



Foundation for the Conservation of the Maltese Honey Bee
*The Force Behind the National Insect Recognition
for Sustainable Apiculture!*

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT
(CAP. 363)**

**Retention of Wild Vegetation in Rural Pathways (XXX Local
Council) Bye-Laws, 2024**

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by article 34 of the Local Government Act, the XXX Local Council has made the following Bye-Laws:-

1. The title of these Bye-Laws is the Retention of Wild Vegetation in Rural Pathways (XXX Local Council) Bye-Laws, 2024 Title

2. In these Bye-Laws, unless the context requires otherwise, the term 'rural pathways' shall be interpreted in a broad sense to include: Interpretation
 - (a) country roads / rural lanes: typically surfaced (although not usually maintained) and accessible to vehicles;
 - (b) farm access roads / lanes: generally established to connect (often from only one end) specific land or buildings directly with country roads / rural lanes or other roads;
 - (c) farm tracks: consisting of unsurfaced and informal roads that are accessible to vehicles and tend to connect specific land or buildings directly with country roads / rural lanes or other roads;
 - (d) traditional pathways or carriageways / alleyways: 3 metres wide or less; typically unsurfaced. These types of paths tend to connect with other paths, public places, natural areas, the coast, water channels, etc., and are often bordered by dry stone walls. These types of paths are usually found in predominantly agricultural areas characterised by cultivated and/or fallow land, as well as areas that have become defined by natural habitats or features due to agricultural abandonment;
 - (e) rights of way: these are informal, typically unsurfaced paths that pass through ploughed fields and provide access for farmers or land managers who do not have direct access to their land via country roads / rural lanes;
 - (f) military paths: formerly used for military purposes (e.g. Victoria Lines); and
 - (g) informal paths: usually established on natural sites and characterised by compacted soil.

There may be various other types and variations of paths in the countryside, some of which may consist of a mixture of those listed above.

3. The Retention of Wild Vegetation in Rural Pathways is mandatory from the 1st of September until the 30th of April of the following year and on a recurring basis for all rural roads in the locality of XXX, except for those rural pathways indicated in Schedule I. Duration
4. In extraordinary circumstances where wild vegetation in certain areas poses a danger to safety, its removal must be authorised through an urgent Council meeting. If an area is repeatedly identified as a safety hazard, it should be added to Schedule I by amendment. In the event of a safety hazard
5. Any person who breaches the provisions of Bye-Law 3 shall, upon being found guilty, be liable to a fine of five euros (€5) for every metre of wild vegetation removed unless authorised as described in Bye-Law 4. Penalty

SCHEDULE I

The rural pathways exempt from the 2024 Bye-Laws on the Retention of Wild Vegetation in Rural Pathways (Local Council XXX) are being marked on the site plan.