

AMMANFORD TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT & BIODIVERSITY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Environment & Biodiversity Committee acknowledges the potential impact of its operations on the natural environment and seeks to minimise these impacts wherever possible. The Committee also seeks to positively benefit the local natural environment through delivering and supporting projects which aim to do so.

The Environment & Biodiversity Committee will operate within Ammanford Town Council's Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Local Government Law.

The Committee will endeavour to ensure their budget is spent by 15th March 2026.

The committee will determine when and how often it will meet.

Membership: Maximum of 5

Quorum: 3

The Environment Committee shall:

- Elect the Chair at the first meeting following the annual meeting of council.
- Review and reduce the council's carbon and environmental footprint in all aspects of our operations where possible and evolve over time as new information/technology becomes available.
- Improve the council's environmental performance by conserving scarce and precious resources, e.g. energy, water, timber, green/blue space.
- Maintain our assets (buildings & other property) to the highest environmental standards, including energy efficiency, and when there is a new build or other works planned, make recommendations to council to favour the most sustainable construction.
- Encourage contractors & suppliers, acting on our behalf, to take a responsible attitude towards the environment.
- Consider the environmental impact of every planning application and/or development proposal and make recommendations to council to favour those with the lowest impact, e.g. wildlife friendly, carbon neutral/low energy designs.
- Encourage local renewable energy schemes which will benefit the community of Ammanford.
- Make recommendations to council that promote and encourage the use of sustainable transport within the ward (and to those who visit) and support projects which improve such methods, e.g. bus links, cycle paths & car sharing.
- Promote a culture of understanding and participation in environmental & biodiversity issues through education, information and consultation.
- Comply with all relevant legislation in relation to environment and biodiversity and update our policies and practices in line with any changes in legislation.
- Progressively build environmental concerns and sustainability into all our policies.

- Arrange volunteering days to provide opportunities for members of the local community to become involved in improving the environment & biodiversity of the ward.
- Review the Council's Biodiversity Report in accordance with Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The Environment Committee has the delegated power to:

- Apply for grants on behalf of the council that may assist in achieving any of the above.
- To agree spend in accordance with the Environment Committee Budget.

Approved:

Review Date: Annual Council Meeting, May 2026