

MAGOR WITH UNDY TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF MAGWYR GYDA GWNDY

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Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – Section 6

The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty

The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2023 - 2025

Name of Community or Town Council:	Magor with Undy Town Council
Group:	2

Introduction and Context

MUTC was given status of Town Council in May 2022 by virtue of the Monmouthshire Boundaries Order 2022. It incorporates two adjacent communities of Magor and Undy with a residential population of between 6000 and 7000 and the precept for 2025-2026 was £350,000.

The area for the community of Magor with Undy is approximately 15.33 square kilometers (5.92 sq mi), though its SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) portion within the larger Gwent Levels is much broader, covering extensive tidal flats and marshland.

MUTC MISSION STATEMENT "To conserve and improve Magor with Undy as an attractive and sustainable place in which to live, visit and do business".

MUTC objectives of biodiversity include consideration of all planning applications to ensure biodiversity issues are addressed.

Consideration of all public open spaces ie. Common-y-coed Plantation as a public space for people to visit and enjoy. The community orchard and organising planters throughout the villages

The Town Council aims to promote sustainability and biodiversity goals as part of its operation activity subject to the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Action Report 2023 - 2025

NRAP Objective	Action carried out to...	Monitored by:	
1	<p>-embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement</p>	<p>Full Council Meetings when considering Planning Applications have particular emphasis on the impact of applications in regard to biodiversity considerations as part of their decision making. Council has reflected the commitment to biodiversity and natural areas in the Council's Annual Report.</p>	Clerk and Council
	<p>-raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance</p>	<p>Published details of work undertaken with the local Magor Marsh Wildlife Warriors Group and Monmouthshire County Council. Wildflower meadows introduced at land in Sycamore Terrace, Magor. Tree planting at Withy Field, Redwick Road. The Mill Common Woodland Project in Magor/Undy, is a major restoration effort by Monmouthshire County Council to improve ecological health, pathways, and views by managing diseased ash trees, thinning, and enhancing veteran trees, with community involvement including volunteering, path restoration, and replanting with native species planned for autumn/winter. Regeneration and improvement of three allotment sites reducing waiting list by bringing back dormant plots. Reconfiguration of plot size and greater emphasis on tenancy management/liaison and inspections. Annual planting throughout the villages of Summer Flora displays with ambition to provision of year round planting. The introduction of a Service Level Agreement with Monmouthshire County Council employing two dedicated officers who attend to maintenance of paths, hedgerows and public spaces reporting</p>	Consequent to feedback from residents and members of the council as well as social media posts

		directly to the Town Clerk and planting of floral area on the roundabout on B4245 to west of Villages.	
2	-safeguard principal species and habitats	Consideration of environmental factors in respect of projects and planning applications.	TC meetings and workshops
3	-restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks	Birdboxes are in situ at Common y Coed. Bat boxes, Owl boxes at Mill Common Woodland.	Mon CC and Council
4	-tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species	MUTC have 33 dedicated bins for disposal of dog waste by contractual agreement and weekly collection. Misuse is regularly highlighted on social media encouraging dog walkers to responsible dispose of waste. MUTC (The Mill Reen) has a waterway which travels through the villages to the Severn estuary. Liaison with NRW and Local Authority. Reports of Japanese Knotweed and Hogweed are responded to.	Monitored by Town Clerk and Full Council
5	-use improve and share evidence	Mill Common Woodland Project was publicly consulted prior to commencement with regular updates being provided by Monmouthshire County Council on all aspects of works, pauses due to nesting birds, with ongoing sensitive management and habitat improvements continuing.	Council meetings and social media
6	-support capacity and/or other organisations	Annual LitterPick events are conducted and enthusiastically attended by individuals and local groups. Grant Funding to GWT/Wildlif Warriors have resulted in successes was creating links with the Magor and Undy Community Hub, the Community Council and the orchard, enabling young people to contribute to the community and greenspaces local to them.	Litterpick events are coordinated and equipped by the Town Council officers and Cllrs.

		<p>Preparation of the Stepping Stones Childrens Nursery allotment in Sycamore Terrace.</p> <p>Bird watching and pond dipping at Magor Marsh. Nature journalling around Magor Marsh. Recruitment initiatives at local schools.</p>	<p>Quarterly reports are received from GWT detailing actions undertaken by the Wildlife warriors in the community</p>
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Review of S6 duty actions for 2023-2025	
What has worked well?	The success of the SLA with Mon CC. Working alongside Mon CC regarding Mill Common Woodland Project. Allotment regenerations and improvements. Liaison with Community Groups. Organised and successful litter pick events. Engagement communication with GWT
What have the barriers been?	Uninformed observation by minority groups with resistance to any change. Obstacles to evaluation of impact.
What will you change?	The development of new strategies to ensure Biodiversity measures will be fully included in all Council projects and initiatives to aid decision making.
How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed?	The duty will be monitored by the Clerk and staff and report to Councils as required in respect of actions taken or required. Reviews will be conducted as is reasonably practicable to do so.

