in Wales are required to;

- Maintain and enhance biodiversity when carrying out their responsibilities and in doing so promote the resilience of ecosystems
- Demonstrate an ecosystem approach by applying the principles set out in the Act.
- Prepare and publish a plan outlining how they intend to fulfil the duty
- Publish a report, every three years, on the actions which they have taken to meet this duty

The Council owns the Village Green, the adjacent North Green, and also the village Play Park. The Council abides by the above requirements in the following ways:

- Monitoring every planning application to ensure that existing habitats including hedgerows are maintained where possible.
- If hedgerow has to be removed e.g. for a new access then the Council would request that a new hedgerow to be planted to maintain the biodiversity options in that area.
- Seek to have maintenance done on e.g. clearing roadside ditches to provide a favourable environment for diversity e.g. allow free flowing water to encourage potential water vole habitation.
- Monitor planning applications to protect species that are considered endangered or at risk such as the bats, starlings, song thrushes, wagtails etc.
- Councillors are aware of the need to report any Japanese Knotweed or Himalayan Balsam to Pembrokeshire County Council for eradication.
- We circulate information to Councillors and organisations within our community of grants available to create more nature friendly areas.
- We avoid the use of herbicides and other chemicals that are toxic to wildlife and do not permit any contractors carrying out work on our land to use them.
- We encourage an environment that is biodiverse as much as possible, whilst maintaining the area safe for all users. Hedges and trees are trimmed where necessary for safety but allowed to grow spontaneously in open areas.

Adopted at the Templeton Community Council meeting held on Thursday 20th November 2025