



Biodiversity Policy

1. Introduction

This policy sets out Tidworth Town Council's position (hereafter referred to as the Council) with regards to requirements to consider biodiversity in decision making. It is intended that all members and staff consider requirements when undertaking actions or decisions on behalf of the Council.

Tidworth has some outstanding wildlife areas:

- Salisbury Plain, SAC, SPA, SSSI
- TBC (records to be added from WSBRC)

2. Biodiversity

Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard to the purpose of conserving biodiversity as a duty under Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. The Council has a direct impact on this through work to maintain parks and open spaces including any cemeteries and an indirect impact through the use of chemicals and materials throughout its activities.

There is a further indirect impact through actions to fund and support local community groups and through the provision of allotments and similar spaces.

The Council's biodiversity considerations include:

- Assessing chemicals used (e.g., cleaning and on parks and open spaces) and ensuring their safe disposal
- Restricting the use of pesticides, on open spaces and allotments
- Composting and shredding garden waste from open spaces and allotments
- Mulching horticultural waste from open space management
- Council pollinator action plan - managing Council land, in partnership with agencies of the MoD, local landowners and developers, for the benefit of pollinator species e.g., bees, butterflies etc
- Recommend all new builds, residential and commercial, to demonstrate 10% biodiversity net gain - in line with the DRAFT Environment Bill (See Notes & References)
- Set a habitat enhancement standard for all householder developments.

3. Notes and References

Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/section/40>

Environment Bill <https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2593>

Signed: _____

Date: _____

(Print Name) _____

Chair, Tidworth Town Council