



LRA's Loughton News

2 September 2022

In this issue read about news from the roads, including [new parking restrictions on Baldwins Hill](#), disruptions to [bus routes 418 and 542](#), and [new highway schemes](#).

We know that the cost of living and energy price rises are worrying to many residents. While we wait to see whether any further support is forthcoming, we repeat [what support there currently is](#) along with some advice for those that are struggling.

Residents may have had disruptions to their weekly bin collections. [Here's why](#) and [how to help your collection teams](#).

Also remember there is still a drought happening with [a hosepipe ban in place](#), and take care in the Forest and [report any fires](#).

We also have an update on [LRA's Farmers Market](#), and around town are the [Loughton Horticultural Show](#) on September 3rd and [Loughton Day](#) on September 17th.

Thank you for supporting LRA, which is 100% run by volunteers locally. We are looking for [more volunteers to deliver Loughton Life](#), and [could you help writing up Council-related news items](#) that appear in these news emails and in Loughton Life?

You can always contact us by email at contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk to raise an issue, to give your views, or to offer help.

News Sections

[LRA News](#)

[Planning and Licensing](#)

[Roads, Parking and Travel](#)

[Police, Fire and Crime](#)

[Council News](#)

[Health and Wellbeing](#)

[Local News](#)

[Epping Forest](#)

Your LRA



[LRA Website](#)



[LRA on Twitter](#)



[LRA on Facebook](#)

[Contact LRA](#)

[Links not working? Read the online version](#)

Can you help deliver Loughton Life, please?

In late September, LRA's 100 or so volunteers will be delivering our Townwide Loughton Life newsletter to every household in Loughton – we're very grateful for their help.



We now need deliverers for:

- Englands Lane and Coteford Close
- roads off Nursery Road and nearby
- Church Lane & Church Hill (odd numbers only)
- Chester Road, Chester Green & The Droveaway
- Monksgrove (Oakwood Hill)
- Highwood Lane (Oakwood Hill)
- Longcroft Rise & Marlescroft Way (Oakwood Hill)
- Mowbrey Gardens & Oak Tree Close (off Willingale Road)

If you or a member of your family can help, please email David (david.linnell@LoughtonResidents.co.uk) or phone him on 07958 984278.

LRA News

Local Highway Panel Schemes

LRA Cllr Chris Pond has followed up progress on various schemes as, although they had been agreed for delivery this financial year, funding was not allocated. These include:

- Improvements to bridleways 13 and 14 in the Forest.
- Pedestrian crossing on Rectory Lane.
- Replacement of damaged cycling signage and installation of dropped kerbs and cycle stands on the cycle way from Warren Hill to Goldings Hill.

Proposed traffic calming measures on Clays Lane and a new salt bin on Shaftesbury/Staples Road will not be going ahead as they did not fit the agreed criteria.

Nevill Way Bus Shelter

LRA Cllr David Wixley has followed up with the District Council on the proposed bus shelter on Nevill Way. This has been delayed as the County Council are procuring a new supplier for bus shelters across the County.

Baldwins Hill Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ)

LRA Cllr Chris Pond has been told that the North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP) have considered all the objections to the proposed CPZ they had advertised to cover the whole of Baldwins Hill from the pub to the A121 inclusive, plus The Summit.

They have decided to go ahead with the centre, narrow portion only, where frontages have no off-street parking, as a 24/7 scheme to park in marked bays only. Other aspects have been abandoned, save for safety aspects (e.g. double yellow lines on the forest side between Whitakers Way and the A121 and around junctions.) We have yet to see maps.

NEPP hope to have this in operation by the onset of winter.

Bus Routes 418 and 542

There have been service disruptions affecting services operated by Galleon Travel (Central Connect) due to a serious incident impacting staffing. LRA Cllr Chris Pond followed this up with the County Council Passenger Transport team and the operator has now sourced extra drivers and returned services to normal.

If this email has been forwarded to you, get it sent directly to your inbox by [supporting LRA for only £5 a year](#).



The Broadway Central Reservation

LRA Cllr Chris Pond has followed up with the District Council about the places where the central reservation in The Broadway is rutted by buses not being able to easily pass larger vehicles that park in the echelon parking bays on the north side of the road. which means buses have to mount the kerb.

LRA's Farmers Market

The latest position is that we have a firm of market organisers which is interested in starting a weekly market in the High Road, but they have not been able to interest enough traders given recent economic uncertainty, price rises and problems hiring staff.

We will continue to work on starting a market in 2023.



Can you write Plain English?

Many of the items in these LRA news emails are taken from local Council meeting agendas and minutes. These are written in rather formal and long-winded English, and we need someone who'll enjoy summarising the important point(s) into a short simple paragraph, with a link for readers who want to find out more. If you could help, please email david.linnell@loughtonresidents.co.uk

Planning and Licensing

[Read more on our website](#) about Planning and Licensing, the role of the LRA Plans Group (LRAPG), how to get more information and how to comment to the Town Council and the District Council, and to the LRA Plans Group – please have your say.

Higgins Office and Hotel Development, 1 Langston Road

As we have [reported earlier](#), Higgins have proposed to build new offices and a 100 bedroom Travelodge hotel on Langston Road.

The junction at Chigwell Lane and Langston Road has been unable to cope with the

additional traffic generated since the opening of the Epping Forest Shopping Park on Langston Road. In particular, the number of cars waiting to turn into Langston Road has caused the traffic to back up past Debden Broadway. There have been a succession of planning applications granted by the council, that will generate more traffic in Langston Road. This new application envisages another 56 parking spaces. The LRA Plans Group have objected. In the absence of any road junction improvements, this proposal will lead to more traffic congestion. Another 56 cars will also have an impact on pollution in the Forest.

Reference [EPF/1547/22](#). The formal consultation period ended August 30th, but you can still comment to the Council.

The Hive, 38B Chigwell Lane

This is a proposal to extend opening times to 7am-11:30pm Monday to Saturday and 8am-11pm Sunday and build a single storey extension for toilets.

There have been multiple applications to extend the hours of opening to this cafe. The Hive obtained permission for their cafe in this location to serve the industrial estate during working hours. At the time they stated that they would not wish to compete with the food outlets on The Broadway. They have gradually pushed their opening hours allowed by their planning permission later, until 9pm in the week and 6pm on Sundays (EPF/1164/20, granted), although they failed to get to 10pm and midnight, which was refused on the grounds that the noise and activity in vicinity of the site would cause excessive harm to the living conditions of nearby residents, particularly during the summer months when bedroom windows are normally open.

LRAPG has objected on amenity grounds again. It has also been pointed out to the Council that the description of development is very misleading as it does not state the application is to extend the hours of opening to 11.30pm (it is in the detail). This can easily mislead neighbours who are likely to consider the termination time being applied for is 9pm and therefore not object.

Once again LRAPG has had to refer to the unsightly unauthorised structures outside the café and asked the council to take enforcement action to ensure they are removed.

Reference [EPF/1782/22](#). The formal consultation period ends September 8th.

6 and 10 Lower Alderton Hall Lane

These are applications for additional storeys at the roof level comprising new self-contained flats with external staircases and associated works on both properties.

In 2020 the Government brought in new permitted development rights that allow home owners to extend upwards without the need for planning permission subject to prior approval that limited what the District Council could consider. At the time the impact of the additional floors on design and townscape grounds could not be taken into account. However there has been recent case law (Cab Housing Limited v Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities & Anr) which decreed councils can refuse prior approval applications on design and visual amenity grounds.

LRAPG has objected to the principle of the roof extensions which will be extremely harmful to the terrace of buildings and break up a uniform roof line. Ugly spiral staircases are also proposed to the rear which will dominate the rear of Lower Alderton Hall Lane to the detriment of the townscape and uniformity of the houses.

Roads, Parking and Travel

Planned Road Closures

- York Hill, Kings Hill and Woodbury Hill - the road will be closed until September 5th while blockage clearance and pole installation works are undertaken by Openreach. [More](#)
- Rectory Lane - the road will be closed until September 9th between 8pm and 5am for road resurfacing. [More](#)
- Englands Lane - the road will be closed until September 9th for gas main replacement work by Cadent. [More](#)
- Debden Lane - the road will be closed until September 16th for gas main replacement work by Cadent. [More](#)
- St Johns Road - the road will be closed until October 6th for works by Thames Water. [More](#)
- Junction of the High Road and The Drive - the area will have temporary traffic lights from September 5th to October 14th to enable renewal of the traffic lights. Work is scheduled from 7pm to 5am with no noisy works after 11pm. [More](#)
- Brooklyn Avenue - the road will be closed from the High Road to Goulds Alley for two days sometime between September 12th and 17th from 7pm to 5am for renewal of traffic lights. [More](#)



Dates can change so [check here for the latest updates](#), and for other planned roadworks.

Dropped Kerbs and Blocked Access

If possible, politely ask the driver to move the vehicle, if you are unable to get a vehicle on to or off the driveway:

- If there **are** parking restrictions on the adjacent highway, contact the North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP). Call 01206 282316 or email parking@colchester.gov.uk.

NEPP can issue a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) to the vehicle (but only if more than 50% of the vehicle is parked across the driveway) however they cannot remove the vehicle itself.

- If there **are not** any parking restrictions on the highway, contact the Police as this is a 'wilful obstruction of the public highway'. [Report to the Police on Live Chat](#) (bottom right corner of page; 7am-11pm), or call 101 (or 01245 491491

which is the geographic equivalent of 101, which some phone providers charge for).

To find out how to report other local problems, [visit our website](#).

Parking at Lidl

We understand that the store has apparently started regulating parking, so be aware when using the car park. Once you have passed through the checkout, you have to key your car registration onto a screen.

Roadworks in June

In Epping Forest District, County Highways made 40 repairs to roads, fixed 57 pavement defects, fixed 417 streetlights and cleared 2528 drains.

Police, Fire and Crime

Fraud on Messaging Services

The Police have seen seeing fraudsters target people on messaging platforms, such as WhatsApp, messaging from an unfamiliar number. The fraudsters claim to be a family member who has a new phone number because their old phone has been damaged or lost. The victim is then asked for money.

If you get an unexpected message like this, take steps to protect yourself by calling your family member on the old phone number you have for them (and not the new number) in case this is a fraudster.

If you know someone who uses messaging apps sometimes but might not be aware of the scam, please speak to them and make them aware of what to do.

You can forward the scam message onto Action Fraud by sending it to 7726. [More](#) on online fraud.

Council News



Loughton Horticultural Show

This is on Saturday September 3rd at the Murray Hall in Borders Lane. Admission is free and refreshments will be available. Doors open to exhibitors at 9am, with the show open to the public from 2pm to 4:30pm. Awards will be presented at 4pm. At the same time the Best Allotment Awards will be presented, which judges all three allotment sites in the town. [More](#)

Loughton Day

Come along and see what Loughton Community Groups have to offer on Saturday September 17th from 11am to 4pm at the Loughton Cricket Club. Food, drink, entertainment, classic cars, live music and much more. [More](#)



Disruption to Recycling and Residual Waste Collections

The District Council have been in discussion with Biffa over recent disruptions. The problems identified included:

- Employee turnover of 32% in the past year. There is a national shortage of qualified HGV drivers and loaders. and crews have been leaving for better paid jobs elsewhere.
- All the current vehicles were purchased new at the same time and are now ageing, and so all are becoming more prone to breakdowns; global supply chain problems are making repairs and replacements much harder. The Council have said they will allow for this aspect next time they renegotiate the contract.
- Crews are working longer as a result and they walk an average of 32,000 steps a day – or roughly 12 miles. Shifts are starting before 7am and not finishing until 5pm and the summer heatwaves have made matters worse with the crews fatigued before they start.

A new Biffa management team has come in to run the contract, a brand new unbudgeted 26 tonne recycling collection vehicle has been added to the fleet, and they are working to speed up repairs and maintenance on older vehicles. [More](#)

If your bin(s) are not collected, [check to see if there is a known problem](#) before reporting a missing collection.

Help your Rubbish and Recycling collection teams

Here are some ways residents can help:

- **Position waste as close to the road** as you safely can and point bin handles in the direction of the road. One bin only takes a second to spin around but crews collect around 1,700 bins in a single round. You could save your collection crew an hour or more by carefully placing your bins where they are most accessible.
- **Don't bury heavy waste at the bottom of your bin** and don't stack recycling too high. Bending, over-reaching, and lifting from height are all common causes of injury. Injuries lead to time off work. Time off work leads to delayed and missed collections.
- **Remove any contents from cardboard boxes and fold them flat.** Bag it properly to keep it dry and clean for collection. Cardboard acts as a sponge, adding weight and mess. Polystyrene packing cannot be recycled. Separate it from cardboard and put it in your black residual waste bin.
- **Rinse all the food from cartons, tins and containers.** Unrinsed food containers quickly attract vermin. Weil's disease, also known as Leptospirosis, is carried by animals and is common in rats and can be caught by anyone in contact with rat urine. Rats, foxes and cats should never be interested in dry

recycling sacks and rinsing items lessens the chance of them trying.

- **Leave enough room on the road for your refuse crews to collect your waste.** Even with smaller refuse trucks for narrow roads, it can be a struggle or sometimes impossible to get by badly parked cars.
- **Be patient on the roads** when collections are happening. Give our crews plenty of time and space and remember they are working for you.

Aircraft Over Loughton

Residents may have perceived an increase in air traffic over summer, especially large jet planes in the early morning and evening, banking around in the sky.

Loughton is (and has long been) on a flightpath from the Stapleford/Lambourne holding stack into Heathrow. This is especially true in the mornings before about 7am before Heathrow is fully open. We believe this was started some 50 years ago to mitigate the 'river approach' from the east into the airport, which so blights places like Battersea and Richmond, with a flight about once a minute.

There is some detail on this [here](#) and a noise complaint section [here](#). Also, as air travel recovers from the pandemic, the noise may be more noticeable than for the past two years.

This is matter of national policy, as you would not ideally designate an area to the south-west of London as a major international airport, but that was decided 75 years ago.

Supporting Ukraine

If you wish to help Ukraine, the County Council provides [some useful information](#) on donations, sponsoring a person or family, and how businesses and charities can send goods.

Local News

The Cost of Living and Energy Price Rises

With the recent price rises for energy, many residents will be worried about the coming winter. Beyond the support that has [already been announced](#), we are awaiting any further announcements ahead of a winter that will be difficult for many.

Make sure you receive what you are entitled to, including:

- £150 for households in Council Tax bands A to D.
- £400 for all households, applied to your energy account. Customers with pre-payment meters will have the money applied to their meter or paid via a voucher.
- £650 one-off Cost of Living Payment for those on means tested benefits.
- One-off £300 Pensioner Cost of Living Payment.
- £150 Disability Cost of Living Payment.

[Full details are here](#) and [here is further guidance](#), including more on the [Priority Services Register](#) and information on [debt support](#).

The County Council has also provided [some advice for those that are struggling](#).

Vaccine information for Essex

[Read more](#) on getting a vaccine. It's never too late to come forward and you can use [a walk in centre](#) or [book an appointment](#), or call 119 for more help.

In the autumn further boosters will be offered to:

- all adults aged 50 years and over
- those aged 5 to 49 years in a clinical risk group, including pregnant women
- those aged 5 to 49 years who are household contacts of people with immunosuppression
- those aged 16 to 49 years who are carers
- residents in a care home for older adults and staff working in care homes for older adults
- frontline health and social care workers

The NHS will contact you when it is time to come forward. There is no need to contact your GP. People who are most at risk will get their protection first.

Local Infection Rates

The [local data for Epping Forest is here](#), along with [this interactive map](#).

Hosepipe Ban

The ban is now in place, which means hosepipes (and attachments like sprinklers and jet washers) can't be used for:

- Watering your garden or plants – although you can still use it to water food being grown in an allotment where essential.
- Filling or maintaining your paddling pool, swimming pool or hot tub.
- Cleaning your vehicles.
- Cleaning windows, walls, paths, patios and other artificial outdoor surfaces like artificial grass

There are only limited exceptions. [More](#)

Epping Forest ReUSE has closed.

The charity has provided many hundreds of people in need with household appliances and furniture, has diverted tonnes of goods from landfill and has provided volunteering opportunities for many, including those marginalised by health or life experiences. Sadly, in recent months the charity has lacked sufficient not-in-need customers. That and the forthcoming rent review have led to the decision to close.

For residents who need to dispose of large bulky household waste items such as beds, chairs, fridges and washing machines, the District Council do provide [a chargeable collection service](#).

There is a shop called Second Time Around at 48 Kings Road, Chingford E4 7HR that sells small items such as crockery, books and bric-a-brac. [More](#)

Recycling Pet Food Pouches

As these items are made from soft plastics, you can now recycle them at many of the larger supermarkets. [Find your nearest recycling point](#) and rinse items before recycling.

You can also recycle them at Pets at Home at the Epping Forest Shopping Park. [More](#)

Image: [Love Essex](#)



Discounted Compost Bins

You can purchase at a discounted price a compost bin for your garden, subsidised by the County Council. [More](#).

[Enter your postcode here](#) to ensure you get a discounted price for [small](#) and [large](#) bins.

Royal Mail Debden Delivery Office

The opening hours have changed to 8am to 10am Mondays, 8am to 2pm Tuesday-Friday and 8am to 12pm Saturday. [More](#)



Find out what's on for you locally

The District Council has published in one publication their forthcoming activities, programmes, events and community initiatives for

all ages in the "[What's on in Epping Forest](#)" booklet.

Threats to the Green Belt

The [London Green Belt Council](#) have published a report that say that councils in outer London and the Homes Counties are planning to allow developers to build on some 75 square miles of 'protected' Green Belt countryside and open spaces. [Read more](#) and [the full report](#).

Health and Wellbeing

Consultation on GP Services

Healthwatch Essex are running a consultation on GP Services on behalf of the local NHS.

They have asked been asked to explore how they can make improvements. What's working well and what can be improved? Where are the blockages in the system and how can they be opened? Your experience of the system can give vital, real-life insight – and can help make a difference.

The consultation is focused on services in Harlow and Uttlesford, however Loughton residents can complete the survey and such feedback will be accepted. In the

section 'Tell us a bit more about you', mention that you live in Epping Forest District. [More](#)



GriefLine

GriefLine is for anyone who is struggling with their grief and is a local resource offering emotional support. It doesn't matter if your loss was recently or in the past, trained bereavement volunteers are there to listen and will give you a non-judgemental space to talk about how you are feeling and offer emotional support.

GriefLine can also help if you are looking for support for a family member, friend, or for a young person. [More](#) or call 01279 945089

Dementia Care

St Clare Hospice has launched a new, free service to support people living with advanced dementia, and their carers.

Namaste Dementia Care delivers personalised, one-to-one, Namaste Care activities to people living with dementia in their own homes and in residential homes. Namaste Care offers a person-centred approach and the service involves trained volunteers supporting people with advanced dementia to engage in meaningful activities to promote an improved quality of life. [More](#)

Epping Forest

Epping Forest Big Walk

The annual Epping Forest Big Walk will be returning this year on Sunday September 25th. You can join for just part of the walk.

This will be the first full-scale walk since the pandemic and was previously known as 'The Centenary Walk', It was established in 1978 on the 100th anniversary of the passing of the Epping Forest Act 1878. The route starts from Manor Park in Newham and goes to Epping. [More](#)

The complexity of trees

When young, trees rely on their heartwood for much of their rigidity. As they mature they begin to hollow out. Fungi inside the tree break down the old heartwood, enabling the tree to reabsorb the valuable nutrients locked away in its core. The tree produces internal aerial roots that grow inside the decaying wood. This is a natural process that old trees go through and can be seen in action in many of the Forest's ancient trees.

Image: [Forest Focus](#)



No Fires or Barbeques - there is still a drought

Even though the weather has cooled, there is still a very high risk of fire in the Forest. Please take special care to not drop cigarettes and dispose of litter, which can also act as a further fire hazard. If you see people having a barbecue or lighting a fire in Epping Forest call 020 8532 1010 (monitored 24/7).

However, if the fire or barbecue is already out of control, call 999.



Forest Focus - August 2022

Some items here come from [Forest Focus](#). The latest edition has lots more interesting articles. [You can subscribe here](#) for free.

And More

Nature in London & Essex

For nature reserves in London:

- [London Wildlife Trust](#)
- Kaul of the wild – a [map](#) produced by a young conservationist

And for more about wildlife in London, with walks, events, online and in-person talks, and lots of information:

- [London Wildlife Trust](#)
- [London Natural History Society](#) (includes the London Bird Club)

For nature and nature reserves in Essex: [Essex Wildlife Trust](#)

For nature in East London (mainly Wanstead Flats and Park and nearby parts of southern Epping Forest but also surrounding areas and neighbouring parts of Essex): [Wren Conservation Group](#)

Thank you for supporting LRA. Our next Loughton News email is due to be issued Friday September 23rd although that date could change.

Get more from LRA and keep up with what's happening between issues of Loughton News

For all our Tweets, past issues of Loughton News and Loughton Life, and more



For the latest news and items of interest:

Visit LRA
on Twitter



Visit LRA
on Facebook



You don't need to be registered for either

1. If you find any links not working or anything else is wrong let us know at loughtonnews@LoughtonResidents.co.uk. Links to on other websites are beyond our control and may not work over time.
2. 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.

We can be contacted at contact@LoughtonResidents.co.uk

To update your membership details, email membership@LoughtonResidents.co.uk

© 2022 Loughton Residents Association

Promoted by & on behalf of Independent Loughton Residents Association, 28 Brook Road, Loughton IG10 1BP

This email was sent to <<First Name>> <<Last Name>> at <<Email Address>>. You are receiving this email as a member of Loughton Residents Association and have subscribed to receiving emails from us.

[Unsubscribe from emails from LRA](#)