

Ickleton PC: Biodiversity Action Plan

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1. Introduction

In accordance with the duty imposed on town and parish councils by Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, updated by Section 102 of the Environment Act 2021, Ickleton Parish Council (hereinafter referred to as the Council) which has any functions exercisable in relation to England must from time to time consider what action the authority can properly take, consistently with the proper exercise of its functions, to further the general biodiversity objective.

This duty also means that town and parish councils can spend funds in conserving biodiversity.

This plan should be read in conjunction with the Ickleton Parish Council Biodiversity Policy.

2. Biodiversity Action Plan

Site/Objective	Action	Outcome	Target (Years)	Publicity & reporting
Protect and support biodiversity	Working with existing village groups and neighbouring villages to encourage suitable planting to support biodiversity.	Connect and diversify habitats to meet the need of a variety of wildlife species.	Ongoing	Liaison with neighbouring parishes and village groups.
Cemetery/churchyard	Additional planting to include new hedging and trees. Adopt a plan to support wildlife and diversity whilst	Increased diversity of habitats and food sources.	Ongoing	

	maintaining the site in a way which enables visitors to experience quiet and calm remembrance. Leave leaf litter and dead vegetation wherever possible as a habitat for invertebrates. Purchase additional land, adjacent to the existing cemetery, for use both as a cemetery and community wildflower meadow.	Increased cover for invertebrates, reptiles, amphibians and small mammals. Encouraging insects particularly butterflies and bees. Increased diversity and scale of habitats and food sources.	Two years Ongoing Six months	Icene, website, noticeboard & social media Icene, website, noticeboard & social media
Recreation ground	Sympathetically maintain hedging. Leave some areas unmown. Only use environment friendly pesticides where absolutely necessary and only in ideal weather conditions. Set aside a section of the recreation ground for planning wildflower. Consult on a management plan for the cricket pitch in conjunction with the Cricket Club	Food sources and cover Encourages insects. Sustain and enhance natural habitats. To help wildflowers and pollinating insects. Protecting habitats.	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing One year Ongoing	Icene, website, noticeboard & social media
Common/other spaces	Encourage residents to remove litter and pick up after their dogs. Work with the County Council on verge management, favouring biodiversity but noting which areas may need cutting for highway safety. Consult on additional area which may be suitable for the Protected Road Verges Scheme. No mow until May.	Protecting habitats. Protecting/enhancing Habitats. Habitat for insects and wildflower growth.	Ongoing Annually Ongoing	Icene, website, notice board & social media South Cambridgeshire District Council
The built landscape	Support the protection of sensitive habitats from development and consider	Protecting/enhancing Habitats.	Ongoing	

	whether any development would mean the loss of important habitats for wildlife in respect of all planning applications.			
Increase community awareness of biodiversity	Ask residents for their views on what they would like to be done to conserve biodiversity within the parish.	Engagement/ownership of biodiversity	1 year	Ice, website, noticeboard & social media
	Raise awareness of the importance of gardens as habitats for wildlife, with possible actions highlighted in the parish magazine.	Promote biodiversity.	1 year	Ice, website, noticeboard & social media
	Work with existing community groups to promote biodiversity.	Promote biodiversity.	Ongoing	
Support Community Projects	Support hedge/tree planting in any appropriate areas.	Extending habitats.	Ongoing	
	Consider events and offer volunteering opportunities to support biodiversity, working with local organisations.	Promote biodiversity.	Ongoing	
	Support the volunteers maintaining Coploe Hill Chalk Pit, a Local Geological site,	Promoting and actively maintaining the area to promote biodiversity.	Ongoing	Ice, website, noticeboard & social media

Version History

The version history panel provides a history of the changes made to the document from the initial draft to the current version.

Version	Changes made	Date	Made by
0.1	Draft created	07/08/2025	Clerk
1.0	Approved for publication at the meeting held on 20th August 2025.	28/08/2025	Clerk