

# ELLINGHAM, HARBRIDGE & IBSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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## Light Pollution Focus Group update

Fellow councillors!

The issue of light pollution is always a discussion point when considering planning applications before our Parish Council. We have been very grateful for the suggestions from the members of NFALC and have pursued several ideas.

We continue to encourage NPA and NFDC to ask for external lights to be part of their materials requirements so they can insist that lights have a PIR rather than being on all night. We have seen the NPA request eaves and gables extended over fenestration to reduce the upwards throw of light from a building. We also make all applicants aware of the issue of light pollution and give them ideas on how to attenuate it with blackout blinds and PIR's on external lighting. It is amazing how quickly these items can be added to an application when parties are keen to get permission. We understand that blinds and curtains cannot be conditions for granting permission but once an applicant has included them in plans they are more likely to see the idea through to construction.

Whilst this topic will never be resolved at a planning level or even with conditions we would ask those parishes who have areas of dark skies restrictions and also simply places where it is sensible to request it... to point out to planners, architects and applicants with large areas of glazing that they can help reduce light pollution and 'do their bit' for the countryside.

To that end we are happy for this item to be removed from the list of outstanding matters.

Kind regards,  
Jim Spark,  
Chair EHIPC Planning.