



LOUGHTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



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LRA NEWS

Planning applications turned down by District Council:

Loughton Hall, Rectory Lane: two-storey extension and other changes, rejected because it would harm the historical and architectural character of the Hall, and the setting of the listed St Nicholas Church and church wall.

The LRA Plans Group (LPG) were also concerned about the effect on local parking provision

- **land to the rear of 25 Staples Road** (at the top of The Drive, next to the footpath).

Rejected because it was out-of-character in this Conservation Area, would result in the loss of trees, had no provision for landscaping or off-street car-parking and would adversely affect neighbours. Residents, and the LPG, had objected, and we were concerned that approval would be a precedent for a development on the other side of the footpath and on other attractive green sites.



Highways problems. County Highways report that they've completed the following repairs:

- they've replaced a displaced kerbstone in **Station Road** which we reported in January 2014
- they've repainted dangerously faded white lines and circle at the mini-roundabout at the **Alderton Hill/ Roding Road junction** which we reported in March 2015 and again last July.
- on April 8th they reported they'd filled in a pothole outside **63 Traps Hill** which I'd reported on April 6th (OK, I think it was earlier reports that sparked off their activity, but it felt impressive!)



Jessel Green. LRA Cllrs David Wixley & Leon Girling followed up a local resident's concerns that people see measuring up the green were connected with some proposed development – David reports that the work was probably being done by Loughton Town Council staff in preparation for the Community Fun Day to be held on the Green on Sunday July 17th.

However, we're always happy to investigate similar concerns.



Roding Valley Recreation Ground. A resident raised the problems caused by flooding on the children's playground and the path alongside the tennis courts. LRA Cllr David Wixley comments that the whole area is on a flood plain - as a child he enjoyed paddling in the water when the river flooded the fields and when the water froze he enjoyed watching people skate on the resulting ice.

The Town Council is looking at whether anything can be done. In the meantime, there are 7 other playgrounds in Loughton that could be used when the river floods (see the [Town Council leaflet](#)). Incidentally this is why the outdoor gym has been positioned on higher ground.

Old High Road Post Office site. We understand from a resident that a firm of consultants are approaching nearby residents with plans for a six-storey block of flats – there is no firm planning application yet. The LRA Plans Group would certainly object to a 6-storey building on this site. When there's a formal planning application in place, we will let nearby residents know about it, and how to make their views known to us, the District Council (who take the decisions) and the Town Council (who have to be consulted).

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>

Nu-Bar. Following yet another late-night incident in the High Road last weekend, on Tuesday the District Council have granted the police an immediate temporary suspension of Nu-Bar's premises licence, pending a review within 28 days.

[Police statement.](#) [District Council press release.](#)



Parking

- **schemes approved by NEPP, to be developed further**
 - **Smarts Lane/Forest Road/High Beech Road** – Residents Permits.
There will be consultation with residents. We are concerned that the NEPP engineer has recommended no parking at all on one side of Forest Road, which would negate the benefit of the proposals. We will be following this up.
 - **Loughton Station** - main entrance restrictions
- **Broadway area parking review.** Because of the planned Langston Road shopping park, and the lack of car-parking for the Sir Winston Churchill site building (see above), the District Council will be looking at a wider area than initially anticipated (in 2 phases: 6 roads near station first, rest of the area within 15 minutes' walk later).
- **Parking in The Broadway.** The central planting islands have deteriorated into a muddy mess. At a recent Council meeting chaired by Conservative Cllr John Knapman, Cllr Knapman simply said that no solution would work for these, and deleted them from the list of areas needing attention – we don't think that's good enough!

Thursday April 21st. [Lighting the Beacon](#) to mark HM The Queen's 90th birthday. Gather from 7pm at the top of Hillyfields open space for lighting of the beacon ceremony at 7.30pm by Deputy Lord Lieutenant and Town Mayor. With Town Crier. Music including live performance by St John Fisher RC school choir.



On 5th May 2016 vote for your local police and crime commissioner

Did you know?



They set the police and crime objectives for their area through a police and crime plan



They have the power to hire and fire chief constables, and hold them to account for delivering against local crime and policing priorities



They are in charge of your police force's multi-million pound budget, and have the power to raise or lower local taxes through the police precept (an element of local council tax)



There are 41 PCCs, one for each of the police areas in England (except London) and Wales

Find out more at www.choosemypcc.org.uk

On May 5th, when you vote for Town and District Council candidates, you'll be able to vote for a new PCC as well.

More information on candidates at www.choosemypcc.org.uk and <http://tinyurl.com/hkk58wn>

We remain sceptical about the concept, but believe that the current Commissioner has done a good job during a difficult period.

Loughton Town Council (LTC)

- **Great Essex Woodland Project.** This aims to provide a green corridor joining the ancient woodland in Essex and linking Epping Forest to the coast south of Clacton on Sea. The Council will support the project - a potential start could be the LTC-owned Lady Whitakers Mead.
- **Christmas Lights.** LTC hopes to additional lighting displays in the High Road between The Drive/Brooklyn Avenue and Traps Hill, using the existing lighting columns. However, Essex County Council are planning to install LED luminaires on all-night lighting columns and LTC will monitor this carefully.
- **reports of littering.** LTC will ask the District Council to deal with reported problems.
 - on land behind Haart Estate Agents at 230 High Road
 - on the land and ditch close to the garages at the rear of Broomfield Avenue.
- **Pyrles Lane Allotments.** LTC plans to create community allotment gardens on this site, open to all local residents and providing opportunities for vulnerable members of society to gain self-esteem and useful skills. The Restore Community Centre will run the project and external funding will be sought for the establishment costs.

Essex Police

- **'do it online'** service lets you
 - report non-emergency crime, road traffic collisions & lost or found property
 - access a range of information and advice easily and conveniently (or dial 101).
- **road safety operation.** Police recently stopped a number of motorists in the High Road and elsewhere in the District. Some were driving while on their phones, or without seat-belts (or both). One failed an eyesight test and had his licence revoked. Other offenders were dealt with. [More.](#)
- **dangerous driver.** Residents have helped police find (and deal with) a man driving dangerously on a moped, without a license or helmet. (If you see anyone driving dangerously, please let the police know - if possible take a photo or their registration number. <https://report.police.uk/>)
- **new [Community Policing Team](#):** part of a renewed commitment to local policing that puts partnerships with councils and other organisations at the heart of community safety.
- **alternative to 101,** which is charged for in some "bundles" including BT's free landline calls package, you can dial **01245 491491**
- **Ask The Police,** the national 'knowledge bank' contains answers to hundreds of often-asked questions about policing from abandoned vehicles to youth issues. Now available at www.essex.police.uk/doitonline.
- **Emergencies:** dial 999 in an emergency





District Council to use drones.

There has been recent concern – and misrepresentation – in the media. Find out [the real story](#)

Planning matters

- **District Council Oakwood Hill depot.** Construction of the new depot continues largely to programme and it is anticipated that the depot will be ready for use in mid-May.
- **Site of former Winston Churchill Public House.** Developer Higgins have completed piling works with an anticipated completion date for the development of July 2017. Car parking for the development is still to be resolved.
- **Land behind 33-37 Hillyfields.** Unusually, County Highways have objected to this application because it lacks information on parking conditions nearby, and on where the existing garage users could park after they're displaced. There will now be a delay while evidence is collected.
- **20 Ollards Grove.** The District Council is looking allegations that the site was being used as a waste transfer station, and was untidy.

Loughton Cricket Club run five League sides on Saturdays, runs junior sides from 9 to 19. It has over 30 active qualified coaches and an attractive ground and clubhouse on the corner of High Road and Traps Hill.

Find out more at <http://loughtoncc.hitscricket.com/>



OFFERS & HELP AVAILABLE

Learn to DIY! Buckhurst Hill Community Association are putting on a course this Autumn on basic DIY skills, in local premises with suitable workshop facilities. Would you be interested (no commitment at this stage)? What sort of tasks would interest you? Please reply to dalton.m.k@btinternet.com & b.mooney1@ntlworld.com



The Probus Club of Loughton provides an opportunity for retired and semi-retired professional and business men to meet together in congenial company and enjoy a variety of social activities, and has a few vacancies. If you're interested in learning more, see www.probusloughton.org.uk/ or contact Derek Allen (020 8504 3074).

Loughton Library

- **Especially for those with hearing loss** but all welcome - new library based book group starts Tuesday April 19th. Loughton Library. 2 – 3.30pm. See *EVENTS* email
- **Interested in working with children?** Try Summer Reading Challenge volunteering – good for your CV & the community <http://ow.ly/ZlhF0>
- **walking, running and cycling routes** in the Lee Valley Park. Pick up the leaflet in the Library. <http://ow.ly/10w10j>



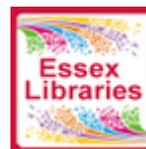
HELP WANTED

Loughton Festival needs volunteers to help at some of the events in May.



If you can help to make this locally-run festival a success, please see <http://tinyurl.com/j2aujfu> and contact info@loughtonfestival.org.uk
<http://www.loughtonfestival.org.uk/>

Essex Libraries @EssexLibraries Apr 8
 Summer Reading Challenge volunteers wanted! Are you aged 14 or over?
 Read all about this great opportunity here <http://ow.ly/107qNc>



Hit and Run April 12th (daytime). If you saw an accident near Morrisons (High Road) the police would like to hear from you (101).

GENERAL

Key-holders. If you have an audible alarm you can let the District Council know who your key-holders are - complete the form at <http://1drv.ms/Qs1eDG>



The Council have told us that “Any key-holder information we get we hold on our database, just in case we get a noise complaint about a misfiring alarm. So residents can choose whether or not they want to provide us with key-holder information. Modern alarms tend to fail less often and have a cut out device after 20 mins, so key holder information is less important re noise, but if residents have an old alarm it may be sensible to let us have the key-holder information and notify neighbours who can call direct.”

Bluebells a superb display (see picture) at Apes Grove, Abridge, a level but uneven ten-minute stroll from the road – see <http://1drv.ms/Qmobbw> for details.



Beware of workmen offering to repair your fence.
 They start cutting down any growth then say that they need money to go and buy materials.
 Once they have gone with the money that’s the last you’ll see of them!



Recycling plant pots. A resident asked us why the District Council recycling instructions require plastic flower pots to go in the black bin rather than in the recycling bag even though nearly all these pots have the recyclable logo on them. The Council has confirmed that they should go in the **black** lidded bin - they are constantly looking at ways of recycling various objects but unfortunately at present the plastic plant pots can’t be recycled.

Product recalls. food.gov.uk
Campsie Glen Smokehouse Ltd is recalling batches of its Smoked Halibut, Smoked Trout and Smoked Salmon products because of concerns over the company’s procedures in place to control Clostridium botulinum.



TWITTER: Follow us on Twitter at @LoughtonRA



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 May 1st.
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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