

All-Party Parliamentary Group for Dark Skies: Minutes of Meeting of 28 February 2023
Room N, Portcullis House
1 pm – 2 pm

Attendance

Sir Peter Bottomley MP (APPG co-chair)
Lord Rees of Ludlow (APPG co-chair)
David Smith, Buglife
Dr Tim Smyth, Plymouth Marine Laboratory
Dr Robert Massey, Royal Astronomical Society
Hugh Spackman, Royal Astronomical Society

Introduction and welcome

The meeting began at 1 pm. Those present introduced themselves.

Tim Smyth (Plymouth Marine Laboratory): Light pollution and the marine environment

Dr Smyth gave a presentation on how coastal light pollution can be far-reaching, impacting not just land, but the marine environment in the locality. Given the high coastal population in some regions (for example the southeast and southwest of England), light pollution is significant and the illumination of nearby seas has a significant environmental impact.

David Smith (Buglife): Impacts of light pollution on biodiversity

David Smith is the Advocacy and Social Change Officer for Buglife, the charity and campaigning organisation dedicated to the conservation of invertebrates. He described the growing extent of light pollution, and its effects on insects, birds and plants. David argues light pollution should be considered as an environmental pollutant and that it is not mentioned in the latest UK Environmental Improvement Plan.

Slides from this presentation are available [here](#)

Any other business

There were no further items of business.

The meeting closed at 2 pm.