



LOUGHTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



Get more Loughton news from us. Either follow us on Twitter at @LoughtonRA or look at the same items by going to our new-look website and scrolling down the Twitter feed on the right-hand side of the page. (www.loughtonresidents.org.uk)

LRA NEWS

Threat to Green Belt averted. The LRA Plans Group was very concerned about a planning application for a large care home on Green Belt land in Buckhurst Hill, as were the Buckhurst Hill Residents Association and the Theydon Bois Action Group. If approved, the proposal would have set a very dangerous precedent. To our amazement, the Planning Officer's report recommended approval and asserted that a planning law provision on infilling Green Belt sites at the edges of villages could be stretched to apply to Buckhurst Hill – a nonsensical approach. We are delighted that the District Council planning committee unanimously threw the application out!

Potholes. Recent rain has opened up some deep potholes round the Town. Please report them to [County Highways](#) and [let us know](#) of any particularly bad ones – we hope that the new financial year may herald some activity by County Highways!

Street cleaning. BIFFA are responsible for street cleaning as well as the waste collection. On side-roads, their fortnightly clean may just be a litter pick - they only sweep if there is a lot of litter. Following comments from a resident, LRA Cllr Caroline Pond is following up the amount of litter in Roundmead Close with the District Council. [So that the Council can monitor BIFFA's progress, and chase up any slackness, please let them know of problems at erefuse@eppingforestdc.gov.uk]

Junction of Burney Drive & Colebrook Lane. LRA Cllr Carol Davies has won a long battle with County Highways to get a missing give-way sign replaced, to get the other give-way sign illuminated and the junction *stop* white lining - barely visible – repainted (despite this being a dangerous and busy junction, it had been logged as a low priority by Highways). There's also now white lining along Burney Drive at the junction of Pyrles Lane and behind the Pyrles Lane shops. Carol is still battling for a *children crossing* sign near the junction of Wellfields and Church Lane,



Street-lights. A resident queried why a new lamp in Burney Drive hadn't been connected – as usual, the problem is that UK Power Networks have to make the connection and they give no priority to these jobs. LRA Chris Pond has been told that the work should be done this month.



Local elections on May 5th. We are getting ready for elections for Loughton Town Council and the District Council, and have an excellent set of candidates. There will also be an election for the Essex Police & Crime Commissioner.

See the [formal announcement](#) – polling cards are on the way to all registered voters.

YOUR VOTE MATTERS

MAKE SURE YOU'RE IN



Register online now at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

More information nearer the time.

Is your household registered?

Households that recently received register to vote reminders should complete their forms as soon as possible. Online application is by far the most convenient and easy way for most people to register.

Register now at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

You have until 19 April to apply if you need a postal vote for the local elections. [More information](#)

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>

LRA's website has been updated.

Find out about LRA & Loughton, and search for news you've missed (or forgotten) at www.loughtonresidents.org.uk



Central Line [closure](#) this weekend. There will be no service between Marble Arch and Bethnal Green, for points renewal work between Holborn and Liverpool Street.

Charity car-wash Fire Station, Old Station Road.
10am – 2pm today (Saturday April 2nd) and tomorrow.

**Charity
car wash**

Learn to DIY! Buckhurst Hill Residents' Association are putting on a course this Autumn on basic DIY skills, in local premises with suitable workshop facilities. Would you be interested (no commitment at this stage)? What sort of tasks would interest you? Please reply to dalton.m.k@btinternet.com & b.mooney1@ntlworld.com

DIY

The Probus Club of Loughton provides an opportunity for retired and semi-retired professional and business men to meet together in congenial company and enjoy a variety of social activities, and has a few vacancies. If you're interested in learning more, see www.probusloughton.org.uk/ or contact Derek Allen (020 8504 3074).



Loughton Town Council.

- **some future plans:**
 - the refurbishment of the popular and well used Traps Hill play area is scheduled for June
 - the offices will move to Loughton Library, Traps Hill (date yet to be announced)
 - major improvements to the Roding Valley Recreation Ground (the football changing rooms; the car park area; a café and toilet)
- **support for local organisations:** see the [list of grants](#)
- **a Community Toilet Scheme** is being launched. It will provide free toilet facilities for members of the public during the normal opening hours of up to four premises in the High Road and The Broadway without the need to make a purchase. [More](#) (item 7)
- **community allotment proposal** on a site in Pyrles Lane next to the old District Council Nursery site. [More](#) (item 5.2.2)

- **Ruth Rendell:** The Town Mayor has unveiled a commemorative plaque at her former home 45 Millsmead Way. [More.](#)
- **Christmas Lights.** Sponsorship is needed to put lights on six columns between Traps Hill and The Drive/Brooklyn Avenue (£422 per column). (If you could help, please [contact us.](#))
- **summer flower displays** in the Broadway, High Road and Old Station Road will cost just under £7,000 to supply and maintain
- **Annual Town Meeting** – what happened? See the [Minutes](#)



Theydon Bois Action Group [Update](#) & [Annual Report](#). We work with TBAG on a range of issues.

Whipps Cross Hospital – putting things right. Recent [presentation and discussion](#) at a District Council meeting (item 53 and pages 13-22)



Princess Alexandra Hospital: latest [Board Agenda & Minutes](#)

Council house-building.

In principle, we strongly support the District Council desire to build affordable housing. However, as so often in planning matters, the right balance has to be struck between the development and the interests of existing residents. The Council is reconsidering three schemes in Loughton:

- **Hillyfields:** the original plan for two 2-bedroom houses would have created problems with access and overlooking neighbouring properties, and so the site will be sold to a private developer to produce a more suitable scheme (the proceeds will be used fund future Council house-building)
- **Whitehills:** the local planning committee refused permission for three 3-bedroom houses; the Council will now propose creating bungalows instead.
- **Ladyfields:** the local planning committee refused permission six 2-bedroom houses and one 3-bedroom detached house because of the lack of compensatory parking for displaced garage tenants. The Council will drop the detached house and will provide some unallocated off street parking spaces.

Essex Police

- **New online reporting service:** report non-emergency crime [online](#), as well as frauds, hate crime and road accidents, or get information
- **Loughton Police Station front desk** is now permanently [closed](#) but the station remains in full use and local patrols and responses to calls are unchanged. The phone outside the Police Station should still work, or you can ring 999 for emergencies or use the new online service, the police non-emergency [call-back service](#) or call 101. If you need to go to a police station to produce documents, the nearest in Essex is Harlow or use [Barkingside](#) Met station. [EFNW]



Empty properties: there will always be empty properties awaiting sale, re-letting or renovation. However those left empty for long periods of time are a wasted resource. Within the district the number of empty homes has fallen from 1,837 in 2005 to 607 in 2015, and the District Council intends to act to bring 30 empty properties a year into use.

Buses

- **Bus 66** – route has now changed - see [details](#).
- **543** renumbered 542A
- **Harlow – Loughton.** Galleon Travel 418/418A /418B/ 419/420/ 421. New Mon – Sun service (replaces 541). Operating every 12 minutes on weekdays, every 20 minutes on Saturdays and every 2 hours on Sunday.



- **Plan your journey:** [traveline](#) Essex bus & train [map](#)

Epping Forest – deer. At the last count there were 395 deer in the Forest. 162 vehicle collisions with deer had been reported during the last year.



OFFERS & HELP AVAILABLE

Save money with Essex Energy Switch. Essex County Council organises a collective energy switching initiative for people and businesses who wanted to cut their energy bills. Open now! <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Pages/Energy-Switch.aspx>



Toilets on the underground – [map](#) and list

Do you know anyone who needs help with computers?
Point them to Essex Libraries. <http://ow.ly/Z9dJr>



If you care for someone with dementia, the [Living Well Essex website](#) has a range of information including information and advice on care, and support for those who are carers.

Child sexual exploitation (CSE). New countywide initiative to raise awareness of CSE, a form of sexual abuse that involves the manipulation and/or coercion of young people under the age of 18 into sexual activity. [More.](#)



Help St Clare Hospice – if you haven't made a Will, seven local solicitors' offices are volunteering their time to help you – if you make the suggested minimum donation of £180 to the Hospice. Book now for a limited number of appointments in June. [More.](#)

HELP WANTED

Support the National Jazz Archive (at Loughton Library, Traps Hill).

- Are your beloved vinyl records and CD's just collecting dust?
 - Have you replaced all those treasured tracks with MP3 downloads?
- Rabbit Records works with the National Jazz Archive to help people to donate or dispose of vinyl records and CDs. [More.](#)



Join the Specials. Do you want to help fight crime whilst giving something back to your community? Many of our Specials have families and full-time jobs, and volunteer with us in their spare time. It's a flexible role, with a minimum of only 16 hours a month as part of the team. [More](#)

#BritainBreathing is a new citizen science app to track seasonal allergies, launched on android last week. It allows people in the UK to track their



seasonal allergy symptoms, such as those associated with hay fever or asthma, while contributing to scientific research. Symptom data will be anonymously shared with researchers who will map against time, location, pollution, weather and pollen, in order to study when and why allergic symptoms are occurring and increasing. More information: www.britainbreathing.org

[Download](#) the app on Android

Follow the project on [Twitter](#)

[Watch](#) the launch video

“Legal Highs”. In view of the forthcoming change in the legislation relating to these substances, District Council officers have asked for any information regarding the supply of nitrous oxide canisters to be forwarded to them (ContactUs@eppingforestdc.gov.uk).



Incident in Pyrles Lane around 4.30am on Saturday, March 12, a woman aged in her 20s who was distressed was helped by a woman who came out of a nearby property– the Loughton police would like this woman to contact them on 101.

GENERAL

Is your dog microchipped?

From April 6th, failure to comply can result in a £500 fine. [More.](#)



Fly-tipping. If you come across a fly-tip taking place, call 999 (it’s a Criminal Offence). Otherwise report it [online](#) or use the police non-emergency [call-back service](#) or call 101. Then if it’s on Epping Forest land, call the Forest Keeper Team on 020 8532 1010; otherwise contact the [District Council](#)



IT'S YOUR CALL so make sure you choose the right NHS service.

Pharmacy Look online for your nearest pharmacy and their opening times	Walk-in centres Find your nearest one on the NHS Choices website
NHS 111 For medical help but when it's not an emergency	GP Out of Hours Need a GP in the evening or at the weekend? Call NHS 111

999
For life-threatening emergencies only. Use it wisely.

IT'S YOUR CALL 999

@EastEnglandAmb

IT'S PROBABLY NOTHING, BUT...

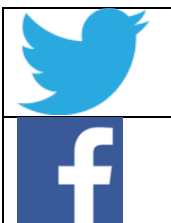
IF YOU SEE OR HEAR SOMETHING THAT COULD BE TERRORIST RELATED, TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS AND CALL THE CONFIDENTIAL ANTI-TERRORIST HOTLINE. OUR SPECIALLY TRAINED OFFICERS WILL TAKE IT FROM THERE.

0800 789 321
YOUR CALL COULD SAVE LIVES

METROPOLITAN POLICE TOTAL POLICING | CITY OF LONDON POLICE | BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE

Product recalls.

Netto Rice Market Basmati Rice and Rice Market Parboiled Rice due to possible pest contamination at the packing site. food.gov.uk



TWITTER: Follow us on Twitter at @LoughtonRA

FACEBOOK: Like and Follow our Facebook page by going to www.facebook.com/LoughtonResidents

NOTES

1. We expect to send out the next news bulletin on Friday April 15th.
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
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
or email contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk

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