



LOUGHTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

LRA NEWS

Parking fines at Loughton station. A resident was recently accused of overstaying the 20 minutes' grace period - she says that she and her husband visited the car-park twice that day for short periods, a couple of hours apart.

- If this happens to you, we may be able to help if you email us at contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk before you appeal against the fine
- We'd be interested in hearing whether any-one else has had this happen to them in the last couple of months, please

Alderton Hill closure from the Roding Road to the mini-roundabout by Loughton station from around July 30th (date to be confirmed nearer the time) for 15 or more working days! This will cause traffic chaos, LRA Cllr Chris Pond & Cllr Valerie Metcalfe are trying to ensure that the 167 bus service continues to Loughton station. County Highways gave very little notice that work was about to begin, and Chris had to react quickly to get Highways to realise the problems the work would create and get them talking to TfL to try to find a better solution than TfL's original proposal, which was to turn the 167 service round at Buckhurst Hill! We think that the buses will be able to continue to Loughton station, but special parking measures may be needed.

The road is being closed this summer – and in summer 2019 – to replace the road bridge across the brook. This year all the “services” – gas pipes, electricity wires, water mains etc – will be traced, dug up, and moved to a new separate bridge across the brook. Next year the current bridge, which is starting to fail, will be taken up and a new one installed to a higher specification.



Clays Lane resurfacing. A resident asked us why part of Clays Lane had been resurfaced, leaving the other part unrepaired despite it being in an even worse condition.

LRA Cllr Chris Pond responded that County Highways will resurface roads according to the result of an annual survey, conducted by a van with electronic detectors. The results, which give great emphasis to adhesion, are fed into an algorithm including usage levels, which determines priority for resurfacing and the form of surface to be applied.

The remainder of Clays Lane and the badly degraded area of the Goldings Estate are scheduled to be surfaced shortly (see *Highways notices* below).

Groups of youths. A resident approached us about an incident with a group of youths exhibiting threatening behaviour on the Roding Valley Nature Reserve, and the apparent lack of any police presence.

We contacted our local District Commander, who replied that he was fully aware of this sort of behaviour and associated robberies. He had put out both plain cars and marked cars on patrol in the area on overtime to combat it, and to look for suspects at the key times. With the British Transport Police, Essex Police have also been trawling CCTV at the tube stations to identify suspects.



Note: the Police use covert officers for things like this to increase their ability to locate and detain suspects – but of course we can't identify them as police and so don't realise that they're around!

Camper-vans parked in Loughton.

A resident asked what could be done about a camper-van that appears each day in her road.

If the vehicle is properly taxed and insured, and parked legally, then no action can be taken by police or the Council (you can check [online](#) whether a UK vehicle is taxed and insured).

However, this vehicle was foreign-registered, so we suggested that she rang the police on 101 (and might have to wait for an answer) to report it as a suspicious vehicle (normally we'd suggest reporting it online as this is usually quicker, but in this case she might get some feedback over the phone).

It might also be worth asking the [DVLA](#) whether the vehicle's registered as, after six months, owners of foreign vehicles over here temporarily have to register their vehicles in this country.

We subsequently had another similar report (the police had already been told about it).

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>



**Sunday July 15th.
Jessel Green Fun Day
Mid-day – 4pm**

Planning matters

- **Old Co-op Dairy site, 113 Church Hill.** We reported last time that the District Council planning committee had turned down the latest application for a block of flats on this site. We now have their reasons: “By reason of its modern flat roofed design, the proposed building would appear out of keeping with neighbouring buildings, particularly 111 and 122 Church Hill, and would not sufficiently enhance the setting of 122 Church Hill, a Grade II listed building situated opposite the site. As a consequence, the proposal would cause harm to the character and appearance of the locality”. We are now waiting to see if the applicants appeal to the Planning Inspectorate.
- **Pyrles Lane Nursery site.** The District Council is now actively marketing the site, expecting offers in excess of £3m. The developer will have to include affordable housing, and to agree to let the Council buy it for use as Council housing.

Recent Licensing applications

- **You can comment*** on these applications to the Town Council (contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk) and to the District Council (licensing@eppingforestdc.gov.uk) (check the individual deadlines [here](#))
 - **The Hub**, 32 Barrington Green (the “Landmark” building): supply of alcohol, provision of music and performance of dance; Monday – Thursday 10am – 11pm; Friday & Saturday 10am – midnight; Sunday 10am – 11pm (closing ½ hour later)



- **Zara Bar & Grill**, 30 Barrington Green (the “Landmark” building): supply of alcohol (both on and off the premises): Monday – Thursday 10am – 11pm; Friday & Saturday 10am – 11.30pm; Sunday 10am – 10.30pm (closing ½ hour later)
- **Wing Shack**, 240 High Road: supply of alcohol and provision of recorded music: Monday – Sunday: mid-day – 11pm (same as opening hours)
- **Palm Bay Caribbean**, 25 The Broadway (new restaurant) The provision of live music (unamplified): Friday and Saturday 7 – 11pm; supply of alcohol: - Monday to Sunday mid-day – 11pm (opening hours: Monday to Sunday 10am – 11pm)

Comments now closed:

- **BP garage**, The Broadway: to extend the sale of alcohol to 24/7 (the LRA Plans Group have objected to this application)
- **Molens**, 209D/E High Road: supply of alcohol: Monday – Saturday 10.30am – 6pm; Sunday 10.30am – 5pm (opening hours Monday – Saturday 7am – 6pm, Sunday 9am – 5pm)

***Your comments must relate** to at least one of the four licensing objectives:

1. The prevention of crime and disorder; 2. Public safety;
3. The prevention of public nuisance; 4. The protection of children from harm.

Epping Forest Shopping Park:

- **new tenants.** A year after it opened (late), the District Council has finally managed to let the last three remaining units - to *Mountain Warehouse* and *Home Bargains* and (subject to successful negotiations) a branch of *Boots* (apparently without a pharmacy dept, unless they buy - expensive - or transfer a pharmacy licence to the store).
- **Background.** You may recall that the Conservative administration’s original proposal was for a fashion-led retail park which wouldn’t compete with the town’s other main shopping areas, and that they said they would be able to fill all the shops before it opened.- LRA Cllrs were unconvinced.
In the event, the Council have let the units to tenants who will compete with the shops in The Broadway and/or the High Road, and failed to let a quarter of the units until a year after opening. They have also given their new tenants rent holidays and 3 hours free parking, while significantly increasing rents for The Broadway shops, and dragging their feet on sorting out the (Pay & Display) parking problems round The Broadway, where 3 shops have recently closed.
- **Charging points.** In April we reported that the District Council had agreed to repair the points that weren’t working, to install payment devices, to make sure the points were clearly signed for EVs only, and to decommission the other five charging points at the edge of the park. However, so far they’ve failed to do so.



Bus services in Essex.

- **85% commercial.** Around 85% of the bus network in Essex is operated commercially. So routes, timetables, fares etc are set entirely by commercial operators. The Traffic Commissioner registers routes and licences operators, and the County Council (ECC) has no statutory regulatory role.



ECC does invest significantly in local bus routes in Essex, at a cost to Council taxpayers of around £8m a year. In addition, as part of a National scheme, ECC supports concessionary travel across Essex for older people and those with a disability at a taxpayer cost of around £18m.

- **ECC provides Home to School travel** for entitled children is provided at a taxpayer cost of around £23m.

See [here](#) for more general information, and the answers given by ECC to District Cllrs’ questions.

Epping Forest

- **singing & dance sessions for people with early stage dementia.** The City of London Central Grants Programme has given the Alzheimer's Society a grant to provide sessions at [The View](#),
- **Wood pasture restoration and management work** across 222.5 acres of Forest has been completed at Barn Hoppit, Walthamstow Forest and Debden Slade, Lincolns Lane, Lords Bushes, Honey Lane Quarters and other areas of the Forest
- **Cattle:** a record 16,000 cow grazing days were recorded across the Forest in the 2017 season.
- It was a successful year for calving with 28 born, and at year-end the Conservators' Longhorn herd stands at 138.
- **Epping Forest Play Policy.** Epping Forest provides valued green spaces for a range of communities, often replacing local authority open space provision. For proposals to manage play in the Forest, see [here](#) (item 12)
- **Closing Fairmead Road.** When part of the road was closed 5 years ago, 500m (42%) of the road was left open to motor traffic to retain access to the Fairmead Oak Car Park. Since then, fly-tipping and Anti-Social Behaviour (previously experienced along the whole length of the road) has been concentrated into this section. The City of London now wants to close all of it to vehicles (but leave it open to walkers, horse riders and cyclists) for a trial 18 months. If this is successful in reducing the problems, permanent closure would be considered. [More](#) (item 14)
- **Getting an advert removed.** A resident asked us about an advertising sign board which appeared at the crossroads along Earls Path where it meets Forest Road and Smarts Lane and Shaftsbury. We suggested she contact The Warren (020 8532 1010; EppingForest@cityoflondon.gov.uk; www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/eppingforest). She did so and the sign has been removed

Highways notices:

- **Intended closure of Stanmore Way, The Beacons, Campions.**
This is due to commence on 23th July 2018 for 5 days, 7.30am – 5.30pm, while Essex County Council undertakes machine-surfacing on Clays Lane. [Source](#).
Note: we put significant local road closures and roadworks out on Twitter and Facebook as they occur – follow us on either to keep up-to-date.
- **roads across London and Surrey** will be affected on Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 July, as part of a weekend of Prudential RideLondon cycling events.
For the most up to date information, please visit tfl.gov.uk/ridelondon



The former Royal Oak public house sign and post has been donated to the Town Council by Higgins. The Council is considering using it to create a new town centre sign.

Police & Fire Commissioner public meeting on 2nd August in the District Council Civic Offices, Epping, 6 – 8pm. Come along and have your say.



Parking in the Forest Road etc RPZ. NEPP extended the business waiver trial till end-July, we will then be asking NEPP about what they intend to do next. [Details](#).

Prosecution for failing to clear the former Royal Observer Corps site (Roding Valley Nature Reserve, next to the M11 motorway). A Waltham Abbey resident, who now owns the site, had failed to comply with a Council notice requiring him to remove building materials, waste, household items plastic items, plastic and card, which were adversely affecting the visual amenity of the area. He was fined £200 and was ordered to pay £200 towards the Council's prosecution costs together with the statutory victim surcharge of £30. [More](#) (item 4)

Proposed merger of Epping Forest College and New City College.



Despite concerns among residents, Cllrs and LRA about the longer-term future of the prime sites occupied by Epping Forest College, the College Governors have agreed to the merger going ahead. [More](#).

Safeguarding vulnerable residents. [#Eppingforestcouncil](#), [#Eppingforestcommunitysafetyteam](#) and [#Eppingforestcommunityteam](#) have obtained a closure order for an address in Loughton. This is the sixth time this year that a [#vulnerable](#) person has been identified and action has been taken to [#safeguard](#) that person and the community.

The victims have either been taken advantage of financially, emotionally or physically and sometimes all three. An example would be a [#gang](#) taking over an address to sell drugs because the current occupier owes them money for drugs - this is called [#Cuckooing](#).

A [#ClosureOrder](#) makes it an arrestable offence for any person other than the legal occupant, a council officer or a police officer to be inside the address.

Local Plan - the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Vision sets out the commitment from all involved councils, including Hertfordshire and Essex County Councils, to deliver a new Garden Town with a mix of housing in villages and neighbourhoods to suit all budgets and with a wide range of facilities and jobs for new and existing residents. For the details and to give your views see [here](#).



Epping Forest District Community Safety Hub

The Police Officers funded by Epping Forest District Council are working collaboratively alongside the Council's Community Safety Team as an integrated Community Safety Hub.

A sergeant and two constables work from the Civic Offices using a marked police vehicle.

The Officers' activities are excluded from District policing demands unless there is an urgent need such as imminent threat to life or major incident.

OFFERS & HELP AVAILABLE

Understand more about dementia by attending a Dementia Friends Information Session at Loughton Library, Traps Hill on Tuesday 17 July at 1pm, for one hour. Book at <http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk> or call 01992 564226. <http://www.dementiafriends.org.uk>



What to do if you get a parking ticket.

This short [British Parking Association video](#) goes through the steps that you should take if you receive either a Parking Charge Notice, from a private operator, or a Penalty Charge Notice, from a local authority.

The Summer Reading Challenge begins on Saturday 14 July

Fun and mayhem are set to descend on libraries soon, as the [Summer Reading Challenge 2018](#), *Mischief Makers*, begins.

Inspired by characters from the Beano comic, children collect a sticker for each book they read, which when added to their *Beantown* map, unlock clues to help them find the treasure.



Children under 3 can join in with their own special folder and large stickers. Children aged 10 and over can choose to take part in an art and reading activity called *ImagiNation*.

District Council Community Organisations Grant Aid Scheme: see picture on right & [here](#).

How to report graffiti: [District Council guide](#)



New: PressReader is now available with your Essex Library card. It brings lots of current national newspapers, hundreds of UK magazines, and thousands more worldwide publications. Read onscreen or listen, or download the app to enjoy later on your device. Titles include *Guardian*, *Daily Mirror*, 'i' and *Evening Standard*, plus you can browse magazines such as *Amateur Photographer*, *Classic Car*, *Ideal Home* and even *the Beano*. [Explore PressReader](#) now.

Proudly Championing Local Community Based Organisations

Epping Forest District Council
www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Epping Forest District Council's Grant Aid Scheme

Epping Forest District Council awards grants to organisations involved in community, cultural or sports activities to support these organisations to provide successful services to residents of the Epping Forest district.

Applications are welcome for funding towards projects to improve facilities, such as equipment purchase, capital projects and new initiatives.

WHO CAN APPLY?
Community-based organisations within the Epping Forest district, which operate for the benefit of Epping Forest residents. Priority will be given to groups, which meet the following criteria:

- Charitable and non-profit making
- Based, or active, in the Epping Forest district
- Provide services to meet key social needs within the district
- Non political
- Can show clear aims and objectives and effective strategies for achieving these
- Have considered alternative funding sources or put forward schemes as part of 'match' funding proposals

Further details of eligibility criteria and conditions are given on the Council's Application Form For Grant aid which can be viewed at: www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/grantaid

Application Forms are also available via the website or you can get a hard copy from Epping Forest District Council, Community Services, 25 Hemnall Street, Epping, Essex, CM16 4LU.

For further information and advice or support in completing an Application Form please contact us by email: grantaid@eppingforestdc.gov.uk or telephone: 01992 564096 www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/grantaid

edfcsports
EFDCCommunities

HELP WANTED

Dog owners: you can help cut crime when you walk your dog –

- just join [Epping Forest Neighbourhood Watch for Dog Owners](#) and report anything suspicious that you see
- please also consider joining the [Essex Police Dog Watch scheme](#), which is run by the police and not by Neighbourhood Watch. There are no coordinators or organised groups, everyone enrolls individually.



GENERAL

Warnings from Epping Forest Neighbourhood Watch

- See picture on right -what do you think is going to happen next? Put that phone away, preferably in an inside pocket & out of sight.
- You're in your car and some-one waves you down:** unfortunately it isn't wise to do stop, even if it looks like they have had an accident or a puncture! If you do stop, and it is an accident, keep your doors locked and ring 999. It has been known for a



“victim” to make a remarkable recovery when another vehicle pulls up alongside, and their colleague has jumped into that car and is ready to drive away, leaving you stranded.

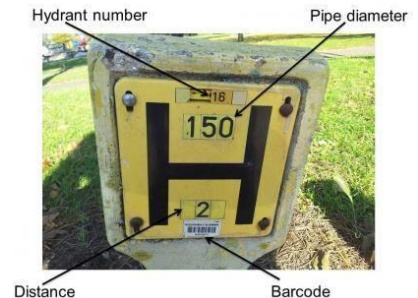


The NHS has grown from a budget of less than £500m to £145bn in its 70 years. Our thanks to the reader who sent in the [Sky News break-down](#) of the numbers and some of the stories behind them.

Hot weather

- Because of the risk of fires such as grass fires, please be careful not to park over fire hydrants! Where are they? Just keep an eye open for the yellow signs, which will tell you...
- In the Forest (and anywhere else where's dry vegetation), because of the fire risk, please make sure cigarettes are well stubbed-out. The Forest have told us they are seeing an average of 3 grassland fires a day. Please also pick up discarded glass.
Dial 999 if you see smoke or smouldering

Note: the City of London has banned fires and barbecues on Epping Forest land.



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 Friday July 27th.
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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