

Hawthorn Parish Council

Biodiversity and Crime Disorder Duties Statement

Bio-Diversity

Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 places the following biodiversity duty on Hawthorn Parish Council:

"Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity"

Having regard to this duty Hawthorn Parish Council has identified the following areas where integrating biodiversity is key:

- commenting on planning applications
- managing land, public property, amenities, open spaces, energy and water
- developing new schemes ie the Community Plant project

In discharging its duties, the Council will :

- only undertake hedge trimming out of the nesting season
- preserve the condition of mature trees, with ongoing revenue budgets to maintain this
- use water capture planting display tubs to minimise the use of fresh water
- plant sustainable plants and bulbs
- look to add wild flower planting areas

Crime and Disorder

Hawthorn Parish Council has a duty to consider the impact of its functions and decisions on crime and disorder in its area, under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

As part of that process the Parish Council will fully engage with the all applicable bodies to:

- Reduce and detect crime
- Reduce anti-social behaviour and fear of crime and re-assure people
- Strengthen community involvement Section 5(2) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (the right of town and parish councils to be consulted).

In discharging its duties, the Council:-

- Extends a permanent invitation to the local Police to attend the monthly meetings where questions can be asked and addressed
- Prioritises the quick to removal of graffiti, litter from managed public property and open spaces within its control.
- Publishes relevant information on the web and through the electronic newsletter provided by the local PCSOs on the Neighbourhood Alert System .