

LRA NEWS

Update on the draft Local Plan

The controversial aspect of the Plan is the number of sites in Loughton listed for possible development, including *Jessel & Rochford Greens*, *Lucton's field* (Borders Lane) and the car-parks at Loughton Station and on *Traps Hill*. (*italicised sites pictured*).

We reported on this on October 14th, but things have now moved on (and the “trees” meeting we mentioned on November 8th has been postponed until November 21st – see below).

- **Draft approved to go out to Public Consultation** at a Full District Council meeting on October 18th: LRA Cllrs had put a motion to exclude urban public open spaces from the list of sites for development. We didn't expect this to succeed, but we wanted to express the level of outrage we felt, particularly as the Council is well aware of the large amount of evidence of public use of two of the sites (Jessel & Rochford Greens, which the Town Council has submitted to the County Council for registration as village greens). You can watch the [Webcast](#) of the debate.
- **Public Consultation** will start end-October, for 6 weeks.
The District Council is sending you a bland and misleading leaflet about the Plan.
- **Loughton Life**. **As soon as we can get it printed and our volunteers can distribute it, we will deliver a newsletter to all Loughton households giving a summary of the key aspects and how to give the Council your views (we'll put the information, and suggested comments to send to the Council, on our website for you).**
- **Meetings and information – you're very welcome to come to any or all of these!**
 - **display** at Loughton Library, Traps Hill, from Monday October 31st to Monday December 12th.
 - **District Council staff on hand** in Lopping Hall, High Road to answer questions on Monday November 7th, 3.30 – 8pm.
 - **Open Public Meeting** to discuss the draft Local Plan. Come along and have your say. Thursday November 17th. 7.30pm, Murray Hall, Borders Lane.
 - **Meeting: “Trees and Green Infrastructure” across the District**. 7pm. Monday November 21st. Discussion on a strategy and action plan. A special event for the Loughton and Buckhurst Hill area. This workshop will be held in the evening at the Town Council offices, 1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane (the Church Hill end).



- **Meeting open to the public:** Tuesday November 29th, 7.45pm: an extraordinary Town Council meeting, Murray Hall, Borders Lane.

Alderton Hill pavement – the builders who blocked the pavement by the old Roding Valley School tennis courts have now resurfaced and we hope re-opened it, after LRA Cllr Judy Jennings took the matter up with the District Council, who contacted County Highways.

LOCAL NEWS

FOR LOCAL EVENTS SEE BELOW & SEPARATE EMAIL (October 14th)

Check ahead for events in red, which need to be booked in advance!

FOR LOCAL LEISURE ORGANISATIONS SEE <http://tinyurl.com/pbel693>



Flood Awareness Roadshow. 10am – 2pm, Thursday October 27th. Traps Hill car-park. Residents are invited to come along to get advice about flooding and flood prevention. Officers will be demonstrating flood protection products and will have sandbags for sale at cost price. [More.](#)

Fireworks

- **Annual Bonfire & Firework Display. Saturday November 5th**
St. John the Baptist Church, Church Lane.
Details in our *EVENTS* email.
- **Look after your pets – and others' pets please:**
www.rspca.org.uk/adviceandwelfare/pets/general/fireworks



Pumpkin carving #Halloween event at #TheHuntingLodge, Rangers Road. October 28th. Mid-day – 4pm. Booking required. 020 7332 1991

Illegal Encampments

- **The travellers** who arrived on Hillyfields in mid-September moved on to Jessel Green and then on to Burney Drive, opposite Swanshope – the District Council is taking the necessary steps to move them on again, as fast as the law allows.
- **Legal order:** LRA Cllr Leon Girling has already discussed with the District Council's legal expert whether they could get a similar order to the one Harlow has, which gives them power to move travellers on at once, but the courts will not grant a wider order without evidence they are a significant risk to the community.

- **District Council's draft Local Plan:** part of the draft deals with how much space should be allocated for travellers, and where the sites should be - and you'll be able to give your views on the proposals. Other councils are going through similar processes.
- **travellers sites in Essex:** the County Council runs with a great deal of care and consideration (for residents and for travellers) but of course these don't get into the news unless there's a problem.

Forest Seedlings

Parent and toddler activities



NEW term time activities for children aged 18 months to 4 years with parents/carers

Come explore the Forest and share the wonders of the natural world with your little one. Enjoy outdoor exploration, songs, stories, sensory play and more in the amazing autumnal Forest.

9:45am registration for 10:00am-11:15am activity
 £15 set price for 3 session block: Mondays 31st October, 7th and 14th November.
 Activities start from **High Beach Church**, Church Lane, High Beach, IG10 4BF

Booking essential.

Epping forest - a wonderful place to discover and learn

All our exciting programmes are led by our excellent trained staff and provide fun and inspiring activities under safe supervision.



Epping Forest Field Centre
 020 8502 8500
 Paul's Nursery Road, High Beach, Loughton, Essex, IG10 4AF
 enquiries.ef@field-studies-council.org
 www.field-studies-council.org/eppingforest
 Registered Charity Number: 313364
Managed by FSC for and on behalf of the City of London Corporation, Conservators of Epping Forest.



Year of the Toad

A recent study by *Froglife* and partners from The University of Zurich in Switzerland has shown that on average common toads have declined by 68% over the last 30 years in the UK.



In response to these findings Froglife has launched a “Year of the Toad” to raise awareness of the issue and raise funds to carry out further research into the causes of these declines and deliver practical conservation projects on the ground to help protect important toad sites. [More, and how to help.](#)



OFFERS & HELP AVAILABLE

Weekend appointments for doctors and nurses available across west Essex. Book through your GP practice. [#eppingforest](#) [West Essex CCG](#).



HELP WANTED

Independent Examiner needed. Each year the LRA accounts have to be examined by an independent person (who may be an LRA member) with the relevant ability and experience. An examination is a less onerous form of scrutiny than an audit. Our long-serving and much-appreciated Examiner is now standing down, so if you have financial and/or accounting experience and would like to help, please contact david.linnell@loughtonresidents.co.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 Saturday October 29th.
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