



LOUGHTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



**Are you safe? When did you last check your Firewall and your virus-checker were actually ON and up-to-date? In theory this should all be automatic but it really is worth checking every-so-often that you really *are* protected!**



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## LRA NEWS

**Street-lighting.** Once again the County Council is [promising extra money](#) for highways work, including street-lighting.

- LRA will continue to press for replacement lights between **The Drive & Kings Green** (they need replacing, and new columns would support Christmas decorations)
- **Delays in replacing street lamps** in general has been raised by LRA Cllr Chris Pond with the two cabinet members for Highways. Part of the trouble is that electrical connections are done by UK Power Networks Ltd, who give such jobs no priority. If you let [us](#) have the location of any out-of-action lamps (and if possible their number), we'll follow it up.



### The Broadway area

- **Parking Review:** at a recent District Council Cabinet meeting, LRA Cllrs Leon Girling and Chris Pond encouraged the District Council to get on with the Review. A working party has now been set up, with North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP) present. The worst over-parked roads near Debden Station will be dealt with first, then a wider area, within say 15 or 20 minutes' walk of the station. The Council will carry out an assessment of current & future parking; the NEPP will carry out a scoping exercise, and will recruit a dedicated Officer, to be based locally.
- **Poor Highways Design & Parking Concerns.** At the last District Council meeting, LRA Cllr Leon Girling asked the Safer, Greener & Transport Portfolio-Holder about pedestrian safety. He replied that the Loughton Broadway Parking Review would present an ideal opportunity to resolve some problems, and he would be happy to visit the site with Leon (he has since done so, and this aspect has been added to the Review).

**Essex County Council concessionary bus fare scheme** is likely to continue in its present form for another year, including the important extension to allow travel from 9am (rather than 9.30) and midnight (rather than 11pm), as championed last time round by LRA County Cllr Chris Pond.



Note: no changes have been proposed to the present 24/7 access to concessionary fares on TFL buses.

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**Oakwood Hill Industrial Estate.** The lack of a proper sign at the entrance to the estate is unfair to traders there, and encourages tatty A-boards and posters. We are pleased that LRA Cllr Ken Angold-Stephens has persuaded the District Council to put up a sign (now being manufactured).

**Burney Drive** will finally be re-surfaced in 2016-2017, and the section of carriageway between the junction with Jessel Drive and St John Fisher Primary School may also be fully reconstructed. LRA Cllrs have been pressing for this work to be done.

**Parking permits.** The backlog of requests at NEPP shows no sign of clearing. LRA Cllr Chris Pond recently helped a resident in a small cul-de-sac to start the process for getting agreement from the NEPP for a Residents Parking Scheme with the set-up costs to be paid for by the residents themselves. [Note: this will only be possible if almost *all* the residents on the road agree to it.]

## Buses

- **Bus route changes** w.e.f April 1st affect routes 541 & 66 (which will be renumbered as 86) – but not 20, 167, 397 or 549.
- **542 and 542a (was 543) services.** The current company has worried passengers by saying that their services will stop at the end of March – this is only half the story. LRA Cllr Chris Pond has been pressing for a replacement service to be set up, and a contract has just been awarded to Swallow Coaches (the same firm that run route 66 at present). They are confident that there should not be a break in service. The timetable should remain unchanged.



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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>**

## Crime in Loughton

- **Witness Appeal.** Stabbing; High Beech Road; 2.20-2.40am Sunday March 13<sup>th</sup>. Police are asking for information following a fight & stabbing in the Smarts Lane car park. If you have any information about what happened, call 101, or use [Call-back](#) or ring Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. [EFNW]  
Please also report information to the [District Council Licensing team](#), particularly if you know which licensed premises (if any) the culprits emerged from.
- **Drugs – Great Eastern footpath.** If you're approached by a youth on a mountain-bike offering drugs (or see him in action) please let the police know on [Call-back](#) or 101. [EFNW]



**Di Rhodes: Citizen of the Year 2016.** We are delighted that, at their Annual Service, Loughton Town Council made this award to Di. She has dedicated her life to the service of her community and has spent over three decades helping to make Loughton a better place to live. Her involvement has been wide ranging - from leading a campaign to "save the conker tree" in the High Road to creating a thriving visual arts centre run entirely by volunteers. She was a founder member of LRA in 1981, and later served as a district councillor for 12 years but it is for her extensive community work that she received the award. [More.](#)





**Parking on Friday March 25<sup>th</sup> & Monday 28<sup>th</sup> - Bank Holidays.** Remember that NEPP wardens now work on Bank Holidays and that, unless the sign says that charges don't apply, they do!

### North Essex Parking Partnership ([NEPP](#)):

- **on-street parking regulation requests** for Epping Forest District see the "[pipeline](#)" (pages 8-11)
- **off-street parking:** the District will take back control from NEPP from 1st April 2017
- **Residents' Parking Permits** will increase from £43 to £45pa wef April 4<sup>th</sup> (second and third permits at an address will increase from £78 & £150 to £80 & £155)



Setting up a permit zone involves making the original Order, signage, sign maintenance plus administration and enforcement (the maintenance cost is usually low). After that the main cost comes from patrolling and administering the scheme, to be paid for from resident permits.

- **Traffic wardens.** A resident recently queried their "disappearance" - LRA Cllr Chris Pond replied that they now wear plain blue anoraks and sweaters, with a P on the right breast.

**Playgrounds & Outdoor Gyms - Safety Inspections.** The annual RoSPA safety inspections have been carried out on the eight play areas, two outside gyms, the football pitches, the tennis courts, multi sports court & all-weather running track. The Town Council will be carrying out some minor repairs.



**Clays Lane.** We are concerned that County Highways are recommending against its designation as a "Quiet Lane" because the houses at one end mean that the whole lane does not meet the criteria, and we will pursuing this.

**Lower Park Road.** A resident is still following up problems caused by the poor quality of the resurfacing of Lower Park Road that took place back in October 2015, and County Highways contractor's failure to remove the loose chippings.

**Helping nightingales.** During half term, Epping Forest youth councillors and other volunteers cleared five tons of scrub plants from woodland between the View in Chingford and Connaught Waters near Buckhurst Hill. Several pairs of nightingales have returned to the Forest in recent years as a direct result of the scrub management programme. [More.](#)



### Epping Forest District Council

- **Local Plan [progress](#).** We are increasingly concerned at the slow progress the District Council is making, and about potential Government action which could lead to loss of income (affecting local Council Tax-payers).
- **[Enforcement activity](#)** in 2015
- **Empty Homes.** In 2014/15 action by the District Council brought 60 empty homes back into use. [More](#) (item 7)
- **Pyrles Lane nursery development.** Despite local residents' concerns, the District Council has approved a revised application (with a wider access road)
- **Recycling – how we're doing!** LRA Cllr Chris Pond reports an improvement to Epping Forest recycling rates (approaching 60%, already one of the best in the country). Instead of going direct to landfill, your residual waste now goes to the County Council's new Basildon plant, where black bin waste is further sorted, mechanically and by people, adding



just under 10% to the total (so about 70% is now recycled)! The rest goes to make a fuel similar to soft coal in its calorific value. In addition sheet glass, broken crockery, etc, goes to make aggregates. [Chris has supported this waste strategy from its conception in 2007]. [Full text.](#)



**Epping Forest District Museum [re-opens!](#)** A much greater visitor experience in larger premises; ‘Core Gallery’, where visitors will be able to see displays of clothing, artwork and hundreds of other historical artefacts through large floor to ceiling windows; displays will change regularly.

**Loughton Festival –** see the [programme](#)

**Loughton Cricket Club [Funday & Traders Fete.](#)**  
Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup>.  
10.30am – 4pm.



**Loughton Youth Project** achievements & future aims: pages 10 & 11 of [www.loughton-tc.gov.uk/1reca.pdf](http://www.loughton-tc.gov.uk/1reca.pdf)

**Loughton Health Centre Patients Group:** find out what’s happening - read the [minutes](#) of the latest meeting. Next meeting June 8<sup>th</sup>.

**High Road Town Centre Partnership:** latest minutes (<http://1drv.ms/1QjOHMZ>)  
Next meeting April 12<sup>th</sup> – High Road traders and interested residents welcome.

**Drug-driving in Essex since August 2015:**



**OFFERS & HELP AVAILABLE**

**Interested in wine books?** We have been given a wine journalist’s fascinating collection for sale. They’re not suitable for our second-hand bookstall so if you’re interested please email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk) to arrange to have a look at them.



**if you're unwell over the Easter Holiday** remember NHS 111 is available 24/7 to offer medical advice and help when it isn’t an emergency, or try your local pharmacist.

**Know a senior citizen who needs help?** Red Cross Essex Community Agents can help in lots of ways from filling in forms to getting handrails fitted. 0800 977 5858. [More.](#)



## Dogs

- **Is your dog microchipped?**

From April 6<sup>th</sup> it's compulsory for owners to get [microchipped](#)

- **Free microchipping for dogs.** Thursday March 31<sup>st</sup>. Dogs Trust event.

Roding Valley Recreation Ground. 11am – 4pm (see *EVENTS* email)

- **A dog with a [YELLOW](#) ribbon, bandanna or similar** on the leash or on the dog needs some space while training, recovering from surgery, or being rehabilitated.

If you are walking your dog off a lead and you see a dog with a yellow ribbon on his / her lead, then please pull your dog away until you are well past them.

Back Home 



**Chingford [Golf Course](#)** is part of Epping Forest and is a beautiful 18-hole public golf course owned and managed by the City of London Corporation.

To book and play a round, call 020 8529 5708.



**Nappies.** Essex County Council have two great ways to help parents try cloth nappies (and help save the world by stopping disposables ending up in landfill!)

- **£30 refund.** Claim £30 back against the purchase of cloth nappies or laundering fees - [more](#)

- **Free cloth nappy sample** for parents of babies in their first 12 months email your name, address and baby's due date/d.o.b to the [Waste Management Team](#) for more info.

**Free repair guide to everything (?).** [www.ifixit.com](http://www.ifixit.com)



**Beware fraudsters claiming to be from BT's technical department & calling to gain access to your computer.** <http://goo.gl/7so4S5> [Essex Police]

**Ticket frauds.** Reports to [Action Fraud](#) led to 8 arrests over [£500k ticket scam](#) - this shows it can if enough people report problems.

**Protect yourself online** (plus your family, your business, your computer and mobile devices)

informative video clips - <https://www.getsafeonline.org/video/>

**TalkTalk**

Beware of cold calls from “TalkTalk” or AOL offering you a 'refund' <http://ow.ly/Zdj4S>

[Report](#) on Integration in the UK – Loughton comes out well!

What did carers say about Carer Assessments? [Report](#)

Abandoned car? [Report it](#) online or by phone

Tips for reducing [asthma](#) risk whatever the month  
[Asthma UK](#)

Electric vehicle homecharge scheme:  
[guidance](#) for customers

Product recalls.

**Did you know hay fever can start in the winter?**

If you have asthma and you're allergic to tree pollen, take steps now to reduce your risk of an asthma attack

Know your trigger	Cut your risk
<b>FROM JANUARY</b>	✓ Use a steroid nasal spray every day
 HAZEL	✓ Take non-drowsy antihistamine tablets as directed
 ALDER	✓ Always carry your reliever inhaler with you
<b>FROM MARCH</b>	
 ELM	
 WILLOW	
 YEW	
 BIRCH	
 ASH	
 PLANE	

Visit [www.asthma.org.uk/pollen](http://www.asthma.org.uk/pollen) or call our friendly expert nurses  
**0300 222 5800** (9am - 5pm, Mon - Fri)



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

Scotch Smoked Salmon Co. Ltd is recalling two of its smoked salmon products because the bacterium known as *Listeria monocytogenes* has been found in them (the products should not be eaten).



**TWITTER: Follow us on Twitter at @Loughton RA**



**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 April 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. 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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