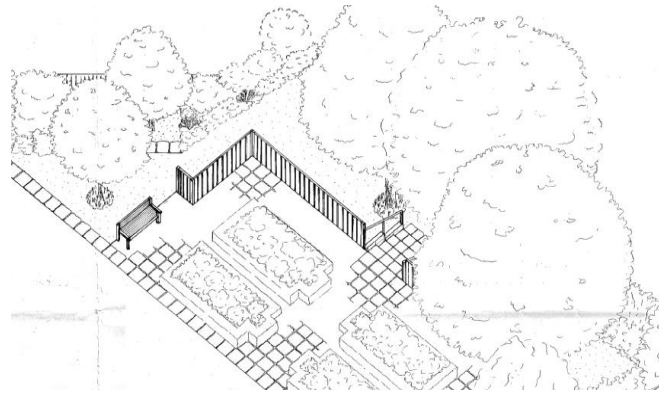


# LRA's LOUGHTON LIFE Townwide Edition

*Loughton Residents Association newsletter  
for all residents in IG10  
September 2013*



## Keeping residents in the light

Essex County Council announced on September 1st that street lights will be turned off at midnight (and on again at 5am) throughout the Epping Forest district as from December 1st this year. The proposals involve about two thirds of all lights - full details can be seen at <http://sdrv.ms/15TQlhS> Lights on high roads covered by CCTV, at major transport interchanges, nightclubs, etc. will be left on. Those in residential streets and less important connecting roads will go off. No speed limits on any road will be affected by the change - the law remains the same whether street lamps are lit or not. The Council gave very little time for comments on the final proposal. LRA is likely to suggest changes but expects the proposals to go ahead largely as planned. However, LRA will of course monitor the situation closely and collate any problems residents may have after the switch off.

## Join LRA now £5 per household until end-2014!

There are no duties! You will get extra newsletters and can receive our weekly email local news bulletin. Members' support is vital as subscriptions pay costs such as printing newsletters and election expenses. To pay direct from a bank account/standing order, ring 020 8508 2932 or email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk).

I enclose £5 till end-2014 ..... £5

I enclose a donation for LRA's work ..... £ .....

Name .....

Address .....

Post code IG10 ..... Phone .....

Email (if any) .....

I would like LRA's weekly email local news bulletin Y/N (give meail address)

Please complete & send to LRA Membership Secretary, 14 The Hawthorns, Loughton, IG10 3QT.

Membership information is held by LRA for its own purposes and is not made available to any other body. Subscriptions for existing members are due in January.

## Rose garden to rise again

After a determined fundraising campaign, the Loughton Memorial Garden is soon to begin development on land belonging to St Michael's Church on Roding Road.

Project Manager LRA Cllr Ken Angold-Stephens has been working on the project for some years and now, with help from garden designer LRA Cllr Jennie Hart, his vision may be fulfilled. Ken has worked hard on raising funds to pay for the work, and benches have been donated in memory of former Loughton residents. The garden will have a paved terrace with roses and tulips in formal beds, but the surrounding area will be more natural with plants to encourage wildlife. Loughton Town Council will be responsible for the garden's upkeep.

Ken remembers the garden of 50 years ago which was a favourite place for people to meet, chat and admire the flowers but sadly it has become more and more neglected over the years. This make-over will transform the garden into a wildlife-friendly gateway feature which Loughton can be proud of, and which will once again be a place where people will choose to meet.

## LRA public meeting

LRA's constitution provides for two public meetings each year. Nowadays one such meeting every spring is sufficient but, to comply with the constitution, notice is given that a short public meeting will be held on Monday November 4th at 7.45pm in the Church Hall, Methodist Church, High Rd, Loughton, before the monthly executive meeting. No speaker or formal business - just an opportunity for residents to raise any concerns. For any queries please contact us at [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk) or ring one of your local LRA Cllrs - see back page for contact details.

## Plugging leaks

LRA Cllr Chris Pond is attempting to help resolve a long-running problem with water leaking on Church Hill, coupled with noise and damage to nearby houses as vehicles hit the disturbed road surface. County Highways and Thames Water seem unable to sort it out, but LRA will keep trying.

**Find out more about Loughton - join LRA now**

## 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.

*268 High Road (Papa John's):* Applied to alter its planning conditions to open until 1am. LRA Plans Group objected as there are residential properties nearby, and the District Council turned it down.

*95 & 146 High Road:* LRA Plans Group objected to these applications for rear extensions and the District Council turned them down.

*112-120 High Road (Connaught House, opp. Nu-Bar):* Planning permission has been obtained for a new restaurant and it has applied for an alcohol licence.

*153 High Road (Nu-Bar):* LRA Plans Group and some nearby residents have objected to Nu-Bar's application to stay open until 1am on Monday mornings.

*Oakwood Hill Depot:* The planning application on this site has been withdrawn, but we expect a revised application to be made.

*Torrington Drive:* LRA is pressing for the disused shop units to be demolished, for increased car parking space.

*Morrison's, 246-250 High Road:* The supermarket wanted store deliveries between the hours of 6am and 7am, Monday to Saturday. LRA Plans Group objected and it has been turned down by the District Council.

*Pyrles Lane Parks Nursery:* We are waiting for the District Council to submit another revised outline planning application for up to 36 dwellings (flats and houses).

*CCTV masts in the High Road:* For some time the District Council has been planning to extend CCTV to the north end of the High Road. LRA Plans Group objected to the proposal to put a mast on King's Green, and we expect that a new position will be found.

*Loughton Baptist Church, High Road:* The District Council turned down an application to build a new two storey detached house to replace the existing manse (3 Connaught Avenue), which would have been sold to raise funds for the new manse and for work on the church.

*Extensions.* Residents can now build longer extensions at the back of a house without planning permission. But a measure of protection for neighbours was set up by the government. If you get a letter from the District Council marked "Prior approval - extension at XXXX", give it your immediate attention. If you think the extension will affect you adversely, contact the Planning Department immediately - do not delay. Only adjoining neighbours can object. LRA Plans Group and the Town Council cannot.

## Licence to act

LRA understands that a recent Conservative Forest Ward newsletter suggested that LRA Cllr Ken Angold-Stephens fought against proposed changes to the arrangements for licensing meetings. Ken, speaking as Chairman of the Licensing Committee, pointed out the flaws and costs involved in the original proposals, and was concerned to ensure that the ideas were turned into workable solutions, which are now being tested. LRA Cllr Caroline Pond, also on the committee, entirely supported the changes.

LRA has long advocated that neighbours to be told about nearby licensing applications, which could otherwise be approved without neighbours knowing (the LRA Plans Group has tried when possible to let people know). The District Council has now decided to send letters to the neighbours. Note: if you make a representation, please copy in LRA Plans Group and the Town Council.

## Councillor action

LRA Cllr. Jennie Hart has requested that the Council once again replant the central reservation of The Broadway. It looked lovely last year when it was restocked with new shrubs, but once again shoppers' feet have destroyed most of them. The Council has now agreed to plant sturdy roses and evergreen ground-cover to deter pedestrians from crossing except at designated crossing places. The testing time will be this autumn and winter when the newly planted roses will need the chance to get established. Let's hope shoppers realise it will be their loss if the plants are trampled again.

LR Cllr Ken Angold-Stephens has met the Central Line East station manager and had a fruitful discussion. He is going to make sure the footpath and area round the sub-station is weeded, the underpass lighting is replaced, and will explore the possibility of adding another CCTV camera looking down the footpath. He is also going to ask for a survey to be done about water seepage onto the steps leading from the station, look at getting the underpass repainted and make sure a light at the end of the footpath by Algiers Road is replaced (an order for this has already been placed but like Councils the wheels of LUL can move very slowly).

Ken has also been pursuing the repair and cleaning of the High Road litter bins with the District Council, who have agreed to make repairs, and, if necessary, replacements, pending the start of a new waste contract next year.

Proposed changes to student transport to/from Limes Farm by the County Council could have led to more overcrowding on the 167 route, making it even more difficult for passengers to board in Loughton. LRA Cllr Chris Pond has raised the problem with the Council, and LRA is very grateful to the officers who listened and who have now come up with alternative arrangements, by combining the contract bus from Chigwell with one from Abridge.

[www.loughtonresidents.co.uk](http://www.loughtonresidents.co.uk)  
for more information

# Highways action

## *Chewing gum on pavements*

LRA Cllr Jennie Hart has followed up the use of the District Council's new cleaning machine. It has been cleaning gum in The Broadway (Vere Rd to Burton Rd by Willingale Rd) and will move onto Loughton High Road. Eventually they will establish a three-year cleaning cycle schedule for the district's main shopping areas. Gum clearance is very expensive, for example cleaning The Broadway will cost about £2,500-£3,000.

## *Borders Lane/Rectory Lane footpath closure*

LRA understands that Essex County Council has started work on the Town Council's application to have this path designated as a public right of way. LRA Cllr Chris Pond helped determine where exactly the path joins Borders Lane. This process will take a long time, and LRA Cllr Lance Leonard has been in discussion with the Nursing Home developer over the shorter term future of the path.

## *Lamp post opposite 15 York Hill*

LRA Cllrs Chris Pond and Lance Leonard asked for the Highway Rangers to paint the post, which had been left unpainted since its installation around three years ago. Rangers duly attended, and painted half of it!

## *Finger Post signs*

After some joker displaced the arms of the heritage finger post sign in the High Road /Traps Hill corner, the Town Council has stepped in to arrange re-welding for this at a net cost of £180. Once again it has been turned, breaking the weld, and LTC are seeking a more permanent repair.

## *Grit bins*

LRA Cllr Caroline Pond reported the one on the corner of Greens Close and Marjorams Avenue as broken in April. The Town Council will install a replacement nearer the winter as it provides the bins while the County Council fills them at the beginning of the season.

## Brown's showroom site

LRA Cllr Jennie Hart has been investigating and understands that the delay in Nandos and Topp's Tiles moving into the ex-car-showrooms in Station Road is because they are waiting for a contamination problem to be resolved.

## Beating the Bounds

This year's event will take place on the afternoon of Sunday October 13<sup>th</sup> from the Robin Hood to the Deer Sanctuary, Debden Lane. Details - Town Council (020 8508 4200).

## Meet the Essex Police & Crime Commissioner.

Thursday October 24<sup>th</sup>. 6 - 8pm at the Murray Hall, Loughton Community Centre, 106 Borders Lane. All welcome. <http://www.essex.pcc.police.uk/>



## Colin Finn 1939-2013

We are extremely sorry to report that LRA Forest Ward district councillor, Colin Finn, sadly died on September 7<sup>th</sup>. He had been unwell for some months, though he was determined to carry on, even taking a turn at the Farmers' Market the Sunday before he died. Colin was born in Sussex and grew up in Lewes. He joined the colonial service and served in Northern Rhodesia, now Zambia. When he returned from Africa, he settled in Loughton. Colin served as a conservative county councillor for Loughton St Johns 2001-05 and Loughton South 2005-09. But he became disillusioned with the party and from 2008 served on the LRA executive. He was elected as LRA Cllr for Forest ward in 2010. Colin will be much missed and our condolences go to Pauline and his family and friends.

## Parking problems

*York Hill:* residents of York Hill and streets off it have voted 91-66 against a residents' parking scheme for this area. There seems to have been more in favour from parts of the streets nearest the High Rd and a big majority against from those further away. That means the North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP) will probably not make any changes to present arrangements for at least five years, with the possible exception of some junction protection.

*Sparelease Hill:* a resident recently asked whether parking restrictions could be obtained for Sparelease Hill, to stop commuter parking. Because it is a wide road and residents have space for off-road parking, we think it would come well down the (very long) list of roads being considered by NEPP. The only exception might be for any road corners where double-yellows are needed for safety reasons. Most of the roads which have obtained yellow lines in recent years have done so because residents have no other parking space available.

*Pyrles Lane shops:* NEPP recently proposed pay and display (P&D) parking restrictions in several parades in Loughton. The District Council asked them to defer these while residents and shopkeepers were consulted. LRA Cllr David Wixley has carried out a survey of the eight Pyrles Lane shops that would be affected by P&D in the layby that fronts their parade. The results were six against the proposal, one for, and one "don't know", and the results have been passed back to the Council.

[www.loughtonresidents.co.uk](http://www.loughtonresidents.co.uk)  
for more information

# Get more from LRA!

Every year, LRA volunteers deliver two editions of *Loughton Life* to every household in Loughton. LRA members get extra newsletters. Did you know members can receive a weekly email local news bulletin?

To join LRA, see the coupon on the front page, or talk to us at the monthly Farmers Market.

## Making a difference

Members can help LRA by standing as councillors for the Town or District Councils.

To find out what's involved, and how you could make a difference, please contact Cllr Chris Pond on 020 8508 2361 or email [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk). Training is provided and you would be working as part of a strong and experienced group.

Alternatively you could consider joining the Executive Committee, which gets involved in the local issues we take up – members are welcome to come along to see how this works, without commitment – just contact Chris.



## 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 January 2014 onwards.

## Wheelie-bins

Any-one elderly or infirm who has problems with their bins should contact the District Council on 01992 564608.

## 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 8502 0552   |
| 14 The Hawthorns IG10 3QT  |                            |
| INFORMATION CO-ORDINATOR   | Ian Allsop 8532 0053       |
| SECRETARY  | Stephen Pewsey 8508 5582   |
| MINUTES SEC.   | Gerry Meredith 8508 8654   |
| TREASURER  | Miriam Murphy 01992 530221 |

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

|                 |           |                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| Jack Benjamin   | 8508 4765 | Peter House     | 8532 1275 |
| Eva Blasco      | 8923 0065 | Barry Johnston  | 8508 0843 |
| Rose Brookes    | 8502 5981 | Kevin Latchford | 8502 4568 |
| Steve Eaton     | 8923 0065 | David Linnell   | 8508 2932 |
| Rebecca Fricker | 8508 8369 | George Meltser  | 8502 3006 |
| Suzanne Harper  | 8508 4770 | Bela Yorke      | 8508 4729 |

### LRA COUNCILLORS

(D = District Council; T = Town Council)

#### COUNTY: Loughton (Central)

Chris Pond 7 Staples Rd 8508 2361

#### ALDERTON WARD

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

#### BROADWAY WARD

Leon Girling (D&T) 95 Willingale Rd 8418 0076

Jennie Hart (D) 74 Queens Rd 8508 3661

John Mahoney (T) 299B High Rd 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 Ct, Goldings Rd 8418 9284

#### FOREST WARD

Jill Angold-Stephens (T) 89 Lower Park Rd 8281 0674

Trevor Downing (T) 207 Smarts Lane 8508 8877

Sharon Weston (T) 58 York Hill 8502 0713

#### RODING WARD

Ken Angold-Stephens (D&T) 89 Lower Park Rd 8281 0674

Margaret Chalk (T) 49 Southview Rd 8508 2226

David Wixley (T) 2 Copper Beech Ct, Goldings Rd 8418 9284

#### ST JOHN'S WARD

John Markham (D) 77 Queens Rd 8508 1945

Stephen Pewsey (T) 59 Wroths Path 8508 5582

Caroline Pond (D&T) 7 Staples Rd 8508 2361

Chris Pond (T) 7 Staples Rd 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 Rd 8508 9570

Harvey Mann (D&T) 20 The Heights 07584 125 211

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Newsletter compilers: Ian Allsop, David Linnell, Gerarda Cashman.  
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