

Beetley Parish Council

Biodiversity Policy

Legislation

In accordance with the Duty imposed by Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 as amended by the Section 102 Environment Act 2021, Beetley Parish Council will in exercising all its functions, actively consider how it can conserve and enhance biodiversity.

Biodiversity comes from the words biological diversity and is the variety of life on earth, including plants, animals, bacteria, and fungi and the natural systems that support them.

Aim

Through its work Beetley Parish Council will aim to maintain and improve biodiversity within the parish thereby contributing to the achievement of national goals and targets on biodiversity. An agreed Action Plan for the parish will be developed and implemented.

Specifically the Council will:

1. Manage its land and buildings to maintain and improve biodiversity through best practices engaging with grounds maintenance contractors and volunteers.
 - ✓ plant indigenous trees and wildflowers
 - ✓ reduce mowing to create a mosaic of new habitats that benefit wildlife
 - ✓ enhance water bodies including village ponds/streams with marginal planting
 - ✓ install bird/bat boxes
 - ✓ reduce reliance on pesticides and herbicides
2. Consider the impact on biodiversity when commenting on planning applications to aim for a net gain in biodiversity:
 - ✓ support good design that helps improve the local environment integrating existing habitats within new developments
 - ✓ support development that aims to increase overall biodiversity
3. Encourage landowners and businesses to improve biodiversity
 - ✓ engage with landowners and businesses to promote the importance of biodiversity, where possible creating green corridors that benefit wildlife.

Review

Within 5 years (and before if appropriate) the Council will review and update its agreed Action Plan.

Date of Adoption 11th July 2024

Date of next review August 2029