| Somerset Dragons are Dinosaurs Chart                  |   |  |   |                |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|---|----------------|---|--|--|
| Saxon Words for Types of<br>Dragons from Beowulf Epic | Literal Translation                         | Dragon Image   | Dinosaur Equivalent                           | Dinosaur Image | Somerset Villages that had Dragon Sighting  |  |  |
| Wyrmcynnes  | Wormkind. (A race of monsters and serpents) |  | Dinosaurs                                     | DINOTATION     | "The dragons of Somerset show almost the complete range of types, characteristics, habitats and profession of their slayers and represent a good overall spread of British dragon legend".  - Brian Wright. Somerset Dragons. |  |  |
| Saedrecan   | Sea-dragons                                 | Sea dragon from medieval bestiary  | Ichthyosaur                                   |                | Kilve. a dragon called Blue Ben went into the sea to cool off but got stuck in the mud and drowned when the tide came in. A fossil of an Ichthyosaur was found at this location.  |  |  |
| Nicor (plural niceras). Also<br>spelled Knucker       | Water dwelling dragon or monster            |  | Plesiosaur Get                                |                | Halse. The church of St James in Halse contains a bench end showing a sea dragon with fin-like wings. It has no legs and its body is covered in scales  |  |  |
| Wyrmas  | Serpent                                     | non padere underaure setudation are constant ferposs et la constant ferpos et la constant ferpos et la constant ferpos et la constant ferposs et la constant ferpos et la c | Mosasaur. (Mounted skeleton<br>of a Mosasaur) |                | Shervage Wood. The Gurt Wurm or Great Worm was cut in half by a villager from Stogumber. One half ran to Bilbrook, the other to Kingston St Mary.   |  |  |

| Ythgewinnes | Wave Thrasher (surface swimming monster).  |  | Spinosaurus         |      | Bicknoller. According to a belief still held by locals today a dying dragon will try and reach the sea. The Dragon House Hotel now stands at Bilbrook, near Dragon's Cross which marks the spot where a dragon died while trying to reach the sea. |
|-------------|--|--|---------------------|------|--|
| Lyftfloga   | Air fliers (flying reptiles)  Picture of Dragon from  Medieval Bestiary.         | Schemer dunit sementiars for prints frequent deli severat dampie da celebra institution forpet i degre publicat di fundation ensurettimus cellus represida e cellulari institution forpet i degre publicat di fundation ensurettimus cellulari proper deli severat fundation deli represidation deli repre | Pterosaur           |      | Aller. The Dragon of Aller breathed poison and had the shape of a great flying serpent. It terrorised the neighbourhood until killed with a spear by a knight called John of Aller.  |
| Wydfloga    | Wide (far ranging) fliers  | ROPE   | Pterodactyl  CY-WOR | S.F. | The Wyvern is a form of dragon that can be seen in carvings and stained glass windows all over Somerset. It has two legs and wings. The name derives from the Anglo-Saxon word wivre, a serpent. The flag of Somerset has a Wyvern on it.          |
| Ligdraca    | Fire Dragon. (Illustration of a winged dragon by Friedrich Justin Bertuch, 1806) |  | Lambeosaurus        |      | Kingston St Mary. a dragon lived nearby and breathed out flames, which it used to cook its animal and human victims. A villager rolled a large stone down a hill into its mouth and killed it.   |

| Grendel    | Probably derived from the norse word <i>grindill</i> meaning storm | Velociraptor | Norton Fitzwarren. A man eating dragon which lived in an iron age hillfort was killed by a local man named Fulk Fitzwarren |
|------------|--|--------------|--|
| Mearcstapa | A marsh stepper  | Stegosaurus  | Carhampton. A Celtic Saint name St Carantoc defeated a dragon which lived on the marshes                                   |

Isidore of Seville [7th century CE] (Etymologies, Book 12, 4:4-5; 16, 14.7): [Book 12, 4.4] The dragon [draco] is the largest of all the snakes, or of all the animals on earth. The Greeks call it "drákon", whence the term is borrowed into Latin so that we say draco. It is often drawn out of caves and soars aloft, and disturbs the air. It is crested, and has a small mouth and narrow pipes through which it draws breath and sticks out its tongue. It has its strength not in its teeth but in its tail, and it causes injury more by its lashing tail than with its jaws. [Book 12, 4.5] Also, it does not harm with poison; poison is not needed for this animal to kill, because it kills whatever it wraps itself around. Even the elephant with his huge body is not safe from the dragon, for it lurks around the paths along which the elephants are accustomed to walk, and wraps around their legs in coils and kills them by suffocating them. It is born in Ethiopia and India in the fiery intensity of perpetual heat. [Book 16, 14.7] Dracontites is extracted from the brain of the dragon. This does not become a gemstone unless it is cut out of living dragons; hence magicians remove it from sleeping dragons — for bold men search out the caves of dragons, and sprinkle drugged herbs there to put the dragons to sleep, and when the dragons have been lulled to sleep, they cut off their heads and extract the gemstones. The stones are translucent white. The kings of the East in particular glory in the use of these stones. - [Barney, Lewis, et. al. translation]