



# LOUGHTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

**Save money and a lot of hassle.**  
Local residents have been caught out  
in all three of the top items in our *General* section –  
Please check them out to make sure you don't get caught too.....



## LRA NEWS

**Jessel Green.** Both LRA and Loughton Town Council are working on their responses to the latest version of the District Council's new Local Plan, to challenge it's soundness in respect of the inclusion of Jessel Green, and various other aspects. The next stage will be a formal hearing in front of a Government Inspector, probably in the Autumn.



**Loughton Station car-park.** A resident has contacted us about being charged by NCP for over-staying overnight in the car-park, which he'd visited for under 20 minutes on both days. After an exhausting appeal process, the charge was waived. If something similar has happened to you in the last three months, please let us know what happened at [contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk](mailto:contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk).

**Unemptied litter bins.** LRA Cllr has asked the District Council to chase Biffa about the bin at the entrance to Longcroft Rise (off Oakwood Hill), which had been full since before Christmas, and the bins on Great Eastern Path, which need emptying more frequently.

**Oakwood Hill estate.** LRA Cllrs had objected strongly to a District Council proposal to take over a green area on the estate for parking vehicles from the Council's new Oakwood Hill depot; the proposal had greatly upset residents. The Council carried out a parking study but, instead of going ahead on the basis of the results, they are now repeating the study to see if the active management of the Shopping Park, and the potential for displaced parking, has altered the situation. We will be keeping a close eye on their next steps.

## 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>**

### Council Tax increases 2018-19

- **Essex County Council:** the continued reduction in central Government funding, which will disappear completely by 2020, combined with increasing demand for services, increases in

inflation, business rates and National Living Wage payments, mean the Council is proposing to increase Council Tax for only the third time in the last eight years. The proposed rise means a £1.12 per week increase for the average Band D property – a 2% increase through the Government’s social care precept, ring- fenced to adult social care, and 2.99% to support the delivery of vital services such as highways, public transport, libraries and recycling centres.

[Council Tax & Budget Infographic](#)

- **Essex Police:** the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner is proposing to provide 150 more frontline officers for Essex Police. The proposed budget is £277m, funded approximately two thirds by Government grant and one third local Council Tax. The proposed increase is a 7.62% rise in the police element of Council Tax, equivalent to £11.97 a year (from £157.05 to £169.02 for a Band D property), raising an additional £7.5m. Essex Police has also identified a further £3.5 million in potential savings by working more efficiently, which will be reinvested back into the force.



**District Council news**

- **Pyrls Lane Nursery site.** The District Council is now marketing this site, which it owns, by seeking two alternative prices to include the provision of Council Housing as part of the Council’s wider Council Housebuilding programme.
- **Landmark Building** ((Former Winston Churchill PH). The Council is still negotiating with potential tenants of the ground-floor retail space to provide a public house, restaurant, coffee shop and a Co-op food-store. Progress has been slower than anticipated.
- **the Council’s new [Housing Strategy](#)** sets out the Council’s vision for rented, social and affordable housing in the area for the next five years
- **REAL Christmas trees** can be [left out](#) with your green waste collection throughout January. (Remove all of the decorations and the pot. If it's over 6ft, please cut it in half.)



**Potholes.**

- **[Six additional pothole crews](#)** are now repairing Essex roads thanks to additional funding from the Government. The [£200 million funding](#), split amongst councils across the country, was announced in late December. [Unfortunately it’s nothing like enough to make up for the years of neglect by the Conservative-led County Council!]
- **Chigwell Lane.** However, when as requested by a resident, LRA Cllr Chris Pond reported this one (in Chigwell Lane), Highways said it wasn’t bad enough to merit repair.



**Intended closure of Englands Lane, Debden Lane, Loughton Lane & Theydon Green** due to commence on 8th February for 3 nights while Essex County Council undertakes Phase 1 of Surface Dressing works.

[Video](#) about the Surface Dressing process:



**The Essex Police drone** has been in action in Chigwell and located suspects in a back garden.

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## OFFERS & HELP AVAILABLE

**Thanks to a Neighbourhood Watch operation** encouraging people to pass on to the police what they know, the police have now arrested an alleged burglar. If you’d like to be part of Epping Forest Neighbourhood Watch, please email [efdnwatch@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:efdnwatch@hotmail.co.uk) for more information, saying where you live in so your email can be sent on to your local coordinator.



**Do you know who to contact if you have a power cut?** 105 is the new number to call.

It's free of charge and will put you through to your local network operator who can give you help and advice. Do not call your supplier. Check [online](#) before you phone [UK Power Networks](#) on 105:

- LIVE power cut map - use this to see if they're aware of your power cut and when they estimate your power will be back on. If your power cut isn't on the map, report it online
- Twitter (@UKPowerNetworks) or Facebook 24 hours a day to answer questions.
- Text messages. To register to receive free text message updates please click [here](#)
- Phone. Call 24 hours a day on 0800 31 63 105 or 105 from a landline or a mobile."



[Essex Fire Service](#)

<https://goo.gl/2449fG>

Have you ever checked if your fridge, tumble dryer or washing machine have been recalled for safety reasons? Do it now: [#RegisterYourAppliance](#)



**Streetlights out of action?** you can call the Highways helpline on 0345 603 7631 to make a report or for detailed information on what the holdup is if faulty lights have already been reported.

**Essex Community Foundation (ECF) Youth Social Action Fund** supports opportunities for young people to volunteer in Epping Forest District. Criteria and application form [here](#). Applications are accepted throughout the year, but you are encouraged to submit your application as soon as possible. If you are unsure if your work meets the criteria, or you would like to ask a question, please call the friendly ECF grants team on 01245 356018.



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## HELP WANTED

**Extra Eyes on the road to make Essex roads safer.** The Safer Essex Roads Partnership wants road users to film and submit footage of dangerous behaviour on Essex roads in a bid to make our county safer. This footage will then be reviewed by Essex Police, who will take the appropriate action. Find out more and submit your own footage by [visiting the Safer Essex Roads Partnership website](#).

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## GENERAL

**Do you get cash out of a cash machine? Don't get caught!**

Watch this short [video](#) right through and learn how to beat ATM thieves!  
[EFNW]



**Do you do internet banking?** An EFNW member recently found that someone had stolen money from her online bank account. If this happens to you, please report it [online](#) to the police as well as the bank – as this may help identify a pattern which they can follow up.  
To help avoid this happening to you, EFNW suggest checking your account(s) regularly and ensuring your passwords are secure (I write mine down in code, such as “old tennis partner surname, old house number” - which others shouldn't be able to decipher).

**Identity theft. Is your letter-box accessible to others?**

We've heard from an LRA member who was intending to change his outside post-box for a more secure one but before he could do so he became the victim of identity theft. Have you got a post-box outside that any-one can remove letters from? Don't delay!



**The BIG Garden Birdwatch** is takes place on January 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> – [take part!](#)





# DARKER NIGHTS, TURN ON YOUR LIGHTS!

**SECURE**  
**PROTECT**  
**PREVENT**

A dark house looks like nobody's home. Make sure it looks like you're in. Check out our tips below.



During the winter months, burglary increases by 12.8%. Most burglars are opportunists and will look for ways to enter your home where they find an insecure point.

These are just a few actions you can take to make your home more secure.

- Close and lock all windows and doors every time you leave your house or go to bed
- Make sure your door is locked properly i.e. lift the handle, turn the key and then remove the key
- Do not leave your keys by the front door or in view of windows but ensure they are easy to access should you need to get out in an emergency
- If you have a burglar alarm, use it at all times, even when you're just popping out or zone off areas before going to bed
- Secure your boundaries and ensure access to your garden is not easily obtained
- Secure your sheds and garages as they contain valuable items and tools that can be used to break into your home
- Leave lights on, or on timers to give the impression your house is occupied
- Don't leave valuable items on display
- Mark your property and register your items free on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)
- Do not 'check in' on social media, as this identifies your house is empty

**10% Discount**  
**REDLINE SECURITY**  
Purchase home safety security equipment at [redlinesecurity.co.uk](http://redlinesecurity.co.uk) and use code **ESSEY10** to receive a 10% discount

For more information on how to keep your property secure during the winter months, visit:  
[essex.police.uk/secure](http://essex.police.uk/secure)



## 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 February 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)**

Promoted by & on behalf of Independent Loughton Residents Association of 20 Eleven Acre Rise, Loughton, Essex IG10 1AN