

LRA's LOUGHTON LIFE Members' Edition

Loughton Residents' Association Newsletter
February 2017

LRA is independent & focuses on looking after Loughton. We have Cllrs on the County and District Councils, and hold 20 out of 22 of the seats on Loughton Town Council.

Contact us at contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk

Draft Local Plan

We're very grateful to all those who helped us spread the word about the District Council's potentially disastrous proposals to build on Loughton's open spaces, and to all the residents who have told the Council what they think of their proposals. We're now waiting for the Council team to work their way through all the comments and (we hope) to come up with some sensible changes.

However, both LRA and the Town Council are preparing for a situation where we have to fight the District Council's proposals at a formal hearing later this year or earlier next year. We'll keep residents informed, and will look for your support when the time comes.

Disposing of household waste

A reminder that various types of waste (including DIY waste), and various types of vehicles, are banned from our local sites at Chigwell (Luxborough Lane) and Waltham Abbey (Brooker Road) and several other sites across the County, and other waste quantities restricted.

This will mean that some ordinary residents may have to make much longer journeys to dispose their household waste legitimately.

LRA Cllr Chris Pond objected strongly to this aspect of the changes, but the Council is adamant. If this happens to you, please let us know at contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk

Annual Town Meeting

8pm Wednesday March 15th 2017

Speaker: new Principal and Chief Executive Officer of Epping Forest College, Saboohi Famili.

Murray Hall, Borders Lane

Loughton Town Council www.loughton-tc.gov.uk

Public Meeting & AGM

8pm Tuesday March 21st 2017

We will present an illustrated talk on a topic of local or topical interest, followed by refreshments and LRA's AGM.

Doors open 7.45pm for 8pm start at Loughton Club, 5 Station Road.



New Local Book

Imogen Gray has written *Clues in Fiction*, a 165pp book about the best-selling but now mostly forgotten novelist, Horace Newte, who lived at the Chestnuts, High Road, and at Alderton Hall. before WW1.

One of the illustrations, of the Hall, is reproduced above. The book can be had for £6.50 at the Book Shop or from the Loughton & District Historical Society (8508-2361).

Please subscribe now

We are very grateful for our members' support.

Your copy of Loughton Life should come with a letter confirming that you've already paid for 2017 or asking you to renew your membership (only £5 a year) – if this applies to you, *you can help us greatly by doing so now.*

LRA is run by volunteers and we keep our costs to the minimum. We depend upon volunteers and membership to produce these newsletters and run our campaigns.

LRA news & events bulletins

If you don't receive our regular email bulletins, and would like to, let us know at contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk

Between the email bulletins, we send out urgent items on Twitter and Facebook: www.twitter.com/loughtonra and www.facebook.com/loughtonresidents

Can you help please?

Next month we need a few more helpers to spend around an hour each delivering our "Town-wide" *Loughton Life* newsletters.

Please contact David Linnell (contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk or 020 8508 2932).

E-mail LRA at - contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk

Farmers' markets



Do you know a local charity or voluntary organisation which would like a free stall one month at the LRA's Farmers Market on Centric Parade, High Road; they are held on the first Sunday of each month?

We have spaces available from [March](#) onwards (but not for April or May). If you are interested, please email contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk

Road deaths

Police have urged road users in Essex to take care and act responsibly following a rise in the number of people killed (63 in 2016; 44 in 2015) or seriously injured (955 and 788). Motorcyclists and young men were again the most vulnerable road users.

Loughton Library

Free arts and craft taster sessions are available 10am – mid-day on the first Thursday of each month.

There's also a new *Sensory Wall* for under-threes, and special sessions for the under 3's on the 3rd Saturday of the month.

167 bus route

TfL have decided to terminate the route at Loughton Station. LRA Cllr Chris is pressing the County Council to act on its earlier promise to provide some sort of replacement service beyond the Station.

CONTACTING LRA: **ENQUIRIES:** contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk **8508 2932**

Membership: Juliet Pollard 14 The Hawthorns IG10 3QT 8502 0552

ELECTIONS OFFICER Michael Benbow	8508 4457	FOREST WARD			
LOUGHTON LIFE EDITOR Eva Blasco	8923 0065	Jill Angold-Stephens (T) Lower Park Road		8281 0674	
SECRETARY Stephen Pewsey	-	Roger Baldwin (D) Burney Drive		8508 8479	
MINUTES SEC. Susan Creevy	-	Amy Beales (D) Harwater Drive		07507 341956	
TREASURER Miriam Murphy	01992 815525	Tessa Cochrane (T) Shaftesbury		8508 4148	
		Trevor Downing (T) Smarts Lane		8508 8877	
COUNCILLORS		RODING WARD			
(D = District Council; T = Town Council)		Rose Brookes (D&T) Lower Park Road		8502 5981	
COUNTY: Loughton (Central)		Mark Dalton (T) Highland Avenue		07719 736901	
Chris Pond Staples Road	8508 2361	David Wixley (T) Goldings Rd		8418 9284	
ALDERTON WARD		ST JOHN'S WARD			
Philip Abraham (T) Lancaster Drive	8502 2925	Bob Jennings (D) York Hill		8508 1861	
Chris & Debra Roberts (D) Colson Road	8279 0053	Stephen Pewsey (T) Wroths Path		-	
Adam Omer (T) Station Road	07904 919701	Caroline Pond (D&T) Staples Road		8508 2361	
Michael Stubbings (T) Greenfields	07766 480522	Chris Pond (T) Staples Road		8508 2361	
BROADWAY WARD		ST MARY'S WARD			
Leon Girling (D&T) Willingale Road	8418 0076	Philip Beales (T) Harwater Drive		8418 0459	
John Mahoney (T) Lopping Hall High Rd	07909 517145	Barbara Cohen (T) Traps Hill		07957 141197	
Stella Murphy (T) High View Close	8508 2794	Judy Jennings (D&T) York Hill		8508 1861	
Chris Pond (D) Staples Road	8508 2361	Howard Kauffman (D) Church Lane		8508 1098	
FAIRMEAD WARD		COMMITTEE			
Carol Davies (T) Colebrook Gardens	07817 230372	Richard Cohen	8502 3242	David Linnell	8508 2932
Kevin Latchford (T) Colebrook Gardens	8502 4568	Steve Eaton	8923 0065	Harvey Mann	07584 125211
Louise Mead (D) -	07746 875952	Rebecca Fricker	8508 8369	George Meltser	8502 3006
David Wixley (D) t Goldings Rd	8418 9284	Lance Leonard	8502 0771	Sharon Weston	8502 0713

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Get in touch with us at contact@LoughtonResidents.co.uk

Have your say!

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. It works separately from LRA's Cllrs on Council planning committees.

Members only comment on plans they're interested in.

Email contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk to find out more.

Answers to LRA's Christmas Quiz 2016

We received a pleasing response to this year's quiz, with a good number of correct answers. Well done all who entered. First out of the hat, and winners of this year's fizz, are Anne and Stephen Harriman! You can find the answers at <http://tinyurl.com/jecklxy>

New Sainsbury's Local

As we reported last year, placing the vehicle exit to the new Church Hill shop and flats next to the vehicle entrance to the Esso garage next door has set up a dangerous situation. We would welcome details of any incidents or accidents, and emailed photos (plus time and date) of lorries delivering to Sainsbury's and not parked in the store car-park next to, and parallel with, the pavement; please email contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk

Council Tax increases

Although discussions are still going on, we expect there'll be small increases in the Police and Fire service rates, and in the County and Town Council rates.

LRA has a majority on the Town Council. As always, our Cllrs will be balancing residents' ability to pay with the need for essential services and to put money aside to pay for work on the draft Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan.

New town near Harlow

The economic and social future of West Essex & East Hertfordshire has received a major boost with a £0.5m Government grant towards the *Harlow and Gilston Garden Town* proposal.

Cons Cllr Councillor John Philip, Epping Forest District Council Planning Portfolio Holder, who also leads the development of the Epping Forest District Local Plan, said he was delighted.

Instead of proposing in the draft Local Plan to concrete over the green spaces in Loughton and elsewhere, we would have preferred Cllr Philip to press for a new town on the NE borders of our District. We'd also like to see him maximise the proportion of Epping Forest's housing quota to be built in parts of the District bordering Harlow, where there are already good transport connections available.

Parking at stations

We're still getting occasional requests from residents for help on unfair charging at Loughton station. In December a resident belatedly received a bill for £160 for over-staying the 20-minute limit in September. We're pleased to report that after our intervention, NCP reduced the charge to £60, which the resident agreed he was liable to pay.

Broadway LRA Surgery



The LRA Surgery has now had three successful outings in the Broadway, where we hope this will become a regular event. Town and District councillors were able to meet shoppers, storekeepers and residents, helping them with advice and talking about local issues.

Many people expressed concern on the issue of parking on the frontage in the central area of The Broadway, on both sides of the parade. Currently pavement parking is not regulated and enforcement is extremely difficult – LRA Cllr Leon Girling is following this up.

Many people voiced concerns at the possible future effect upon businesses in The Broadway of the new Retail Park in Langston Road once it opens. Residents rely on the local shops in The Broadway for their day-to-day groceries.

Loughton Festival Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to deliver programmes in April. If you can help, please email loughtonfestival@aol.com If you can't walk too far, why not just offer to deliver to your road or leave a supply in your church, club or centre?

It all helps!

On the ball

Loughton Town Council has been awarded a £3,000 Community Initiatives Fund grant for outside table tennis tables to be placed on Roding Valley Recreation Ground and Willingale Road Playing Fields.

Get in touch with us at contact@LoughtonResidents.co.uk

Highways and parking

Colson Road closure

The road may be closed at the junction with Chigwell Lane until June 30th. There will be a diversion via Ladyfields or Colson Road, Borders Lane and Chigwell Lane while the widening of Chigwell Lane continues.



One-way by the old Post Office, The Broadway

LRA Cllr Chris Pond has asked for the signage at the end of Torrington Drive to be sorted out, to stop the hazards created by drivers going down it the wrong way.

Central strip, The Broadway

The Broadway Town Centre Partnership is concerned about the poor state of the flower beds. LRA favours surfacing them over, but leaving spaces for some flower beds.

Lady Mary's Path (from Borders Lane to Rectory Lane)

Last autumn there were some problems with litter not being cleared. We'd welcome hearing by email from any-one who uses the path – is it now being kept clear, please?

Speeding in Valley Hill and Buckhurst Hill Way. We have again had complaints from residents. LRA Cllr David Wixley has asked County Highways to repair the two pedestrian refuges between The Meadway and Greensted Road and to re-instate the white centre line and hatching (which wasn't done when the road near Felstead Road and Hubbard Court was resurfaced about three years ago). We'll see what else can be done.

Sorted!

Sight-lines

A resident asked us about an overgrown hedge which was blocking drivers' views at the junction of Church Lane and Whitehills Road. LRA Cllr Chris Pond took this up with County Highways and the hedge has now been cut back.

Building site

A resident contacted LRA Town Cllr Barbara Cohen with concerns about builder's materials on the pavement and mud on the road. LRA District and Town Cllr Judy Jennings followed up with the District & County Councils, and the problems have been sorted.

Highways works

A resident contacted us when a County Highways officer said he wasn't senior enough to get any action on the resident's serious problems with Highways work outside his house. LRA Cllr Chris Pond took up the case and action swiftly followed.

TfL at the District Council

O&S Committee

The Central Line Manager and a colleague spoke and responded to questions:

- They have no current plans to extend the Night Tube out as far as Epping.
- They are still looking at extending car-parking at Epping. [LRA objects to this because the Central Line is already running at or over capacity and Loughton commuters would suffer.]
- LRA Cllr Leon Girling asked about having better communication between the Council and TfL.
- Oyster cards can be bought from the ticket machines at Tube stations.

Local crime

Loughton detectives recently charged an offender with 9 offences including theft from vehicles and burglary.



You can help by reporting any suspicious behaviour at www.essex.police.uk or by ringing 101 (999 if a crime is being committed). The Police may not be able to respond to you, but your information can be crucial in focussing their patrols and leading to arrests.

Please sign up to your local Neighbourhood Watch by sending your name, address, phone number and email details to outerlondon@aol.com.

You can find out more at loughtonnhw.vpweb.co.uk

Drug dealing

The police receive information about people smoking cannabis in the street or in cars. However, what they need most is information about dealers, particularly those selling Class A drugs such as: heroin (diamorphine), cocaine (including crack), methadone, ecstasy (MDMA) & LSD and Class B drugs such as amphetamines and barbiturates.

To put a driver or a vehicle under suspicion they need a name, or an address, or a car type and registration number. Visit www.essex.police.uk or call 101; if dealers are at a particular place at a regular weekly time, please let them know that too. Or let us know and we'll pass the details to the police (email contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk).

Don't approach the driver yourself.

Number plate thefts

Following a spate of thefts in the last six months, PCSO Hayley Shelton from Loughton's Community Policing Team, successfully bid for £750 from the Proceeds of Crime Act Board to pay for 1,000 anti-tamper number plate screw kits.

E-mail LRA at - contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk