

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 – Section 6 Reporting Schedule 2022

Name of Community Council – Betws y Coed Community Council (BYCCC)

<p>OVERVIEW OF COUNCIL COUNCIL'S APPROACH TO BIODIVERSITY</p> <p>Short description of the Council & its functions and context in relation how it could help biodiversity (through functions with regard to management of land, grant funding, education activities etc), spatial scale and place (e.g. how much land does it cover, population, precept?), public service delivery (e.g. is it subject to the Well-being of Future Generations (WFG) Act?)</p>	<p>Betws y Coed is a rural village in the county of Conwy, North Wales with a population of 450. It lies within the Eryri National Park (ENP) and the National Resource Wales (NRW) managed Gwydir Forest and approached by the A470 and A5. It is described as a visitor honeypot; is attractive to day visitors and in close proximity to Yr Wyddfa and the area popular for recreation such as walking, canoeing and mountain biking. During the height of tourist season the visitor numbers swell into the thousands each day and continues year round at weekends which impacts on the local community, infrastructure and open spaces.</p> <p>The Community Council are an active partner with ENP to fulfil the aims of The Eryri Management Plan and with the NRW Gwydir Forest Resource Plan.</p> <p>The Community Council has seats for eight members who represent the interests of the community.</p> <p>The Community Council is subject to the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015, BYCCC and recognise the importance of protecting and enhancing the environment.</p> <p>Whilst not owning any land, the Community Council manages a large area of open space, approximately 1ha in the village centre, namely Cae Llan; owned by Ancaster Estates who are owners of a number of areas in and around the village. BYCCC has fostered good working relationships with Conwy County Borough Council Open Spaces Team in the management of Cae Llan and are currently working in partnership on a biodiversity improvement/Local Places for Nature project (LPfN) which is in design stage. Eryri National Park own a small area of Cae Llan and are also partners in the co-design of environmental enhancements through the LPfN project.</p> <p>When the designs are prepared, BYCCC will facilitate an engagement opportunity where the residents and business community can view, learn, provide observations and become partners in the future of the project.</p>
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	<p>BYCCC also manages Swallow Falls, an area of woodland/visitor attraction, owned by Ancaster Estate and has a good working relationship with the as the landowner.</p> <p>BYCCC engage with and support the efforts of Betws di-blastig/Plastic Free Betws in their aim to reduce single use plastic and recognise the difference this makes to the environment. The group conduct a monthly litter-pick and publicise the amount of litter collected which contributes to pride in the community.</p> <p>BYCCC have designed a responsible dog owner awareness poster “Keep Betws Clean” which has been posted on village facebook pages and provided for use at hospitality establishments in association with the Betws y Coed Tourism Association.</p> <p>In accordance with BYCCC Environmental Policy, BYCCC aims to carry out its activities with environmental efficiency, actively seeking to protect and enhance biodiversity, the environment and open spaces within its area of operation whilst endeavouring to ensure wider adverse environmental impact does not occur as a result.</p> <p>Protection of the environment and open spaces is included as a key thematic in the Betws y Coed Community Plan of 2022 with a key objective to enhance community pride, preserve, protect and act to increase wildlife, hedgerows and trees within the village.</p>
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Action carried out to		Monitored by
-embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement		BYCCC with support from local volunteers and CCBC.
-raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance		Interpretation panel at Cae Llan
-safeguard principal species and habitats		As above
-restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks		Local Places for Nature project 24/25
-tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use		Purchase of cordless/rechargeable

nature-based solutions, address invasive species		power tools in place of petrol engine machinery
-use, improve and share evidence		
support capacity, and/or other organisations		Continue to work with Learning Disabilities Team on grounds maintenance
Review of s6 duty		
What has worked well?		
What have the barriers been?		
What will you change?		
How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed?		