

Lôn Cob Bach Nature Reserve

Well-being goal



Ways of working



Lôn Cob Bach is located in the middle of the historic town of Pwllheli and forms part of the Gwynedd Nature reserve, which spreads across 1,700 hectares of land.

Pwllheli is on the southern tip of the Llŷn Peninsula, with a busy marina and beaches popular with tourists throughout the summer. Lôn Cob Bach Nature Reserve was formed by draining large areas of the Rhydhir river when the Cob embankment was built in the 18th century. The town expanded to cover much of the reclaimed land, leaving behind wet pasture and salt march. The intertidal mud and reed beds, known as the Backwater, are an important habitat for a number of protected species, such as otters and kingfishers.

The car park at the nature reserve has a disused section that has previously been used for fly tipping, anti-social behaviour and drug dealing, with similar behaviours having also been observed within the thick undergrowth throughout the site. As part of our work on the Community Woodlands scheme, we were able to support the restoration of the site, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The aspirations for this project were to improve the health of the existing woodland, generate a section of new woodland and improve the safety of the popular path used by pupils of the local primary and secondary schools.

The hardcore was removed from the disused carpark and groundworks undertaken to create a suitable site for the new 750 square meter micro-woodland. This was planted with 200 trees of a mix of species, including maple, alder, birch, apple, hazel, cherry and oak. This new habitat will support the health of the existing reserve by increasing the flora biodiversity to support the biodiversity of the fauna.

Additional clearance works were undertaken in the existing woodland to clear the dense undergrowth, reducing the opportunity for anti-social behaviours, and providing greater opportunity for natural regeneration of the local plant species.

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We would like to see more projects, similar to this, that looks to combat climate change and biodiversity loss.

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Key words: Community Woodlands, grant funded projects, National Lottery Heritage Fund, woodland management and restoration, accessible green space, community engagement, youth engagement, future generations, partnerships, sustainable impact



The local schools were invited to take part in the woodland creation and restoration to provide the pupils with a sense of pride and ownership of the area, further reducing anti-social behaviours, and learning opportunities. The children expressed their excitement of the experiences and the prospect of fruit gathering in the future.

A local group of volunteers, Ffrindiau Dre, were also invited to take part in the works and community event, with the planting of ceremonial trees attended by the Mayor. The group expressed their appreciation for the project for both its local value and contribution to combating wider climate change and biodiversity loss.



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I'm excited to pick fruit from the trees and take it to my Grandma's house.

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