

# CYNGOR CYMUNED CHWITFFORDD

## WHITFORD 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.

The administrative area of Whitford Community Council covers the following villages: Carmel, Gorsedd, Lloc, Pantasaph, and Whitford. The population of the area is 1,898 (January 2023 Register of Electors).

The Whitford Community Council precept for the financial year 2023 / 2024 is £59,000.00. This amount is precept on residential properties within the community, and equates to a figure of £50.08 per household on a Band D property.

At the current time, Whitford Community Council are owners of two areas of land namely: Pen Y Gelli Nature reserve in Lloc and The Bryn in Carmel – as referred to within this document. Both these areas are nature and biodiversity friendly.

Objective <sup>i</sup>	Action	Proposed date	Reporting / Monitoring
Engage and support participation and understanding to embed	Whole Council introduction workshop with use of WG produced slides. Flintshire County Council – Supporting Nature in Flintshire – Action Plan January 2020 to December 2023	November, 2021	Councillors' provided with WG slides prior to meeting, together with Pdf copy of

biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels			Supporting Nature in Flintshire.
	Develop and publish the plan	November, 2021	Plan agreed by full Council on the 4 <sup>th</sup> November, 2021. Plan published on Council web site
	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	The Council own a nature reserve named Pen Y Gelli Quarry in Lloc – adjacent to the A5026 road. (Photographs on last page)  The Council are custodians of an area of land named The Bryn, in Carmel (Photographs on last page)	
	Promote species recording	The Council have promoted this	
	Promote links with local conservation projects	The Council are currently working with Flintshire County Council Bio-diversity Officers to identify further areas within the community.	
		Flintshire County Council have agreed to hold a Records Day at Pen Y Gelli Quarry during 2023  The County have provided a new nature sign for The Bryn in Carmel	

Increase the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and habitat creation	Promote links with local conservation projects	Links to local projects are generally received from both the Welsh Government and Flintshire County Council. This information is forwarded to Councillors and others within the community	
	Apply for bee friendly status	As above	
	Promote private residential biodiversity enhancement (E.g. planting for pollinators, bird and bat boxes) and uptake of schemes like hedgehog street	On-going	The Council have in local publications and social media provided information in relation to a joint <b>Swift Recovery Project</b> – a new partnership between Flintshire County Council and North Wales Wildlife Trust
	Consider community consultation for biodiversity enhancement opportunities	On-going	The Council are awaiting the County Council bio-diversity recommendations, whereafter the residents will be consulted.
Tackle key pressures on species and habitats  <i>Action towards mitigating impact of Climate change, Invasive Non native species, Habitat Loss</i>	Save energy, reduce waste, sustainable procurement	On-going	The Council forward to both Councillors and residents relevant information
	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 FCC and other Town/Community Councils	The Council are linked by a global e-mail contact list with all Town & Community Councils in Flintshire	
	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 published on the 4 <sup>th</sup> 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 bio-diversity plan was agreed by full Council on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2021, under minute number 6(C). 198/21 and will be reviewed in October each year, or earlier, if necessary and recorded in minute book.**

**Updates:**

**December, 2022**

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

- The Whitford Community Council have actively promoted biodiversity within the community:
- Continue to share information with residents
- Completed on-line surveys
- Continue to liaise with the Flintshire County Council Bio-diversity Officers
- Identified local areas to be included in the Flintshire Bio-diversity projects plan

- Continue to include bio-diversity comments to planning applications, when applicable
- The Pen Y Gelli Nature Reserve has been identified for a Recorders Day; to be arranged by Flintshire Countryside Services
- Wildflower seed sowing has been completed in The Bryn area in Carmel

### Pen Y Gelli Quarry, Lloc



### The Bryn, Carmel

