

North Farm Street Lights

September 2023

The Parish Council submitted a planning application (22/03766/VARYCO) to have the streetlights installed as part of the North Farm development remove/turned off. Since then, there has been further communication with NCC Planning.

Some sympathy was expressed with our application, but it was explained that the streetlights were required by Highways in the interest of road safety. A meeting was held in June with Planning and Highways where it was agreed that Highways would revisit the scheme and come up with some revisions.

Planning has written to the Parish Council with the following proposals.

“... The top three bullets are a bit of background whilst the bottom four contain our suggested approach.

- *The lighting design has been reviewed in line with the comments and concerns raised by the Parish Council.*
- *Where we have lighting installed, and it is associated with a New Development, we endeavour to comply with the recommendations contained within BS5489 Code of Practice for Road Lighting.*
- *The lighting installation was designed to a P4 Lighting Class, but after the initial complaints it was reduced to a P5 Lighting Class via changing the LED lanterns.*
- *Subsequent to meeting the Parish Council, a further review of the Lighting Design has been carried out.*
- *The lowest Lighting Class we can use is P6, and to achieve this in North Farm, column numbers SL1, SL2 & SL3 will be reduced to 5m mounting height and fitted with an 8.4W LED Luminaire, whose lumen output is 1130 lumens dimming to 50% output at midnight, which equates to 565 lumens - to put this into context my bicycle lights are about 1000lumens.*
- *This revised proposal would also see the removal of lighting units SL4 & SL5 (the new streetlights installed on the C73) and fit the 8.4W LED luminaire to existing column No. 2RA, located opposite 16 Church Road.*
- *Costs - these changes would cost in the region of £2,000, as we will reuse the existing luminaires in other area.*
- *NB: as the proposal is to remove some lighting, it will be necessary to carry out a consultation exercise, with the residents directly affected by this change.”*

These proposals were discussed at the RPC meeting on the 14th September which was attended by several residents. There was general opposition to the proposals as they did not maintain the status quo of our dark skies. There was also concern, that as there is a requirement for street lighting in the development off the B1340 (18/04410/OUT), about the precedent that any agreement on this application might set.

If you have any thoughts on streetlights in the parish (or any other subject) please do not hesitate to get in contact.