
APPENDIX S ENVIRONMENT DARK SKIES MANAGEMENT PLAN



DICKLEBURGH AND RUSHALL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
REGULATION 14 PRE-SUBMISSION

Dickleburgh and Rushall Lighting Management Plan

Dickleburgh and Rushall Lighting Management plan (LMP)

There is growing evidence of a link between lighting the night sky and human well-being, with increasing support both nationally and internationally for the night-time skies to become less obscured by ambient light.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Clause 185 states:

Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new development is appropriate for its location taking into account the likely effects (including cumulative effects) of pollution on health, living conditions and the natural environment, as well as the potential sensitivity of the site or the wider area to impacts that could arise from the development. In doing so they should:

- a) mitigate and reduce to a minimum potential adverse impact resulting from noise from new development – and avoid noise giving rise to significant adverse impacts on health and the quality of life
- b) identify and protect tranquil areas which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise and are prized for their recreational and amenity value for this reason; and
- c) limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.

The All-Party Parliamentary Group December 2020 state:

“A growing amount of evidence suggests that light exposure at the wrong time has profound impacts on human circadian, physiological, and neurocognitive function. Although the extent of the causal link between health issues and exposure to distinctly outdoor light sources remains difficult to measure. In epidemiological studies conducted by researchers in the US, ALAN has been found to be associated with poorer sleep and prevalence of mood and anxiety disorders, indicating the necessity to consider outdoor illumination at night as a factor in human health and wellbeing.

Norfolk County Council Environment Development and Transport Committee Report title:

Streetlighting Review Date of meeting: 8 March 2019 recommended:

“Highways in Rural Areas will not generally be lit, except where problems of road safety exist. Further to this there is also the 2015 policy to stop adopting lighting on new residential / retail developments unless there is a highways safety need. To clarify, the road being part of a traffic route (ie a higher use, non-estate road) or the inclusion of an introduced obstacle constitutes a highway safety need.”

The International Dark Sky Community Designation Guidelines Goals states:

Purpose to support protection of human health, nocturnal habitats, public enjoyment of the night sky and its heritage, and/or areas ideal for professional and amateur astronomy

Norfolk County Council policy on street lamps. All lamps must be ‘cut off lamps’ (meaning full cut off, flat glass lights). These will be used on all lighting schemes in areas classed as Rural Dark Landscape

South Norfolk Council Policy IMP 25 – (Outdoor lighting)

“Proposals for any development involving outdoor lighting schemes will be expected to include details of such schemes as part of the submitted planning application, and will be expected to demonstrate that:

- i) The proposed lighting is the minimum required for security or working purposes*
- ii) Light spillage and glare are minimised, particularly in areas of open countryside or on the edge of settlements*

iii) *There is no detrimental impact on residential amenity, highway safety or to sites of nature conservation value.*"

Expectations of the Dickleburgh and Rushall LMP

Any lighting within a residential property boundary should comply with the following:

- 1) fully shielded (enclosed in full cut-off flat glass fitments)
- 2) directed downwards (mounted horizontally to the ground and not tilted upwards)
- 3) switched on only when needed (no dusk to dawn lamps)
- 4) white light low-energy lamps (LED) and not orange or pink sodium sources
- 5) Avoid the blue spectrum. Evidence exists linking blue lighting to increased cancer risk and eyesight problems. (Harvard Medical School 2018) <https://www.health.harvard.edu/staying-healthy/blue-light-has-a-dark-side>
- 6) Wherever possible lighting that is within the red spectrum should be used for night lighting. (Red lighting has been demonstrated to be least damaging to eyesight). <https://www.health.harvard.edu/staying-healthy/blue-light-has-a-dark-side>

Street Lighting in D&R DSL 3 areas

There should be no new streetlights. Streetlights currently fitted should be reviewed to ensure they conform to Norfolk Rural Dark Landscape standard. In addition, they should avoid the blue spectrum and emit light within the red spectrum. They should be low emission, low wattage bulbs. Over time the Parish Council should look to modify area 3 so that, should residents request it, it becomes an area 2.

Security lighting in the garden

Residents should confine the spill from external lighting to within the property boundary. That could be done by simply adapting or modifying your existing unit. If a security lighting system already exists, it could be Dark skies friendly simply by tilting lights down.

If the plan is to install a new unit, consider using a low wattage bulb, or use dark sky friendly lighting units, which are well shielded.



Street lights

The Parish Currently manages 45 streetlights (see table below)

Streetlights managed by Dickleburgh and Rushall Parish Council

	Road Name	Location		Road Name	Location
Dickleburgh	CATCHPOLE WALK	O/S 4/6	Dickleburgh	RECTORY ROAD	OUTSIDE 49
Dickleburgh	CATCHPOLE WALK	FRONT GARDEN OF 11	Dickleburgh	RECTORY ROAD	OUTSIDE 55/57
Dickleburgh	CATCHPOLE WALK	SIDE OF 20	Dickleburgh	RECTORY ROAD	OUTSIDE 79/81
Dickleburgh	CATCHPOLE WALK	REAR OF 21	Dickleburgh	RECTORY ROAD	OPPOSITE BEECH WAY
Dickleburgh	CATCHPOLE WALK	O/S 42/44 RECTORY LANE	Dickleburgh	RECTORY ROAD	OUTSIDE 115
Dickleburgh	CHESTNUT ROAD	NR F/PATH TO 16	Dickleburgh	RECTORY ROAD	OUTSIDE 133
Dickleburgh	CHESTNUT ROAD	O/S 19 ON FOOTPATH	Dickleburgh	RECTORY ROAD	OUTSIDE CHANTICLEER
Dickleburgh	BEECH WAY	1ST IN ROAD R/O 1	Dickleburgh	LIMMER AVENUE	OUTSIDE 3/5
Dickleburgh	BEECH WAY	OUTSIDE 12 ON F/PATH	Dickleburgh	LIMMER AVENUE	OUTSIDE 2/7
Dickleburgh	BEECH WAY	JNC CHESTNUT ROAD	Dickleburgh	LIMMER AVENUE	OUTSIDE 15/17
Dickleburgh	BEECH WAY	OUTSIDE 32/34 ON F/PATH	Dickleburgh	RECTORY ROAD	F/PATH TO RECREATION GROUND
Dickleburgh	MERLEWOOD	SIDE OF 16	Dickleburgh	HARVEY LANE	OPP OAK COTTAGE
Dickleburgh	MERLEWOOD	OUTSIDE 3/5	Dickleburgh	HARVEY LANE	OUTSIDE SOUTH VIEW
Dickleburgh	MERLEWOOD	OUTSIDE 11/13	Dickleburgh	HARVEY LANE	OPP HOMEDALE
Dickleburgh	MERLEWOOD	SIDE OF 21	Dickleburgh	HARVEY LANE	ADJ VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK
Dickleburgh	MERLEWOOD	OUTSIDE 33	Dickleburgh	HARVEY LANE	OUTSIDE TARRENZE
Dickleburgh	MERLEWOOD	OUTSIDE 43	Dickleburgh	HARVEY LANE	O/S CLOVELLY BEFORE LIMMER AVE
Dickleburgh	BURSTON ROAD	OPP OAK VIEW	Dickleburgh	HARVEY LANE	O/S SUNNINGDALE PAST LIMMER AVE
Dickleburgh	BURSTON ROAD	OPP CANTARA	Dickleburgh	HARLESTON ROAD	O/S PUB CAR PARK
Dickleburgh	BURSTON ROAD	TURNING AREA NEXT TO BYPASS	Dickleburgh	HARLESTON ROAD	OUTSIDE THE COTTAGE
Dickleburgh	RECTORY ROAD	S/O 1 SMITHS ROAD	Dickleburgh	HARLESTON ROAD	O/S 1 HALL COTTAGES
Dickleburgh	RECTORY ROAD	OUTSIDE 25/27			
Dickleburgh	RECTORY ROAD	OPPOSITE 12/14			
Dickleburgh	RECTORY ROAD	OPPOSITE 18/20			

We need to improve the street lighting in the parish to ensure it supports our dark skies policies. Street lighting that already exists and is managed by the PC will be regularly reviewed to ensure it meets with the requirements of the Dark Skies Policy. When streetlights are in need of repair, improvement or replacement, the Parish Council will audit the views of those residents around the streetlight to assist in the determination if the streetlight remains with modification, or is removed, to expand the Dark Skies impact and maintain rurality. Street lighting that is managed by Highways or South Norfolk should be modified to meet the requirements of the Dark Skies Policy.

Why is it important to adopt good lighting practice?

The positive benefits to be gained from lighting can include safety of movement, security of property, extension of working practices, and other activities, including commercial advertising and enhancement of important buildings. Generally, lighting in itself is not a problem – it only becomes so if it is excessive, poorly designed, badly installed or inadequately maintained.

Human health and ecosystems can be adversely affected by excessive artificial lighting, particularly light within the blue spectrum. Recent studies have found that red lighting is the least damaging to optical nerves and general health. The Neighbourhood Plan balances the need for any lighting proposal against the negative effect it may have on the environment due to obtrusive light.

Lighting and the power it uses is a significant contributor to the carbon emissions we create. Lighting which is dark sky-friendly will not only prevent light pollution but could also reduce energy wastage, offering significant cost savings to businesses and individuals. Indeed, more energy efficient lighting that complies to Dark Skies Policies is likely to reduce overall carbon emissions. A reduction in light usage and an emphasis on using the correct type of lighting for a particular task will help reduce light emissions, reduce carbon emissions and increase the scope of the natural environment.

Parish Council standard comment to all planning applications that external lighting.

All planning applications that come before the parish council for comment should have the comment below, from CPRE Norfolk made by the Parish Council

“National Planning Policy Framework Clause 185 and Norfolk County Council ‘s Environmental Lighting Zones Policy both recognise the importance of preserving dark landscapes and dark skies. In order to minimise light pollution, we recommend that any outdoor lights associated with this proposed development should be:

- 1) fully shielded (enclosed in full cut-off flat glass fitments)
- 2) directed downwards (mounted horizontally to the ground and not tilted upwards)
- 3) switched on only when needed (no dusk to dawn lamps)
- 4) white light low energy, non-blue spectrum lamps, (LED, metal halide or fluorescent) and not orange or pink sodium sources”
- 5) Lighting should be predominantly within the red spectrum

