

LIGHTING ASSESSMENT

in support of

UNDERGROUND BASEMENT PARKING AREA

AT

Millicent, Hillgrove Lane, Lurgashall, Petworth, West Sussex, GU28 9EP

1.0 Lighting Statement

- 1.1 In May 2016 the South Downs National Park became an International Dark Sky Reserve, with planning policy subsequently introduced to protect the dark skies above the park. Current adopted policy is found within the South Downs Local Plan 2019 at Policy SD8 – Dark Night Skies. The policy is set out below:

Strategic Policy SD8: Dark Night Skies

1. Development proposals will be permitted where they conserve and enhance the intrinsic quality of dark night skies and the integrity of the Dark Sky Core as shown on the Policies Map.
2. Development proposals must demonstrate that all opportunities to reduce light pollution have been taken, and must ensure that the measured and observed sky quality in the surrounding area is not negatively affected, having due regard to the following hierarchy:
 - a) The installation of lighting is avoided; and
 - b) If lighting cannot be avoided, it is demonstrated to be necessary and appropriate, for its intended purpose or use:
 - i. Any adverse impacts are avoided; or
 - ii. If that is not achievable, then adverse impacts are mitigated to the greatest reasonable extent.'
3. Lighting which is proposed to be installed must meet or exceed the level of protection appropriate to the environmental zone, as shown on the Policies Map, as set out in the table below.

1.2 The purpose of Policy SD8 is to ensure that development does not harm the quality of dark night skies. It also encourages enhancement of the dark night skies of the National Park, for the benefit of people and wildlife. The policy seeks to do this by ensuring that proposed lighting is necessary, and by reducing unnecessary light spill that is often of poor design, in order to minimise the overall impact of light (paragraph 5.48 South Downs Local Plan 2019).

1.3 The following lighting statement has been produced having regard to the following guidance:

- ILP – Reduction of Obtrusive Light 01/21,
- SDNPA Dark Night Skies Information,
- SDNPA – Dark Night Skies TAN and its Appendix (2021)
- Bat Conservation Trust – Artificial lighting guidance

to demonstrate the schemes compliance with Policy SD8 – Dark Night Skies of the South Downs National Park Local Plan.

1.4 The application is for underground basement parking area. The works will be formed underneath the existing garage building and tennis court on the site. The application building is currently in use for purposes incidental / ancillary to the residential occupation of the site. Internal lighting is therefore currently present within the building. Regard to the existing incidental use of the building and its associated internal lighting to facilitate such is a material in this case.

1.5 Notwithstanding the existing use of the building, the proposed extension is entirely subterranean. The design has therefore taken all the opportunities to reduce light pollution as part of this proposal. Recognising the above and having regard to the below it is considered policy requirements can be met for the proposed development:

- No external lighting is proposed;
- The works are subterranean
- Light spill will be minimised by the incidental use of the basement parking
- Any light spill from the light well will be limited to short periods when the parking area is being accessed.
- Internal lighting can be put on a timer/ sensor to limit any unnecessary light.

July 2023