

## Compton Dando Parish Council Biodiversity Policy

Biodiversity refers to the variety of living species on Earth, including plants, animals, bacteria, and fungi, but may also be used to describe the variety of life in one area or ecosystem. Each of these species and organisms work together in ecosystems to maintain balance and support life.

Public authorities who operate in England must consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity in England. This is the strengthened 'biodiversity duty' that the Environment Act 2021 introduces.

This means that, as a public authority, we must:

1. Consider what we can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
2. Agree a policy and specific objectives based on our consideration.
3. Act to deliver our policy and achieve our objectives.

### **Compton Dando Parish Council owns no land on which it could increase biodiversity.**

Compton Dando Parish Council **aims** to improve the biodiversity of the Parish in the following ways:

- To raise the profile of biodiversity within the Parish
- To make biodiversity an integral part of all decision making
- Support residents and local organisation activities to enhance and promote biodiversity.

Compton Dando Parish Council **objectives** are to:

- Protect and support the biodiversity of land that the Council can influence
- Increase community awareness of biodiversity issues
- Support local biodiversity projects
- The Parish council will communicate information and raise awareness through its website
- The Parish Council, when commenting on planning applications, will support site and building design that benefits biodiversity through the conservation and integration of existing habitats or provision of new habitats. It will support protection of sensitive habitats from development and will consider whether the development would mean the loss of important habitats for wildlife in respect of all applications.

**Adopted October 2023**

Signed.....

Date.....

Signed.....

Date.....