

CPC Pledge for Nature

Crowan Parish Council Pledge for Nature:

- We will declare an Ecological and Biodiversity Emergency **DONE**

In the UK we are facing an ecological disaster

- 41% of the species of bees have declined in the last 50 years, with indicators declining 13% on average
- Since 1950 133 species of birds went extinct
- 15% of butterfly species are now threatened with extinction
- The UK has lost 97% of its wildflower meadows

In Cornwall & Isles of Scilly the view is as depressing

- Only
 - 20% of our land is well-managed for nature
 - 7% of our inshore waters are well-managed for nature
 - 25% of our lakes and rivers are good for wildlife
 - 5% of our emissions were reabsorbed by our environment in 2016
- Nearly half of terrestrial mammals are found in fewer places
- Three fifths of butterflies are found in fewer places
- Nearly half of breeding birds have declined

Since 1970 in Cornwall & Isles of Scilly there is evidence that

- 21 breeding birds have become extinct
- 4 vascular plants have become extinct
- 8 bumblebee species have become extinct

To try and combat this disaster, the Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Local Nature Partnership and The Cornwall Council Nature Recovery Team have set up the Pledge for Nature scheme. This initiative is encouraging businesses, councils, community groups, schools etc. to make a pledge to do something to help nature and the environment. Please see the links below:

[Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Local Nature Partnership | Pledge for Nature \(naturecios.org.uk\)](https://naturecios.org.uk/)

[Cornwall Nature Recovery Pilot - Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Local Nature Partnership \(naturecios.org.uk\)](https://naturecios.org.uk/)

Crowan Parish Council is committed to implement measures that will not only promote nature, but also enhance our beautiful villages.

These proposed initiatives will also celebrate the Coronation of Charles III:

- **Leedstown – Jubilee Park**

- Around each mature tree a 3 foot area will be left uncut and will be planted with wildflower seedling plugs, encouraging Bees, Butterflies and other insects
- Bird boxes will be installed on some trees
- Bat boxes will be installed on some trees
- Tree/shrub planting areas to be identified and planted with Cornish grown, indigenous species
- A nature recovery/Re-Wilding project to be set up with Leedstown and Praze-an-Beeble schools
- Biodiversity improvements to be researched and installed (insect houses etc.)

- **Praze-an-Beeble Plan**

- Around each mature tree a 3 foot area will be left uncut and will be planted with wildflower seedling plugs, encouraging Bees, Butterflies and other insects
- Bird boxes will be installed on suitable trees
- Bat boxes will be installed on suitable trees
- Other areas to be identified in village

- **Townshend - areas to be identified for:**

- Around each mature tree a 3 foot area will be left uncut and will be planted with wildflower seedling plugs, encouraging Bees, Butterflies and other insects
- Bird boxes will be installed on suitable trees
- Bat boxes will be installed on suitable trees
- Tree/shrub planting areas to be identified and planted with Cornish grown, indigenous species

- **Crowan - areas to be identified for:**

- Around each mature tree a 3 foot area will be left uncut and will be planted with wildflower seedling plugs, encouraging Bees, Butterflies and other insects
- Bird boxes will be installed on suitable trees
- Bat boxes will be installed on suitable trees
- Tree/shrub planting areas to be identified and planted with Cornish grown, indigenous species

- **Nancegollan - areas to be identified for:**

- Around each mature tree a 3 foot area will be left uncut and will be planted with wildflower seeds, encouraging Bees, Butterflies and other insects
- Bird boxes will be installed on suitable trees
- Bat boxes will be installed on suitable trees
- Tree/shrub planting areas to be identified and planted with Cornish grown, indigenous species

WE NEED YOUR HELP CAMPAIGN

Individuals and groups in the villages have their part to play in the Pledge for Nature initiatives: below are some suggestions we could promote via a WE NEED YOUR HELP social media campaign on simple things that will help to encourage nature.

- If you have a garden, consider making a part of it a wildflower area, or use plant pots around the garden. Wildflower seeds can be purchased cheaply, they are simple to plant, require little maintenance and produce a range of colourful flowers that are a magnet for Bees, Butterflies and other insects.
- If you have a lawn, consider cutting it less frequently (e.g., once a month) this allows time for wildflowers, clover, daisies, to grow a magnet for bees and other insects
- Whilst many of us have bird baths, insects are often overlooked and also need water. In a shallow container (e.g., a medium plant saucer) add a layer of pebbles and then half fill with water leaving the tops of the pebbles above the water. Insects will then be able land on the pebbles and access the water.
- Consider hanging bird feeders and bird boxes.

These are just a few suggestions, there are more things that can be done and even a small change will make your outside space a nature friendly.

COUNCIL OPERATIONS AND PARISH AIMS

We will:

- Fully consider the added value of ecological choices in our procurement of goods and services.
- Purchase and use recycled and environmentally sound products for the running of council business (such as printers with refillable ink reservoirs and 100% recycled printer paper and files).
- No purchase of poly pockets and other plastic based consumables where viable environmentally friendly options are available.
- Any tree or shrub planting to be done using Cornish/UK grown stock and of indigenous broadleaves.
- When funding is available/sourced that environmental and biodiversity increasing projects to be prioritised.
- Renewable energy provider be sourced for CPC energy supplier.
- Request that verge cutting in the Parish only be to 1ft back from road between 1st April and 31st July.
- Ban the use of herbicide and pesticide by Parish Council operatives.
- Request that Cornwall Council do not use herbicide or pesticides in the Parish (unless to address invasive species).
- Promote energy saving and light pollution reduction measures in the Parish.
- Support Green Travel and Green Infrastructure projects in the Parish.
- Identify sites for renewable energy in and around the Parish, with the possibility of working with neighbouring Parishes.

Prepared by Cllr Victoria Burton-Davey
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