

Policy proposal 3

1. That regulations are established with regards to street lighting along similar lines to Dorset County Council
(<http://www.dorsetforyou.com/media.jsp?mediaid=2365&filetype=pdf>)
2. Specific lights are allocated to RCC and specific lights to the Parish and Town Councils. RCC will broadly have responsibility for Highways lighting and Towns/Parishes for footpaths and pavements.
3. Energy costs and maintenance of lights for those located in the Town and Parish should be paid for by those who directly benefiting from them.
4. Town and Parishes should be encouraged to get the most up to date energy efficient lights to save energy and costs to payers of their Council Tax. In the short term hopefully they will be able to apply for grants to assist them in this from RCC/e-on.
5. With new responsibility for the lights in their area Town/Parish councils can choose to turn off these if they feel they are not needed or causing light pollution.
6. RCC should only support Highway lights which are required to be provided by law and/or Road safety. A visual check of some areas has shown tightly placed groups of lights in some areas (A6003 approaches North of Uppingham for example).
7. We should also be encouraging Town/Parishes to dim street lights between 1.00am and 6.00am when most are asleep. In recent exercises in other parts of England a 70% reduction in light after 12.00am wasn't noticed by residents.