

The Charge, Victoria Road, Diss

Section 6.54

I have reviewed the class of the area again, as the planning officer has questioned the class of the area.. According to research on the internet, Diss is described as a Market Town in South Norfolk with a population of 7572 in 2011, I assume it has increased since then.

In ILP GN01/21 there are two definition as follows

E3 is described as a “well inhabited rural and urban settlements, small town centres of **suburban locations**”.

E2 is described as “Sparsely inhabited rural areas, village or relatively dark outer suburban locations.”

In my view a population of over 7500 is not sparsely inhabited. However putting that aside my review of the lighting levels and the values required for an E2 mean that while the E3 criteria are met, the E2 is too, which I have explained in more detail below

In reviewing the criteria for an E2, the requirements for vertical illuminance on surrounding properties the pre curfew 5 lux is not exceeded. 1.8 lux is less than 5 lux. Post curfew of 1 lux which will be achieved on the basis that all the lighting will be dimmed to 50% of output when not in use, 50% of 1.8 lux is 0.9 lux which is less than the required value.

With regard to upward light ratio, the maximum value for an E2 is 2.5% of the calculated value - 0.1%.

With regard to the upward flux ratio for an amenity area, the upward flux ratio should be below 5% - the calculated value was 1.09%

Section 6.58

The proposed mounting heights of lights and wattages have been further reduced since the review and along the southern and eastern boundary, are now proposed at 4m. height.

The lighting could be dimmed to a lower level after the coffee shop and restaurant have closed and staff left the site, at 23:15 for example. It is proposed that the lighting will automatically dim when no movement is detected after a given period of time. Some lighting is still needed for CCTV to operate.

Sections 6.59 to 6.61

These section just seem to be 'copy and paste' from various documents with no real point. The lighting on this site has been reduced from “normal” levels because of the ecology. Further control with shields has been modelled, the size of the shield could be increased but it can only be calculated with standard shields The colour temperature of the fittings proposed is warm white, in accordance with the GN08 recommendations.

Section 6.62

The modelling of car headlights is near impossible to model for two reasons

Firstly, the vehicles are constantly moving so the light levels are never the same at any given time.

Secondly, car headlights for every manufacturer are different and they distribute light differently or from different heights while I have modelled work before from a 2009 Volvo V70. If the vehicle were an SUV or a Van the values would be different.

Section 6.63

As stated above, mitigation has been put in place so best practice and use of lighting industry recommendations has been considered and adopted for the scheme proposal within this application.

Section 6.64

The control system proposed would use movement sensors so lighting would be reduced when no movement is detected. It is expected that once the two sites have closed for business, there would be no movement so the lighting would remain in the dimmed state. It should be noted that some lighting is necessary for security cameras to still operate.

Section 6.65

As stated on the drawings in note 4, the modelling of Trees and shrubs has not been considered as their masking ability varies with the seasons. We expect that there will be further reductions in light level as a result of vegetation.

Section 6.66

We understand from speaking with various ecologists that there aren't any further considerations needed over that of bats for otters or water voles.

I should comment that my assessment and design was carried out as a Fellow of the ILP. I have been a fellow since 2019 and was a Member before that for over 20 years. Fellow is the second highest grade possible and is above a Member grade. An Honorary Fellow is the highest grade and is given not applied for. I have over 35 years experience in exterior lighting design and more in other disciplines. You don't get a Fellow grade free with a copy of the Guardian Sunday supplement! The lighting qualification or expertise of the officer has not been indicated.

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