



LOUGHTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Have you thought of standing as an LRA Cllr on the Town or District Councils next May?

LRA Cllrs form the majority on the Town Council
and are the second largest group on the District Council.

Training is provided and you would be part of a strong and experienced group.

To find out what is involved please contact Cllr Chris Pond on 020 8508 2361

or send an email to contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk

LRA NEWS

Traps Hill Surgery. LRA Cllr Chris Pond followed up a request for a proper path from the Traps Hill car-park to the surgery. It's now in the hands of the District Council, who own the land – but please don't expect rapid progress.

Planning applications turned down by the District Council (where the LRA Plans Group had objected):

- 21 Priory Road – application to replace existing house <http://ow.ly/WIKKY>
- land adjacent to 2 Sparelease Hill – application for a new house <http://ow.ly/WIDk0>

LuXe bar. We have been asked why LuXe appears to be operating as “normal” after the refusal of their appeal against District Council enforcement action to remove their music centre and to close the dance floor. The Council are taking legal advice on the next steps – it would be a great help if you could let us know (contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk) if you suffer any problems or disturbance or you see LuXe open (daytime or evening) other than on Thursday - Saturday nights.



Rectory Lane roadworks. As part of the plans for the Langston Road Retail Park, Rectory Lane will be widened and traffic & pedestrian lights linked together. LRA is concerned about the potential effect these major works will have on trade in The Broadway shops, so LRA Cllr Chris Pond asked the District Council (who own the shops) whether a rent reduction would be appropriate. They replied that there are no proposed closures of the highway and any disruptive works are proposed to be out of hours – given the current congestion we find this difficult to believe.

Luctons Field, Borders Lane. We are very disappointed that, despite strenuous efforts by LRA Cllrs, the District Council have agreed to release the protection* this 11-acre field between Borders Lane and Colson Road has enjoyed since 1952 (*a covenant restricting its use to educational or NHS uses). More in our next *Loughton Life* newsletter.

Molens, 209D High Road. Shortly before Christmas a car appeared on the pavement for several days outside this popular café, carrying their advertising. We contacted the North Essex Parking Partnership, who had a word with the owners (the car then disappeared).

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>

New Year's Honours – Loughton.

- **Peter Adams** (senior Verderer, Epping Forest): MBE
- **Maureen Gould** (Oak View School, Chairman of Governors): BEM

New yellow lines in Barrington Green/The Broadway area: for the current proposals see TRAF/5226 at <http://tinyurl.com/glxyjok>



Traps Hill Play Area. Loughton Town Council will receive £20,000 from Essex County Council's Community Initiatives Fund towards refurbishing the play area. This is part of the Town Council's regular programme of play area refurbishments. (Before LRA managed to get the Town Council set up, we battled for 13 years to get the District Council to create the Traps Hill playground).

Debden: Police crackdown on crime & persistent ASB.

- Local officers have been targeting those responsible for an increase in crime and anti-social behaviour in The Broadway area, including criminal damage, shoplifting and public order offences. Suspects have been dealt with in many of these cases.
- Officers have been successful in obtaining a closure order on premises where serious anti-social behaviour was occurring.
- Officers and the District Council are now in discussions to make the Debden Broadway area the subject of a Public Spaces Protection Order.



[EFNW]

More: <http://1drv.ms/1Rxa66r>

Report crime & issues of persistent anti-social behaviour to Essex Police (101; 999 for an emergency).

Town Council Christmas Window Competition.

Almost 150 Loughton businesses decorated their windows. The Town Mayor (LRA Cllr Judy Jennings) was disappointed that

multiple and supermarkets with their large windows on the High Road presented a rather bleak and dismal frontage with no seasonal decorations.

The winners were Restore Community Centre, (68 The Broadway), Tonys (61 The Broadway) & Starbucks (243 High Road). Details and runners-up at www.loughton-tc.gov.uk/4psrel137.pdf



Loughton Town Council offices. The Council is considering moving from Buckingham Court (Rectory Lane) to the former Connexions Room at Loughton Library, Traps Hill (the present offices would be let).

The CAB will also be moving to Loughton Library.



Vere Road garage site (next to the former Sir Winston Churchill PH). The District Council had planned to work with a housing association to provide 15 new affordable rented flats. However, the Government has made this sort of development less financially attractive and the Council is now considering including the development in its Council Housebuilding Programme.

WEA Day School: *A change is going to come- Social Development reflected in popular music 1950-1964.* Tutor: Ted Woodgate. Thursday February 25th. Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Road. 10am - 4pm Lunch and Coffee provided.
More details or to book: Mrs P Dale mrsdale@googlemail.com 020 8281 1536



Essex Book Festival programme: <http://essexbookfestival.org.uk/>

Drink- & drug-driving. Over 1,900 drivers were breathalysed as part of a Christmas crack down on drink and drug driving in Essex; 77 were found to be over the limit or refused or failed to provide a sample. 53 drivers were tested using roadside drug testing kits; 22 tested positive. Anyone with information about people who drink or take drugs and drive can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

District Council car-parks. It's easy to forget that the charges changed last year for Saturdays & Sundays, so please check the notice-boards. <http://tinyurl.com/gvc7z6b>



New library based reading group. All new members welcome. Meets in Loughton Library, Traps Hill monthly on a Monday at 1.30pm. Please telephone library (0345 603 7628) for next date. Lift access to first floor.

OFFERS & HELP AVAILABLE

Second-hand books in Italian.

Thanks to a donation to the LRA bookstall, we have a collection of good-condition fiction and non-fiction in Italian, at 50p each (collect from Eleven Acre Rise, off Traps Hill). See the full list at <http://1drv.ms/1mAiVRk> and contact david.linnell@loughtonresidents.co.uk saying which you'd like.

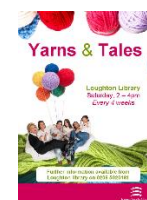
Free stalls at the Farmers markets!

If you're connected with a charity or voluntary organisation operating locally and would like a stall on Sunday February 7th or March 6th at our market in the High Road, email contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk for details.



What's On at Loughton Library?

- **Doctor Bike Sessions** at Loughton Library, Traps Hill every second Saturday of the month. 11am – mid-day. Safety checks, advice on lights, what to wear, where to ride and small repairs – just come along & ask.
- **Baby & Toddler times** at Loughton Library – see *EVENTS* email.
- **Someone can't get to the library anymore?** Books delivered by our volunteers, here's how: <http://ow.ly/Wx9cq>
- **Yarns & Tales: Knitting & Reading Group.** January 9th. Come along knitting and natter. (Every four weeks)
- **Deafblind club afternoon club for people with dual sensory loss.** Monthly first Tuesday of the month (02/02/2016). 2 - 4pm. Bring £2.



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i-phone/i-pad app *engageEFDC* - a free and simple-to-use smartphone app, which lets you connect to your council to access Council services at a time and place that suits you.. <http://tinyurl.com/jmtdxrn>

Know your Rights in the Energy market: advice from the CAB. <http://tinyurl.com/ouh8w7f>

Self-employed? HMRC new Tax Guide, filled with useful information, from choosing the right business structure and registering with HMRC to sending a tax return, click here to view http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/courses/SYOB3/syob_3/html/syob_3_menu.html

Recycling Real Christmas Trees. The District Council will collect real Christmas trees - please remove all decorations and the pot. If over 6ft, cut in half to ensure safe collection. Place the tree by your food and garden waste bin for collection. ow.ly/WFc4l



Local businesses and non-profit groups: free promotion (and other free assistance). For more information and a free guide just email johnmahoney@uwclub.net

Dementia support for family & friends. Essex Libraries have introduced a new [Memory Support Card](#). People with dementia, or trouble with remembering, can easily forget to bring their library books back on time. With the card there will be no overdue charges so books etc can be borrowed without worrying. Ask at your local library or join online.



HELP WANTED

Loughton Festival: contact Sue at loughtonfestival@aol.com

- **could you help at an event** next May, please - mostly setting out chairs and / or making refreshments and tidying up after events.
- **idea aimed at younger people** perhaps with families, based on *Operation Meet the Street* with James Martin. Details at <http://1drv.ms/1JQ20zC> Is this something you would be interested in doing? Is this something you would attend?



Loughton Citizenship Awards 2016. Loughton Town Council wants nominations of special individuals in our town who go the extra mile for their fellow citizens. This may be through long service for a voluntary organisation or local charity, good neighbourliness, running a campaign to improve community facilities or cohesion, or by an act of courage or bravery. Any Loughton resident or a Loughton employer, educational institution, group or society may submit a nomination but please do not let the nominee know at this stage. <http://1drv.ms/1Zeooz9>



Do you live in Church Hill? Epping Forest Neighbourhood Watch urgently wants to start up a Neighbourhood Watch Group in Church Hill. There have been several burglaries on Church Hill and nearby, and it's the only road in the immediate area without an active Watch Group. Please contact Outerlondon@aol.com if you'd like to start up a Group in Church Hill (You don't have to look after the whole of Church Hill, just your stretch of the road).

Volunteer to help preserve your local history:

www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/news/2015/12/volunteer-to-preserve-your-local-history/



Table-top Sale on Saturday April 23rd - for enquiries or to book a table ring St Michael & All Angels Church, Roding Road (020 8418 7944 or st-michaels@hotmail.co.uk). £10 per table payable in advance. In aid of necessary refurbishments.

Planning a sort-out this January? Got furniture, white goods or household items to donate? Contact Epping_ReUse <http://ow.ly/VXVu5>



GENERAL

Have you downloaded Essex's award nominated health app yet?

<http://bit.ly/11WbzeE>

Got a problem – want to make a complaint? *Resolver* can help you find out who to complain to, and how - <http://www.resolver.co.uk/>



Locked out? If it's an emergency, call the Fire Brigade – but if not please call a locksmith!

Hoverboards. Know some-one who got a hoverboard as a gift at Christmas? These cannot be used on a pavement or public highway. And some imported models have caught fire - if it's too cheap to be true, it's too expensive!
Ow.ly/VyUsD



TfL Railcard discounts. You can get the discount set at Tube, London Overground, TfL Rail and some National Rail stations. To get the discount set at a Tube station, approach a member of staff and ask them to set it for you. You can also get the discount set at Oyster Ticket Stops and Visitor and Travel Information Centres. <http://tinyurl.com/gpjmlka>

Warning: rear french / patio doors. These are vulnerable! [EFNW]

- if you have a burglar alarm you can buy a sensor to add to your system, so that if your glass is smashed it counts as the first activation. Ask your alarm company about this.
- never leave keys in patio or rear doors, or all the thieves need to do is smash the glass, put their hand through and turn the key to let themselves in.
- if you have CCTV fitted, make sure it has night visibility, so that if the thieves deactivate the floodlight sensors, as happened in Loughton recently, your camera will keep on recording.



Report of trial of body worn video. Using body worn video reduced allegations against police officers by a third, as well as helping to collect evidence. The cameras also offered officers greater confidence if challenged, as well as footage to support their decision-making. 22,000 body-worn devices will be rolled out across the Metropolitan Police by spring 2016, and Essex Police are using them too. [Report on a trial of the use of body-worn video](#)

Protect your Christmas presents. Every year Essex Police recover property worth thousands of pounds but are unable to return it to its rightful owner because it can't be properly identified.

- Register your valuables for free on www.immobilise.com so they can be identified if stolen.
- Instead – or as well - security-mark your item with your postcode or property marking solution.
- For more information on how to protect your valuables visit www.ssex.police.uk/yourproperty

Got a dog? All dogs over the age of eight weeks in England must be microchipped from 6th April (unless a vet has certified in writing that a dog is unfit to be microchipped). Many vets & welfare organisations offer free microchipping. Owners of dogs without microchips may face criminal prosecution and a £500 fine. Dog breeders will be responsible for microchipping puppies before they are sold. All imported dogs will need to have a microchip. <http://tinyurl.com/gsedhsh>



Phone-call from “Telephone Preference Service”. EFNW have had a report of a phone call from someone who claimed to be from the Telephone Preference Scheme (which is totally free to sign up to). This is clearly a scam,



Get Into London Theatre tickets. There are still thousands of tickets available for more than 50 top London shows, including Guys And Dolls, Kinky Boots, Matilda The Musical, The Railway Children, Wicked and many more!

Product recalls.

food.gov.uk

The Real Lancashire Black Pudding Co Ltd is recalling a batch of its Black Pudding Slices because of a potential health risk - the product has been incorrectly labelled with a ‘use by’ date of 31 December 2016, rather than 31 December 2015.



TWITTER: Follow us on Twitter at @Loughton RA



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 January 22nd.
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. 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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