Dear Resident of Loxley,

Respecting Our Dark Skies: A Request to Reduce Night-Time Exterior Lighting

Loxley Parish Council is writing to request your support in helping to protect our village's unique environment by reducing the use of exterior and non-essential lighting during the night, particularly late evening and overnight hours. The recent village survey raised this issue with some residents noting that some external lighting in the village is causing distress with excess glare.

Loxley has a dark sky policy in place, which recognises the importance of preserving natural darkness for wildlife, environmental sustainability, and community wellbeing. Excessive residential lighting is a form of pollution, so small actions taken by individual households can collectively make a meaningful difference. Reducing night-time exterior lighting brings several important benefits:

Protection of Wildlife
Artificial light disrupts the natural behaviour of many species. Birds rely on darkness for navigation, migration, and resting. Bats are particularly sensitive to light pollution. Bright lighting can deter them from feeding areas, disrupt breeding patterns, and reduce local populations by altering their natural foraging routes.

Environmental Benefits
Turning off or dimming lights when they are not needed helps to reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions. Preserving darker skies aligns with broader environmental goals to reduce climate impact.

Community Wellbeing and Heritage
Dark skies are part of our village's character and heritage. Minimising light pollution enhances views of the night sky, and supports the rural atmosphere valued by residents and visitors alike.

Financial Savings
Reducing exterior lighting can also lead to lower electricity bills. Simple actions—such as switching lights off when not in use, using timers, motion sensors, or lower-intensity bulbs—can result in noticeable savings over time.

The Parish Council is not asking residents to compromise safety or security. Rather, we are encouraging thoughtful and responsible lighting choices: using lights only where necessary, introducing sensors, and turning them off overnight where possible.

By working together, we can protect wildlife, respect our dark sky policy, and maintain the special qualities that make Loxley the community we all love. Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

Harry Bowen,

Chair, Loxley Parish Council