





# WELCOME TO SAXON BROOK

A UNIQUE DEVELOPMENT DESIGNED TO SUPPORT POLLINATORS

## A UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP

Bumblebees are in trouble, but a unique partnership between Redrow Homes and the Bumblebee Conservation Trust is working to make life easier for them.

Saxon Brook is the first of its kind; a unique and innovative housing development that has recognised the need to support our dwindling pollinators. The development boasts beautiful landscaped areas designed to encourage pollinators and other wildlife at the same time as providing a colourful, beautiful, inspiring space for you to enjoy.

As you explore the areas surrounding your new home you will notice a variety of features that have been factored into the design of the development to ensure that it provides not only a tranquil, attractive living space for you to enjoy but also the optimum habitat in which Bumblebees can thrive. From planting areas filled with carefully selected plants to encourage pollination to a unique Bumblebee Trail to educate and inform residents about bumblebees and how to encourage them into your garden, Saxon Brook truly is committed to creating an environment that bumblebees can also call home.

Whole ecosystems are dependant upon bumblebees flourishing



# WHY BUMBLEBEES ARE SPECIAL

Bumblebees are not just attractive insects they are vital to our health and well being. Here is why we should be concerned about their decline.

It has been estimated that insect pollination is worth £691 million to the UK economy. So if we lost all our pollinators that is what it would cost to produce the food they produce for us for free.

Bumblebees are important to wildlife preservation. Most flowering plants need to be pollinated by insects, and bumblebees are some of the best pollinators because they can visit hundreds of flowers a day.



Head out for an hour to explore the Bumblebee Trail



The trail runs around the development with sculptures marking the way! Each sculpture has information about bumblebee species and how you can help them.

We hope everyone will take part in looking for the bumblebees and growing plants to encourage them to flourish.



## DID YOU KNOW?

- One in every three mouthfuls of food is dependant on pollination
- Bumblebees like quiet corners with thick grass or leaves for nesting sites
  - Only bumblebees can pollinate tomatoes



Bumblebees are important to wildlife preservation

#### YOUR NEW GARDEN AND BUMBLEBEES

Redrow Homes and the Bumblebee Conservation Trust have worked hard to make the community areas as bumblebeefriendly as possible!

We're hoping to encourage you to ensure your gardens are full of bumblebee-friendly flowers too! Here are a few tips for creating a garden that will attract bumblebees.

#### FOCUS ON THE FLOWERS

Bumblebees are dependent on From our slim honeybees to our flowers for nectar and pollen. They need a continuous succession of flowers from spring to autumn, so there is always a food supply.

big furry bumbles, the following herbs are a must if you want to create a bee-friendly super haven in your garden:

- Lavender
- Allium
- Thyme
- Catmint
- Rosemary
- Nasturtium



If you grow vegetables in your garden bumblebees will help pollinate the flowers. A selection of flowers of different shapes will appeal to different species, as they have different tongue lengths.

Most bumblebees prefer perennial flowers that flower from year-toyear. Herbs are the unsung heroes when it comes to enticing our furry flying friends into our gardens.

Finally, bumblebees also need a place to shelter and build their nest to maintain a successful colony throughout their life-cycle.



Beautiful borders filled with lavender attract bumblebees

#### 'BFF KIND'

To help people make their gardens bumblebee-friendly, the Trust have created Bee kind, an interactive gardening tool.

Bee kind allows users to tell the trust which plants they have in their gardens already, and they'll be given a rating for how bee-friendly their garden is based on those results. They will then be given a list of plants they don't already have, which would be great additions to their gardens.

For more information and how to use the Bee kind tool visit beekind.bumblebeeconservation.org



Find out more about Redrow and Sustainability at www.redrowplc.co.uk/sustainability/sustainability-overview

Find out more about Bumblebees and the work of the Trust at bumblebeeconservation.org



Redrow Homes West Country Redrow House, Pynes Hill, Exeter, Devon, EX2 5AZ Telephone: 01392 880400