

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

BIODIVERSITY AND RESILIENCE OF ECOSYSTEMS PLAN

DUTY (Part 1, Section 6, Environment (Wales) Act 2016)

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

1. Maintain and enhance biodiversity when carrying out their responsibilities and in doing so promote the resilience of ecosystems
2. Demonstrate an ecosystem approach by applying the principles set out in the Act
3. Prepare and publish a plan outlining how they intend to fulfil the duty
4. Publish a report, every three years, on the actions which they have taken to meet this duty A public authority, in complying with the Section 6 duty, must have regard to:
 - The Section 7 list of habitats and species of principle importance for Wales.
 - The State of Nature Report published by Natural Resources Wales.
 - Any area statement which covers all or part of the area in which the authority exercises its functions, once these are produced.

Complying with the Section 6 duty will also help Public Authorities subject to the Well-being of future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to maximise their contributions to the Well-being goals.

Objectives

- 1: Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision making at all levels
 - 2: Safeguard species and habitats of principal importance and improve their management
 - 3: Increase the resilience* of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and habitat creation.
 - 4: Tackle key pressures on species and habitats
 - 5: Improve our evidence, understanding and monitoring
- Objective
- 6: Put in place a framework of governance and support for delivery Town Council Land
 7. To provide where possible areas of wild gardens (in various forms) to improve pollination

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

Land under control of the Town Council

The Town Council owns and/or manages the following areas of land:

- a) Deri Woods and Goat Field (woodland and riverside walk)
- b) Mount Field Recreation Grounds
- c) Erw Ddwr (graveyard)
- d) St Mary's Churchyard
- e) Glanyafron Children's Playground
- f) Tennis Courts
- g) Public Toilets (and grassed bank down to riverside)
- h) Chapel of Rest with gardens
- i) Street Scene (street furniture)
- j) War Memorial

Of these, Deri Woods and Goat Field is the only site with a habitat of principal importance for Wales (as listed under Section 7 of the Act), in this case broadleaved woodland. Large parts of the site are designated by Natural Resource Wales as PAWS (Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site) and the site as a whole is the subject of an ancient woodland restoration plan (2016).

Deri Woods and Goat Field is home to seven Section 7 species of principal importance to Wales, these are: lesser horseshoe bat, pied flycatcher, wood warbler, dunnock, bullfinch, song thrush and September thorn moth. In addition, two further species of principal importance: otter and globe-flower occur on the adjacent Banwy riverside.

While it is important for the Town Council to manage all of its land with biodiversity in mind, because of the quantity of Section 7 species present and its status as a Section 7 habitat, Deri Woods and Goat Field provides the greatest opportunity for the Town Council to maintain and enhance the town's biodiversity.

It is likely that other Council open spaces are also used by two of the above Section 7 species, namely dunnock and song thrush.

Management

The Town Council is responsible for several outdoor areas as listed above. It ensures that all natural habitats are protected at all times.

The following sets out the management programme for land owned by the Council:

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

- i) Continue to implement the ancient woodland restoration plan for Deri Woods and Goat Field
- ii) Manage local town allotments (coming soon)
- iii) Climate Emergency – the Council has a separate Climate Change Policy.
- iv) Work with the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust to safeguard principal species and habitats.
- v) No herbicides or insecticides used in grounds maintenance
- vi) Trees assessed regularly with a maintenance programme.
- vii) Allocation of finances within the budget to sustain environmental projects and biodiversity.
- viii) Restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks.
- ix) Carefully monitor planning applications for removal of hedgerows and trees.
- x) Lopping or removing of dangerous or nuisance trees.
- xi) Exploring grant applications to extend works.
- xii) Regular recycling.
- xiii) Take wildlife into account when tidying planting areas.
- xiv) Activities record in annual monitoring review, included on Website and Facebook/Social Media
- xv) Regular reports from members on specific projects
- xvi) Continue to work in partnership with the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust (MTW) and the Friends of Deri Woods (FODW) volunteer group
- xvii) Award grants to local groups supporting biodiversity projects
- xviii) Where appropriate take over additional land from Powys County Council to enable further biodiversity projects and work to be carried out including wildflower planting
- xix) Encourage County Council to plant wildflowers on road verges and other land unsuitable for development
- xx) Monitor public rights of ways, their hedges or other boundaries, trees, streams and grassland.
- xxi) Encourage and support local schools and youth groups to engage in biodiversity projects
- xxii) Introduce biodiversity community consultations.
- xxiii) Involve local people in planting indigenous trees in town where appropriate.

A Town Plan with Action Plan has been approved covering the Council's objectives including those in this policy.

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

Review

When carrying out the normal duties of the council to:

- i) Consider the effect decisions made have on biodiversity and the environment.
- ii) Reduce use of paper by producing electronic documents.

Action Plan for period to 2025

	Action	Lead	Deadline	Resources
1	Undertake management and thinning of woodland at Deri Woods and Goat Field	LCTC FODW	2025	
2	Provide bird boxes, bat boxes and bug hotels at Deri Woods and Goat Field, Erw Ddwr and St Marys Churchyard	LCTC	2023	
3	Undertake Community Clean Up initiatives with local groups		annually	
4	Installation and maintain of benches and seating in Deri Woods and Goat Field	LCTC FODW		
5	Installation of Interpretation boards identifying trees, plants and wildlife in Deri Woods and Goat Field	FODW	2022	
6	Design and print of several walking leaflets promoting outdoor recreation			
7	Introduce pollinator friendly plants			
8	Provide organic allotments			
9	Maintain footpaths and drainage in Deri Woods			
10	Include this plans progress in the annual monitoring report.			

Nick Burton Chair FDW
R A Robinson
Town Clerk
March 2022