

## **BIODIVERSITY STATEMENT/POLICY**

As of 1 October 2006, every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard so far as it is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions to the purpose of conserving biodiversity under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. This Act means that parish and town councils can spend funds in conserving biodiversity.

### **Objective:**

The objective of this policy is to work towards enhancing and protecting the biodiversity of the town of Aylsham.

The Council will aim to improve the biodiversity of the area in the following ways:

- Manage its land using environmentally-friendly practices that will promote biodiversity
- Support local businesses in the adoption of low impact practices
- Support residents and local organisations activities to enhance and promote biodiversity

### **Specific Actions:**

- The Council will consider sustainability, environmental impact and biodiversity when commenting on planning applications
- The Council, within its emerging Neighbourhood Plan, has promoted and will monitor outcomes of appropriate sustainable development in Aylsham
- The Council will, whenever possible, consider the conservation and promotion of local biodiversity in all its activities, particularly with regard to the management of its open spaces and woodlands
- The Council will aim to work in partnership with the development of environmentally friendly areas created by residents, local organisations and businesses
- The Council will raise awareness of environment and promote conservation projects in conjunction with its County and District Council and Norfolk Wildlife Trust,

Adopted by Aylsham Town Council

14<sup>th</sup> September 2017