



Biodiversity Action Across Teignbridge Parishes

Conserve

Enhance

Protect



Ashton

Reducing Light Pollution

Raising Awareness of the Impact of Light Pollution on Nocturnal Species

Why does artificial lighting at night matter?

- It increases predation risk by making species more visible
- It delays bats leaving their roosts, reducing their feeding time or causing them to abandon roosts
- It disrupts nocturnal invertebrates for example moths and glow worms, affecting their mating, feeding, navigation, hatching and development

Simple actions:

- Use external lighting only when you really need to
- Explore bug- and bat-friendly lighting options
- Close curtains when indoor lights are turned on



Action Climate in Teignbridge Wildlife Warden Scheme

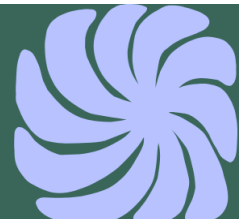




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Who Was Responsible and How It Is Being Addressed

This initiative was led by the Parish Wildlife Warden with the topic being revisited regularly to maintain community awareness.

Using materials from the Bat Conservation Trust, the Parish Wildlife Warden has:

- Publicised this issue using the Parish magazine.
- Added it to the Parish Council agenda for discussion, including how it relates to planning applications.
- Circulated information sheets via the parish email.
- Spoken directly to residents about excessive external lighting, providing them with written information.

Costs

There was no cost in Ashton; however, in other parishes, there may be expenses associated with changing lighting or bulbs on parish council-owned and managed land.

Benefits and Outcomes

- Increasing awareness of the impact of external lighting, encouraging residents to choose and use lighting more thoughtfully, and to consider how light pollution spilling from indoors affects local wildlife.
- Reducing the overall amount of light in the village aims to create a better environment for nocturnal species. It also helps people sleep better too!



Bat Conservation Trust - Information about lighting



Buglife - Information about light pollution and invertebrates



Shira Rub, Wildlife Warden in Ashton Parish
Action Climate in Teignbridge Wildlife Warden Scheme

