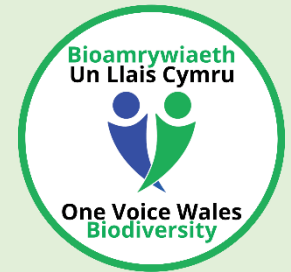


Llandyrnog Community Council



Site Visit Report

Date of visit: 18.11.25

Report by: Sam Langdon

Cocoa Rooms, Llandyrnog, Denbigh, LL16 4HG

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/j2Abm6uBEW7vnZLu8>

Observations

Llandyrnog CC is represented by 10 sitting councillors, covering one ward of around 1,100 residents. Llandyrnog is situated a few kilometres west of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape.

List the designated sites within 2km of the sites visited:]

- **Llwyn SSSI**
- [Llwyn SAC](#)

Background information

This area around the prominent hills of the Bryniau Clwyd has long been inhabited by people – the many Iron Age hillforts in the immediate vicinity are proof of this. The village of Llandyrnog itself has its origins in the founding of the local church by St Teyrnog in the 6th century. The village remained relatively unchanged for centuries; a cluster of houses built around the church. The current church dedicated to St Teyrnog was built in the 15th century. The area would have been comprised of a mix of broadleaf woodland and wetlands. As agriculture became more sophisticated and intensive, wetlands were drained and woodlands were cut down in place of arable farming. Today, agriculture is the dominant land-use in the area.



Map of Llandyrnog c.1830-80 (Royal Library of Scotland) and a satellite image of Llandyrnog (Google).

Site 1 – Cocoa and Reading Rooms

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/j2Abm6uBEW7vnZLu8>

This is the building used by the council for meetings. The building is owned by a registered charity – [Cocoa and Reading Rooms \(reg. 217230\)](#), with Llandyrnog Community Council acting as trustees. The building is attached to residential houses and has no accompanying land. The residential buildings it is attached to are [Grade II listed](#), though the Cocoa Rooms itself is not.

Suggestions for biodiversity enhancement

We discussed a few additions that could be made to the building that would benefit biodiversity. Namely adding water collection to the downpipes so that tap water was not used to water hanging baskets in the village and adding bird boxes to the eaves.

Water Collection

This could function purely as rainwater harvesting to be used to water the hanging baskets in the village. Traditional hanging baskets are very water intensive; being exposed on all sides to the wind and sun means they evaporate water much faster than the ground. Water also just flows straight out of the bottom. While hanging baskets are often the only means of growing flowers in an urban environment – where there isn't enough pavement space for a planter, for example – we shouldn't overlook the wasteful water usage, especially as our springs and summers become dryer and hotter.

To get around this, I suggested installing a water butt on the downpipe of the cocoa rooms to collect water that can be used instead of valuable tap water. A water butt costs as little as £20 and can be installed with no specialised equipment or skills. You could also replace the hanging baskets with ones with a built-in water reservoir. The reservoir is filled with water where it is sheltered from exposure and slowly hydrates the soil, rather than spilling onto the pavement. Replacing all the hanging baskets in the village would be much more expensive than a water butt, however.

You could also consider a SUDS planter on the building. This would pair well if the hanging baskets were changed to incorporate a reservoir. A SUDS planter is simply a planter built into the downpipe that collects water, slowing it down to ease pressure on our wastewater management, while providing habitat for growing flowers. There are many designs available to choose from, with many companies making them. You can also make them yourself if you liked the idea but were constrained by a small budget.



Habitat Boxes

UK wildlife is struggling for many reasons. One of the main factors in habitat loss. While artificial habitat is no replacement for natural habitat, and we should be prioritising protecting the habitat we have left and creating more, in certain areas that is not possible. Within urban environments, where it is not possible to restore natural habitats, nesting boxes on buildings are a good alternative. This is more pronounced with birds rather than bats – e.g. [Dulisz et al. \(2021\)](#) found that after urban areas were modernised, leading to a decline of up to 70% in garden bird populations, installing nesting boxes increased the populations to around 50% of the original level. Not perfect, but worth doing. The figures are not as positive for bats, with [some studies](#) indicating bat box usage being as low as 4% in some areas.

I suggest adding bird boxes to the Cocoa and Reading Rooms. A good place to start looking at what species you want to be targeting is the [Section 7 Priority Species & Habitats](#) in Wales. On this list are both house sparrows and common starlings; species that might be considered common and abundant but are experiencing rapid population declines. Other species that benefit well from urban nest boxes are the common swift and western house martin. There are specialised boxes made for each species, ranging in materials, design, and cost, but generally the boxes themselves are affordable. The main cost or difficulty arises from the installation. House martin cups and swift boxes especially need to be fitted under the eaves of the roof, and in the case of swifts especially, need to be around 5m high at least. This can make installation from a ladder challenging, and most organisations prefer using a cherry picker for increased safety.



One Voice Wales can provide bird boxes to community councils free of charge on a successful application, though we cannot cover the cost of installation.

Site 2 – Parc Ty'n Llan

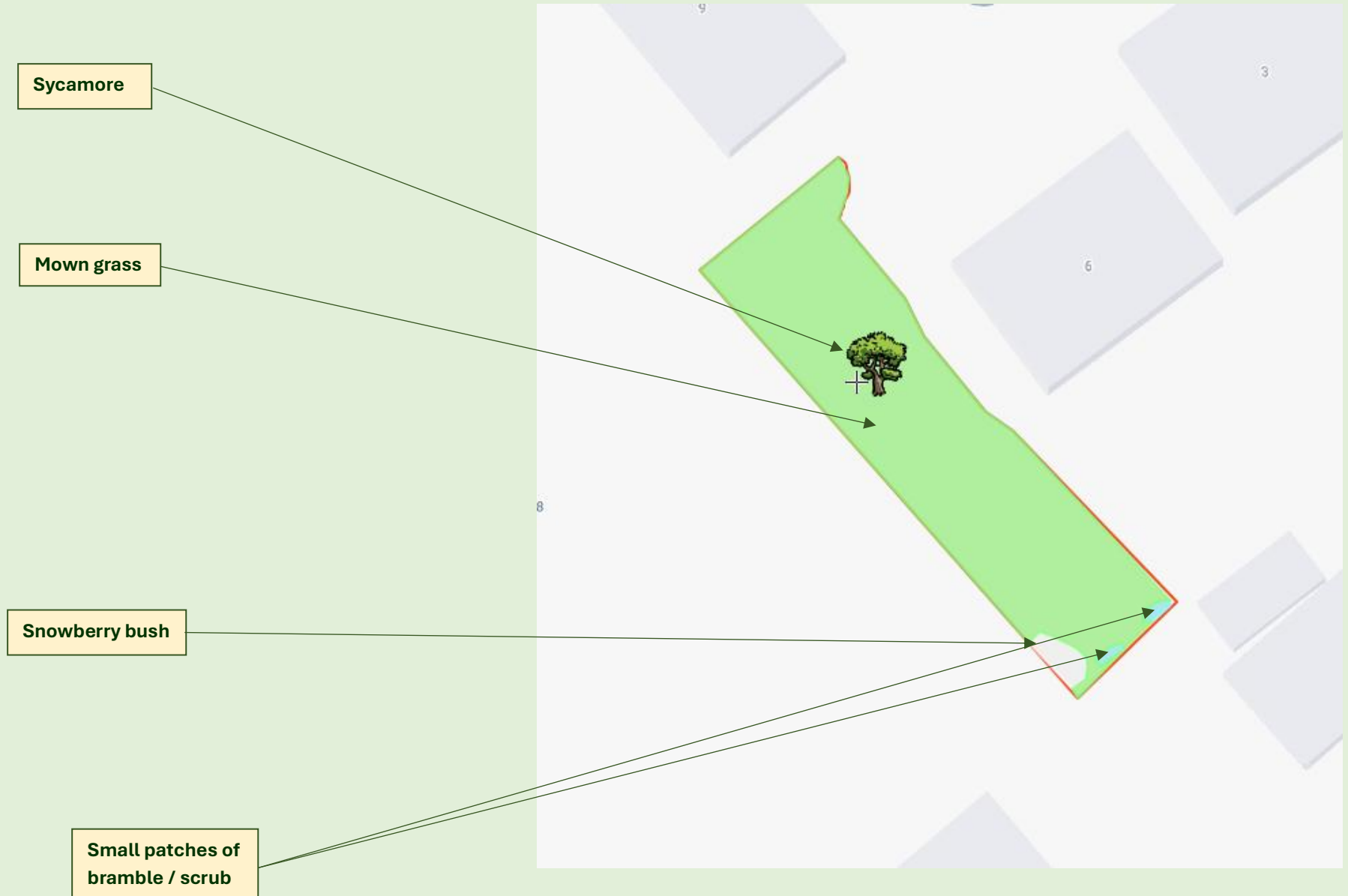
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/eyqhLU4GP7G2zAn48>

This is a small green area within a housing estate that was given to the community council to manage. There was not much floristic diversity in the grassland, mainly grass, creeping buttercup, daisy, white clover, and ribwort plantain. There was snowberry growing in one corner – likely either having grown out of a nearby garden or grown from garden waste dumped over the fence. While not a scheduled invasive, this plant can spread rapidly and become invasive. There is one medium sized sycamore tree growing in the park.



This site has since been planted with bulbs from One Voice Wales as part of our biodiversity packages.

Overview of Site



Suggestions for biodiversity enhancements

Keep areas mown short for people to be able to access and enjoy the park. To get people on-board with biodiversity enhancements it is important that access is maintained. Paths can be mown through and around areas of wildflower meadow to draw people into them.

Bulbs have already been planted. Bulbs donated by One Voice Wales have already been planted along this boundary to provide a varied food source for pollinators while adding colour for people to enjoy.

Plant a single-row hedge or separate bushes along the border. There is very little shelter and no movement corridors through or around this park. A single-row hedge or separate shrubs or bushes will rectify this. If maintenance of the plants or the neighbour's fence is a worry, then plant approx. 1m away from the fence to allow space to work and choose species that will not grow large if left unmanaged.

Change areas over to meadow management. There is very little diversity in the grass. Simply by changing the cutting regime this can be changed. To manage a meadow, you cut and collect the arising 2 or 3 times a year. The borders are a good place to start if you are concerned with public opinion or logistics in disposing of the arisings. Creating small shapes elsewhere or paths through meadow areas is a good way of inviting people into the meadow, helping reduce complaints.

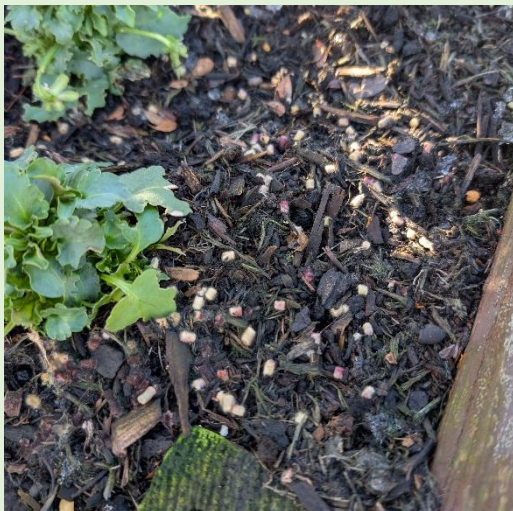
Plant fruit trees for people and wildlife. You could consider planting fruiting trees that provide habitat and food for wildlife while also blooming in beautiful colours and providing edible fruit for people to enjoy. You would need consider the management of these trees, as they would need pruning to stop them growing too big.



Site 2 – B5429 Roundabout Planters

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/GbsKfdcq15SPnps46>

We visited planters managed by the council on a roundabout on the edge of the village.



The planters were planted with non-native decorative species, such as dusty miller (*Jacobaea maritima*), and possibly horticultural primroses and cotoneaster (I didn't identify them while I was there, so I am trying to identify them from the pictures afterwards). If this is indeed cotoneaster, it may well be a scheduled invasive under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. 5 species of cotoneaster are scheduled, making it an offence to plant them in the wild or allow them to spread to the wild. I also saw what appears to be slug pellets within the planters.

Suggestions for biodiversity enhancement

Pesticide

The very first thing I suggest doing is to stop the use of all and any pesticide on the planters. Slug pellets especially have major impacts on non-target species, such as hedgehogs. Not only are the pellets killing part of their food supply, but hedgehogs can also be poisoned themselves. There are certain types of slug pellets that are often labelled as 'environmentally friendly' alternatives (e.g. ones containing ferric phosphate), there is still a risk that high levels of consumption can be detrimental, and they can impact overall soil health.

There are natural alternatives to slug pellets, if you decide you really need to deter slugs from the planters; sheep wool, eggshells, and coffee grounds are frequently said to be sufficient deterrents. You can also plant sacrificial plants nearby you are happy for the slugs to eat. Really, you should be considering if it matters if slugs are eating these flowers. By supporting wildlife, including so called 'pests', you are supporting the wider environment. We need to be inviting wildlife into our urban areas if we are to tackle the nature emergency we are in.

Non-native species

I would recommend determining if the shrub in the planter is cotoneaster. If it is, I strongly recommend you remove it and replace it with another, non-invasive species that fills the same niche. The berries of cotoneaster are eaten by birds, especially blackbirds, who then spread the seeds into the wild. This unintended dispersion of a scheduled invasive has major implications for our native plants. Examples of native replacements could include species of broom, dwarf willow, roses, heather, wild privet, etc.

Garden escapees are another major problem in the UK. While they are not all scheduled invasives, they are still rapidly spreading from gardens, planters, or even being deliberately planted in the countryside. In fact, non-native species now outnumber native species in the UK (Plant Atlas 2020, [GBNNSIP](#)). To that end I recommend replacing all the flowers in the planters with native, perennial species. We have a huge variety of beautiful flowers native the UK, that will survive well in our climate, grow well in low-nutrient soil, and provide food and habitat for native wildlife. One Voice Wales provides planter packages free of charge to community councils.

Site 3 – Selfie Bench

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/PJwkBXxDNi3bTotG8>



This was a verge on the crossroads of Gladstone Terrace and a small un-named road. The area is rough grassland and scrub. There was frequent common knapweed seen in seed. It has been seeded with wildflower seeds in the past. There is a small planter next to the bench (the same principles apply to this planter as I mentioned in the previous section).

Suggestions for biodiversity enhancement

Grassland management

I would take a very relaxed approach to maintenance here. I would focus on cut and collect grass management twice a year – March and then August/September. Cutting after the growing season allows the plants to set seed, feeding our wildlife and establishing a continuous population of plants. Removing the arisings is important as it keeps the nutrient levels low, favouring wildflowers over coarse grass, and stopping the build up of thatch. While thatch is very valuable, especially for small mammals, I think in a small area like this that is quite wild anyway, I would be focusing on the flowers. You might be able to dump the arisings on site, out of the way, where they get enough sunshine to decompose. Creating compost piles like this will save money and work in removing the cuttings, while also providing warm shelter for animals that need it, such as reptiles. Just be aware that if the cuttings do not receive enough sunlight they will not break down. This can be unsightly and counter-productive, as you create another mess that will need tidying. Turning the pile occasionally, as you would compost, can solve this.

Scrub

There was a good covering of bramble near the bench. Bramble is incredibly valuable for wildlife, providing shelter, nesting habitat, fruit, and flowers. Unfortunately, due to its appearance, it is cleared by people. I recommend managing scrub on a rotation. You can push the bramble back towards the fence, leaving a section uncut every year. You then leave the bramble grow back out for a few years, before cutting it again. This means that there is continuous cover, but you stop the bramble from becoming uniform and over-dense. Make sure that there is one section of mature bramble always left uncut – you want there to be some dense bramble so that birds can nest and shelter. Always cut scrub in the winter outside of bird nesting season.

Site 4 – Football Pitch

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/oGubt4KtWeCRrExQ6>

The football pitch in Llandyrnog is central to the entire village. It is used by Llandyrnog United FC and sees general use all year round. During matches, cars park inside the field along the side of the pitch. Residential houses back up onto the pitch, separated by a fence. There is a coppice area by the entrance from the B5429, made up of dogwood, hazel, and hawthorn. There is a small DCC Bee Friendly planter behind the changing rooms and play area that is managed sporadically by locals. There is a native hedge along the boundary with the B5429 that is cut by a local farmer. The entire grassy area around the pitch is maintained short with frequent cuts.



Overview of site



Suggestions for biodiversity enhancement

Maintain coppice on a cycle. Due to the small size of the area, split it in half and coppice one half at a time. Each half should be coppiced roughly every 7-10 years or until the trunks are about 8cm in diameter at chest height.

Change how the current hedge is cut. From the road, you might think this hedge quite large but standing in the football ground you see that it is quite stunted and over-flailed. I recommend changing the cutting regime to be more relaxed – cut along the road as usual for safety but cut the top at a sloping angle into the park, rather than at a right angle. Vary the height the hedge is cut at each year to avoid the formation of scar-tissue or a ‘knuckle’.

Sow wildflowers and yellow rattle and manage areas as meadows. Given the high footfall and demand placed on this site, I won’t recommend any sweeping changes the grassland management. However, a buffer zone of 30-100cm from the hedges can be managed as a meadow. You could also include small areas where the demand on the space is reduced.

Plant fruit trees for people and wildlife. You could consider planting fruiting trees that provide habitat and food for wildlife while also blooming in beautiful colours and providing edible fruit for people to enjoy. You would need consider the management of these trees, as they would need pruning to stop them growing too big.

Plant a native hedge or separate shrubs along boundary fence. As with Parc Ty’n Llan, there are not many ways for wildlife to safely move across this large area. A native hedge along this boundary will fix that. A double row hedge can either be trimmed or laid, though I recommend laying for better longevity.



Install various nest and habitat boxes. If you make some of the changes suggested here, you will be creating lots of foraging habitats for various animals, but you will not necessarily be increasing the nesting opportunities. Installing a mix bird boxes, hedgehog houses, and invertebrate hotels would create permanent homes for wildlife in the ground.

The changes that I am suggesting are all focused on the boundaries of the site, or in areas that most likely see lower footfall. Nothing suggested here requires any major changes to the site, and One Voice Wales can help supply many of the items and plants you would need to make the changes. There will likely have to be changes to maintenance contracts however, if you pay a contractor to manage the site as it currently is.

Hedges



Comparison of a mismanaged and well-managed hedge. *The hedge on the left is a very common site across the countryside. It is damaged from being flailed repeatedly, it is very gappy from trees dying, it is very short and narrow, and uniform in height. The hedge on the right is thick, wide, is allowed to flower and fruit, and has a varied height structure.*

Despite being man-made, hedges are crucial for a wide range of species. They are a shelter from predators, they are a stable food source, they are a secure nesting place, and a safe movement corridor. They do all this for wildlife while also being an effective boundary for our plots of land, acting as a wind and noise break, cleaning our air, and providing us with food.

Where there are no hedges within on the boundaries of the football field, I suggest planted a new hedge. This would be approximately 80m of new hedgerow. Planted at 5 trees per meter, this is 400 new trees providing their amazing benefits.

A critical point when planting a new hedge is the aftercare. Given the ever-increasing volatility of our climate, a new hedge will likely need to be watered through spring and summer. To make this more manageable, a transportable water bowser is recommended. While it is possible to water a hedge of this size by hand, transporting the volume of water required will likely make it unrealistic.

The trees will need to be managed to create a thick, healthy hedge. I would avoid trimming the trees in at least their first year as they establish. They will already be stressed from the planting and cutting them will only exacerbate this. Wait for the trees to show signs of growth (increased diameter, height, new shoots, etc.) before deciding the cut them. This may take a few years depending on the weather and growing conditions. The best way to manage a hedge is to lay it. This is an ancient technique that prolongs the life of the trees and creates a thick hedge. Hedge-laying has a strong community in northeast Wales, so there will be opportunities to run engagement events or pay for professionals. Hedges only need to be laid every 5-10 years, meaning they effectively manage themselves for long periods of time. Alternatively, if you decide against hedge-

laying, trimming the hedge is fine if it is done correctly. Firstly, avoid flails; flails snap rather than cut, leading to unclean cuts in the trees that are easily exploited by pathogens. Cut the trees using hedge trimmers in an 'A' shape, meaning the hedge is wider at the base than it is at the top. This is important to allow light to reach the entire hedge and to promote lateral growth. Best practice would be to break the hedge up into sections and stagger the cuts - i.e. cut one side of the field in year 1, then the next side in year 2, and so on. This creates variation in the habitat which provided more opportunities for wildlife. It is also important to avoid cutting the hedge to the exact same height every time it is cut. Repeated cuts in the same location will eventually lead to scar tissue forming – what is known as a 'knuckle' – where the tree stops producing new shoots. This is very common in hedges in the countryside and is a symptom of mismanagement.

Meadow management



Example of new native hedge planted in a wildflower meadow (Corwen 2024). A path was mown through the meadow to allow easier access to water and weed the hedge while it was establishing. The meadow is managed by cut & collect by a tractor.

As with the hedges, I have restricted the mowing changes and introduction of native wildflowers to the borders of the field. They go together with good hedge management, as it is generally advised to not cut the grass right up to a hedge to both avoid root compaction of the trees and to create an edge habitat or buffer-zone between the managed grass and the hedge.

Changing mowing practice to meadow management is becoming increasingly popular amongst land managers as it is an easy way to greatly benefit wildlife. Simply by cutting less often (ideally once or twice a year) and removing all the arisings an incredibly valuable habitat is made. The UK has lost approximately 97% of its native wildflower meadows since the 1930/40s, meaning less than 1% of the land area is now wildflower meadow. This loss of habitat compounded by other factors, such as pollution and climate change, are leading to a catastrophic decline in our invertebrate populations. Invertebrates are crucial to essentially all food webs on the planet and are also vital in producing food for people. Without them, the planet will be uninhabitable. It is therefore imperative that we start to replace the habitats we have lost. 1 acre of species rich wildflower meadow can produce 1kg of nectar per day, which can feed 100,000s of invertebrates, from 1,000s of species.

As already mentioned, creating a native wildflower area is simple; simply stop cutting the grass every few weeks and dropping the arisings. Instead switch to cut & collect both before the growing season – around February or March, and after the growing season – in August or September. This management has several benefits: the plants are allowed to grow through their full growing cycle, so they are providing the habitat and food for wildlife for longer. The plants are then allowed to set seed, meaning there will be new growth the following year. Removing the arisings removes nutrients from the ground, which increasing competition amongst the plants for resources, which results in more diversity. Wildflowers grow best in nutrient poor soil where they are not outcompeted by grasses. By managing the grassland in this way, the diversity should begin to increase naturally, with no further input required.

If no increase in diversity is observed, however, perhaps because the seed source has been diminished from prolonged intensive management or the soil is simply too enriched, you can try either cutting again mid-summer or introducing native wildflower seed. I would recommend cutting mid-summer if grasses are still growing very thick despite the two cut & collects, or unwanted species like nettles begin to dominate – this would likely be a sign that the ground is still very nutrient rich and therefore more cuts are needed to remove the nutrients. If the grasses are not growing very thick and nettles are not growing but there are still no wildflowers, this might be a sign that the seed bank is depleted and there is no source nearby. In this case, simply sow native wildflowers. It is important to note that long grass is a valuable habitat in of itself and should be valued as such, regardless of the wildflower population. The loss of some of our most charismatic invertebrates, such as glow worms, can be attributed in part to the loss of long grassy areas. Cock's foot, a common meadow grass, is often cited as an incredibly valuable food source and shelter for invertebrates, reptiles, amphibians, mammals, and birds.

What needs to be considered with meadow management is that you have contractors with the machinery to cut and collect and somewhere for the arisings to go. For smaller areas, this can be as easy as dumping the cuttings on site somewhere where they get sufficient sun to break down. Otherwise, the cuttings may have to be taken off site and composted – either on another site owned by the council or taken by the county council as green waste. There is normally a charge for this. There is the option to apply for grant funding to buy specialised cut and collect machinery, though the grant funding will not pay for ongoing maintenance of that machinery.

Habitat boxes

This is a little extra improvement that could be placed on the boundary of the park, on buildings, within the woodland coppice, or within the hedges. The reasoning is that if you adopt the changes in this report, you will be creating a lot of valuable foraging habitat for animals, but they won't necessarily have increased nesting habitat. A bee tower, hedgehog hotel, bird box, bat box, or mix of all of these would remedy that. There are many different types of structures that could be used here, which type of structure used depends on the target species.



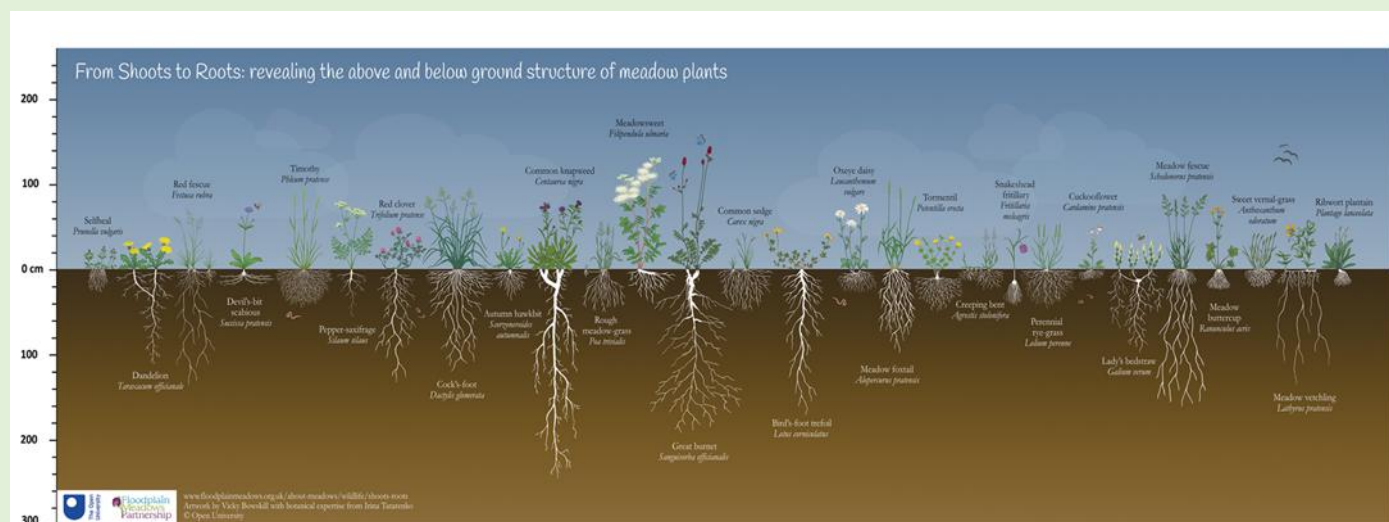
<https://www.nhbs.com/extra->

Supporting information

Mowing changes

Wildflower meadows created through natural recovery of grassland or by enhancement with planting or seed mixes are essential in meeting biodiversity targets. Reducing mowing and removing arisings is the simplest and most cost-effective way to achieve this. Removal of the arisings will reduce the nutrients in the soil and reduce the coarser grasses but encourage growth of wildflowers. Recreational spaces may need to be maintained with regular mowing, however other areas identified in this report could be left unmown for longer intervals. Short mowing intervals deplete the vegetation and soil health, increase the dominance of grasses, and reduces the benefits of green spaces for cooling, carbon sequestration, and water retention.

The diagram below illustrates the large complex root structures of native wildflowers and their potential to improve soil structure, sequester carbon, and retain water, reducing surface water run-off. In contrast most rye grasses have roots that are thin and shallow rooted.



Bowskill V. and Tatarenko I. (2021). From Shoots to Roots: revealing the above and below ground structure of meadow plants. Floodplain Meadows Partnership.

The use of the [Welsh Government 'It's for Them'](#) resources is recommended for any areas where mowing is reduced. The image below shows the use of an 'It's for Them' sign being used in a meadow in Porthmadog.



An example of a customised 'It's for Them' sign being used in a meadow area by Porthmadog Town Council.

Other options for seating could be planter benches like the one shown below.



An example of an integrated planter and bench

Biodiversity projects can offer an opportunity for volunteers and community groups to get involved. This improves the skills and knowledge of the community and can contribute towards a feeling of ownership and community buy-in.

Section 6

[Section 6 of The Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016](#) requires that ‘All public bodies must seek to maintain, enhance and restore biodiversity’. This includes all Community & Town Councils who are required to publish a **Report** at the end of each 3-year-round and a **Biodiversity Action Plan** detailing how it plans to meet the duty for the following 3-year period. There is a statutory requirement to publish these documents, and the next report is due by the end of 2028. One Voice Wales provides templates and guidance on creating a Biodiversity Action Plan and completing the Section 6 Report 2025. These can be found on our [website](#).

Specific advice and guidance on completing Section 6 reporting is also available from the Biodiversity Team at One Voice Wales: Biodiversity@onevoicewales.wales

Community engagement

Citizen science events are a great way to get your community involved. You can find out about upcoming events here: [Biodiversity Events and Opportunities - One Voice Wales](#)

We recommend encouraging the community and visitors to use the [LERC app](#) which can be used to record any plants or animals that they see in your area. The Council could encourage residents to ‘Go Lercing’ and record anything they see using ID apps and a photo. All submissions are checked for accuracy, so they do not need to be experts in plant and animal ID.

Special consideration should be given to local biodiversity priorities. For more information on your local area please see your [Local Nature partnership](#) and [NRW Area Statement](#)

One Voice Wales resources

Webinars and Workshops

The Biodiversity Team regularly run webinars and workshops on a variety of topics. You can find out more about events here: [Biodiversity Training and Webinars - One Voice Wales](#)

Training

To help the sector develop their plans and meet this duty, One Voice Wales provides [3 training modules](#) related to biodiversity and nature projects.

- **Module 25 - Biodiversity Basics part 1**
- **Module 26 – Biodiversity Basics Part 2**
- **Module 27 – Nature project Management**

Find out more about the training programme at One Voice Wales: [Training - One Voice Wales](#)

Guidance

We can provide resources on planting plans, trees, species and habitats. We also have our 3 Biodiversity Guides:

- [Nature recovery action Guide for C&TCs](#)
- [Community Growing for C&TCs](#)
- [Biodiversity and Planning applications for C&TCs](#)

Accreditation schemes

Bee Friendly status

Bee Friendly is an initiative to make Wales pollinator friendly. Your Council can apply to become a Bee friendly community. Find out more here: [Bee Friendly - Wales Biodiversity Partnership](#)

Green Flag status

The Award is open to any freely accessible park or green space Your Council could apply to have Green Flag status for your green spaces. Find out more here: [How it Works - Green Flag Award](#)

National Forest status

Woodlands will be recognised as National Forest for Wales sites by demonstrating how they meet the National Forest for Wales outcomes:

- **Good Quality, well designed and managed resilient woodlands**
- **Woodlands accessible to people**
- **Community involvement in woodlands**
- **Connected woodlands**
- **Dynamic, multipurpose woodlands and trees**
- **Woodlands that demonstrate learning, research and innovation**

Find out more here: [National Forest for Wales Status Scheme - Natural Resources Wales Citizen Space - Citizen Space](#)

Woodland management guidelines - [The UK Forestry Standard](#)

Funding information

Local Places for Nature funding programme

- **Local Nature Partnerships** - The aims of the projects suggested in this report would meet the aims and objectives of the Local Places for Nature programme, and as such could be a candidate for funding from your Local nature Partnership. We would be happy to assist you in developing ideas for funding through this stream.
- **OVW Packages** – Our biodiversity packages may be suitable and could provide smaller elements for the project. Find out more about our packages here: [One Voice Wales Biodiversity Packages 2025/2026](#)
- **Keep Wales Tidy** – They offer a range of [free garden packages](#), and we can provide advice and support with the application process.

Other funding sources

Some grant funding may not always be open to applications. Please contact us to find out more about future application windows and grant availability.

Woodland Trust

- **Free Trees and Hedging** - The woodland trust can provide free tree and hedging packs for Community Councils. Find out more here: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities>
- **Ancient Tree Inventory** - If you have old trees in your community you can record these here: [Ancient Tree Inventory - Woodland Trust](#)
- **Tree Equity Score** – An interactive map to identify areas of high priority for tree planting. Find out more here: <https://uk.treeequityscore.org>
- **Guides** – Lots of resources such as the [Woodland creation guide](#).

Transport for Wales (TfW)

For sites adjacent to a railway station used by TfW customers, there are often funds available as part of the TfW Biodiversity Action Plan for communities situated along some railway lines. Whilst there are no open grants at present this may change. One Voice Wales will update the Council should any relevant grants be launched.

National Forest for Wales Landscape Scheme

The National Forest for Wales (NFfW) scheme is funded by Welsh Government and managed and distributed by WCVA. The fund supports projects across Wales that:

- Realise the economic, community, biodiversity and recreational benefits of the NFfW
- Collaborate between a number of landowners at a landscape scale
- Meet all 6 NFfW outcomes

Applicants must work with their [Local Nature Partnership](#) to develop their project.

Landfill disposals Tax Communities scheme

A grant funding programme managed by [WCVA](#) to help communities living within five miles of certain waste transfer stations or landfill sites take action for their local environment.

The funded projects need to focus on one or more of the following themes:

- **Biodiversity – create resilient ecological networks for the benefit of a range of habitats and species.**
- **Waste minimisation and the diversion of waste from landfill – promote awareness and best practice to reduce the amount of waste produced.**
- **Wider environmental enhancements – bring wider community benefit through improving quality of place.**

Find out if your site is eligible here: [Landfill Disposals Scheme - WCVA](#)

Planning and Developments

- **Section 106 funding** – This can be a good source of funding should planning permission for any large developments or infrastructure improvements be granted in the area.

- **Planning conditions** - Under Planning Policy Wales (12th ed.) any development will need to enhance biodiversity and mitigate any unavoidable losses. Should planning permission in the town for any larger developments be proposed then it could present an opportunity to propose your site for potential habitat creation.

The National Lottery

The organisation has several grant schemes available to Community Councils which include elements of biodiversity and community involvement.

- **The Heritage Fund Grant Wales**

Projects funded from £10,000 - £250,000.

No application deadline.

All projects need to meet the 4 investment principles:

- **Saving heritage**
- **Protecting the Environment**
- **Inclusion, access and participation**
- **Organisational sustainability**

- **Awards for all Wales**

Projects funded from £300 - £20,000.

No application deadline.

There are 4 aims to the fund. The one most relevant to your Council would be that:

Projects should aim to:

- **Improve the places and spaces that matter to communities**



Please contact us to discuss the different funding options once the suggestions in this report have been considered so we can offer support and advice on completing grant applications.

For further information, help, and advice please contact the biodiversity team:

Biodiversity@onevoicewales.wales

