



LRA's Loughton News

23 September 2022

In this issue read about [the proposed development on Alderton Hill](#) and [BT's proposal](#) to inundate the High Road and The Broadway with 10ft high totems with advertising screens.

Also we report on the [Loughton Horticultural Show](#) and awards, and what happens when [utility companies need to do emergency roads works](#).

In the Forest, there was a warning of [water drying up](#), and remember [fungi is protected so cannot be picked](#).

As the colder weather starts to arrive and there's concern over energy supplies, there is the [Priority Services Register](#) and it's wise to check if there is any [support you can claim](#).

Thank you for supporting LRA, which is 100% run by volunteers locally. 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



[Contact LRA](#)

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



Mayor of Loughton, LRA's Barbara Cohen, said: "Together with the people of Loughton I mourn the loss of our beloved Queen Elizabeth. Her wisdom and dedication was and remains an inspiration for us all".

King Charles III was solemnly proclaimed to a crowd of about 150 Loughtonians by the Mayor on Sunday 11 September. [More on the Town Council's Facebook page](#) and [here's a video](#).

LRA News

13 – 15A Alderton Hill Another proposed block of flats

As we reported in our recent news special, there is a new planning application for demolition of houses at 13, 15 and 15a Alderton Hill, which will be replaced by linked blocks of 89 elderly person's apartments.



[More details on our website.](#)

The consultation period closed September 22nd, but you can still comment to the Council.

Meet your Alderton Ward LRA Cllrs



ALDERTON WARD MONTHLY SURGERY
Come and meet your ward councillors in person and have your questions answered

2PM - 4PM EVERY 1ST SATURDAY

GUILLOTI CAFE
62 BORDERS LN
LOUGHTON
IG10 3QX

REGISTRATION:
FREE TO ATTEND

LRA
Loughton Residents
Association

Cllr Ian Allwood
020 899 2292

Cllr Chris Fennell
020 899 2292

Cllr Sarah Harrison
020 899 2292

Cllr Michael Stammers
020 899 2292

Cllr Philip Abraham
020 899 2292

Every first Saturday of the month, starting October 1st, at Guilloti Cafe at 62 Borders Lane between 2-4pm.

No registration or booking is needed. [More](#)

Litter Bins Back

Two litter bins were removed from Valley Hill over a year ago without explanation. LRA Cllr David Wixley has followed this up and reports that they have now been replaced.

Also another litter bin in Roding Road, which had been severely vandalised, has been repaired.



New District Local Plan

As we reported in early August, the Inspector has said any new and amended main modifications to the draft Plan, once agreed with the District Council, will need to be published for public consultation. We had expected the consultation to have started by now, but there has been no news from either the Inspector or the Council on the subject. We continue to wait.

Can you help deliver Loughton Life, please?

From next week, 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 had many members volunteering as a result of our last call for help. The only gap now is for a deliverer for Wellfields. Can you help?

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

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



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.

BT's Proposed Inundation of Loughton and Debden with Street Totems with Large Advertising Panels

A string of planning and advertisement applications have been submitted to the council for enormous street totems in the High Road and The Broadway.

LRAPG have objected to all the applications. The totems are primarily enormous advertisements with broadband and 5G thrown in to try to justify them. They are a distraction to motorists and, although thinner than a standard telephone kiosk, are longer in width, considerably higher and block up more of the pavement. They are very tall (almost 10ft) and add to the street clutter. There is very little demand for public phones if any and there are better ways to provide broadband and 5G than sticking them on large advertising pillars. BT have offered some free advertising to the Council and community info in an attempt to sweeten the deal. Some of the sites do not have phone kiosks to replace.



BT are arguing these are the only way to replace the current run down kiosks. LRAPG consider it disingenuous of BT to try to justify these large totem adverts because of 'the existing and run-down telephone boxes'. BT are legally responsible for the upkeep of these kiosks and have deliberately let them deteriorate. It is also incorrect for them to claim this is the only feasible way to replace the run-down kiosks by claiming the 'application site, therefore, represents the only feasible option in this instance regarding relevant material planning considerations, by allowing the requirement to be met without the deployment of an additional site beyond the existing phone boxes in the locality'. The permitted development rights given to them to erect phone kiosks in the first place, also give them an obligation to maintain them and it is a condition that they must remove them if they are no longer required.

Other local planning authorities have taken proactive enforcement action to force BT to remove unsightly and redundant phone kiosks. LRAPG urge the District Council to take action to make BT clean up and maintain the existing kiosks or take appropriate enforcement action to remove the redundant phone boxes as other authorities have in recent years.

Roads, Parking and Travel

Planned Road Closures

- Junction of the High Road and The Drive - the area will have temporary traffic lights until October 14th to enable renewal of the traffic lights. Work is scheduled from 7pm to 5am with no noisy works after 11pm. [More](#)

Dates can change so [check here for the latest updates](#), and for other planned roadworks including ones that involve only temporary traffic lights.



Roadworks in July

In Epping Forest District, County Highways made 73 repairs to roads, fixed 25 pavement defects, fixed 129 streetlights and cleared 1782 drains.

Utility Roadworks - Emergency or Immediate?

Emergency situations like burst water mains occur and utility companies do not need to apply for permits from the County Council like they would for planned works.

Instead, they need to ensure that Essex Highways are informed of the works within two hours of them starting. There are two types of such works:

- Emergency works are for the scenarios where immediate action is needed to prevent danger to people or property. The risk assessment of any potential danger is made by those responsible for the work.
- Urgent works are for when immediate action is needed to prevent a loss or restore a service. Essex Highways applies conditions to try to mitigate, where possible, any detrimental effects to the overall network. For example they might require the utility company to manually control traffic signals and then remove them promptly when the works are complete. Sometimes immediate works can happen near other roadworks so they try to mitigate any disruption this might cause.



Tubes and Trains - Industrial Action

You can see the latest updates on Industrial action on the tube network at [TfL website](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), and on the rail network at the [National Rail website](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

Police, Fire and Crime

Loughton Fire Station Open Day

The station is open on Saturday September 24th for you to look around the station and meet your local firefighters. It will be open between 10am and 4pm in Station Road.



Keeping your shed or garage safe and secure

Keep your shed or garage secure in the same way as your home. A burglar will try a shed or garage first because they can find the tools they need to break into the main house.

It's worth having a good padlock on the door with no exposed screws. Pay attention to hinges, as these are sometimes easily removable. If you have windows then these could be vulnerable unless they're secured with wire mesh or grilles and consider a battery-operated shed alarm. [More](#)

Violence and Vulnerability Grant Fund is now open

This Fund is for projects starting in the 2023 financial year and is open to not for profits, voluntary, charity or community groups based in and delivering work in greater Essex.

Projects must show a positive impact relating to crime and anti-social behaviours or violence and vulnerability. The closing date for applications is October 31st. [More](#)

Essex Police Digital 101

You can report non-emergency crime and antisocial behaviour:

- [Online](#).
- [Live Chat](#) at the Essex Police website (bottom right corner), Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) between 10am-9pm.
- Call 101, 24 hours a day).

To report an emergency or if someone is in immediate danger, call 999.

Council News

Loughton Horticultural Show

The Town Council's Horticultural Show was held on September 3rd with exhibits including Jubilee themed floral arrangements, beautiful blooms, an array of assorted flavoured chutneys and jams, home baked Victoria sponge cakes and tables laid full of prize worthy vegetables and fruit.

Winners of the 'Best in Show; went to Freddie Sheridan, with his Bug hotel and the Town Mayor's



Best Allotment went to Beata Sheridan from the Roding Road Allotments. [More](#)

Image: Town Council

Loughton Day

The Town Council postponed Loughton Day during the official period of national mourning. They are currently reviewing to see whether it is possible to defer the event until later in the autumn. As there are many groups involved, this may take a while.

Memorial Rose Garden on Roding Road

Completion of work to restore the Memorial Garden to its pre-Storm Eunice condition is imminent, with repairs to the metal railings along with two replacement benches, plus an additional bench being donated by the Open Door Friendship Group.

District Council Autumn and Winter Activities

Bookings are now open for the District Council's children's and adults' activity programme.

This includes Halloween half term activities, festive workshops for adults including wreath making and bath bombs and a new series of talks inspired by Animal Mummies: Uncovered at the Epping Forest District Museum. [More](#)

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

Helping with the cost of living

The County Council has provided [some advice for those that are struggling](#), including information on support for energy bills, childcare costs, and household costs.

Health and Wellbeing

Covid Vaccine

[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](#).

Annual Flu Vaccine

Flu vaccination is important because:

- more people are likely to get flu this winter as fewer people will have built up an immunity to it during the pandemic.
- if you get flu and Covid at the same time, research shows you are more likely to be seriously ill
- getting vaccinated against flu and Covid will provide protection for you and those around you for both these serious illnesses.

The flu vaccine is given free on the NHS to adults who:

- are 50 and over (including those who'll be 50 by 31 March 2023)
- have certain health conditions
- are pregnant
- are in long-stay residential care
- receive a carer's allowance, or are the main carer for an older or disabled person who may be at risk if you get sick
- live with someone who is more likely to get infections (such as someone who has HIV, has had a transplant or is having certain treatments for cancer, lupus or rheumatoid arthritis)
- are frontline health or social care workers

[More](#)

The nasal spray flu vaccine is also free on the NHS for specific groups of children.

[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](#)

Water Warning

With the summer drought, many brooks, ponds and lakes do not have much water. Loughton Brook, as it often does, dried out completely in the Forest. Remaining water may not be safe. Do not allow your dog to drink or enter the water.

Image: [Forest Focus](#)



Fungi Picking Not Allowed

The fungi in Epping Forest are one of the reasons that some areas of the Forest are designated as a Special Area of Conservation and Site of Special Scientific Interest.

So as to conserve the fungi, collection them is not allowed in the Forest and fungi hauls will be confiscated and those caught, prosecuted.

If you see anyone picking fungi, do not approach them but please report it to the Warren on 020 8532 1010.

Wood pasture improvement works

Habitat works are in progress until late autumn on a number of the wood pasture areas in the Forest to help restore the protected ancient wood pasture landscape by opening up previously shaded areas, and improving the habitat for ancient trees and the plants and animals which respond to more open habitats.

- Bury Wood - North Long Hills, Almshouse Plain and Cuckoo Pits.
- Chingford Plain – northeast corner.
- Honey Lane Quarters.

There will be intermittent path closures and movement of heavy plant and machinery along the paths.



Forest Focus - September 2022

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

And More

Vulnerable and Worried about Power Cuts?

Power cuts can happen occasionally for a variety of reasons, including severe weather. UK Power Networks' job is to maintain a safe and reliable supply of electricity in London, the South East and East of England. This means they keep the lights on in your area, regardless of who you pay your electricity bills to.

During power cuts, extra support is provided by being on the Priority Services Register, which is available to those in vulnerable circumstances including for medical reasons, those of pensionable age, or if you have children aged under five in the household. This extra support includes a priority phone number to call, and tailored support if needed such as home visits, hot meals, advice and keeping your

friends and relatives updated. [More](#)

If you are already on the Priority Services Register but your details have changed, [update your details here](#).

Energy Costs - The Support You Could Claim

There is a significant issue of welfare benefits going unclaimed, as people are often unaware of the help they can access. With the recent energy price cap hike, a cold winter ahead, and mounting energy prices leaving many people anxious about how to pay their bills, support is available including Winter Fuel Payments, Cold Weather Payments and others. [More](#)

Energy rebate scam emails

[Action Fraud](#) is warning the public about a sharp rise in reports relating to fake emails purporting to be from Ofgem, the independent energy regulator. The emails claim that the recipient is due a rebate payment as part of a government scheme and provides links for the recipient to follow in order to apply for the rebate. The links in the emails lead to malicious websites designed to steal personal and financial information.

- If you have any doubts about a message, contact the organisation directly. Don't use the numbers or address in the message – use the details from their official website. Remember, your bank (or any other official source) will never ask you to supply personal information via email.
- If you have received an email which you're not quite sure about, forward it to report@phishing.gov.uk. Send emails that feel suspicious, even if you're not certain they're a scam.

Thank you for supporting LRA. Our next Loughton News email is due to be issued Friday October 14th 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](#)