

Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems in Burton Community Area

First Report - December 2019



This report has been produced in response to the
Environment [Wales] Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6.

As our first **'s6' report** it maps the scope of matters to
consider and particular localities to focus on.

Burton Community Council, Pembrokeshire

The **Burton Community** is a rural area south-west of Haverfordwest. There are approximately 580 house-holds 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 £13,500, we therefore have a modest programme, much of which is related to maintenance.

Until recently we were not aware of our 's6 duty'. This report therefore is about starting a process of review and appropriate plans. Our second 's6 Report', due in December 2022, will feedback on this process and resulting outcomes.

The main task in this first phase is to consider questions including:

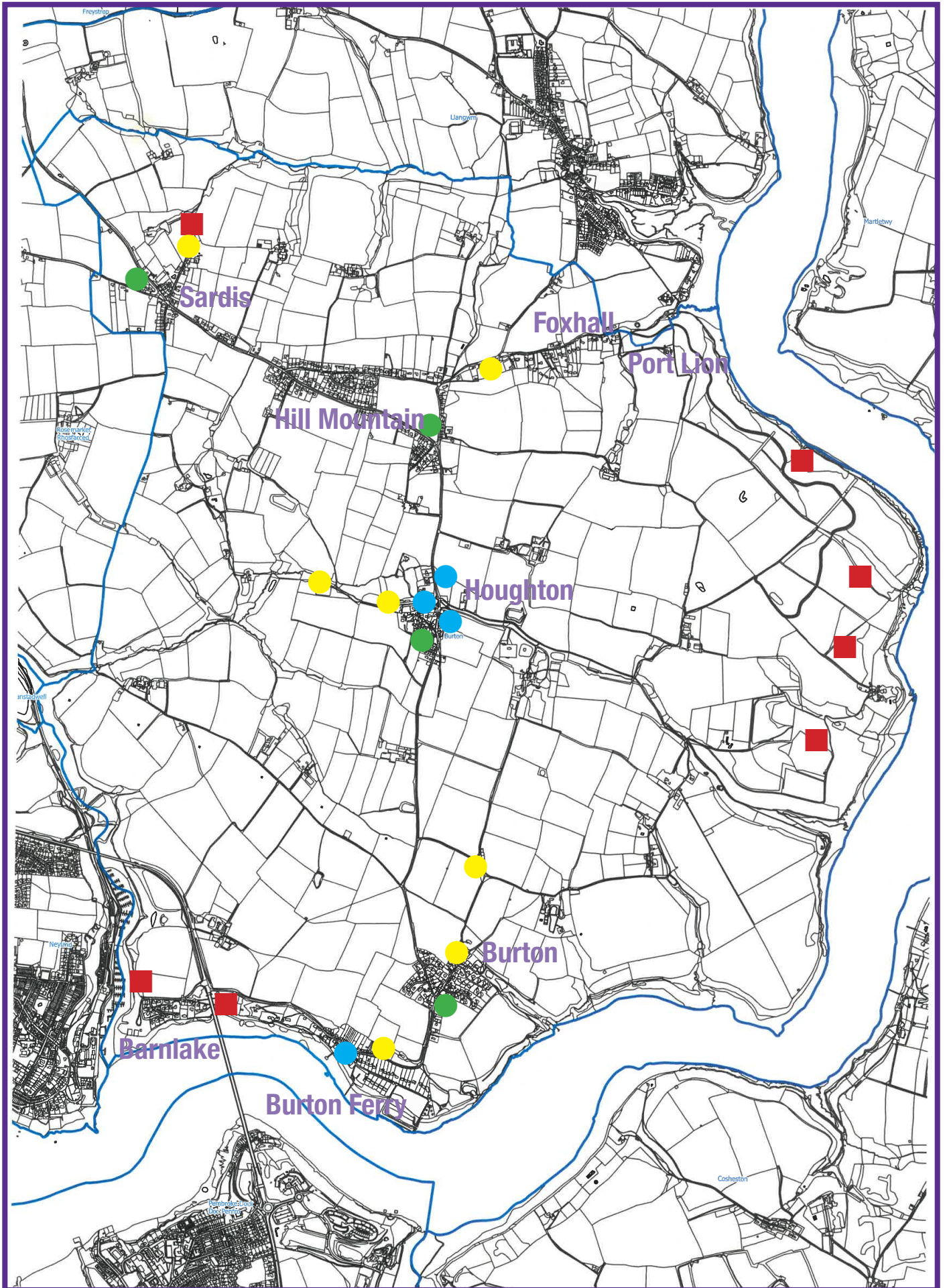
- Are matters relating to biodiversity included in our decision making processes?
- What is our potential role in raising awareness of biodiversity and its importance?
- Are there particular species or habitats that need safeguarding?
- Are there opportunities to restore or create habitats in particular locations?
- Can we say: *"we promote sustainability and biodiversity through our practices whenever possible"*? What does this mean for us?
- How does this affect considerations - eg for planning applications?
- Are there organisations that could support our initiative with: advice; partnership; access to resources?

During 2020 we plan to review each of these questions and identify, when appropriate, actions that we should take. At this stage it is assumed that we will consider these matters in the context of specific places:

- a. places mentioned in our 'risk assessment' [green dots on map] including areas around bus shelters in Sardis, Bowlings Corner, Houghton and Burton. 
- b. places [also from 'risk assessment'] where we have responsibility [blue dots on map] including: Houghton Play Park; Houghton Playing Field; Houghton Green* and information area; Burton Ferry Picnic area* [by the pontoon]. 
- c. areas of common land [yellow dots on map] and in particular Common Land at Sardis where we have already planted trees and taken action to limit use of area for rubbish by placing large boulders. [* blue dots that are also common land] 
- d. areas of particular interest that could contribute to awareness [red squares on map] ... such as Benton forest area. 

See [\[link\] Pembrokeshire Forest Resource Plan](#)
[On website: Note in particular Maps with 1 in title.]





Places to focus Phase 1 Review ~ Burton Community Council