



LOUGHTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Transmission problem?

Three members reported that their November 17th news bulletin was blank below the header. If this happens to you, please let [me](#) know so I can re-send it.

LRA NEWS

Forest Road. High Beech Road, Smarts Lane RPZ parking waivers for businesses.

We understood that the question of business permits was due to be discussed at NEPP's December meeting, in the light of NEPP's checks on the number of vacant parking spaces available. LRA Cllr Chris Pond had carried out his own survey in order to be able to check on what NEPP decided to propose.

We were therefore extremely surprised to hear that NEPP have already offered businesses temporary 6-month parking waivers (see [here](#)), rather than discussing the matter in December. LRA Cllr Chris Pond has taken up the lack of consultation.

We will of course be monitoring the effect of the waivers, and consulting residents – our view is that business permits should only be given if this won't affect the availability of parking for residents.



Planning applications:

- the LRA Plans Group had objected to these applications ([watch the webcast with slides](#))
 - **Loughton Leisure Centre**, Traps Hill: a two-storey extension to replace the front octagonal building, to provide a new fitness suite - approved by the District Council
 - **Stanmores and Little Stanmores**, Clays Lane. Three new houses to replace existing buildings - decision deferred to a future meeting for further information to be obtained

New applications

- **2 Connaught Avenue**. After a series of applications to replace this prominent building with unattractive blocks of flats, the new application seeks to retain the existing structure (with previously-approved alterations) as five flats, with 5 parking spaces at the rear and amenity space in the triangle at the front, between Ollards Grove and Connaught Avenue (we never believed that the previous applications for alterations were what they purported to be, and we had objected to the way in which they increased the bulk of the building).



Keeping the existing structure is a great improvement on previous proposals, although

- the parking is inadequate (the County standard would be 13 spaces, but the planning rules allow reductions where there's good public transport) - residents and visitors are likely to occupy roadside parking spaces on local roads
- nearby residents are unlikely to be happy with the proposal.

At first sight, the LRA Plans Group cannot see any *planning* grounds for the District Council to turn down the application.

Epping Forest Consultative Committee. We are very pleased that LRA will be one of the organisations represented at the new Epping Forest Consultative Committee. This has been set up by the City of London to consider and discuss areas of current concern or debate at Epping Forest – particularly those due to be raised at City’s Epping Forest and Commons Committee.

Bus services

- **service 418 rescued!** Following pressure on the County Council by LRA Cllr Chris Pond and others about the proposed ending of this service at the end of this year, the Council has announced that it has made an arrangement with Galleon Travel for the service to continue, initially until 31st March 2018 (extendable by mutual agreement), on the existing timetable
- **Langston Road Retail Park:** LRA Cllr Chris Pond has met County and District Cllrs and Officers about a bus service for the retail park (which LRA has been advocating all along) and reports that progress is being made towards a solution – we’ll keep you posted.



Lower Road pavement in poor condition. LRA Cllr Chris Pond reported the condition of this footpath to Essex Highways' attention back in April.

Unfortunately, as with many of Loughton's shops and businesses, the footpath in front of the shops is owned by the buildings' owners, so they should carry out the repairs. (The part of the pavement owned by Essex County Council has been repaired.) As this situation is probably bad for business, if you're affected by it you may like to try to persuade the shop-keepers to contact their landlords.

LOCAL NEWS

FOR LOCAL EVENTS SEE SEPARATE EMAIL

Check ahead for events in red, which need to be booked in advance!

FOR LOCAL LEISURE ORGANISATIONS SEE <http://tinyurl.com/pbel693>

Essex Police

- **recent public meeting in Loughton:** residents heard from members of the local police community team about the problems of dealing with the many demands on their time. Government funding cuts in recent years have meant a very significant reduction in the number of PCs and support officers (PCSOs) available to respond to 999 calls or to handle community policing. Top of residents' concerns about community policing were drug-dealing, thefts from cars and parking offences. Those present applauded the dedication of the police officers under the current pressures. [More.](#)
- **Motorbike ASB.** Essex Police have seized 26 motorbikes across Epping Forest District since February after residents sent in dashcam and mobile phone footage of anti-social incidents.
- **Got some photo evidence of ASB or drug-dealing?** Please send it in at www.essex.police.uk
- **Valley Hill speeding.** Police trainees are to carry out speed checks as part of their training,



- **Fed up with speeding drivers?** Help with [Community Speed Watch](#), a traffic monitoring scheme, coordinated by the Essex Police Casualty Reduction Section, but managed and run by volunteers in the community. Contact [Sue Taylor](#)
- **High Road RPZ – tickets issued.**



Despite a heavy workload on other matters, our local Community Police Constable has been issuing tickets for obstruction north of the High Road. He knows that thoughtless drivers are causing real problems for pedestrians, particularly children; he'd like to have the time to do more

- **residents views on crime in the District:** the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex recently hosted a public meeting at the District Council to hear - [watch the webcast](#)
- **Active Citizen scheme** – see *Help needed* below.

Free car parking on Saturdays and Sundays in District Council-owned car parks from Saturday 2 December to Sunday 31 December. [More.](#)



District Council to employ private security because of police cut-backs?

[Report](#) by EverythingEppingForest.

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National Jazz Archive (NJA). Read all the latest NJA news in this month's [newsletter](#). Highlights include the Clark Tracey Quartet and Stan Tracey, + Southend Jazz promoter [@AdrianGreen80](#). (AGM December 4th see *EVENTS* email.)``

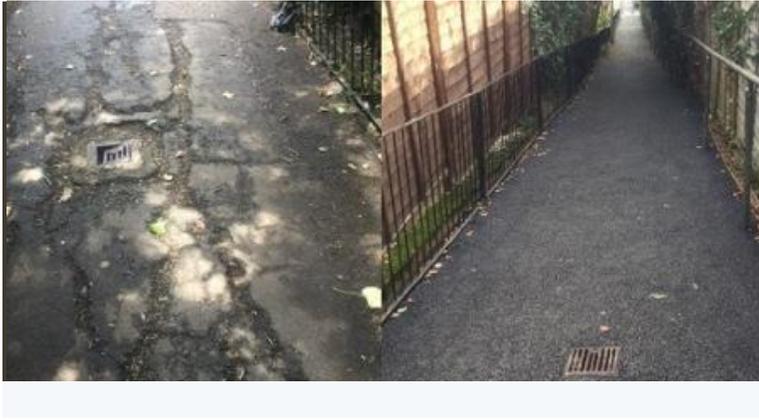
Road being resurfaced?

Drivers who illegally leave their cars parked preventing road resurfacing could now face being fined or having their car moved under new Essex County Council powers. [More.](#)



Staples Hill Path.

Our Epping Forest Local Highways Panel [#EssexLHP](#) has completed the resurfacing of this footpath. Photos before and after to the left. See guides and footpath map at <http://ow.ly/jPre30gIVsl>



OFFERS & HELP AVAILABLE

[List of local clubs and societies here](#)



Free Call Blockers for people with dementia.

We all receive unwanted phone calls. They're a nuisance, but they also put us at risk of being scammed and this risk is even more acute for people living with dementia. The National Trading Standards Scam Team has secured government funding to provide free call blocking technology to protect those living with dementia and receiving unwanted calls. To find out if you or someone you know, is eligible to have a free call blocker fitted, [complete the survey](#) that's stage one of the application. Allocation is on a first come, first served basis.

Tesco Bags of Help community grants can support any community groups/organisations for projects, improvements or events that benefit local residents – Information [here](#) and at www.groundwork.org.uk/tesco.



Are you prepared for an emergency?

Five simple steps to help you and your family prepare for emergency situations.



Preparing your family for #emergencies is easy! This leaflet from PreparedInEssex explains just how easy it is!
<http://ow.ly/r27S30eO5iO>

HELP WANTED



Help protect yourself – and your neighbours, and the police.

If your road isn't in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, please help get one off the ground. It is not a huge job, you speak to neighbours, ask them if they want to get involved and you then collate an email list so you can contact people, when there is a need to do so. Get in touch with your local Neighbourhood Watch team [here](#).

Join the Active Citizen scheme. Active Citizens are volunteers in the community who help the police to lower crime and the fear of crime by interacting with the public. They can get involved in a wide range of work:

- Help run community days of action
- Provide reassurance and crime prevention advice
- Patrol with local police officers and Police Community Support Officers
- Assist with some administration tasks

Becoming an Active Citizen is a real opportunity to make a positive difference in your local area and get involved in supporting your local community. It is also an excellent way to gain experience of working with the public which can enhance employment opportunities or personal study.



GENERAL



Be safe in the snow and ice!

If you have to go out on slippery paths, then wearing slip-on “ice grips” can give you a much better grip and reduce the risk of a fall. Try Googling “ice grips UK” for suppliers.

Epping Forest NHW say

- **please only ring 999 if:**
 - There is a direct and immediate threat to life / limb or to property
 - Prompt attendance is required to catch suspects committing a crime or have just

committed a crime and are nearby
www.essex.police.uk or 101 for general nuisance or ASB

- **free alarm:** if someone phones, knows your name and says they are a crime prevention officer wanting to 'give' you an alarm for free, don't believe them. It is a scam, so warn your elderly neighbours, and keep them safe.



London news

- **TfL fare freeze!** For the second year, pay as you go single fares on bus, Tube, tram and DLR and all Santander Cycles charges are frozen until 2020. The fares freeze is part of the commitment by the Mayor, Sadiq Khan, to make travel in London more affordable. [More](#).

- **Central London charging.** The Mayor has decided to proceed with the next phase of his Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) plans. The ULEZ will start in central London on 8 April 2019, within the central London Congestion Charging zone, 24/7 every day of the year. Some vehicles will need to meet tighter emissions standards than those which apply to the T-Charge or pay a daily emission charge to drive within the zone. The Mayor will consult on extending the ULEZ boundary up to the North and South Circular later this year. To use the new ULEZ vehicle checker to see if your vehicle is affected, [click here](#)

MythBuster: Can I recycle cooking glass? [Essex County Council]

- **Glass cookware, window glass, drinks glasses and light bulbs** cannot be recycled as they are made from glass which has a different melting point and chemical composition. If used, they create weak points in the new glass product which could make them unsafe to use as they can break easily.
- **If glassware is unbroken** and in good condition then donate to a charity shop,



- if it is broken then please take items to your [local recycling centre](#) or wrap in newspaper and place in your general waste to dispose of safely. By recycling one glass bottle you can save enough energy to power a TV for 20 minutes!

Essex Libraries:

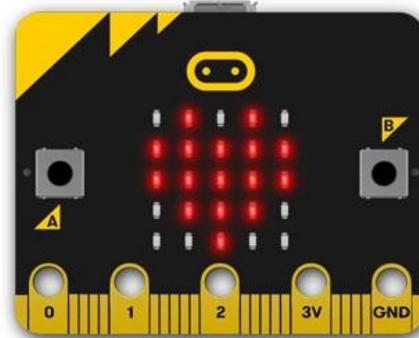
- **E-Mail notifications and reminders.** Tired of falling foul of late return charges? Try the email reminder service. A few days before your book loan comes to an end you'll be sent a reminder asking you to renew or return your book. Make sure the Library has your correct email address on file – check your online [account settings](#). Then ask a member of staff by phone or next time you visit your local library to change your contact preference settings to email. They'll also send you notifications by email when the items you've reserved have arrived at your local library.

- **Borrow a computer from your local library, free of charge!**

The BBC micro:bit is a fully functioning computer the size of a matchbox. During the past year free micro:bits have been given to all Year 7 children throughout the UK. Members of library weekly [Code Clubs](#) have also been able to practise their coding skills with them during meetings and at events.

Now the tiny computers will be available for any library member to borrow for up to three weeks.

They can be reserved in the usual way and delivered to your local library. The range of things you can do with a micro:bit is truly astonishing – everything from interactive badges and simple games, to robots and musical instruments. [Borrow one](#) and have a go!





Passwords

Here's what you need to know...

- Use **three random words** to create strong passwords. Numbers and symbols can still be used if needed.
- Don't use words that can be easily guessed, such as a family member's or a pet's name.
- Always use a **unique password** for your **email account**.
- Enable **Two Factor Authentication (2FA)** on your accounts.

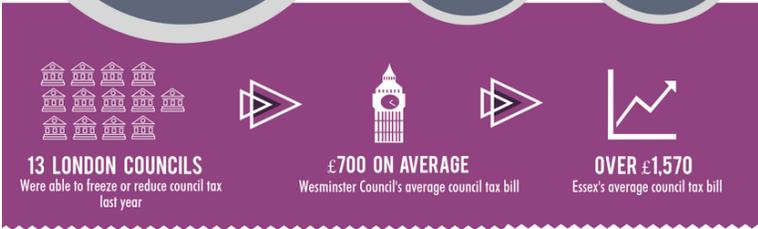
Action Fraud
0203 284 1000
CYBER AWARE

FAIRER FUNDING FOR ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL



Historical underfunding

- Counties are the lowest funded type of upper-tier council
- Essex receives £370 less per resident than councils in London and £244 less per head than metropolitan boroughs





Scam warning: don't let fraudsters take money from you or your loved ones
Have you heard of ring-fencing? It's new legislation that affects the UK's largest banking groups. For customers of some banks it will mean sort codes and account numbers may change. fraudsters may use the changes that are happening as an opportunity to target you.
The fraudsters could contact you through spoofed or hacked email accounts, pretending to be a legitimate person or business you've already been communicating with, for example a solicitor or builder.
- Never set up new or change existing payment details without first double checking the request is genuine.
- You should **always** contact the person or company making the change, ideally face to face or by telephone (using existing contact details only).
For information and guidance on protecting yourself from fraud and scams, visit your bank's website.

KEEP UP WITH THE NEWS BETWEEN OUR EMAIL BULLETINS



TWITTER: Follow us on Twitter at **@LoughtonRA**
Not on Twitter? See our tweets at www.loughtonresidents.org.uk

FACEBOOK: *Like and Follow* our Facebook page by going to
www.facebook.com/LoughtonResidents

NOTES

1. We expect to send out the next news bulletin on Saturday December 16th.
 2. In the process of drafting these items and sending them by email, some links to websites or email addresses can be broken; you can get round this by right-clicking on the link and then clicking "open" or, if this does not work, by cutting and pasting the address into an email or browser as appropriate.
 3. If a web address doesn't work, or anything else is wrong, please let us know at david.linnell@loughtonresidents.co.uk
 4. LRA gives no warranty about, and will take no responsibility for, items or services offered – purchasers/users should make their own enquiries, and will be acting at their own risk.
 5. To enlarge a picture, click on it and then drag one of the corners outwards
 6. EFNW = Epping Forest Neighbourhood Watch
- David Linnell

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**For more about LRA & Loughton see www.loughtonresidents.co.uk
or email contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk**

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