

Katherine Williams

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 September 2026 11:16
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Objection to lighting in new development in Hamsland

[REDACTED]
Dear All,

I am writing to formally express my strong opposition and deep concern regarding the approved lighting plan within the St Stephen Fields development application in Hamsland.

It has recently come to light that the proposal includes the installation of downlighters at the front doors of all 30 new dwellings, as well as lighting bollards along the streets. This unnecessary introduction of artificial light poses a direct threat to Horsted Keynes and its coveted dark skies environment.

This lighting plan represents a severe blight on our village and local ecosystem for several key reasons:

- **Dark Sky Environment:** Horsted Keynes is recognised for its exceptional dark skies. Introducing continuous street and residential lighting directly undermines the unique character and dark sky heritage of our community.
- **Impact on Wildlife:** Local wildlife, particularly the native bat populations, relies heavily on uninterrupted dark corridors. Artificial street lighting disrupts their navigation, foraging, and natural habitats.
- **Unnecessary Infrastructure:** As local residents, we are accustomed to dark nights and regularly use torches when walking through the village. Installing suburban style street bollards and entry lighting just to illuminate Hamsland is entirely unnecessary and out of character for our rural area.

It is clear that the environmental impact of this lighting scheme was not properly considered during the planning evaluation. I strongly urge the committee to reconsider these conditions and require the developer to adopt a zero/minimal light pollution strategy eliminating street bollards and restricting exterior fixtures to low lumen, motion-sensored lighting only when strictly necessary.

Thank you for your time and for considering the long-term impact on our village's environment.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Stonybrook, Church Lane, Horsted Keynes, RH17 7AY