



## **Biodiversity Statement**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Ilminster Town Council recognises its legal obligation under Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006, which places a duty on all public authorities to have regard to conserving biodiversity in the exercise of their functions.

1.2 This statement sets out how the Town Council will comply with its biodiversity duty and promote the protection and enhancement of biodiversity within its decision making and service delivery.

### **2. OUR COMMITMENT**

2.1 The Council will have regard to biodiversity by:

- Integrating biodiversity considerations into its policies, plans, and projects.
- Managing the land it owns or maintain it in ways that support biodiversity, including through planting schemes, mowing regimes and habitat enhancement.
- Considering biodiversity impacts in decisions relating to planning responses, procurement, service delivery and project design.
- Supporting community-led environmental initiatives, including tree planting, wildflower areas, pollinator schemes and education activities.
- Working in partnership with environmental and conservation organisations, local volunteers and other authorities to improve biodiversity outcomes.
- Monitoring and reviewing its actions to support biodiversity and adapt to best practice.

### **3. IMPLEMENTATION**

3.1 This statement will be considered when developing Town Council strategies, maintaining open spaces, designing new projects, and engaging with the community. Officers and councillors will be encouraged to take biodiversity into account in both operational and strategic decision-making.

3.2 The Town Council will review this statement periodically and update it in line with evolving legal duties and environmental good practice.

Adopted: February 2026

Review: February 2027