



Be kind



Bydawch yn garedig

COWBRIDGE (ANCIENT BOROUGH) with
LLANBLETHIAN TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF
Y BONTFAEN (Bwrdeistref Hynafol) gyda
LLANFLEIDDAN

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – Section 6 The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty

Reporting on Section 6

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6

The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2022-2023

Name of Town or Community Council: Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council

Introduction and Context

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council is classed as a larger council and is based in the heart of the Vale of Glamorgan. There are fifteen councillors, two full time officers, a full-time maintenance person and a part time caretaker. The Council has responsibility for a Grade II listed Town Hall, two large play parks, a cemetery and various small open spaces.

The Council's aim is to promote biodiversity in its open spaces with rewilding, placement of bat boxes, bird feeders and by planting trees. We were recently successful in obtaining a 'places for nature grant' which provided us with twelve ancient Welsh apple trees, a small amount of wildflower seeds, xxx bat boxes and xxx bird feeders. We are working on building relationships with the community to set up volunteers groups to support the maintenance of these areas. We recently held an online survey to invite residents' opinions for furnishing a local open space with the twelve new ancient apple trees.

The Council's precept is currently £215,000. The following details below are from the 2021 Census for Cowbridge with Llanblethian.

4,279 Population [2021] – *Census*

11.10 km² Area

385.6/km² Population Density [2021]

0.52% Annual Population Change [2011 → 2021]

The Town Council was not subject to the local well-being plan 2018-2023, however, will be subject to the next local well-being plan as its gross income is and has been at least £200,000 for each of the three preceding years to the planned publication date of 2023. This means that the Town Council must publish a report annually detailing its progress in meeting the objectives contained in the local well-being plan.

Action Report

Action carried out to:		Monitored by:
-embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement	Biodiversity is a permanent item on the agenda for the Town Council's Leisure * Amenities Committee.	Town Clerk Chair of L&A
-raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance	Officers of the Council are using electronic surveys, social media and the website to raise awareness in the local community and encourage residents to take part in planting and rewilding activities.	Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk & the Leisure & Amenities Committee
-safeguard principal species and habitats	Advice is taken prior to any activities such as hedge cutting and grass cutting that could have an adverse effect on local species and habitats. Grass cutting is economical and hedges are only pruned outside nesting season.	Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk & the Leisure & Amenities Committee
-restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	Work is currently taking place in open spaces to restore wild flowers and trees, along with the placement of bat and bird boxes.	Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk & the Leisure & Amenities Committee
-tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species	No chemicals such as pesticides and weed killer are used in our areas and due regard is taken of any area with invasive species which are cleared regularly.	Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk & the Leisure & Amenities Committee
-use improve and share evidence	The Council works closely with the 'Nature for Spaces' partnership to access support and advice, whilst sharing its achievements.	Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk
-support capacity and/or other organisations	The Council liaises with Cowbridge volunteer gardeners and local litter picker group.	Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk
Review of s6 duty		
- What has worked well? What have the barriers been? What will you change? Encouraging local people to get involved is working well, the main barrier is the capacity of council staff to manage projects as we are only a small team. - How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed? The s6 duty will be monitored bi monthly at the Council's Leisure & Amenities Committee meetings.		