



LOUGHTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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To residents in The Smarts Lane/ Forest Road/ High Beech Road CPZ

We are very concerned that a false rumour has spread in the CPZ area that LRA Cllr Chris Pond has been lobbying NEPP for parking permits for businesses in these roads.

Our concern is solely to make sure residents get the best possible deal from the scheme. LRA, and Chris in particular, has worked hard over the last ten years, with County Cllr Valerie Metcalf (Loughton South & Buckhurst Hill), to get this scheme for residents.

The facts are these:

- NEPP's original plans included two parking permits per business, and were unclear about whether businesses would also be entitled to visitor permits
- at the last moment, NEPP decided to remove business permits from the scheme – businesses have complained about this to NEPP and LRA, particularly where they have no off-road parking for staff or customers
- NEPP has also had complaints from residents in Clifton Road (who are limited to one permit per household) and from residents of High Road flats who used to park in the CPZ area, but are not entitled to permits
- Chris has recently checked the number of spaces available at different times, to make sure claims that the roads have large amounts of spare capacity are not being exaggerated; and to provide a check on any figures NEPP may produce
- he has also asked NEPP how many permits have been issued and how many applications they are currently getting
- we understand that some of the aggrieved people will be questioning NEPP at their board meeting on 19 October. NEPP will no doubt undertake censuses and consider after that whether to sell permits to those in some or all of these categories

LRA will be monitoring NEPP's actions closely, and will certainly object strongly if any proposals are made which might reduce the effectiveness of the scheme for residents.

Incidentally, Chris has been told by some residents that permits have been obtained fraudulently by people living outside the Zone - you can report to NEPP (parking@colchester.gov.uk or 01206 282316) the registration mark of any vehicle you believe is parked through a misrepresented permit.

David Linnell for Loughton Residents Association