

**Blaengwrach Community Council**  
**Cyngor Cymuned Blaengwrach**

In March of this year, the Community Council contacted Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (NPTCBC) to explore transforming the verge at the entrance to the villages into a bee-friendly area, focusing on native plants and wildflowers.

NPTCBC was supportive, but since the area is managed by the South Wales Trunk Road Agency (SWTRA), their assistance and permissions were also required.

With the cooperation of NPTCBC and SWTRA, the area is now designated as bee-friendly. Signage will be installed to inform the public, and NPTC Streetcare has already changed its maintenance routine.

A survey was conducted to identify the naturally growing plants, and the findings were surprisingly positive. The site is already diverse enough to qualify as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation. The existing species list is strong, and the area is expected to improve further with time and appropriate management. While additional species could be added through plug planting, it is not deemed necessary given the current richness.

The survey identified the following species:

- Centaury
- Common ragwort
- Cat's ear
- Lesser trefoil
- Ribwort plantain
- White clover
- Fairy flax
- Self-heal
- Wild strawberry
- Dandelions
- Meadow vetchling
- Common bird's-foot trefoil
- Common knapweed
- Creeping buttercup
- Red clover
- Daisy
- Hogweed
- Common Mouse-ear
- Meadow Buttercup
- Oxeye Daisy
- Yarrow



It was also noted that other SWTRA-managed verges near the roundabout already support a good mix of species. Area teams have agreed to implement a cut-and-collect approach for these verges to further enhance their condition over time.

Please contact us if you have further suggestions on how the Community Council can improve local biodiversity.

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