

Riseley Parish Council

BIODIVERSITY STATEMENT POLICY

Under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, public authorities, including Parish Councils, have a duty to show regard for conserving biodiversity in all their actions.

According to Defra, Biodiversity is the variety of life on earth and includes all species of plants and animals and the natural systems that support them. Biodiversity is a core component of sustainable development, underpinning economic development and prosperity, and has an important role to play in developing locally distinctive and sustainable communities.

Conservation of biodiversity is vital in our response to climate change and in the delivery of key ecosystem services such as food, flood management, pollination and provision of clean air and water.

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

Aims and Objectives:- The object of this policy is to work towards enhancing and protecting the biodiversity of Riseley parish. Riseley Parish Council will aim to improve the biodiversity of the area in the following ways:

- manage its land using environmentally-friendly practices that will promote biodiversity;
- Promote and develop areas within its own land, such as wildflower meadows
- support local businesses and Council operations in the adoption of low impact practices;
- support residents and local organisation activities to enhance and promote biodiversity.

Actions:-

Riseley Parish Council:

1. will consider sustainability, environmental impact and biodiversity when making decisions and will develop and implement policies and strategies as required.
2. will consider the conservation and promotion of local biodiversity with regard to the management of its open spaces.
3. will aim to develop environmentally friendly areas for residents.
4. will help to raise awareness of environmental issues and promote conservation projects in conjunction with appropriate bodies and residents.
5. will consider sustainability and biodiversity when engaging with the planning system.
6. will consider biodiversity issues and the implementation of changes when managing its buildings.
7. will aim to engage with businesses and the public regarding biodiversity in the community and how members of the community can assist and make a difference.
8. will endeavour to manage its own operational duties to reduce its carbon footprint.

Approved at RPC Meeting 20 November 2025