

# LRA's LOUGHTON LIFE Members' Edition

December 2014



## Leading lights

### *Part-night street lighting*

LRA County Cllr Chris Pond formally asked Cabinet member Rodney Bass at October's full Council meeting to reconsider the switch off /switch on times of street lights so that people do not have to walk to the station for early trains in the pitch dark. Cllr Bass has now emailed local councillors to say that street lighting in Loughton, Chigwell, Buckhurst Hill and Epping will be on again at 05.00 (rather than 06.00) every day. Chris said "I have been campaigning for this since 2009, well before part night lighting was introduced here. It's obviously wrong that early risers are penalised by having to walk to the station in pitch darkness. Adequate lighting is correctly seen as a basic right of residents".

This was an all-party initiative, supported, amongst others, by conservatives, liberal democrats, and independents. Chris has also formally asked Cllr Bass to leave lights on all night from next year, when Boris Johnson's Night Tube starts running 24 hours on Friday and Saturday, and Bass has promised to consider this.

### *High Road Christmas lights*

These will be organised this year by Loughton Town Council. Strings of LED lights and miniature trees will be installed on lamp-posts which currently have hanging baskets on them. Unfortunately County Highways won't let the older lamp-posts north of the traffic lights be used.

## Oakwood Hill Estate

An Oakwood Hill Environmental Task Force has been convened to discuss how best to spend the £400,000 available to improve the estate (as the result of ex-LRA-Cllr Lance Leonard's efforts). The Task Force comprises the Chairman of the District Council Housing Scrutiny Panel, the two District ward members, the County Council's divisional member, representatives from the estate residents, Essex Police, Housing Officers and Essex County Highways officers.

## Village greens

Epping Forest District Council has recently submitted objections to Essex County Council regarding the Town Council's applications to register four greens (Jessel Green; Newmans Lane; Rochford Green (off Westall Road); and Rookwood Gardens, because it asserts that they do not now meet the legal conditions for approval. The Town Council is taking legal advice.

## CCTV coverage

CCTV coverage in the High Road between Old Station Road and Traps Hill is now complete - high definition cameras increased from 6 to 30, with excellent image clarity and detail day and night. Except for *fifteen* (York Hill), late-night venues are well covered. The cameras link to the local police and Essex Police Headquarters, and will be linked to the District Council Community Safety Team.

## Please help us now

Members' support is vital to LRA. Subscriptions pay costs such as printing newsletters and election expenses. Subscriptions for 2015 are due in January. It would be a great help if you could pay now – send £5 with the following details to LRA Membership Sec, 14 The Hawthorns, Loughton, IG10 3QT (no cash by post).

I enclose £5 annual subscription ..... £5 .....  
I enclose a donation for LRA's work ..... £ .....  
Name .....  
Address .....  
Post code IG10 ..... Phone .....  
Email (if any) .....

If you don't receive our local news & events email  
Bulletins, and would like to, please tick here

To check if you've paid for 2014 or to pay by standing order or bank transfer email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk) or call 020 8508 2932. Membership information is held by LRA for its own purposes & not made available to any other body.

**Members' newsletters and local news by email  
£5 for 2015**

# Planning & licensing matters

The LRA Plans Group looks at all planning and licensing applications in the town. It consults residents and supports, or objects to, individual applications as appropriate.

***The Royal Oak (The Oaks) 148 Forest Road:*** Proposal to redevelop the site to provide nine terraced houses.

***Bridge House Roding Road:*** Proposal to replace the existing house with a three-storey block of flats.

*The LRA Plans Group have asked nearby residents for their views on both of the above proposals.*

***168A High Road:*** Proposal for flats on three new floors. The LRA Plans Group considers this to be an out-of-character overdevelopment of the site between single-storey buildings.

***Building Council houses:*** The District Council is considering disused garage sites including Vere Road, Kirby Close, Whitehills Road, Lower Alderton Hall Lane, Bushfields, Marlescroft Way, Chequers Road and Ladyfields.

***Pyrles Lane Nursery:*** The District Council is preparing a new planning application for residential development, for submission by Christmas. An earlier application was heavily criticised by residents and by the LRA Plans Group on grounds which included the loss of Urban Open Space, inadequate access arrangements, the effect on the natural environment and the effect on local traffic.

***Sir Winston Churchill Pub site:*** Before building can start, the District Council is waiting for a detailed programme of building work from their development partners.

***St Mary's Church, High Road:*** The Church has submitted plans to replace the building just to the south of the main church with a single-storey building for community use.

***Staples Road School extension:*** Despite residents' concerns about traffic and parking, the County Council approved the planning application, subject to a condition requiring redesign of the windows (about which LRA County Cllr Chris Pond spoke at the meeting). Building work will be carried out next year in school holidays.

***Burton Road:*** Erection of 52 affordable dwellings with 27 parking spaces. The LRA Plans Group doesn't oppose development here but feel that too many flats are proposed and that the parking provision is wholly inadequate.

***258A High Road:*** Extra storey to form 9 new flats. The LRA Plans Group objected to a previous application which added two storeys, a much more acceptable proposal.

***Plume of Feathers car-park:*** Despite strong opposition from residents, the District Council has approved the proposed extension of car-parking into the part of the area behind the pub currently occupied by trees and shrubs, but with strong conditions.

***House to be demolished and replaced:*** A resident was concerned about the loss of the trees and possible asbestos. LRA Cllr Caroline Pond is following it up with the District Council.



## Councillor action

### ***Pothole filling***

The picture shows LRA Cllr Chris Pond filling a pothole with a new German machine during a County Council scrutiny visit. Coincidentally, at a resident's request, we have reported the poor quality of the recent repair to the pothole in High Beech Road, at the exit to the car-park, where the surface has already seriously deteriorated. And County Highways have recently reported that they have filled in a pothole at the High Road/Old Station Road mini-roundabout, only six months after we reported it.

### ***Unswept footpath***

On behalf of a local resident, LRA Cllr David Wixley raised with the District Council a footpath which doesn't get swept, possibly because it was missed off the contractor's list. If you know of somewhere like this, please let us know at [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk)

### ***Tree on Centric Parade***

A few weeks ago the young tree outside the Halifax was snapped off. LRA had battled for several years to get the previous (dead) tree replaced. After much toing-and-froing LRA established the history of the land on which it was planted, which turned out not to be owned by the Halifax nor by the District Council (who would have owned it had the proper actions been taken in the past). After further debate, the Council decided that it would be cheaper for them to plant a new tree than to sort out the land-ownership. Since the damage, LRA Cllr Ken Angold-Stephens has been through the same discussion with the Council again, with the same conclusion (but happily much more speedily), and we are very grateful to them for agreeing to plant another tree, if the insurance details can be sorted out.

### ***Bad vibes***

London Underground (LUL) were doing some heavy engineering works on the line by the end of Algers Rd. The vibration from the machinery was so great that neighbours got no sleep and were really worried that it might damage their properties. LRA Cllr Ken Angold-Stephens took this up with LUL and its engineering manager installed a sound barrier to reduce the problem. The neighbours were most grateful that no more crockery was going to cascade off their shelves when the machinery started up! Ken has also finally had a victory over the shrub beds by the station. LUL has accepted liability and have by now hopefully commenced renovation work.

Visit [www.loughtonresidents.org.uk](http://www.loughtonresidents.org.uk)  
for more information

## Festive quiz

The theme this year is Christmas itself – all the answers are things you associate with the Christmas season and festivities. For example: ‘See these if you’re knocked out’ would be ‘Stars’. Answers by 6 January please, either by email to [lesandsueharris@aol.com](mailto:lesandsueharris@aol.com), or to Les Harris, 32 Upper Park, Loughton, Essex IG10 4EQ. Book token or fizz to the first correct answer out of the hat.

1. Animals for wet weather? (8)
2. Sounds as if you could pick a mink or musquash from this (3,4)
3. They’re here and now (8)
4. Was this its country of origin? (6)
5. A silly bird? (5)
6. Great Fire of London started on this lane? (7)
7. Belong to King, Thatcher and Vorderman (6)
8. A darling fruit? (10)
9. False ache? (9)
10. These seasonal sort don’t need suspenders (9)
11. Section of a mountain (9)
12. US soldier with a higher degree - there were three of them (4)
13. They’re not political at this time of year (7)
14. Prickly, as sacred gather around student (5)
15. Creepy – and sounds like two letters, not three (3)
16. More of a game than attacks on the teapot (8)
17. Not transport to kill – though sounds like it (6)
18. Play them or send them (5)
19. The patriarch of the season (6, 9)
20. Quite mad! (8)
21. Neat and tidy (6)
22. EC growth? (8, 6)
23. Left to a sailor (4)
24. Copy someone’s homework (4)
25. ....and Demons, according to Dan Brown (6)
26. Animal innards? Prettier than that when on the tree! (6)
27. Their animals flocked around them (9)
28. High Street newsagents (5, 6)
29. A crowd at 24.00h (8,4)
30. 2015 – we sincerely hope (1,5,3,4)

## Bus shelters

Funding has been secured for the removal and replacement of the ivy-covered shelter at the junction of South View and Oakwood Hill. The shelter owner has not been established, so Essex County Council will carry out the work and maintain the new shelter. A new shelter has been approved on Church Hill (by Meads Path) and work is underway to confirm a shelter type that will be suitable for this location.



## Parking matters

### *“Kiss-&-ride” at Loughton station*

As part of a regional agreement between TfL and Sainsbury’s, some of the parking spaces in the “kiss-&-ride” waiting area at Loughton station, between the TFL and Sainsbury’s car-parks, were blocked off to form a pick-up area for customers collecting Sainsbury’s groceries ordered online. LRA pointed out that this was a breach of the planning permission granted when the Sainsbury’s store was built, and are pressing for these spaces to be returned to their proper use.

### *Smarts Lane and Forest Road*

We know residents are finding these problems increasingly burdensome. It has been suggested that Forest Road should be made one-way, but the County Council would not allow this. However, it might be possible to have a more limited traffic scheme in upper Smarts Lane focussing on Nursery Road to reduce the through traffic. On parking, despite pressure (from residents, LRA and others) for residents to be consulted about a Residents Parking Scheme, the North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP) refuses to give this area any priority in their long list of outstanding requests. LRA takes these problems very seriously and will keep up the pressure.

### *Dangerous parking in Nursery Road*

A resident asked us what could be done about cars parked across the full width of the pavement at the junction with Connaught Avenue going south most weekdays, nearly all day, forcing pedestrians out into the road. This is a matter for the police and we hope as many residents as possible will report this and similar obstructions on 101 or at the regular police informal meetings

### *Broadway parking review*

The District Council continues to make (painfully slow) progress towards finishing the Buckhurst Hill Parking Review. Once the formal legal Order for this is in place, they have promised to start on the Broadway Review. However, this Review will cover only a limited area. Meanwhile, 51 residents have signed a petition calling for weekday parking controls in Debden. The District Council has passed this to the North Essex Parking Partnership, who now handle parking matters for Essex County Highways.

### *York Hill yellow lines*

Residents are still waiting for action by the North Essex Parking Partnership. LRA Cllrs Caroline Pond and Bob Jennings have taken up the delays with the District Council’s chief executive.

**Not getting LRA’s local news bulletins by email?  
Email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk)**

## Stay in touch

Our website address is now [www.loughtonresidents.org.uk](http://www.loughtonresidents.org.uk) (although [www.loughtonresidents.co.uk](http://www.loughtonresidents.co.uk) will still work).

For technical reasons, our LRA email addresses will still end in “.co.uk”. Members can get our email bulletins of local news (email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk) if you aren't on the list and would like these). We will also be putting out occasional topical messages on Facebook and Twitter – please follow us at [www.facebook.com/LoughtonResidents](http://www.facebook.com/LoughtonResidents) and @LoughtonRA.

## Royal Mail

Parcel collections and delivery services are now based at the new mail office, Unit 6B, Imprimo Park, Debden Industrial Estate (parking available), next to the Postal Museum.

## CONTACTING LRA

ALL ENQUIRIES:	8508 2932
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### LRA COUNCILLORS

(D = District Council; T = Town Council)

<b>COUNTY: Loughton (Central)</b>	
Chris Pond 7 Staples Rd	8508 2361

## Extra farmers' market for Christmas

As well as the LRA organised farmers' markets on the first Sunday of each month (9am – 2pm) on Centric Parade, Loughton High Road, there will be an extra Christmas market on December 21<sup>st</sup>, but without the usual LRA stall (we'll be back from the March market onwards).

At the time of going to press we do not know whether or not there will be a market on January 4<sup>th</sup> but we will include the information in the local news & events email bulletins we send out to members (if you would like to get these, please email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk) )

We have two market stands available free for charities and other local voluntary organisations. To find out about spaces email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk)

### ALDERTON WARD

Philip Abraham (T) 1 Lancaster Drive	8502 2925
Chris Roberts (D) 107 Colson Road	07952 753081
Tracey Thomas (D&T) 110 Grosvenor Drive	07930 418615

### BROADWAY WARD

Leon Girling (D&T) 95 Willingale Road	8418 0076
John Mahoney (T) Lopping Hall, 189 High Road	07909 517145
Chris Pond (D) 7 Staples Rd	8508 2361

### FAIRMEAD WARD

Carol Davies (T) 13 Colebrook Gardens	8508 4234
Judy Jennings (T) 94 York Hill	8508 1861
Louise Mead (D) 22 Lower Road	07547 264561
David Wixley (D) 2 Copper Beech Ct, Goldings Rd	8418 9284

### FOREST WARD

Jill Angold-Stephens (T) 89 Lower Park Road	8281 0674
Trevor Downing (T) 207 Smarts Lane	8508 8877
Sharon Weston (D&T) 58 York Hill	8502 0713

### RODING WARD

Ken Angold-Stephens (D&T) 89 Lower Park Rd	8281 0674
Margaret Chalk (T) 49 Southview Road	8508 2226
David Wixley (T) 2 Copper Beech Ct, Goldings Rd	8418 9284

### ST JOHN'S WARD

Bob Jennings (D) 94 York Hill	8508 1861
Stephen Pewsey (T) 30 Wroths Path	8508 5582
Caroline Pond (D&T) 7 Staples Road	8508 2361
Chris Pond (T) 7 Staples Road	8508 2361

### ST MARY'S WARD

Philip Beales (T) 65 Harwater Drive	8418 0459
Howard Kauffman (D) 42 Church Lane	8508 1098
Imogen Lawrence (T) 1 Longfield	8502 1159
Harvey Mann (D&T) 20 The Heights	07584 125211

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