The Axe Vale & District Conservation Society

PRIVACY POLICY

This privacy policy sets out how the Axe Vale & District Conservation Society (AV&DCS) complies with its data protection obligations as a **Data Controller**.

If you have any queries, consent changes/requests or wish to complain to us, then you can contact us via:

- Email: dwingles@aol.com
- Phone: 01297 32234
- Address: Bywood, Shute Road, Kilmington, Axminster, Devon, EX13 7ST
- Website: www.avdcs.org

Who we are

AV&DCS is a charity to maintain and improve the environment of the Axe, Yarty and Lym catchments, specifically the landscape, wildlife and habitats, in a sustainable manner. To provide volunteers to undertake practical tasks. To monitor planning and development proposals in the area and to respond appropriately.

The Axe Vale & District Conservation Society

- Registered Charity Number: 266682 (England and Wales)
- Registered address: Bywood, Shute Road, Kilmington, Axminster, Devon, EX13 7ST

We are subject to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018.

The information we collect about you

AV&DCS can only continue to be effective on the Axe, Yarty and Lom catchments with the active support of our volunteers, supporters, donors and partners.

To support our charitable activities in the most effective manner and to ensure that we communicate with you in the way that you prefer, we may collect and hold personal information about you in the following ways:

Personal information that you provide to us

Your name, address, e-mail address, and other relevant information when you join AV&DCS, enquire about AV&DCS membership, register to join a survey, become (or express an interest in becoming) a volunteer, make a donation, purchase goods, request data or make general enquiries. Financial information is collected to support the processing of payment information and whether donations qualify for Gift Aid.

Personal information created through your engagement with AV&DCS

Your involvement in our surveys creates data which may be classed as personal information. For example, work parties can identify where you were on a particular date.

Personal information received from third parties

Sometimes AV&DCS might undertake both scientific and promotional activities with partner organisations and such activities might lead to the transfer to us of personal data. We may receive personal data from subcontractors or suppliers who provide us with services, such as fulfilling product purchases, sending out magazine mailings, handling email delivery or promotional campaigns.

Website

AV&DCS is committed to respecting the privacy of all visitors to its website and any other individuals who interact with AV&DCS.

We have structured our website so that, in general, you can visit AV&DCS on the web without identifying yourself or disclosing any personal information; although it does use marketing and tracking technologies which you can opt out of.

Please note that our website may contain links to enable you to visit other websites of interest easily. However, once you have used these links to leave our site you should note that we cannot be responsible for the protection and privacy of any information which you provide whilst visiting such sites, which are not governed by this privacy

statement. You should exercise caution and look at the privacy statement applicable to the website in question.

What we may do with the information we collect

AV&DCS will never sell your personal data and will only ever share it with other individuals or organisations where necessary and where guarantees as to its privacy and security have been provided, or where you have agreed for this to happen.

We process your personal data information for the following reasons:

Outreach and marketing

From time to time, we may also use your information to contact you in connection with the charitable objectives of AV&DCS concerning rivers and wildlife. For example, we may provide you with updates about upcoming events or send you AV&DCS newsletters. We may contact you by email, phone, text, or post. We will typically contact you for promotional or marketing purposes where we have obtained your details because you expressed an interest in AV&DCS or offered or provided support to the charitable purposes of AV&DCS; or where you previously provided your consent.

Young adults

AV&DCS wishes to support the energy, enthusiasm, and philanthropic spirit that young people demonstrate as they engage with the natural world.

Through our work with schools and youth groups we might offer the opportunity for young people to engage in sponsorship or volunteering projects in support of the work of AV&DCS. Similarly, young people might actively engage in interactive participation with AV&DCS in various social media settings.

If, in connection with any of these types of activities, AV&DCS publishes personal information about a person under the age of 18, we will limit that information to a picture, the first name, surname and age of that person.

Justification of the legal basis for processing personal information

AV&DCS will only process your personal data where it has a lawful basis for doing so. In most cases, the lawful basis is that processing such data is necessary for the legitimate interests of AV&DCS.

AV&DCS seeks to balance the preservation of your rights under the GDPR with the legitimate interest of AV&DCS in promoting and managing volunteering activities associated with the Axe, Yarty and Lym catchments and wildlife and associated

habitats. This activity is central to the achievement of our charitable objectives and delivers scientific rigour to our survey endeavours.

Where we process personal data based on our legitimate interests, we do so for the following purposes:

Engagement

To manage members, volunteers, donors, partnership relationships, and commercial interactions.

Survey management

To ensure the effectiveness and rigour associated with the operation and results of our surveys and campaigns, including contacting you to validate and/or verify your data.

Feedback

To provide you with feedback on any surveys you have contributed to.

Marketing

To enable us periodically to send you information about our work which we think you may find interesting.

Volunteering

AV&DCS seeks to balance the preservation of your rights under the GDPR alongside its legitimate interest in promoting and managing volunteering activities associated with the Axe, Yarty and Lym catchments. This activity is central to the achievement of the charitable objectives of AV&DCS.

Membership

AV&DCS processes personal information in connection with the provision of membership services and products provided by way of a contract entered with AV&DCS members and/or those individuals purchasing for themselves or for other parties.

Donations

AV&DCS seeks to balance the preservation of your rights under UK data protection law alongside its legitimate interest in seeking support for our charitable objectives concerning rivers and wildlife. Donations enable AV&DCS to fund projects that cannot be otherwise resourced.

General information

AV&DCS may acquire and retain personal information to provide general information, education and knowledge about the projects, services and resourcing of the charity.

We typically only rely on legitimate interests to send you marketing information, for example, in connection with AV&DCS events, where you have previously expressed an interest in or offered support to AV&DCS and its charitable purposes.

In other cases, the legal basis for processing your personal data may be:

- where you have given clear consent for us to do so for a specific purpose (for example, in relation to work party activities)
- where the processing is necessary for a contract AV&DCS has with you, or because you have asked us to take specific steps before entering a contract
- where the processing is necessary to protect someone's life
- where the processing is necessary for AV&DCS to perform a task in the public interest or for its official functions, and the task or function has a clear basis in law
- where the processing is necessary for AV&DCS to otherwise comply with the law

How we store your information

We are committed to ensuring that your information is secure. To prevent unauthorised access or disclosure we have put in place suitable physical, electronic and managerial procedures to safeguard and secure the information we collect.

We will only store your personal information for as long as necessary for the purpose for which it was collected. How long information is held depends on the nature of the information collected and for what it is being used.

We will undertake regular reviews of the personal information that we hold and will delete personal information no longer required, whilst maintaining a record of any non-contact preferences expressed by you.

Your rights

Whilst we collect and process personal information to undertake our work, AV&DCS very much wishes to protect your rights and here we set out a brief description of them.

You have the right to confirmation as to whether we have your personal information and, if we do, the right to obtain a copy of the personal information we hold (this is known as a Subject Access Request).

You have the right to request the removal of some or all of your personal information (though this may not apply where it is necessary for us to continue to use the data for a lawful reason).

You have the right to have any inaccurate personal information corrected; and/or to specify some of the purposes for which we may contact you; and/or to specify some of the channels by which we may contact you.

You have the right to object to how we are using your personal information (including objecting to marketing) and withdraw your consent to us managing your personal information.

Complaints

If you believe that any aspects of your data protection or privacy rights have been infringed by AV&DCS, you can complain to us at any time. You can also complain to the UK Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) which regulates and enforces data protection law in the UK. Details of how to do this can be found at www.ico.org.uk. We would, however, appreciate the chance to deal with your concerns before you approach the ICO so please contact us in the first instance.

27/09/2026