

Promoting Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems in Burton Community Area

October 2025



This report is the third report produced in
response to the Environment [Wales] Act 2016
Part 1 - Section 6.
Adopted by Burton Community Council 1st October
2025

Burton Community Council, Pembrokeshire

The **Burton Community** is a rural area south-west of Haverfordwest. There are approximately 600 households with concentrations in small villages: Barnlake; Burton Ferry; Burton; Houghton, Foxhall; Port Lion; Hill Mountain and Sardis

Farmland is a major feature of the landscape. There are also significant forest areas, notably in the east at Benton. More than half of our boundary is coastal, including Westfield Pill. Burton Community Council precept is £27,300 in the current year. We therefore have a modest programme, much of which is related to maintenance.

The main priorities for the Council are :

- ☐ Including matters relating to biodiversity in our decision-making processes;
- ☐ Raising awareness of biodiversity and its importance;
- ☐ Seeking to be aware of particular species or habitats that may need safeguarding;
- ☐ Being alert to opportunities to restore or create habitats in particular locations;
- ☐ Seeking to promote sustainability and biodiversity through our practices whenever possible;
- ☐ Considering biodiversity in planning consultation responses;
- ☐ Maintaining links with organisations that could support our Community initiatives with advice and access to resources.

Achievements since 2022 report

- Maintaining the community garden at Burton Ferry, including introducing additional planting;
- Commissioning of 2024 Tree Report to inform decisions on sensitive maintenance of trees in Houghton Playing Field, Houghton Playpark, and the wild area adjacent to the playpark;
- Completion in 2023 of the initiative to transform the wild area of woodland to the South of Houghton Playpark to enable community use as a recreational wild area, with focus on preserving valued plant life, and preserving habitat for wildlife such as birds, bats and insect life.
- Completion of the transformation of a disused area of scrub land in Hill Crescent, Hill Mountain into a community garden area, with trees, shrubs, and planted areas for community recreational use, as well as providing a haven for plant and animal life.

Aims for the forthcoming three years

- Continue to maintain and enhance the areas under community control, to preserve and protect wildlife in these areas.
- To consider the feasibility of taking control of an area of woodland at Barnlake, to form a new recreational facility, including setting aside of an area of woodland to remain uncultivated for the benefit of plant and animal wildlife.