



St Helen Without Parish Council

Working for You

Biodiversity Policy

Approved 30th March 2026

1. Introduction

St Helen Without Parish Council recognises the importance of protecting and enhancing biodiversity within the parish. As a local authority, we have a duty to conserve and improve the natural environment for current and future generations. This policy outlines the council's commitment to biodiversity and the actions we will take to achieve this goal.

2. Aims

The aims of this policy are to:

- Protect and enhance the biodiversity of St Helen Without parish.
- Promote sustainable practices that benefit the environment and the community.
- Increase awareness and engagement among residents and stakeholders in biodiversity conservation.
- Ensure compliance with relevant legislation and national biodiversity strategies.

3. Commitments

To achieve these aims, St Helen Without Parish Council commits to the following actions:

Protect Local Habitats:

- Identify and protect key habitats within the parish, including woodlands, grasslands, hedgerows, and water bodies.
- Work to prevent the loss of biodiversity through careful planning and development control.

Enhance Biodiversity:

- Support initiatives that enhance green spaces, such as tree planting, wildflower meadow creation, and pond restoration.
- Encourage the use of native species in planting schemes.

Promote Sustainable Practices:

- Encourage the reduction of pesticide and herbicide use.
- Support sustainable land management practices.



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- Promote waste reduction, recycling, and composting to reduce environmental impact.

Engage with the Community:

- Encourage community participation in conservation projects and events.

Monitor and Review:

- Develop a biodiversity action plan with measurable goals and regularly review progress.
- Monitor biodiversity within the parish and report findings to the community.

4. Implementation

The Parish Council will:

- Allocate resources to support biodiversity initiatives within budgetary constraints.
- Ensure that biodiversity considerations are integrated into decision-making processes.
- Include updates on biodiversity projects and achievements in council communications.

5. Legislation and Policy Context

This policy aligns with:

- The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.
- The Environment Act 2021.
- The UK Biodiversity Action Plan and subsequent strategies.
- Local and national planning policies that support biodiversity.

6. Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed every three years or sooner if significant changes in legislation or local priorities occur.

7. Contact Information

For further information or to get involved in biodiversity initiatives, please contact the Clerk to the Council.