**CYNGOR CYMUNED BONCATH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

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**Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – Section 6**

**The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2022**

**Introduction and Context**

Boncath Community Council is a small rural Council consisting of 7 Councillors and a Clerk. The council includes the parishes of Boncath and Blaenffos.

Boncath and Blaenffos villages are in the north of Pembrokeshire. There is a village shop in both villages as well as a chapel in Blaenffos.

Boncath and Blaenffos villages both have playing fields which are looked after by volunteers of which there are council representatives.

Boncath itself boasts the newly finished Berllan Aur Eco homes and Community gardens. There are 15 completed houses built -which are a Zero Carbon development.

The verges and gardens of the 10 affordable homes are created among forest gardens principles, with edible shrubs for hedges, a range of fruit trees, native and edible climbers, permanent living ground cover and UK native wild flowers.

Boncath is also home to the Sustainable award winning ‘Top of the Woods’ Eco luxury glamping and Camping Site who strive to enrich and protect the natural environment and where campers can go back to nature and go wild foraging in the Penrallt Woods.

The Ffynnone resilience Group keep the council informed of their projects through monthly newsletters and councillors are invited to attend their meetings and groups.

The Community Council itself does not have any responsibility for any land but keeps up to date and encourages Biodiversity and resilience at all times.

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| Requirement | Action |
| Embed biodiversity into decision making and procurement | The Council will consider the Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystemsin all futurekey decisions, which includes ensuring that biodiversity will be maintained and enhanced. |
| Raise awareness of biodiversity and its importance | The importance of enhancing biodiversity will be made clear in any communication with the community and will share information from other groups or agencies via FB community page and place posters in Notice Boards regarding biodiversity |
| Safeguard principal species and habitats | The Council is interested in the development of the gardens at Berllan Aur and the continuation of work going on with all other projects in the area. |
| Restore and create habitats and resilient ecological networks | The council will monitor any ongoing issues  In the area and work with home owners and also discuss future plans within the community i.e gardens at Berllan Aur etc |
| Tackle negative factors; for instance, reducing pollution, using nature-based solutions, addressing invasive species | The Council have in the past organised litter picks and will continue to work with members of the public in reporting any fly tipping etc to the appropriate authorities. |
| Use, improve and share evidence | Discussions with Berllan Aur residents and the owners of ‘Top of the Woods’ Eco glamping Site can enhance the councillor’s knowledge on how different systems have worked.  The Council can then act on information received from outside agencies regarding the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and will share information regarding biodiversity matters with the public as necessary  . |
| Support capacity, and/or other organisations | The Council will look to in the future support any organisations i.e. playing fields in both villages and the Ffynnone resilience team in making decisions in line with protecting and enhancing Bio diversity and any other organisations that are involved in environmental projects. |

**Review of Section 6 Duty**

When considering donations and grants, the Community Council will be giving greater thought to the matter of biodiversity.

The Community Council is aware that it needs to learn more and take an active role in ensuring that biodiversity is the way forward and will be taking steps to ensure that this can be achieved.

**How and when will the Section 6 duty be monitored and the S6 plan be reviewed?**

Boncath CC will review their biodiversity responsibilities annually at the Annual Meeting to ensure that they are doing as much as possible to embed the requirement of Biodiversity and resilience of Eco systems in the community and continue to learn from projects which are ongoing.