

LOUGHTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

LRA NEWS

LRA Cllrs

- **District Council election results.** We were very pleased that all 7 LRA candidates were elected with significant majorities. We're very grateful to the candidates for taking on these roles, to all who voted for them, and to all those who worked so hard before the election, delivering our election material and calling on residents.
- **LRA Cllr Leon Girling.** Leon has had to stand down as an LRA Cllr. He has worked hard in his roles on the Town and District Councils, representing Broadway ward, and particularly on defending Jessel Green against development. However, a job change meant that he was no longer based in Loughton - we are sorry to lose him.
- **Loughton Town Council.** We welcome Jayna Jogia as a Town Cllr, to replace Leon.



Restore Centre, The Broadway. There has been widespread concern about the proposed move of the Centre away from The Broadway shops (owned by the District Council), where it serves a vital purpose.

At the last full Council meeting LRA Cllr Chris Pond raised this with the leader of the Council (Conservative Cllr Chris Whitbread), who promised to discuss the matter with Chris and colleagues to see if anything can be done to help *Restore* to carry on its good work for the community.



Local highways and rubbish problems

- **Rubbish clearance.** A resident contacted us about rubbish in the water-course at the rear of the houses in Willingale Road. The District and Town Council staff were helpful, and the Town Council confirmed that the clean-up, plus some work on the bridge, was expected to be done this week. The delay in getting these jobs done was down to last month's wet weather, which meant that Davenant School would not allow vehicle access to the land in order to remove the material.
- **Cllr out and about.** Whilst delivering the first LRA election leaflet about 4 weeks ago, LRA Cllr Chris Pond noticed about 12 highways faults. Two of them, a collapsed District Council gully in the front path of a block of maisonettes in Burney Drive, and sharp ironwork in a County Highways road hump in Chester Rd, he reported as urgent. Residents' reports of a District Housing department street-light in Austen Close had been ignored by the Council, so he reported it again (but as non urgent again). Delivering LRA's second election leaflet on 1 May, he found all three defects had been repaired. Miracles still happen...
- **Roding Road brook area.** Following complaints from residents, LRA Cllr Rose Brookes and Independent Cllr Stephen Murray have triggered off a clean-up by the District Council of the (private) land involved. In addition, the Council has decided to put a rubbish bin by the brook, opposite 50 Roding Road to try to reduce the amount of rubbish thrown over the fence.
- **Pothole Church Hill / Church Lane junction.** This dangerous pothole has been reported many times to County Highways, without any response. LRA Cllr Chris Pond has now got them to acknowledge the problem, but is still waiting for a date for the repair.

- **Pedestrian lights, Chigwell Lane** (by the railway bridge). LRA Cllr Debra Roberts reported that pedestrians were at risk because the lights were badly phased. LRA County Cllr Chris Pond took this up with Highways, who have agreed that this needs investigation to see what changes are needed.
- **Cars parked dangerously on Forest land.** LRA Cllr Trevor Downing has been trying to sort out who will take responsibility for preventing drivers parking cars near the junction of Nursery Road with Smarts Lane, just beyond the double yellow lines and the limit of the CPZ. NEPP and the police appear reluctant to take action. Longer term, Trevor believes the City of London will have to do something to make it impossible to park along this stretch of Forest land, as they have done on the other side of the road.

Proposed 66 & 86 route cuts. EOS buses are proposing to withdraw the evening service between Loughton and Waltham Abbey which they put on as a commercial service when the County Council removed route 250 last year. These have not proved a success and EOS will cease to operate them in this month. LRA Cllr Chris Pond has asked the County Council to make a contribution to EOS to maintain the service, but he is not hopeful. We think the primary impact will be to further isolate Waltham Abbey from surrounding areas.



Follow the money.

We were asked recently who keeps an eye on how the District Council spends our cash? LRA Cllr Caroline Pond replied that

- LRA Cllr Bob Jennings is on the Audit and Governance Committee (with two other Cllrs and two Independent non cllrs).
- Financial matters also go to the Resources Standing Panel, on which there are three LRA Cllrs (out of 15). The budget goes to a Cabinet before full Council, and LRA Cllrs can ask detailed questions at this meeting.
- All “growth” items over a certain amount go individually to the Council’s Cabinet meetings and LRA Cllrs look at these as they come along.

From the archives. In the 2002 District Council elections, LRA’s Ken Faulkner and Peter House defeated the Conservative candidate, one James Brokenshire. Nevertheless, he has gone on to greater things; last month he became the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government!



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>

Developments at Lopping Hall: see report [here](#) (page 6)

Crown House bar/restaurant (was *Nu-Bar*, now to be *Tom, Dick and Harry's*). Planning permission was granted in January



for various alterations, and work is now starting – see [here](#) for details of what’s proposed.

District Local Plan

- **District Council’s update:** see [here](#)
- **Judicial Review.** Reminder: the challenge to the Plan from a developer with a site in Theydon Bois will be heard in the High Court on May 23rd and 24th - see LRA’s [Press Release](#).

Crime

- **Arrests:** two 14 year olds have been arrested and charged with burglary and driving offences right across Epping Forest. We may never know their names because they are under age. [EFNW] [More](#)
- **Mugging outside Epping Forest College,** Borders Lane at around 1.30pm on April 30th. If you can help with any information, please see [details](#).
- **Morning burglaries.** Essex Police report two burglaries yesterday, one in Chigwell and one in Theydon. What was unusual was that they were both between 08:30 and 09:30am so thieves must be looking for properties where people are out doing the school run etc. They ask you to remember to set alarms etc , even if you’re just nipping out to school etc [EFNW]

Relocation/redevelopment of Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow.

The Hospital is located on a highly constrained site near the town centre and faces a number of challenges in continuing to serve the needs of its catchment – the building needs major capital investment and there is no room to expand its services.

- The preferred option is to relocate to a new site – two potential broad locations have been identified around Harlow: one within Epping Forest District and one in East Herts District. Both Local Plans for these two local planning authorities are currently showing potential provision for a hospital on these sites.
- Alternatively, the Hospital could be redeveloped/refurbished on its current site.



Epping Forest

- **This year’s calving** was 17 bull calves and 11 heifers, which brings the total herd size to 138
- **New Epping Forest Map and Short Walks book**, now available at *The View*, Rangers Road, and elsewhere
- **Easy [Short walks](#)** in Epping Forest
- **Removal of Introduced Non-Native Species (INNS)** intentionally released in the Forest ponds. Common removals include goldfish and Koi – the coloured varieties of Amur Carp. More exotic removals have included:
 - from Earls Path Pond, the first recorded example of a species of Tetra;
 - an armoured South American catfish (*Plecostomus Commersonii*) from St Johns Pond.



New cycle routes in Loughton? Epping Forest Transport Action Group have responded to Essex Highways’ proposals for cycling in the area – details [here](#).

Cyclists will no doubt welcome these proposals as making easier and safer for them to travel round the town, and hopefully will attract more people out of their cars and onto their bikes; others may feel that Loughton’s hills will mean that take-up will be lower than hoped, and the loss of road-space will impose extra congestion on motorists.



Loughton Health Centre, The Drive. Patients' Group [minutes](#) – find out what's going on!
Wednesday 18 July at 7.15pm in the reception area.

Conversion of 1 Ollards Grove to 4 flats: application turned down by the District Council.
[Details](#) (reference: EPF/0897/17)

Historic bus routes will be brought to life this weekend.

In conjunction with the London Transport Museum, Epping Ongar Railway (EOR) is hosting a day of heritage bus and railway services. [More](#).

OFFERS & HELP AVAILABLE

Have you been the victim of a crime and need someone to talk to?

Call Victim Support on 08 08 16 89 111 for free and confidential support. Available 24/7.

Drivers parking across your driveway? You can apply to [NEPP](#) to have an 'H-bar' painted across your dropped kerb driveway access.



HELP WANTED

Essex Police launch civilian detective role. Could you compassionately support someone who has just been seriously assaulted, had a family member murdered, been robbed at knifepoint or sexually abused?

Do you have the mind-set to investigate serious or complex crimes, build a case to put before a judge and lock up the county's most serious or violent offenders? For the first time in the force's history Essex Police is launching a recruitment scheme for detectives.

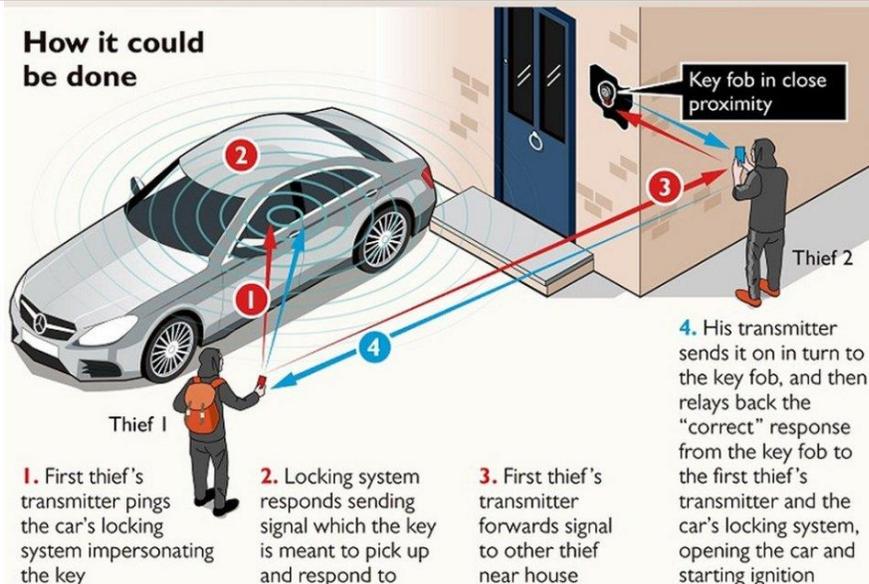


Easy way to [register](#) as an Organ Donor with the NHS.

GENERAL

Keyless vehicle theft is on the rise across the country. Reduce the chance of having your vehicle stolen by moving your keys away from the front door and further in the house where the signal from the key may not be picked up.

How it could be done



Dog-owners - please control your dogs. EFNW have been hearing about a lady with a chocolate Labradoodle or Cockerpoop who is frequently in the High Road with her dog. Apparently, although the lady says that the dog is friendly, staff in the shops say it is anything but, and one person said it barks and snarls at other dogs. You can see what the law says [here](#)

Quad bikes designed for the road with index plates are insurable and the rider does not need to wear a helmet. However, when a bike isn't designed for road use, and doesn't display any index plates, the rider can be fined or the Police can seize the bike. [EFNW] **Reports** of any dangerous or illegal quad-bike driving to www.essex.police.uk (with details and rider's ID if possible).



Keyless car theft: Crime prevention advice from Essex Police

1. Store your keys away from household entry points. Keeping your keyless entry fob out of sight is not enough – thieves only need to gain proximity to the key to amplify the signal. Faraday Bags can be purchased online and in stores, these stop your signal being intercepted and your vehicle stolen.
2. Despite social media or public opinion, DO NOT leave keys in the fridge, microwave or a tin as this may do more damage to the key and is unlikely to be effective.

Concerns about the use of nitrous oxide and about the mess left behind.

EFNW have been told that nitrous oxide is covered by the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 which says it is illegal to supply the capsules knowing it will be used as a 'drug' (as opposed to its legitimate catering role). However, the inclusion of nitrous oxide in the Act has been challenged in the courts and some judges have refused to convict (for example, see [this article](#)).



The law urgently requires clarification and until it is, any conviction is likely to be unsafe.

If you want to report any drug use, please report online or by phoning 101.

If you want to report the mess left behind by users, please contact the District Council (01992 564000)

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 Thursday May 31st.
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**

Promoted by & on behalf of Independent Loughton Residents Association of 20 Eleven Acre Rise, Loughton, Essex IG10 1AN