

# LRA's LOUGHTON LIFE Members' Edition

*The newsletter of  
Loughton Residents Association  
December 2012*



## LRA making a positive noise

LRA's Plans Group has been fighting new late-night licensing applications and pressing for reductions in late-night licensing hours wherever possible as all the venues are in residential areas.

The District Council Licensing Committee recently considered the possibility of introducing a cumulative impact policy, which would enable the Council to take into account the number of existing late-night venues, and their effect, when considering a further late-night application. It also considered a late-night levy, whereby venues would pay and could be used to defray the costs of the extra policing needed, and possibly Street Pastors' expenses.

Unfortunately, it requires a lot of research to introduce these initiatives. Anti-social and nuisance behaviour is very much under-reported so current statistics would not reveal the extent of the problem, so a publicity campaign is needed, informing residents how to report incidents and emphasising the need to keep a record of dates, times, the nature of incident etc. and to gather evidence. Photographs can be a big help, especially if date stamped. The policy will be reviewed in April when more accurate statistics will hopefully exist. If this affects you, please think how you could help, involve your neighbours and please report all incidents (please copy us in at [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk) or 20 Eleven Acre Rise IG10 1AN).

### *Fifteen (formerly The Wheatsheaf), York Hill*

In the past, LRA has had complaints about evening noise and disturbances and has asked the police to keep an eye on things. If this affects you, please report it to the District Council on 01992 564000 (and if appropriate the police, on 101 – or 999 for an emergency), and keep records in case it gets as far as a licence review. Please copy us in at [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk) or 20 Eleven Acre Rise IG10 1AN.

### *Dealing with noise*

The District Council provides a 24 hour service, but only for certain noise complaints after midnight, and from midnight to 1 pm (that is, the following lunchtime) at weekends. When you phone, describe the noise, how long it has lasted, how it affects you, state if you reported noise from those premises in the past, and how long ago. The operator will refer your complaint to the duty noise officer if it relates to premises on the emergency call register (where lots of complaints have been made in the past); a request from the police; prolonged sounding of a car or house alarm where three or more complaints have been received; or an ongoing noisy party where more than three complaints have been received. If it is one of these an officer will contact you to give advice. If it is decided a visit is needed to assess the noise nuisance, an officer will visit within an hour (the officer will have to enter your home to assess the level). If the Council appears not to follow these guidelines, please let your local LRA District Cllr know.

### *Car park problems?*

LRA has had reports of youngsters racing round in cars in the car park next to Loughton library. This has happened every so often in the past, and some regular police visits have usually put a stop to it – the police will now be patrolling the area. LRA has also had reports of youngsters hanging around with vehicles in the evenings in Loughton Station car park. While this is often harmless, a couple of years ago action had to be taken to stop noise (which continued into the small hours) and dangerous driving in the Sainsbury's car park, and we would not want this to start again in the area. If you see or hear anything of this sort please do report it.

## Land on Warren Hill

LRA has had letters from residents concerned about the possible development of the land that was recently cleared of trees. LRA has not yet seen a planning application for this land. If/when one appears, LRA will let members and nearby residents know what's happening and the LRA Plans Group and others will object strongly.

**Could you help further improve Loughton?  
Contact us**

## Planning & licensing matters

The LRA Plans Group looks at all planning and licensing applications in Loughton. It consults residents and supports, or objects to, individual applications as appropriate. Details of some current cases are on LRA's website.

### *Approved*

**Scout Association, Gilwell Park, Waltham Abbey:** The District Council has granted permission for a residential international staff lodge, saying that in this case very special circumstances existed sufficient to outweigh the usual policy of restraint in the Metropolitan Green Belt.

**Shops by Sainsbury's, Torrington Avenue:** The District Council has approved the demolition of the shops and the number of car parking spaces will increase from 26 to 44. However, work on the car park has not yet started and the empty shops are in a very sad state.

### *Refused*

**Coffee shop/patisserie, 40 The Broadway:** The District Council has turned down an application for opening until midnight. The LRA Plans Group objected as there is an existing condition limiting opening to 6am–4.30pm Monday to Saturday, and not at all on Sundays or public holidays, in order to minimise disturbance to local residents. They now wish to open till 11pm.

### *In progress*

**Pyrls Lane, District Council Nursery site:** The District Council has submitted a planning application. LRA Cllrs have challenged the decision to sell it off because they do not believe the project has been properly researched and justified. The application proposes demolishing the existing tree/plant nursery buildings and erecting up to 36 dwellings. This is an "outline" application, and the details of the development have not yet been fixed. However, the developers have prepared an illustrative master plan which LRA Plans Group has many concerns with. It let residents nearby know about it, and objections have been sent to the Council.

## Housing solutions

I have been giving assistance to residents on housing issues. An elderly resident, whose electricity supply was made unsafe due to the leaking roof to her balcony, has been paid a small compensation by the Council. The resident and her family have kindly decided to donate the sum to Parsonage Court. And a resident whose outdoor bin cupboards were no longer big enough for bin storage had them sealed. With intervention, the cupboards have been reopened and can be used for storing items approved by the Council e.g. outdoor footwear. *Cllr Jennie Hart*

## Recreational pursuits

### *Loughton Cricket Ground*

The Trustees of the ground, who are in existence until only 2026, intend to register and then transfer the land at the junction of Church Hill and Traps Hill, currently leased to the Loughton Cricket Club, to the Town Council. The Council will then immediately lease the land back to the club on a fully repairing/insuring 35-year lease, renewable on demand, to ensure the continuance of this important open space in the town for the foreseeable future. LRA has been aware that approaching end of the Trust arrangements and the Club's current lease might result in doubts over this crucial site and is delighted that a suitable solution has been found. Outstanding queries on the land registration are delaying the transfer of the ground to the Town Council, but work on drafting the lease of the land to the cricket club has started.

### *Roding Valley Recreation Ground*

Loughton Town Council is looking into ways of dealing with reported problems of nuisance and potentially dangerous dogs and the increase in dog fouling on the Recreation Ground and other open spaces across the town. It is also monitoring unauthorised use of the Recreation Ground and its various facilities by an increasing number of groups (both business and community organisations) for regular coaching/training sessions without permission from the Town Council. New junior football pitches and mini-pitches are now available on the Recreation Ground. Please contact Terry Hudson at Loughton Town Council on 020 8508 4200.

While LRA is delighted that the new tennis courts are so popular it is very disappointing that there have been several incidents of vandalism. Taxpayers' money will have to be spent on replacing three nets that were destroyed. If you see any suspicious behaviour please ring 999 (if vandalism is taking place) or 101 to report an incident.

## Make your £5 count

Members' support is vital to LRA. Subscriptions pay costs such as printing newsletters and election expenses. Subscriptions for 2013 are due in January. It would be a great help if you could pay now. Please send 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) .....

Membership information is held by LRA for its own purposes and is not made available to any other body. To check if you've paid for 2012 or to pay by standing order call 020 8508 2932 or email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk).

**All newsletters and regular email updates - £5 for 2013**

## Christmas showbiz quiz

It wouldn't be Christmas without you and your families putting your festive thinking caps on to solve the LRA Christmas Quiz. This year it's about the theatre. Answers please by 5<sup>th</sup> Jan to 32 Upper Park, Loughton IG10 4EQ or by email to [lesandsueharris@aol.com](mailto:lesandsueharris@aol.com). Book token or fizz to the first correct answer out of the hat. Not open to LRA executive committee members. Answers next time.

1. Noise of an orchestra? (3, 5, 2, 5)
2. The hard work of romance and it's all for nothing (5, 7, 4)
3. Vermin gets ready to go away (3, 3, 4)
4. These chaps go for knitwear (3, 6, 4)
5. They're down in the dumps even in Paris (3, 10)
6. Baited with cheese (3, 9)
7. His creator may have written this, but 007 never got to drive it (6, 6, 4, 4)
8. Worn at Ascot (3, 3)
9. Felines (4)
10. Lads in the past (3, 7, 4)
11. Battle steed (3, 5)
12. Ruler of the pride (3, 4, 4)
13. My kinda town (7)
14. Fatal to females (3, 11)
15. Do they manufacture things? (3, 9)
16. Assorted animals in a pint pot (3, 5, 9)
17. Lady in mourning? (3, 5, 2, 5)
18. Handsome men in shifts (10, 3, 10)
19. The table here was round (7)
20. She's blonde, and she's mine! (2, 4, 4)
21. Male quintet sounds as if it takes after Mr Farah (4, 4, 5, 3)
22. A retrospective tinged with ire (4, 4, 2, 5)
23. Funny play - but faulty (3, 6, 2, 6)
24. Does things cautiously? (3, 9)
25. Colliers RA? (3, 6, 8)
26. Condemnation in unison (1, 6, 2, 11)
27. A whisky from the North-East? Sounds like it! (6, 6)
28. Being serious matters (3, 11, 2, 5, 7)
29. On a woman's dressing table (9)
30. One for Jamie? Or perhaps Vic (6)

## Smoke nuisance

LRA had a request for help about problems with smoke from domestic fires and bonfires and took the case up with the District Council. If you have this sort of problem, contact the Environment & Neighbourhood Officer on 01992 564160. If the problems continue keep the Council informed and keep a diary. Most of these complaints are resolved informally after Council officers provide advice by writing to or visiting the alleged source of the bonfire smoke. Let LRA know if the nuisances continue and no action appears to have been taken.

## Highways action

### *Torrington Drive*

About a year ago LRA Cllr Jennie Hart asked for double-yellow lines on the bend on Torrington Drive (at the opposite end to Sainsbury's), and at the junctions with The Broadway and with Torrington Gardens, to prevent dangerous parking and assist access by large vehicles. She has now been told they are to be done, probably by Christmas

### *Sedley Rise resurfacing*

LRA Cllr Chris Pond is following up a complaint from a resident who is dissatisfied with the quality of works carried out in Sedley Rise, which was recently inadequately resurfaced. Winter weather means that this section will now be completed in February/March next year.

### *Parking enforcement in Loughton*

LRA Cllr Chris Pond has raised an apparent lack of enforcement visits by NEPP, which is now responsible for traffic wardens. It replied that it will be providing extra enforcement in the next few weeks. It is currently recruiting wardens for Loughton and hope that this may allow more frequent visits during the times required.

### *Burney Drive potholes*

Persistent efforts by LRA Cllrs, including Chris Pond, have finally persuaded Essex County Council Highways to repair the potholes in Burney Drive.

### *Gullies*

Across Loughton pedestrians and motorists have been suffering from puddles (and worse) caused by blocked gullies. For example, for some time each time there is heavy rain, residents of Meadow Road have had to paddle to reach their cars and bail out water to prevent their homes flooding. Pedestrians on Alderton Hill risk getting drenched near the corner with Brook Road.

Individual residents and LRA Cllrs have been trying to get some action and LRA asked members to report local problems to County Highways, and to inform LRA so it could follow them up too. Following phone calls, Highways has now promised to get in specialist help to clear the outlet to the Brook from the Alderton Hill gully. And due to the continued efforts of LRA Town Cllr Jill Angold-Stephens and Conservative County Cllr Valerie Metcalfe the Meadow Road gullies should by now have been cleared.

Please report any blockages (or other Highways problems) you come across on 0845 603 7631 or at [www.essex.gov.uk](http://www.essex.gov.uk) (click on "REPORT IT"), and let us know at [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk).

## Get more from LRA!

Every year, LRA volunteers deliver two editions of *Loughton Life* to every household in Loughton. LRA members get extra newsletters, like this one. Did you know members can receive a weekly email local news bulletin? Just send an email titled "News Bulletins please" to [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk). If you've asked us to send you the News Bulletins but you're not receiving them, please check your "Junk email" folder, as some programmes divert bulk mailings to this folder. If that's not the problem, please let us know.

## Want to help?

If you would like to help LRA by becoming a local councillor, getting involved in what we do, or by spending an hour occasionally delivering newsletters near where you live, please contact David Linnell or Chris Pond (phone numbers below or email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk)).

## Contacting the LRA

<b>ALL ENQUIRIES:</b> <a href="mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk">contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk</a>	8508 2932
PRESS OFFICER Michael Benbow	8508 4457
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Juliet Pollard	
14 The Hawthorns IG10 3QT	8502 0552
INFORMATION CO-ORDINATOR Ian Allsop	8532 0053
SECRETARY Stephen Pewsey	8508 5582
MINUTES SEC. Gerry Meredith	8508 8654
TREASURER Miriam Murphy	01992 530221

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	
Jack Benjamin	8508 4765
Rose Brookes	8502 5981
Rebecca Fricker	8508 8369
Chris Harper	8508 4770
Suzanne Harper	8508 4770
Peter House	8532 1275
Barry Johnston	8508 0843
Kevin Latchford	8502 4568
David Linnell	8508 2932
Bela Yorke	8508 4729

**LRA COUNCILLORS**  
(D = District Council; T = Town Council)

### COUNTY: Loughton (Central)

Chris Pond 7 Staples Rd	8508 2361
<b>ALDERTON WARD</b>	
Philip Abraham (T) 1 Lancaster Drive	8502 2925
Lance Leonard (D) 25 The Lindens	8502 0771
Tracey Thomas (D&T) 110 Grosvenor Drive	07508 193187

## Monthly farmers' market

LRA organises the farmers' markets on the first Sunday of each month (9am – 2pm) on Centric Parade, Loughton High Rd. Come and meet LRA Cllrs and representatives. LRA has two stands at all markets available free for charities and other local voluntary organisations. Spaces are available from February 2013 onwards. Please note that there will not be a market in January.

## New Local Plan

The District Council received 5,255 responses to the recent consultation on the plan. LRA is very grateful to all those who made contact and submitted responses despite the forbidding nature of the consultation document. During the next phase Council staff will collate the evidence, working with District Cllrs to produce a first draft of the Local Plan called Preferred Options. This will contain proposals for policies to meet future population, housing and development growth and it will then again go out to public consultation.

[www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/news/2012/10/council-thanks-community-for-choices/](http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/news/2012/10/council-thanks-community-for-choices/).

### BROADWAY WARD

Leon Girling (D&T) 95 Willingale Road	8418 0076
Jennie Hart (D) 74 Queens Road	8508 3661
John Mahoney (T) 299B High Road	8508 9348

### FAIRMEAD WARD

Tessa Cochrane (D) 16 Shaftesbury	8508 4148
Carol Davies (T) 13 Colebrook Gardens	8508 4234
Judy Jennings (T) 94 York Hill	8508 1861
David Wixley (D) 2 Copper Beech Court, Goldings Road	8418 9284

### FOREST WARD

Jill Angold-Stephens (T) 89 Lower Park Road	8281 0674
Trevor Downing (T) 207 Smarts Lane	8508 8877
Colin Finn (D) 16 Church Close	8508 5577
Sharon Weston (T) 58 York Hill	8502 0713

### RODING WARD

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

### ST JOHN'S WARD

John Markham (D) 77 Queens Road	8508 1945
Stephen Pewsey (T) 59 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
Richard Cohen (D) 61 Traps Hill	8502 3242
Imogen Lawrence (T) 3 Staples Road	8508 9570
Harvey Mann (D&T) 20 The Heights	07584 125 211

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Promoted by and on behalf of Independent Loughton Residents Association of 20 Eleven Acre Rise Loughton IG10 1AN.

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**Farmers' Market -  
first Sunday of each month (except January)**