



LOUGHTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

LRA's Farmers Market on Centric Parade, High Road
Sunday March 5th 9am – 2pm.
Bring your questions to our volunteers,
and browse our second-hand books.



LRA NEWS

Mud on Chigwell Lane. LRA Cllr Carol Davies followed up complaints of the state of the road and paths. The resident Engineer responsible for overseeing the road works has asked the contractors to clean up as much as they possibly can throughout the day and at the end of each shift – there's now should be a dedicated person going round cleaning the debris, mud and ensuring that the traffic management cones and signs are cleaned up.

Planning (LRA Plans Group, Loughton Town Council & residents had objected to the Church Hill and Station Road applications)

- **113 Church Hill:** the District Council turned down an outline application for a block of 10 flats because it would be likely to appear over-dominant in the street scene and to fail to respect the character and appearance of the locality
- **46-48 Station Road:** the District Council has turned down an application to erect a block of flats in place of this Locally-listed building – an Arts & Crafts style cottage dating from 1912 and designed by R C Foster - which already has planning approval for various extensions
- **Sterling House, Langston Road:** the District Council has given permission for a change of use from offices to 129 flats. (Under recent Government changes to the planning system, this was done *without* any public consultation. While we have no particular concerns in this case, we think this is a highly-retrograde and undemocratic change.)
- **2 Connaught Avenue.** As well as the current planning application for a further extension to the existing house (as a single dwelling) and the ongoing appeal on an earlier refused application for 6 flats, there is now a planning application for a block of 7 flats with 11 parking spaces in the basement. Details [here](#) (ref: EPF/0435/17). For an artist's impression, see section 7 [here](#).
LRA Plans Group will contact nearby residents and arrange for a letter to go to surrounding roads.



Church Hill pedestrian crossing. At long last, County Highways have announced that they'll be installing a controlled crossing on Church Hill, in place of the central island by the cricket ground. LRA Cllr Chris Pond has worked hard over a long period to get the crossing, at a point where school-children and other pedestrians have to cross this busy road. Work should start next month.

Broadway parking review

LRA's nine-year fight to get parking controls for residents is nearly over! NEPP should soon advertise proposals for the roads they see as the most urgent; phase 2 should follow within a year.

Taking a tumble. LRA Cllr Chris Pond has advised a resident who fell on an uneven section of pavement about how to claim against the County Council (follow the instructions at <http://www.essexhighways.org/Roads-and-Pavements/make-a-claim.aspx> but be warned - the burden of proof is high).



Recycling sites – closure of local sites to DIY waste

A resident recently emailed us about a 30-mile trip he had taken to the Harlow site to dispose of a small quantity of hard-core and plasterboard. As well as the extra journey, he was concerned about inadequate signage at the Harlow site.

Last year, LRA County Cllr Chris Pond opposed the closure of the County's Waltham Abbey and Chigwell sites to DIY waste disposal, and asked for a review of the change in due course. The matter should come up at a County Committee meeting later this month, and Chris has copied the resident's comments (with permission) to the chairman of that committee and to the County Cabinet member for waste.

If you have had problems, or been inconvenienced, because of the closure of our local sites to DIY waste, please let us know now at contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk and say whether or not you're happy for your details to be passed on to the Council.

Reports at the February Farmers Market. We're there in the High Road 9am – 1.30pm on the first Sunday of each month to listen to any problems, and to follow them up afterwards.

Among last month's queries were:

- **Street-light "out" in Brook Path:** LRA Cllr Chris Pond reports that this was awaiting the arrival of the "cherry-picker" to replace the bulb
- **Queens Road street-light "stub":** Chris has followed this up several times. Unfortunately, these jobs are low on the electricity supply company's priorities
- **Potholes** in several locations – unfortunately County Highways won't repair them till they're huge, but please keep reporting them (and other Highways problems) at <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Pages/Report-It.aspx>

Other street-light problems. LRA Cllr Chris Pond has been chasing up several faulty lights:

- **Rectory Lane:** County Highways say they will repair the light at the earliest opportunity
- **corner of Hatfields:** the street-lights were attended to on 21 February;
- **Chigwell Lane:** the faulty lights are the responsibility of the contractors who are carrying out roadworks here – they have been asked to repair them as soon as possible.



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>

Merge Essex Police & Fire services?

[Have your say.](#)

At present they have separate managements, separate back office teams, and separate premises.

Would working together save money and make the services more efficient?



Draft Local Plan. Only some of the responses have so far been analysed, but there's a report [here](#) which will be presented at the March 9th District Council Cabinet meeting. ([Appendix A](#); [Appendix B](#)) It includes a revised future timetable.

Fireworks. EFNW have been getting reports of fireworks at anti-social hours. Not only is it a nuisance to let off fireworks after 11pm, it's illegal! If you're disturbed, please phone the police on 101 (or, if it's some-one you know, please have a quiet word with them). [EFNW]



Homeless man near Debden station. The District Council recently reported that he appeared to have moved on, and the site had been cleared of waste. However, he has been seen there again. Please make reports to the District Council (01992 564422).

Loughton Town Council (for awards see www.loughton-tc.gov.uk/News_and_Events_2597.aspx)

- **Citizen of the Year award:** Sue Taylor, described as “passionate about Loughton”. Sue is a key player in the local Neighbourhood Watch team and the driving force behind the annual Loughton Festival
- **Special award for Community Service:** Margaret Weston, for dedication to the health and well-being of local residents
- **award to the 16th Epping Forest Beavers** for their artistic challenge to the Local Plan proposals.
- **grants to other organisations:** the Council supports a number of local organisations, including the CAB – see the list for 2017/18 [here](#) (item RG44)
- **Traps Hill fingerpost** (at the High Road junction) is pointing in the wrong directions after the recent gales – the Council has been asked to straighten it out again.



Please don't leave valuables in your car or van overnight.

EFNW warn that car and van thefts are continuing across the Town. And see *Report It* in the *GENERAL* section below.



Lopping Hall, 189 High Road. The programme to refurbish the entire building continues. Redecoration of the Small Hall has now been completed. 200 new and comfortably upholstered chairs have been ordered to replace the plastic bucket seats currently in the main hall.

Parking

- **Station Approach.** At long last NEPP has published a proposal to put double yellow lines from the Alderton Hill roundabout round the entrance and exit roads to/from the station and Sainsbury's car-parks. This will also make it an offence for drivers to park on the central island. LRA has been happy to support the efforts made by the County Cllr for this Division, Valerie Metcalfe, to get this safety measure introduced.
- **Loughton Station short-term parking.** Don't forget that the 20-minute short-term parking area IS part of the NCP car-park, and the 20-minutes is strictly enforced. We were able to help some residents who overstayed soon after the changes were made, or where the enforcement team had made a mistake, but we can't help now if you're correctly charged for over-staying.
- **Torrington Drive.** To residents' dismay, work on creating new parking bays was stopped by a dispute between the District Council and County Highways. Agreement has now been reached on

the tests needed and the District Council hopes to have these completed towards the end of March – work can then re-start. The Council is offering the spaces to residents at £48pa for a permit for one vehicle, or £500 for an exclusive bay for £500 (first year) and then £250pa (these arrangements will operate separately from the proposals for the Broadway area Parking Review (BPR), and we have previously told the Council it would have been better for them to wait till residents knew what was being proposed under the BPR).

Ofsted gives Debden Park High School an Outstanding [report](#)
(with 16-19 provision rated as “Good”).



Buses

- **Route 397 (Walthamstow – Debden):** new greener buses have been introduced. by the new operator, CT of Hackney. TfL hope they will provide a more comfortable journey, and reduce harmful emissions, helping to clean up the air.
- **For details of when to catch your bus,** please visit tfl.gov.uk/plan-a-journey



Cameras in Loughton and High Beach have been installed by County Highways to determine movements, delays and volumes at the Wake Arms roundabout and volumes / general movements across Loughton. The data is to be used for traffic modelling to help in designing potential schemes to alleviate delays and congestion. Whilst number plates are recorded to determine entry and exit points and duration of journey, the data has no value once the initial calculations are complete and is managed in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

In addition to cameras, tubes have been placed across the carriageway in several locations to collect longer term volume and speed data (two periods of 14 days).

[EFNW]

Watch the Essex Police and Crime Commissioner public meeting: if you missed February 16th's police meeting this week, you can watch it [here](#).

[EFNW]



What does the CAB do locally?

The link in our last bulletin should have been to www.efcab.org.uk

If you spot a *missing link* in one of our email bulletins, please let me know at david.linnell@loughtonresidents.co.uk

Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow: latest Board [papers](#)

Whipps Cross Hospital, Leytonstone : latest Board [papers](#)



Forthcoming events [[Details, & many more events, in our EVENTS email.](#)]

Saturday March 11th.

- **Talk: *the joys and pitfalls of publishing.*** 2.30pm. Loughton Library, Traps Hill. Accompanied by a display from the National Jazz Archive's extensive collections, housed at Loughton Library.
- **Film Loughton: *Sully: Miracle on the Hudson.*** Methodist Church, 260 High Road.

Wednesday March 15th. Annual Town Meeting. Speaker: new Principal and Chief Executive Officer of Epping Forest College, Saboohi Famili. 8pm. Murray Hall, Borders Lane. Agenda [here](#).

OFFERS & HELP AVAILABLE

Streetlife – the local social network for exchanging views and finding information (such as recommended local tradespeople) has been taken over by *NextDoor*.

To find your local group (and to link to neighbouring groups) go to <https://nextdoor.co.uk/>

Has your road got a Neighbourhood Watch Group? If not, it's easy to set one up!

See <http://www.eppingforestnhw.org.uk/>



Asbestos to dispose of?

Items that are suspected to contain hazardous substances must not be disposed of in household rubbish bins or in the general rubbish bins at recycling centres.

Instead, visit www.recycleforsex.com/disposing-of-asbestos or call Essex County Council's Waste Management Helpline on 0345 603 7625 for advice. May well be free!

HELP WANTED



**Could you be a CAB volunteer?
Or help raise funds for their vital work?**

See www.efcab.org.uk

Essex Police are recruiting *Active Citizens*: volunteers in the community who help to lower crime and the fear of crime by interacting with the public.

- Help run community days of action
- patrol with local police officers and Police Community Support Officers
- provide reassurance and crime prevention advice
- assist with some administration tasks

www.essex.police.uk/join-the-police/volunteers/active-citizens/

Know a cheat in your street? Every year thousands of pounds of your money is stolen by cheaters, money that should be used to improve your local community.

Report fraud (for more details, click [here](#)):

- call 01992 564444
- use the [Online report fraud form](#)
- email investigations@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

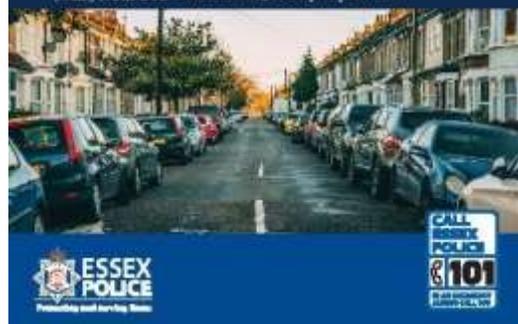


**WE ARE
RECRUITING
ACTIVE CITIZENS**

**Have you ever thought of volunteering
for Essex Police to help prevent crime in your area?**

- Do you have any time to spare?
- Want to help make a difference in your community?
- Assist with providing a high visibility presence?
- Work in partnership with police and council teams?
- Do you need voluntary experience to further your studies or career?
- Distribute crime prevention leaflets to residents and community groups in identified areas
- Opportunity to volunteer in the community
- Gain experience of working with the public

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED AND WANT MORE INFORMATION ON BECOMING AN ACTIVE CITIZEN, PLEASE EMAIL: active.citizen@essex.pnn.police.uk



GENERAL



Would you like more local policing?

EFNW recently pointed out that, if we don't report crimes, such as cars broken into, or other damage, the police won't know they're happening and can't be expected to do anything about it. We know they're under pressure, and often can't respond immediately, but they now rely heavily on building up information about what's happening, and where.

Anti-social behaviour on the train?

Put 61016 in your phone so you can quietly text British Transport Police.



See a GP from the comfort of your own home –
Book a video appointment through your Practice.

Dangerous tumble driers! Check your model, and don't use if it's affected. Includes some Hotpoint, Creda, Indesit Swan and Proline models.

<http://www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk/product-recalls/brands/whirlpool/?gclid=CKrjuu3sr9ICFUESGwod7ucKiA>



Using your phone while driving.

Since 2003 it's been illegal to use a hand held mobile phone while driving, *or while stopped with the engine on*. This month the penalties are being increased: see <http://www.theaa.com/driving-advice/legal/mobile-phones>

How do I get rid of.....? It can be hard to know what's recyclable!

Go to www.recycleforessex.com/i-want-to-get-rid-of/ For example, polystyrene (or styrofoam) can't be recycled in Essex, so needs to go in your black residual rubbish bin or to be used for drainage in flowerpots. (If possible, please use alternatives, such as crunched up newspaper for packaging, and re-usable or recyclable cups for drinks).



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 March 17th.
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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