

Cranborne Chase AONB International Dark Sky Reserve

# DARK NIGHT SKY CHARTER



## A CHARTER FOR PRESERVING AND ENHANCING THE DARK NIGHT SKY OF THE CRANBORNE CHASE AONB INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY RESERVE

This Charter sets out the principles to be followed by any organisation or individual who signs up for the Dark Sky Friendly Scheme. It will be a fundamental document for initiating and coordinating action related to our status as an International Dark Sky Reserve.

In 2019 the International Dark-Sky Association granted us the prestigious designation of **International Dark Sky Reserve (IDSR)**. As part of the conditions of this designation, we must reduce light pollution in the night sky above the IDSR. Those who sign up to this Charter value the quality of the dark sky that already exists and undertake to act to preserve and enhance this quality. Signatories will implement and/or promote the following:

- Shielding lights, so that they do not emit any light above the horizontal, to reduce skyglow and the adverse effects of light on flying fauna.
- Shielding lights, so that they do not shine off the property, to reduce light intrusion and glare.
- Using light with a correlated colour temperature of 2700K or lower ("warm white" light) to reduce glare, skyglow from light scatter, and the adverse effects of light on nocturnal fauna.
- Have exterior lights on motion sensors (PIRs) with a maximum "on" time of 5 minutes to reduce their effect on all aspects of the night-time environment, especially skyglow from light scatter and reflection, and the adverse effects on flora and nocturnal fauna.
- Using lights with the minimum brightness necessary for their intended task to reduce their effect on all aspects of the night-time environment, especially skyglow from light scatter and reflection, and the adverse effects on flora and nocturnal fauna.
- In the case of tourist accommodation providers, promote the dark sky environment by providing binoculars or telescopes, star charts, red-light torches, etc., for loan to guests, and making provision for late returns in the night after astronomy activities, and late breakfasts.
- Respect and raise awareness of the IDSR generally by promoting, in person, on social media, or on own websites, dark sky events such as stargazing evenings and talks on light pollution and its consequences and remedies.