|  |
| --- |
| **Cyngor Cymuned Tregolwyn****Colwinston Community Council** |

|  |
| --- |
| ***Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6******The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2022*** |
| **Colwinston Community Council** |
| **Introduction and Context**Colwinston Community Council serves approximately 500 residents with a precept of just under £18k. The Council runs a couple of community areas in the Village, the village green and little hill steps. In recent years with the help of a volunteer group it has reclaimed an area known as the Old Ford It has influence over the land management as owned by Vale of Glamorgan Council. It potentially has indirect influence over local community groups and individuals through project funding, procurement, grant funding and environment |
| **Action Report** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Action carried out to: | Actions Carried Out: | Monitored by: |
| -embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement | * Council is reviewing all policies, processes and procedures within its work to ensure that biodiversity is considered within all decision making and discussions.
* In our role as a statutory consultee within planning matters, full Council is mindful of potential impact to the biodiversity of the area.
 | Full Council |
| -raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance | * Council have been involved in the promotion and enhancement of the area known as the Old Ford Project. This includes the promotion of the community in regenerating this area.
* Councillors have instigated the setting up of a volunteer group to regenerate the Old Ford Area
* Council supports a regular volunteer village litter pick
 | Full Council |
| -safeguard principal species and habitats | * Worked with the Old Ford Group to safeguard species and habitats that are within this area.
* Following restoration of the well the council is actively protecting European Fresh Eels.
 | Full Council |
| -restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks | * The Council and Old Ford Group have restored an open area which includes a pond, well and a bridge. Invasive species have been removed and wild flowers, pollinators and natural plants have been returned.
* The Council are currently in the process of rescuing a neglected and now dangerous piece of ancient woodland.
 |  |
| -tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species | * Tidy up Colwinston Village which includes a regular litter pick around the village.
* Council is regular liaising with the village school in ways to reduce the number of parents driving their children to school as opposed to using the bus or walking.
* Council reviews all new planning applications and any adverse implications on the environment.
 | Full Council |
| -use improve and share evidence | * Council regularly contributes to the village newsletter with updates on the Old Ford Project
* Council has begun a community engagement project to improve the communication between council and residents.
 | Full Council |
| -support capacity and/or other organisations | * Council has and continues to support the Old Ford Volunteer Group.
* Council will continue to seek grants to continue the work on all its areas.
* Council continues to work with the County Council and open spaces to support all activities within the area.
* Council will continue to engage with the school on encouraging the children to get involved in their environment.
 | Full Council |

|  |
| --- |
| **Key Outcomes*** Council is committed to build on the foundations it has developed over the past years. Council are working towards further actions within the next 5 years which will see a wider range of activities to protect, enhance and create the habitats required to ensure biodiversity within the village
* Council are also intent on being pro-active in challenging retrospective planning applications that have damaged the habitats of the local species.
 |
| **Review Points**As a rural village with farms and green spaces abundant, there is already a good emphasis on biodiversity within the area – and equally in the residential areas.There is now a plan to move forward a number of initiatives to further educate, communicate, engage and develop awareness and activities for biodiversity from the Community Council.**Regular monitoring of Biodiversity action plan**The biodiversity action plan, discussed and agreed at full Council, will form the activities of the Council to implement the plan. |