



Somerton Town Council

Policy Document:

Biodiversity Statement / Policy

Approved: 12th April 2016

Re-adopted: September 2022

Review: February 2024

BIODIVERSITY POLICY

In accordance with the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard so far as it is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity. This Act means that parish and town Councils can spend funds in conserving biodiversity.

Objectives

The objective of this policy is to work towards enhancing and protecting the biodiversity of the parish of Somerton.

The Council will aim to improve the biodiversity of the area in the following ways:

- Managing its land using environmentally friendly practices that will promote biodiversity
- Supporting local businesses in the adoption of low impact practices
- Supporting residents' and local organisations' activities to enhance and promote biodiversity

Specific Actions

The Planning Committee will consider sustainability, environmental impact and biodiversity when commenting on planning applications.

The Council will, whenever possible, consider the conservation and promotion of local biodiversity in all its activities, particularly with regard to the management of its open spaces.

The Council will aim to work in partnership with residents, local organisations and businesses in the development and creation of environmentally friendly areas created.

The Council will raise awareness of environment issues and promote conservation projects in conjunction with appropriate bodies.