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THE BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS DUTY REPORT 2022

Llanelly Community Council covers the area of Llanelly with a population of in excess of 5000 and an annual precept of £101000. It owns and is responsible for Gilwern Community Centre, Gilwern Public Toilets, Gilwern Playing Fields and woods, Clydach playing fields.

Over the period of this report the following actions have been taken:

1. New footpaths laid down for access to the woods surrounding the playing fields in Gilwern;
2. New picnic tables and benches provided in the playing field areas of both Gilwern and Clydach for use by the public;
3. Regular maintenance of the playing fields in both locations with the grass being allowed to grow through the summer periods for local insect and animal benefit;
4. Regular supervision of the state of the trees in the woods at Gilwern and surrounding the playing fields; many trees especially ash have been felled but a corresponding number of new trees have been planted in Gilwern – both in the woods and around the playing fields;
5. Many of the lower trunks of the felled trees have been located within the wooded area for the benefit of insects and animals;
6. An independent energy efficiency inspection of the Community Centre at Gilwern has taken place. As a consequence all lights - internal and external - have been changed to LEDs and sonar. Unfortunately, cost and feasibility have prevented the Council from installing a new heating system throughout an inefficient building but the Council is currently looking to obtain a grant to re-roof and re-clad the building to improve energy efficiency.

The Council does not undertake many projects but considers biodiversity in any projects it undertakes. The management of its playing fields and green spaces is supervised by the Council and its Clerk on a regular basis, with monthly walkabouts to keep on top of possible issues.