



# LOUGHTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

## YOUR LRA MEMBERSHIP

You should recently have had a copy of our latest *Loughton Life* newsletter, together with a letter about your £5 LRA subscription for 2018.

**If you haven't already paid\***, you can pay by cheque, by bank transfer, at our stall at the High Road Farmers Markets each 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month or by Standing Order (see <https://tinyurl.com/y8ovvzup> - if you're asked to sign in, just click the "proceed to view" link ).

If you've already paid or you pay by standing order – **THANK YOU!**

\*If you're not sure, please email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk) and we'll check.

## HELP NEEDED PLEASE

### delivering our *Loughton Life* newsletter

Copies will be available at the start of March.

If you can help with any of these, please email

[david.linnell@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:david.linnell@loughtonresidents.co.uk)

- 1) Kingsley Road (79 copies)
  - 2) The Broadway (houses only) & Eversley Close (94 copies)
  - 3) Alderton Hall Lane (below Alderton Rise) 25 copies
- (picture: Sept 2017 edition)



## LRA NEWS

### 13-15A Alderton Hill proposed retirement complex.

The gremlins got at the web-links in last time's newsletter, so here's the item again, with (I hope) working links.

#### Planning cases

- **13-15A Alderton Hill.** The proposal for a large retirement complex was withdrawn from January's District Council planning meeting. We believe that this is because the new "official" status of the Local Plan means that its requirement for large developments to provide "affordable" housing now apply to this development; we await further details. See the plans [here](#) (application number EPF/2499/17) and the pictures [here](#) (if you're asked to sign in, just click the "proceed to view" link)
- **60 Traps Hill.** The proposal for a block of flats on this site will go to the District Council Planning Committee on February 21<sup>st</sup>. 40 residents, Loughton Town Council and the LRA Plans Group

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(LPG) have objected. Nevertheless, the Planning Officer has recommended approval and the LPG have written to the Council giving counter-arguments.

**Thames Water.** We were contacted by Debden residents concerned that Thames Water was carrying out roadworks in preparation for developing Jessel Green. They appear to be replacing old pipes, but it's much more likely that this is in advance of the introduction of compulsory water metering for households currently without meters.



**Streetlights.** A resident contacted us about out-of-action streetlights in Station Road, which were reported to County Highways but still unrepaired a month later. LRA Cllr Philip Beale replied that streetlight repairs were the responsibility of UK Power Networks and unfortunately they seem to have no sense of urgency (on this or any other job).

**Parking on green verges.** LRA Cllr Chris Roberts has been working with the District Council to sort out a particular problem of parking which was causing serious damage to a green verge in Debden. The lack of available resident parking spaces, due largely to commuter parking in areas outside the Residents Parking Zone (RPZ), is an issue and it's currently being reviewed, but getting the balance right can be very difficult. Over the years the LRA has supported residents in getting more parking spaces installed, and our councillors will be keeping up the pressure to get Phase 2 of the RPZ scheme underway this Autumn.

#### Buses

- **Bus route 20.** LRA Cllr Chris Pond has confirmed that rumours being spread by some route 20 drivers that the service will be discontinued are untrue. More in your forthcoming *Loughton Life* newsletter.
- **Timetables:** we've had reports that some bus timetables, at Loughton station and elsewhere, are out-of-date, and Chris has asked for this to be sorted out.



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## LOCAL NEWS

**FOR LOCAL EVENTS SEE SEPARATE EMAIL**

**Check ahead for events in red, which need to be booked in advance!**

**FOR LOCAL LEISURE ORGANISATIONS SEE <http://tinyurl.com/pbel693>**

#### Consultation on the District Council Local Plan:

- **The LRA [response](#):** our main concerns are the potential effects of the over-imposition of housing on Loughton, particularly on Jessel Green, and the related stress this would place on all of Loughton's services (buses, roads etc), and a number of poorly drafted areas which would lead to ineffective protections for residents
- **The Loughton Town Council [response](#):** their main concerns are the further urbanisation of Loughton through the loss of important green spaces and the unacceptable strain on local infrastructure, public transport, roads, schools and health services, many of which are already at full capacity.



**Epping Forest District Council**

- **finances.** The Conservative-led Council have been patting themselves on the back again (see [here](#)). "...the successful completion of the Epping Forest Shopping Park is projected to add income of £2.5million, money the Council plans to spend on maintaining our local services. The recent re-letting of the Council's Leisure Centre Management contract to Places for People is saving almost £1million a year as well as helping to fund..... major improvements to our centre... in Loughton.....".



However, despite their earlier optimism, they've not yet filled all the shops in the retail park, and meanwhile we understand that trade on The Broadway (where the shops are also owned by the Council) has been significantly adversely affected.

- **Rectory Lane roadworks.** The Council have said that additional safety railings at the junction with Borders Lane should be installed this month. In addition, after concerns raised about the safety of pedestrians utilising the crossing at the end of Oakwood Hill, they have asked the County Council to review the possibility of the crossing having pedestrian-controlled lights.
- **public walkway adjacent to 42 The Broadway:** the Council is getting quotes for the external redecoration of the walkway; they recently installed new security roller shutters and LED lighting
- **Waste Management.**
  - **recycling-bank sites:** the Council are reviewing the District's sites to identify usage, including tonnages and the types of material collected, to determine whether it is financially sensible for the Council to continue providing these sites, as the Council offers a comprehensive door step recycling collection service, with no limit on the amount of recycling that can be presented.
  - **Recycling clothes.** It costs the County Council around £1.5m a year to dispose clothes that could be reused (99% of used textiles are recyclable). Alternatively, the District Council offers a comprehensive textile collection service on collection days; these are transported to a sorting warehouse & checked by hand; those of sufficient quality are separated, baled together, and exported to countries overseas. Other items are separated by their material type to be recycled
- **Fixed penalties for fly-tipping.** Council officers have recently identified a number of small-scale (non-commercial) fly-tippers and since April 2017 have offered 11 offenders the opportunity to pay fixed penalty notices (FPNs) of £200 for these incidents - 10 of these have paid up
- **January's high winds:** the Council's Grounds Maintenance Service was busy dealing with numerous phone calls reporting fallen or dangerous trees, and then organising the required making-safe and clear-up operations
- **Council Housing:** the terms on which people can qualify to go on the Council's Housing list are being made more stringent – see [here](#)
- **Loughton Voluntary Care Older People's seated dance / exercise sessions** take place at The Loughton Club, Station Road, on Tuesday afternoons, and are currently attended by 15-20 participants
- **Anti-ASB patrolling.** The Council has instructed Parkguard, a police Community Safety Accredited uniformed Security Company, to support the District by patrolling ASB hot-spot areas, including The Broadway
- **CCTV success.** In January the Council's CCTV team received 31 requests for CCTV footage, including some from the Police, including one relating to Pyrles Lane which led to the arrest of a male who had carried out a street robbery on an elderly person in Debden

**Planning: 301-303 High Road.** An application has been submitted to the District Council to convert the vacant Linens Direct shop to a Kaspas Dessert restaurant, a specialist Italian ice-cream outlet. [More](#).



#### **Fire safety in District Council properties:**

see what the Council has done, and what further measures it's considering, [here](#) (item 43)

**Roding Road/ Valley Hill cross-roads.** On February 12<sup>th</sup> a car knocked down a barrier at the crossroads, which had been replaced only a few weeks earlier after another accident. Next morning Independent local Cllr Stephen Murray reported the damage to County Highways and demanded the prompt removal of the damaged barrier, which was lying across the pavement.

**The Epping Forest Consultative Committee** had their first meeting on January 24 ([Minutes](#).) LRA has a representative on the Committee, which brings representatives from 16 local groups who use the Forest together with The City of London Corporation, which manages Epping Forest. The Committee will provide a consultative role with its views feeding into the City Corporation's Epping Forest and Commons Committee, which makes decisions about Forest policy.



**Bus service 250.** A [press report](#) on discussions between Epping Forest Transport Action Group and the County Council suggests that the Council is considering subsidising two new late evening services, if enough need can be demonstrated, to run from Waltham Cross at about 10pm and 11pm. You can register your support [here](#).



**Epping Forest foodbank**  
Formerly Loughton Foodbank

**#40for40**

**40 PENCE FOR 40 DAYS**

**Can you take part in our 40 for 40 challenge this Lent?**

By giving up 40 pence a day for the 40 days of Lent you can raise enough to help support a local family in crisis this Easter.

[eppingforest.foodbank.org.uk](http://eppingforest.foodbank.org.uk)

*All you have to do is find an old jam jar, or similar container and start collecting!*

seeded by **the trussell trust**

Epping Forest Foodbank is a project of Above+Beyond Registered Charity in England & Wales (1165654). We aim to Make a Difference in the lives of local people in crisis.

## OFFERS & HELP AVAILABLE

If you are not a member of a Neighbourhood Watch group and you would like to join in, please fill in this form and return by email to [eppingforestnhw@outlook.com](mailto:eppingforestnhw@outlook.com)



**Community Speed Watch** is a traffic monitoring scheme, coordinated by the Essex Police Casualty Reduction Section but managed and run by volunteers in the community. For more information and interactive map, please visit the Essex Police website: [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk) If you are interesting in forming or joining a community speedwatch group, please email [community.speedwatch@essex-fire.gov.uk](mailto:community.speedwatch@essex-fire.gov.uk)

**Health help Now web site and app** gives detailed advice and guidance on the most common ailments and symptoms. The tool also recommends the best place for treatment – showing which nearby services are open. Access the site online at [www.westessex.healthhelpnow.nhs.uk](http://www.westessex.healthhelpnow.nhs.uk) or download it from *The App Store* or *Google Play*.



The app is broken down into different age groups: baby, child, teenager, adult and older adult. It also offers advice on lots of health problems – such as what to do if you accidentally run out of medication. It links to local services including pharmacies, the community and voluntary sector and social care.

**Launch of Life Works Hub**, February 24<sup>th</sup>. The Hub will become a public space, open at certain times throughout the week for the community to spend time enjoying and making artwork. Also courses. <http://loughtonmethodist.org.uk/lifeworks> \_ Methodist Church 260 High Road.

**Night journeys.** TfL’s Night Tube, Night Overground and night bus networks will take you to wherever you need to go. Fares on the Tube and London Overground are off-peak after 7pm, and bus fares are the same all day so it could be cheaper than you think to get around London at night. For more information and to plan your late night journey visit [tfl.gov.uk/nightowls](http://tfl.gov.uk/nightowls)



## HELP WANTED

**Roding Valley Recreation Ground.** A local Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator has reported that motor bikes are back in the Roding Valley Recreation Ground – they cause damage and are a nuisance to other people. Last year Neighbourhood Watch and Essex Police worked together to identify dangerous and often under-age riders – if you see this happening please let the police know (particularly if you can identify an offender) at [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk)

**Do you walk a dog?** Join Epping Forest Neighbourhood Watch's closed Facebook Group for Dog Owners - chat about doggy things & help keep eyes & ears on your neighbourhood; please share this with your dog walking friends: <https://tinyurl.com/y7f2x8da> (Dog Watch is different - more later this year.)



## GENERAL



**Cheap car insurance** – if it seems too good to be true, it usually is! An increasing number of motorists are suffering heavy penalties for driving uninsured, having “bought” insurance from “ghost” brokers who advertise on social media. [More here](#). [The City of London Police’s Insurance Fraud Enforcement Department]



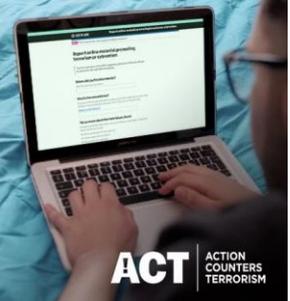
**Avoid being burgled!** Remember most burglaries occur from the rear of the property. Do what you can to improve your perimeter security as a first line of defence. Consider the plants and shrubs that you may wish to plant this coming spring - some can be very effective Burglar Deterrents. Follow [this link](#) for some ideas (if you're asked to sign in, just click the "proceed to view" link). And make sure gates etc are really secure – [more](#). [Essex Watch Liaison Officer]  
Also see [Lock them out burglary book](#) [EFNW]

**Terrorism Police UK's** CT Internet Referral Unit works with internet service providers to remove extremist and terrorist online content. Play your part and report content [here](#). They'll sort it. [#ActionCountersTerrorism](#)



**REPORT TERRORIST  
AND EXTREMIST  
ONLINE CONTENT.  
ANONYMOUSLY.**

[gov.uk/ACT](http://gov.uk/ACT)



**Got a camera doorbell?** There are some regulations you need to follow and they affect how you use the footage. Any cameras you install must only be used for the purpose they are designed for. This means they can only be aimed at property you own, and cannot be pointed at a neighbour's house, a public place or be used to violate the privacy of others.

Cameras used for home security don't need to comply with the Data Protection Act (however businesses do need to comply, so legal advice is recommended before installing cameras for business or professional use).

The footage captured must not be shared online or with other people, unless used in a criminal investigation.

If you use your home CCTV or smart camera for its intended purpose, you won't run into any trouble.

**Do you have security gates?** What would happen if there was a burglary or - worse - a fire, or an ambulance was needed for some-one home on their own?

How would emergency services get in?

Do your neighbours have the entry code, and is there a message on the gate to say so?

[EFNW]



## **KEEP UP WITH THE NEWS BETWEEN OUR EMAIL BULLETINS**



**TWITTER: Follow us on Twitter at @LoughtonRA**

**Not on Twitter? See our tweets at [www.loughtonresidents.org.uk](http://www.loughtonresidents.org.uk)**



**FACEBOOK: Like and Follow our Facebook page by going to**

**[www.facebook.com/LoughtonResidents](http://www.facebook.com/LoughtonResidents)**

## **NOTES**

1. We expect to send out the next news bulletin on Friday March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

2. In the process of drafting these items and sending them by email, some links to websites or email addresses can be broken; you can get round this by right-clicking on the link and then clicking “open” or, if this does not work, by cutting and pasting the address into an email or browser as appropriate.
  3. If a web address doesn’t work, or anything else is wrong, please let us know at [david.linnell@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:david.linnell@loughtonresidents.co.uk)
  4. 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.
  5. To enlarge a picture, click on it and then drag one of the corners outwards
  6. EFNW = Epping Forest Neighbourhood Watch
- David Linnell  
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**For more about LRA & Loughton see [www.loughtonresidents.co.uk](http://www.loughtonresidents.co.uk)  
or email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk)**

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