

STOW BARDOLPH PARISH COUNCIL BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

<p>Biodiversity is crucial for maintaining ecological balance, supporting ecosystems and ensuring the well-being of our community. Even small areas can play a significant role in conserving biodiversity. This Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) outlines strategies that Stow Bardolph Parish Council will use to promote and protect biodiversity within its geographical area.</p>			
DESIRED OUTCOMES	ACTIONS	HOW	WHEN
<p>Increased Biodiversity Preservation efforts lead to a measurable increase in biodiversity within our community</p>	<p>Integrate biodiversity conservation into the parish council's policies and decision-making processes</p>	<p>Introduce Biodiversity policy and Action Plan</p>	<p>March 2024</p>
		<p>Consider Biodiversity in all aspects of Council business</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>Support the establishment of community gardens or green spaces with native plant species to enhance local biodiversity and provide educational opportunities</p>	<p>Consider applications for grant funding from local groups who wish to set up biodiversity initiatives</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>Support the implementation of habitat enhancement projects, such as planting native trees and shrubs, creating ponds, or installing nest boxes for birds and bats</p>	<p>Consider applications for grant funding from local groups who wish to set up biodiversity initiatives</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>Work with the county council on verge management, favouring biodiversity but noting which areas may need cutting for highway safety</p>	<p>Meet with Norfolk CC Highways to discuss the parish council's role in verge cutting and how Biodiversity can be considered</p>	<p>September 2024</p>
	<p>Consider the impact on biodiversity when commenting on planning applications ensuring where it is appropriate that there is a net gain in overall biodiversity</p>	<p>Review the Council's policy on planning and incorporate procedures to ensure Biodiversity is always taken into account when considering planning applications</p>	<p>May 2024</p>
	<p>Support good design that helps improve the local environment integrating existing habitats and trees within new developments and</p>	<p>Ensure Biodiversity is always taken into account when considering planning matters</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

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	support development that increases overall biodiversity		
Healthy Ecosystems Restoration of native habitats results in healthier ecosystems supporting diverse flora and fauna	Where appropriate, form partnerships with neighbouring landowners or conservation groups to facilitate joint efforts in preserving biodiversity corridors or habitats	Actively look for opportunities for partnership working on Biodiversity projects	Ongoing
	Encourage residents to remove litter and pick up after their dogs	Ensure appropriate signage and dog waste disposal facilities are in place	Ongoing
	Support hedge/tree planting in any appropriate areas	Consider applications for grant funding from local groups who wish to set up biodiversity initiatives	Ongoing
Sustainable Land Use Practices Adoption of sustainable agricultural and land management practices ensures the long-term health of ecosystems	Promote sustainable land use by encouraging sustainable agricultural and land-management practices	Encourage Allotment Tenants to adopt sustainable practices in relation to the land leased by the Council	Ongoing
	Encourage the adoption of sustainable land management techniques, such as low-impact development and green infrastructure	Ensure Biodiversity is always taken into account when considering planning matters	Ongoing
Community Engagement Greater awareness and involvement of community members lead to ongoing support for biodiversity conservation efforts	Raise local awareness of biodiversity by distributing informational materials highlighting local biodiversity, its significance, and simple actions individuals can take to protect the local environment	Create a Biodiversity page on the parish council website in order to share information	March 2024
	Educate residents about the importance of biodiversity conservation and raise awareness of the importance of gardens as habitats for wildlife	Share information via the Council's website and social media pages	Ongoing
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	<p>Encourage community participation in initiatives such as wildlife monitoring, bird counts, or biodiversity surveys</p> <p>Promote environmentally friendly practices among residents, such as organic gardening, composting, and reducing the use of pesticides and herbicides</p>	<p>Share information via the Council's website and social media pages</p> <p>Share information via the Council's website and social media pages</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Monitoring & Evaluation Regular assessment allows for adaptive management and continuous improvement of biodiversity conservation initiatives</p>	<p>Regularly monitor the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation efforts and adapt strategies as needed based on feedback and results</p> <p>Incorporate biodiversity conservation into the parish council's long-term strategic planning to ensure continuity beyond the current administration</p> <p>Produce an annual progress update on the parish council's biodiversity conservation efforts to demonstrate transparency and accountability</p>	<p>Review this Action Plan on a yearly basis and adjust/adapt as necessary</p> <p>Review this Action Plan on a yearly basis and adjust/adapt as necessary</p> <p>A Biodiversity update will be included in the Chairman's report at the Annual Parish Meeting in March each year</p>	<p>At March council meeting every year</p> <p>At July council meeting every year</p> <p>At the Annual Parish Meeting in March</p>