

# LRA's LOUGHTON LIFE

October 2008  
Townwide edition



## Traps Hill Health Centre

The new GP-led health centre is going ahead. Spread across the current Traps Hill surgery and the first floor of the building that houses the Whipps Cross annexe in Old Station Road, the new service will provide pre-booked GP appointments and walk-in services for registered and non-registered patients from 8 am to 8 pm, and at weekends. The core GP practice will operate at the Traps Hill site, with services outside usual surgery hours in the Old Station Road building. We have asked for a pedestrian gate between the Traps Hill surgery and the car-park, to avoid the trek round over the grass.

For further information contact the Primary Care Trust on 01992 902010 or [www.westsexpct.nhs.uk/pubs/gpconsultation.php](http://www.westsexpct.nhs.uk/pubs/gpconsultation.php).

## For non-members

This Loughton Life is a "Townwide" edition. LRA Members get more newsletters each year. Here are short versions of three stories from the last members' issue (full version at [www.loughtonresidents.co.uk](http://www.loughtonresidents.co.uk)):

**High Road improvements:** the County Council are finally making some money available to sort out delays caused by the traffic lights at the junction with The Drive. LRA also wants the pavements resurfaced between The Drive and the Methodist Church.

**Flower Baskets:** after an LRA campaign, the Town Council have provided baskets on the lamp-posts in the centre portion of the High Road.

**Easing residents' parking problems:** LRA is pressing for action on the worst roads around the High Road & The Broadway. We are also pursuing more parking spaces in council-built housing estates (like Debden).

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### PUBLIC MEETING & LRA MEETING TUESDAY OCTOBER 21ST - ALL WELCOME

#### Future Plans for The Broadway Area

Trinity Methodist Church Hall, Mannock Drive (between Willingale Rd and Goldingham Rd).

Doors open 7.30pm for 8pm start

John Preston (District Council) and Steve Walker of Urban Practitioners (consultancy) will be talking about future plans and answering your questions, followed by refreshments and an LRA General Meeting for Members (see page 3).

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## LRA acts on green spaces

LRA took fast and effective action when our green spaces were threatened.

There is a shortage of affordable housing across the county, and Loughton is no exception. The Government has started a search for suitable land (Council or private) on which to build new homes. Epping Forest District Council is therefore evaluating all of its land for possible development, and recently published a list of sites for large-scale housing development in the District.

However, LRA were extremely concerned that the only sites the Council had managed to identify were green spaces in Debden. These green spaces are highly valued by residents, and are much-used.

The sites chosen included public open spaces, children's play areas and nature reserves – they were: parts of the Jessel Drive open space, the play area in Rectory Lane, most of the green by Westall Road, the former allotments in Willingale Road and part of the Roding Valley Nature Reserve. LRA is strongly opposed to putting housing on ANY of these sites, which we feel are the essential 'lungs' of our neighbourhoods.

We put out letters to many of the surrounding houses (thanks to all those who helped to deliver them) and had well over 100 replies. The vast majority objected to Loughton's green spaces, children's playgrounds and nature reserves being built on at all. And a quickly gathered petition of 700 names, presented to the Council, confirmed the strength of the opposition.

We challenged the Council's selection of the five sites by calling for a debate at the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committee, at which we led the opposition. We won the debate, with the Committee voting unanimously to ask the portfolio-holder (Cllr Dave Stallan) to review the five sites, and the way in which any sites are selected in future. We are very grateful to Cllr Stephen Murray for his support, and for the fair-minded way in which Cllr Stallan and the other councillors who took part - of all parties - dealt with this topic.

This is a temporary victory for residents and for LRA, but we are preparing for a long fight. Across the District, the current housing waiting list is about 4,000. Suitable places for new homes are needed, but certainly not all in Loughton. If you wish to add your views, please use the reply slip on page 2.

[Cllr Ken Angold-Stephens]

Note: Loughton Town Council is looking at the possibility of registering some green spaces as "village greens".

**LOUGHTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**



LRA at Debden Day

## New housing

The Government has unveiled proposals for more housing in Epping Forest District. The District has been set a target of 3,500 new homes to be built during the period 2001 to 2021. The new housing will include homes already built since 2001. Planning permission already exists for a large proportion of the remaining balance.

Harlow is also to be enlarged, with additional development identified in Green Belt areas to the south, east and west of the town - overall, it will grow by a minimum of 16,000 new homes with at least 10,000 earmarked for the Harlow North site, currently within the boundaries of East Hertfordshire. The Plan excludes development at North Weald.

The expansion of Harlow will mean a review of Green Belt boundaries, although on a smaller scale than was feared earlier on. (cont'd in next column)

The biggest concern is the continued lack of detail about infrastructure, basic services such as roads, transport, health, education and employment and the most fundamental requirements such as water, sewerage, gas and electricity provision. We are still in the dark about the potential Harlow by-pass, although a new northern link from the A414 to the M11 looks the most likely option.

LRA looks at all planning applications in Loughton, and fights hard to protect the town from unsuitable developments.

## New Debden Library

I have been given a sneak preview of the new Debden Library – it is due to open this Autumn. The College Library will be on the first floor, completely separate from the Public Library, which will be on the ground floor of the new building. Our new Library will be bigger than before, with an entrance near the main College entrance. You will be able to use the lavatories and the large cafeteria. I am pressing for extended opening hours. There will be lots of new stock, self issue of books (as at the Traps Hill library), and a suite of new computers.

We know some users prefer the existing temporary library in The Broadway shopping parade. If a new "community building" is to be provided as part of the Broadway Vision redevelopment, I think the county should consider co-locating the Library there.

I have asked for new bus stops to be provided by the college main entrance, both so students do not have to walk across Rectory Lane or half the length of Borders Lane if they want a bus, and so residents using the Library can get to it more easily.

[LRA county councillor Chris Pond]

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## Green spaces (see page 1)

*If you have not already let us know what you think - please send your views (cut this out, or use a separate sheet) to 89 Lower Park Road IG10 4NE, or by email to [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk)*

LRA are determined to protect the open aspect and the amenities of Debden. We know views may be divided on this issue. We are also aware that some local people are in urgent need of an affordable place to live.

Do you think there should be building on green spaces in Debden?

Do you think we need more affordable homes in Debden?

Do you think limited building on these green spaces might be acceptable?

Any other comments?

Name:..... Address:.....  
Phone number:.....Email address (if any).....  
.....

## Children's centres

We now have two Children's Centres in the area, which will provide services for local families with children 0-5 years, at Lawton Road and in Alderton Hall Lane. Free activities: at "Alderton", Stay and Play sessions, a young parents group and Wonder 1s; at "Lawton", Song and Rhyme Time and Physical Fun groups for children aged 1-2 yrs & 2-3yrs. Other activities at Grosvenor Hall. More information from Heather Venables or any of the staff on 0208 5222632.

## Cleaning up!

The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act is intended to improve the environments in which we work and live.

I was a member of a District Council sub-committee which decided that the issues of major public concern were the cleanliness of our streets and shop-forecourts, graffiti and fly-tipping and poor enforcement.

As a result, the District Council has earmarked £250,000 to improve services under a new 'safer, cleaner, greener', initiative. Environmental teams will be assigned to specific areas of the district and the public will be able to ask for any problems in their area to be dealt with. There will also be a rapid response vehicle to deal with fly-tips, graffiti and street furniture cleaning.

The Council will also employ two further anti-social behaviour officers as well as a CCTV officer to co-ordinate the very disparate CCTV systems operating around the district.

The legislation does not stop there but includes abandoned vehicles and shopping trolleys, air quality, light and noise pollution, dog-fouling and stray dogs and much more.

LRA Councillors will be monitoring the new scheme closely to make sure it is working, when it starts later this year.

[Cllr Ken Angold-Stephens]

## Borders Lane field

There has been concern about the road-works alongside the College field. These are part of the original "outline" application, approved by the District Council some time ago, for access to the field and a mini-roundabout (which we hope will help to slow the traffic down a bit!).

The detailed plans for the field (sports hall etc) have not yet been submitted to the Council, and we will be involved in discussions about them before they are submitted. We will keep local residents informed and involved.

## Constitution changes

At the General Meeting on October 21st (see page 1) we will be ask LRA Members to consider the following proposed new wordings, intended to update and simplify the LRA Constitution (for a copy of the Constitution: email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk) or ring David Linnell - see page 4).

6(i) The Executive Committee shall consist of

- seven Officers namely: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Information Coordinator, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Press Officer,
- a maximum of eight other Committee Members, and
- the elected LRA representatives to public authorities,

all of whom shall relinquish their office every year and shall be eligible for re-election at the AGM

(ii) The Executive Committee shall have the power

- to co-opt up to eight other members as they consider necessary;
- to fill any vacancy, including Officers of the Association, which may arise during the year.

(iii) Nine voting members of the Executive Committee including one Officer who is not an elected LRA representative to a public authority and four members who are not elected LRA representatives to public authorities shall form a quorum at a meeting of the Executive Committee.

(vii) The Information Coordinator, under the guidance of the Executive Committee, shall be responsible for publications, including issuing newsletters to members every two months or thereabouts. The Committee may also decide to publish material in electronic form, solely to members or more widely. Any publication in electronic form may be published solely to those members who have previously indicated that they wish to receive it in this way and have supplied their email addresses for the purpose.

(ix) If so requested by two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee present at a Meeting of the Executive Committee, an Officer shall forthwith stand down from his/her position until the next General Meeting, at which an election for the post shall be held.

9(vii) There shall be three signatories presented to the bank and the building society from among: Chairman, Vice-chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of the Executive Committee. If any of these posts falls vacant or an Officer decline to act as signatory, the Executive Committee shall at their next Meeting nominate a replacement signatory from among their number. All cheques and other withdrawals of funds must be signed by the Treasurer and one other, otherwise in a prolonged absence of the Treasurer: at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

**New website address [www.loughtonresidents.co.uk](http://www.loughtonresidents.co.uk)**

## Farmers Markets

LRA organises the markets in the High Road on the first Sunday of each month. Meet LRA councillors there on October 5th and November 2nd with your questions on local matters.

Get into the Christmas spirit at the market on Sunday December 7th: there will be music and carol singers.

[Sharon Cannaby]

## Broadway Bus Stops

LRA County Cllr Chris Pond is still trying hard to get the Vere Rd bus stops moved back to the old position. There is some hope it will be done this autumn -- but progress is very slow.



## LRA Bookstall

Do you know anyone who could help LRA by storing and sorting LRA's second-hand books? We have a dozen "trays" of books which we sell at our monthly Farmers Markets to help pay for the display boards we put up there. You don't have to attend all the markets – we have a rota of volunteers on the bookstall, organised separately.

Please email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk) or 020 8508 2932. [David Linnell]



## LOUGHTON LIFE...

Do you know anyone who could help LRA by editing and laying out LRA's Loughton Life newsletter 6 times a year? Some of the material is supplied by our committee members and some comes from LRA's meetings and incoming documents. We need someone to work alongside our present editor, and then take over. We use Microsoft WORD.

Please get in touch at [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk) or 020 8508 2932. [David Linnell]



## Lollipop person

Thanks to perseverance by LRA Cllr David Wixley, the County Council have agreed to fund another lollipop person at The Meadway/Loughton Way junction, as more children were found to be crossing there than at Greensted Road. If you know some-one who might be interested there or elsewhere, contact the Council on 01245 437261.

Promoted by and on behalf of Independent Loughton Residents Association, of 20 Eleven Acre Rise Loughton IG10 1AN  
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## Who's Who

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59 Wroths Path IG10 1SH	
MINUTES SECRETARY: vacant	
TREASURER Tony Paddon	8508 2238
12 Forest View Road IG10 4DX	
PRESS OFFICER Michael Benbow	8508 4457
28 Brook Road IG10 1BP	
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Juliet Pollard	
14 The Hawthorns IG10 3QT	8502 0552
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Ken Faulkner	8508 1215
Kevin Latchford	8502 4568
Charles MacKenzie	8508 2909
David White	3225 5006
Janet Woods	8508 1764
Bela Yorke	8508 4729
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Chris Pond 7 Staples Road IG10 1HP	8508 2361
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ALDERTON WARD	
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3 Lower Park Road IG10 4NB	
FAIRMEAD WARD	
Carol Davies (T)	8508 4234
13 Colebrook Gardens IG10 2HS	
David Wixley (D)	8418 9284
2 Copper Beech Court Goldings Road IG10 2QH	
FOREST WARD	
Jill Angold-Stephens (T)	8281 0674
89 Lower Park Road IG10 4NE	
Suzanne Harper (T)	8508 4770
23 Algers Road IG10 4NG	
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10 Connaught Avenue IG10 4DP	
RODING WARD	
Ken Angold-Stephens (D&T)	8281 0674
89 Lower Park Road IG10 4NE	
Margaret Chalk (T)	8508 2226
49 Southview Road IG10 3LQ	
David Wixley (T)	8418 9284
2 Copper Beech Court Goldings Road IG10 2QH	
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John Markham (D)	8508 1945
77 Queens Road IG10 1RR	
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59 Wroths Path IG10 1SH	
Caroline Pond (D&T)	8508 2361
7 Staples Road IG10 1HP	
Chris Pond (T)	8508 2361
7 Staples Road IG10 1HP	
ST MARY'S WARD	
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162 Forest Road IG10 1EG	
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**JOIN LRA NOW! ONLY £4 A YEAR!**

Please ring 020 8508 2932 or email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk) or use the form at [www.loughtonresidents.co.uk](http://www.loughtonresidents.co.uk)