



Think Loughton



News from Loughton Town Council

Summer 2023 No 101



Fun for all



YOU ARE warmly invited to join us for our Annual Fun Day at Jessel Green on **Sunday, 25 June 2023** from 12 noon to 4pm. You will be able to enjoy all the usual attractions: children's favourite inflatables including the Ultimate Slide, Bungee Trampoline and Wipe Out Assault Course, height restrictions will apply. There will

be smaller events for younger children and free soft play for the Under 5's along with Mr Happy and Punch & Judy, food, drink, craft stalls, Essex Kite display and workshop plus much more.

Our regular partners, Restore Community Church, Red Balloon Foundation and Epping Forest Community Church, will be joining us to

bring this not-for-profit community event to you. We thank John Walsh at the Cottage Loaf PH together with local businesses for their very kind and generous donations, which has meant that an all-day wristband is still only £10, wristbands for younger children start at £5 and individual rides from 50p.

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Epping Forest District Council	01992 564000
Waste Management Hotline	01992 564608
Essex County Council (ECC)	03457 430 430
Adult Social Care	0345 603 7630
Child Social Care	0345 603 7627
Debden Library	0333 0132654
Education & Schools	0345 603 2200
Loughton Library	0333 0132677
Registrar: Births, ceremonies & deaths	0345 603 7632
Essex Parking Partnership (enquiries)	01206 282316

ADVICE, HELP & INFORMATION

3Food4u	01992 842642
Action for Family Carers	0300 770 80 90
Affordable Counselling Epping Forest	01992 573402
Citizens Advice	0808 278 7855
Citizens Advice Consumer Service	03454 04 05 06
New City College, Epping Forest	0330 135 9000
Jobcentre Plus (Loughton)	0345 604 3719
NSPCC helpline (freephone)	0808 800 5000
RSPCA cruelty line	0300 1234 999
Samaritans	116 123
SSAFA (Loughton Epping & Harlow)	01206 764114
Trading Standards ECC (business)	0345 603 7626
Victim Support (Essex)	0300 303 0165

COMMUNITY

Age UK Essex	01245 346106
Age UK Advice	0800 678 1174
Care & Repair Service	01992 564086

Churches Together	www.loughtonchurches.org.uk
Epping Forest ReUse	01992 578222
ignite (Youth Activities)	020 8508 3643
Loughton Arts Centre	07532 053194
Loughton Voluntary Care Assoc.	020 8508 6114
Restore Community Centre	020 8508 9883
Royal British Legion (Loughton Branch)	020 8508 5044
Royal Voluntary Service	0845 608 0122
Supporting Carers in Essex	0300 770 80 90
Voluntary Action Epping Forest	01992 910701
Volunteering Enquiries	01992 284761

HEALTH & HOSPITALS

ADAS (Alcohol & Drugs Service)	01279 641347
Alzheimer's Society (Epping Forest)	01279 427522
Breathe Easy Harlow & Epping Forest	01992 573387
British Red Cross	020 8508 2162
Forest Medical Centre	020 8535 6888
The Holly Private Hospital	020 8505 3311
King George	020 8983 8000
Loughton Health Centre	020 8502 5000
NHS Direct	111
Princess Alexandra	01279 444455
Rectory Lane Health Centre	020 8272 4600
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St Margaret's	01279 444455
Whipps Cross	020 8539 5522

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POLICE & FIRE (dial 999 for emergencies)

Essex Police (non-emergency)	101
Action Fraud	0300 123 2040
Anti-terrorist hotline	0800 789321

PUBLIC UTILITIES

UK Power Networks emergency	105
National Gas Emergency Service	0800 111 999
Thames Water 24 hour leakline	0800 714 614

SPORT

David Lloyd Chigwell	0345 129 6783
Debden Sports Club	020 8508 9392
Loughton Athletic Club	07958 903842
Loughton Bowling Club	020 8508 3546
Loughton Cricket Club	020 8502 2064
Loughton Football Club	020 8508 4757
Loughton Leisure Centre (& pool)	020 3225 5460
Loughton Rugby Football Club	07939 468222
South Loughton Cricket Club	07941 347812

TRAVEL & TOURISM

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Heathrow Airport	0844 335 1801
London Travel Information (TfL & London Overground)	0343 222 1234
Luton Airport	01582 405100
National Express	0871 781 8181
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950
Southend Airport	01702 538 500
Stansted Airport	0844 335 1803
Tourist Info Centre (Waltham Abbey)	01992 660336
Traveline (public transport information)	0871 200 22 33

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Clerk's Remarks



'HECTIC, CHALLENGING, REWARDING' are three words that come to mind, in a typical working week of the dedicated Loughton Town Council team.

We are very busy planning for our two major events. The ever popular Fun Day at Jessel Green will be held again on Sunday 25 June 2023. 'Loughton Day,' an event for local community groups and residents alike, will be staged

on Saturday 16 September at the Loughton Cricket ground adjacent to Traps Hill. A wide variety of stalls and attractions have already been arranged. If you are a community group and interested in participating, please call the office on 020 8508 4200 or email: contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk soonest. We are expecting a strong demand.

The economic environment continues to be financially, particularly challenging, affecting all aspects of Town Council work. Hopefully, spiralling utility costs, principally, electricity and gas will start to fall and similarly inflation (over 10 per cent at the time of writing) will also recede.

It is rewarding to note that over the last 12 months there has been extensive work on our principal halls, to ensure a better experience for our hall hirers. At Murray Hall, outdated equipment and features, at the end of their lifecycle, have been replaced. Developments include new LED lighting and a performance stage. At Kingsley

Hall, the garden wall has been replaced and a revamped and more expansive garden area has been created. Thanks to some grant funding, 8 (previously unnamed) alleyway locations will now have new signage and alleyway name plates installed around Loughton. From time to time, you may see our new (leased) eco-friendly electric van, around Loughton, as the Town Council plays its part in reducing carbon emissions. In addition to the major community events, it was pleasing that the recent Town Mayors' Treasure Hunt, along the High Street, received such good feedback and was an enjoyable morning for all the participants. Please keep looking at our website 'news and events' section for details on all our community events. One to not let go 'under the radar' is the forthcoming Horticultural Show at Murray Hall, along Borders Lane on Saturday 3 September 2023 which is 'growing' annually in popularity. Don't be shy, new entrants and

entries are always welcome. Having moved our offices to Rectory Lane, local residents can now hire the ground floor Chamber Room; ideal for meetings, conferences and smaller gatherings. Please contact Judy Graham contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk if you are interested in hiring this venue or indeed our other Murray Hall and Kingsley Hall venues.

I would like to thank Cllr Barbara Cohen, who has completed her one year term of office as Town Mayor. She has packed a lot into a hectic year. Uniquely, her role has involved, following the Royal Protocols, after the death of our belated Queen Elizabeth II, to celebrating the coronation of our new King, Charles III, with Loughton residents. Throughout the Mayor's long list of engagements, her dedication to the role and engaging personality shone through.

Enjoy the summer
Mark Squire
 Town Clerk

Mayor's Civic Celebration

ON SUNDAY 26 February, Town Mayor, Cllr Barbara Cohen, held this year's Civic Celebration for the first time at the Loughton Synagogue. The ceremony conducted by Rabbi Yanky Abrahms, included an insight into the Jewish Year of Festivals, with music from Rafi Sandford and a reading "3 Forest Hamlets" by Cllr Chris Pond. Reflecting on her year in office, Cllr Cohen recounted her many engagements. Along with all

the Loughton Town Council events and those of local organisations and partners, it transpired to be quite an historic year, which included the Platinum Jubilee celebrations and beacon lighting on Hillyfields Open Space, then sadly followed by the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, which required the Town Mayor to read the proclamation at Loughton Library & Town Hall of King Charles III's accession to the throne.



L-R: Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Mr Amrik Sandhu, Youth Councillor, Town Mayor, Cllr Barbara Cohen, Youth Councillor, Mrs Sandhu

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Loughton Town Council

Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor to be appointed on 24 May 2023 Town Clerk: Mark Squire

Councillors

ALDERTON WARD

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ST JOHN'S WARD

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Rectory Lane, Loughton, IG10 2QZ
michael.x.owen@gmail.com

ST MARY'S WARD

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23 Church Lane
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bcohen61@hotmail.com

Cllr Judy Jennings 020 8508 4200
Loughton Town Council,
1 Buckingham Court,
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cllrjennings@hotmail.co.uk

Cllr Graham Wiskin 020 8925 2003
Traps Hill
Loughton IG10 1TD
cllr.graham.wiskin@gmail.com

Committee membership

Committee memberships were finalised at the Annual Council meeting on 24 May 2023, (after Think Loughton went to print). Full details of the new Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor and the committees are available on the town council noticeboards around the town and its website

www.loughton-tc.gov.uk

You can also email councillors directly from the website.

The views expressed in *Think Loughton* are not necessarily those of Loughton Town Council, and the inclusion of advertisements does not constitute an endorsement by the council of any products or services.

Further copies of *Think Loughton* are available from the Town Council and local libraries. A digital version of *Think Loughton* can be viewed on the council website where a PDF version can be downloaded. It is also available on tape - please call us to request a copy.

Contacting us

For editorial contributions and diary entries, please call 020 8508 4200. For advertising enquiries, please call 01245 790244 / 07942 800865.

Deadline dates

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Autumn 2023	17 Jul 2023
Winter 2023/24	25 Sep 2023

Next issue covers Sept to mid-Nov '23

We do not accept unattributed articles for publication.

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Town Council Meetings

1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane,
Loughton, IG10 2QZ at 7.30pm
2023

- | Month | Date | Agenda |
|-------|------|------------------------------|
| Jun | 12 | Planning & Licensing |
| | 14 | Environment & Heritage |
| | 26 | Planning & Licensing |
| Jul | 27 | Resources & General Services |
| | 10 | Planning & Licensing |
| Aug | 24 | Planning & Licensing |
| | 26 | Council |
| | 7 | Planning & Licensing |
| Sep | 29 | Planning & Licensing |

For dates of subsequent meetings, check the council's website.

News round-up

■ **GARDEN MAKEOVER:** Essential safety works to the garden of Kingsley Hall were completed on 17 February 2023. While being made safe the space has been completely transformed, much to the delight of users.



■ **NEW FACE JOINS THE TEAM:** At the beginning of April, Steven Watkins, was recruited as our new Assistant Caretaker / Cemetery Assistant. Steve said, "I have gained most of my experience from working for Buckhurst Hill Parish Council. I enjoy meeting



people and learning about their different lifestyles. I decided I wanted to work for our local community and taking on this role is a great way to do that. Personally, I love watching football and enjoy playing

Outdoor and Indoor Bowls. I play one game a year for Essex County Bowls. I would highly recommend it as it also has a great community atmosphere and social events. I look forward to working for LTC and meeting many more local residents.

■ **CHARGING AHEAD:** Loughton Town Council proudly took receipt of its new eco-friendly electric van, which it is leasing for the Services Team to undertake its outside duties and for Council events.



■ **ADOPTED LOCAL PLAN:** On 6 March 2023 at an Extraordinary Meeting of Epping Forest District Council the Local Plan 2011 to 2033 was adopted. The Epping Forest District Local Plan 2011 to 2033 is now the statutory development plan, which means it has full weight in determining planning applications. LTC however, will continue to object to applications that are likely to endanger the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation, believing the proposed mitigation strategies of EFDC are unproven.

■ **READY SET READ:** Starting 15 July until 1 September join in the Summer Reading Challenge at Loughton Library, Traps Hill, IG10 1HD. Have fun expanding your child's imagination and reading ability by taking part in this great challenge.

Coronation celebrations

AS THE nation came together to celebrate the truly historic occasion of King Charles III's Coronation, Loughton Town Council hung out the bunting. The Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor visited locations around the Town on Coronation eve (as Think Loughton was about to go to print). We are most grateful to all Loughton residents and businesses who participated in decorating their homes, premises and streets making for a patriotic display.

Top right: Oaklands School pupils with the Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr Stubbings and Town Mayor, Cllr Cohen

Bottom right: Residents in Pyrls Lane, Karen Myles, (with her mum and son), who organises the Essex Handicrafts Association, really went to town decorating her windows with knitted crown and royal regalia.

Bottom left: Tom Dick & Harry's hung the bunting out



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A fond farewell

ON 30 MARCH, Loughton Town Council bid a fond farewell to one of its longest serving members of staff, Sue Wemyss, our Murray Hall Caretaker, who joined the team in 2008. Sue, a keen gardener, was presented with a "Retirement" rose by her colleagues at a gathering earlier in the week, where officers and councillors paid tribute to Sue, wishing her a long and happy retirement. She will be much missed. Jane Bayley has been appointed our new Principal Caretaker and we wish her well in her new role.



Digging for victory

IF YOU are a keen gardener or baker with a competitive edge, or just want to delight in an enjoyable day out with like-minded folk, come along and have an afternoon of fun with all the family. The Loughton Horticultural Show will be held on Saturday 2 September from 2pm-4pm at The Murray Hall in Borders Lane. The Best Allotment awards presentation will follow afterwards.

We look forward to welcoming all our regular entrants in the Horticultural Show again this year. The show is open to anybody who has a connection with Loughton – live, work or school. If, however, this is something you are considering for the first time, we have put together a comprehensive beginner's guide on entering the event, giving you detailed advice on exhibiting your entries and top tips on what the judges will be looking for with your produce. Follow this link for the guide **Horti Show Beginners guide to exhibiting.pdf** (loughton-tc.gov.uk) or contact Debbie Taylor on 020 8508 4200 or contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk for a copy and further information on this competition.



England Futsal winning captain

NEW CITY COLLEGE SPORT (NCC) student Jamie Brooker has been named captain of the England U19 Futsal team.

Jamie, 17, part of the Tottenham Hotspur Football Development Programme at the EF campus Borders Lane, travelled to Lithuania with the team, scoring two goals and leading them to a 3-0 win!

Since joining NCC Jamie has excelled on his Sport course. Selected for the Coaching Excellence Programme with Spurs he has spent time volunteering as a coach at local primary schools.

Jamie said: "To be selected as captain of the England Futsal team was the best feeling. The Sport course here has helped me to develop my skills and made me a better all-round person. I've loved every minute of my experience here. Being selected for the Coaching Excellence programme, part of the Tottenham Hotspur Football Development centre, has allowed me to work with young footballers at schools. I really

enjoy mentoring them and working alongside some of the best coaches at Tottenham. This means I will also get the chance of a job as a coach at Tottenham when I leave college, which is really exciting."

Jamie says his love of playing Futsal is complemented by the skills he is learning at college: "I started playing Futsal when I was younger and haven't stopped! I'd recommend it to everyone – it's an indoor 5-a-side sport, similar to football, but a lot quicker and very high intensity."

Paul Griffiths, Tottenham Hotspur Football Development Programme Co-ordinator for NCC, said: "Being selected as captain for your country is an amazing achievement and we are extremely proud of Jamie. He is an excellent, hard-working student and fully deserves these opportunities."

Jamie is aiming to become a football coach or manager once he completes his course at New City College.



Design is in the detail



THE LOUGHTON Building Design Award, launched in 2012, to preserve the architectural heritage of the town, was this year presented by the Town Mayor, to the proud owner (and developer) Mr Wheeler, of 49 Church Lane. Regrettably, architects, Atelier73, were unable to attend to collect their award.

The judges, Cllrs Barbara Cohen, Town Mayor; Carol Davies, Planning & Licensing Committee Chairman and Chris Pond, Environment & Heritage Committee Chairman remarked:

"A great deal of time and effort has been taken

with this. No 49 is a recently restored 1920s 'Wrenaissance' house for C F Clark by the renowned firm of Wallis Gilbert and Partners. A fine job has been done with the detailing, particularly the bold extension of the modillion cornice. Everything is right, it all looks in keeping and makes a worthy addition to the varied streetscapes of Church Lane and adds interest to the scene at the crossroads. The builders have managed to make it look entirely as if it belongs. Atelier73, the architects, have, we think made a good job, and thoroughly deserve the award."

A Certificate of Merit was awarded to the owner of 57 Newmans Lane, for renovations made. The judges commenting on this project: "this is an ex-local authority house, part of the original Debden Estate. The property is one of the post war permanent prefabricated British Iron and Steel Federation Houses. Since it had become quite dilapidated over time, it has been given a complete yet sensitive makeover".

Loughton Town Council congratulates all those recognised in this competition and is grateful for their efforts in maintaining the character of our town.



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Second Sunday of each month 11.30am Messy Church families are warmly invited to join us for free craft and activities for youngsters up to 10 years old. The Church of the Holy Innocents, Church Lane, High Beach, IG10 4BF Vicar: Revd. Jane Yeadon – 07960 604416, Parish Administrator: 07853 336880. Parking Restrictions Enforced in area – avoid Red Routes.

6 Jun 2pm Gresty Ragtimers Theydon & Abridge Jazz Club, Abridge Village Hall, 39 Ongar Road, RM4 1UD. Disabled facilities. Free Parking / Bar / tea & coffee. Open to non-members (membership available, £7.50 p/person - 'til end of Dec '23). Event prices £10 p/person. Enquiries: davedyer24@gmail.com or Dave or Sheila Dyer 07903 879209 www.theydonjazzclub.weebly.com

8 – 10 Jun 8pm A Bunch of Amateurs by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman. Comedy set in the world of amateur dramatics! Fading Hollywood action hero Jefferson Steele is lured to England to give his flagging career a much-needed boost and star as King Lear in Stratford. What he doesn't realise is Stratford is not the home to the Royal Shakespeare Company, but a Suffolk village am dram group. His co-stars are not the cream of English theatre but a bunch of amateurs trying to save their village theatre. Hollywood and sleepy England clash with predictable results. As Jefferson's career implodes, he discovers some truths about himself – along with his inner Lear. Loughton Amateur Dramatic Society (LADS) at Lopping Hall, High Road, Loughton IG10 4LF. Tickets £12. Call the box office on 07552 736 110 (answer machine) or visit www.lads.org.uk

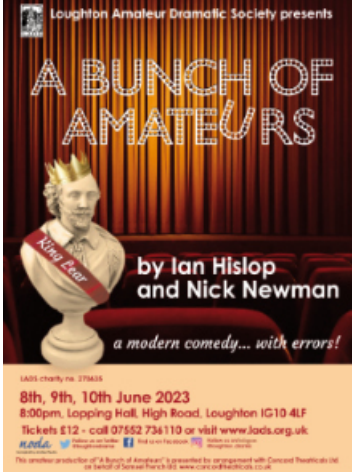
18 Jun 3pm Walk in Concert with retiring collection. The Church of the Holy Innocents, Church Lane, High Beach, IG10 4BF (see above). Parking Restrictions Enforced in area – avoid Red Routes.

- 20 Jun 2pm TJ Jazz & Blues** Theydon & Abridge Jazz Club, Abridge Village Hall, 39 Ongar Road, RM4 1UD. Disabled facilities. Free Parking / Bar / tea & coffee. Open to non-members (membership available, £7.50 p/person - 'til end of Dec '23). Event prices £10 p/person. Enquiries: davedyer24@gmail.com or Dave or Sheila Dyer 07903 879209 www.theydonjazzclub.weebly.com

22 Jun 7.45pm Essex Handicrafts Association Woodlands Branch, Subject to be confirmed. Meets on the 4th Thursday of each month in the church hall at Loughton Methodist church contact Karen Myles 020 8508 4581 (see p13)

24 Jun 7pm Anniversary Concert by The Woodford Singers. The Church of the Holy Innocents, Church Lane, High Beach, IG10 4BF. Tickets £15 (incl. glass of wine/soft drink & light buffet) from Mrs Wackett – 07949 961184. Parking Restrictions Enforced in area – avoid Red Routes.

24 Jun 7.30pm Woodford Symphony Orchestra Summer Concert Roding Valley High School, Alderton Hill, Loughton IG10 3JA Wagner Siegfried Idyll; Schumann Cello Concerto with Josh Salter; Mozart Symphony 32 'Haffner' Symphony. Tickets £10, under 16s free at door or tel: 020 8924 9370. Website: WSOrchestra.org.uk



Loughton Amateur Dramatic Society presents

A BUNCH OF AMATEURS

by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman

a modern comedy... with errors!

LADS charity no. 276453

8th, 9th, 10th June 2023

8:00pm, Lopping Hall, High Road, Loughton IG10 4LF

Tickets £12 - call 07552 736110 or visit www.lads.org.uk

- 25 Jun 12 noon-4pm Jessel Green Family Fun Day** including children's favourite inflatables (height restrictions apply), smaller events for younger children and free soft play for Under 5's, Mr Happy, Punch & Judy, food, drink, craft stalls, Essex Kite display and workshop and much more. All-day wristbands only £10, wristbands for younger children start at £5 and individual rides from 50 pence. Jessel Green, IG10 2EQ (see front page).



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Annual Report 2023

This report is an update on what Loughton Town Council (LTC) has undertaken in the last year. At the Annual Town Meeting in March, we awarded our Citizen of the Year and Loughton Building Design winners and presented the Financial Assistance Award Scheme recipients with their certificates.

As Mayor, I chair full Council Meetings, involving all 22 Town Councillors. Over the year some important strategic matters have been reviewed, including the Local Plan modifications and ward boundary proposals. We listen to residents' complaints and try to rectify them.

Deputy Town Mayor, Mick Stubbings has been a constant support throughout my Mayoral term, along with all the Town Councillors.

To LTC officers, who work tirelessly to action our decisions, thank you for all your support and the hundreds of hours spent assisting us as elected Councillors. A special thank you to Pippa Bryce, who must be the most organised efficient person ever and our Town Clerk, Mark Squire for being solid, safe and dependable.

So how on earth did I get here? Firstly, by joining the right party! The Loughton Residents Association (LRA) is an independent local party, run by residents who enjoy contributing to the quality of life in Loughton. Trying to stop building on green spaces and high-rise blocks being built whilst understanding the need for more housing that young people can afford. Opposing payment of road use and getting yellow lines located where locals want them. Trying to retain diverse shops in the high street and Debden Broadway. We maintain our precious green spaces, and pass on requests for repairing potholes, replacing street lighting, providing salt bins and regular rubbish collections. The LRA hold 21 of the 22 seats at LTC, the other seat is held by Cllr Stephen Murray, an independent, with many of the same ideals as the LRA.

What a year it has been. It started with our Queen's Platinum Jubilee, celebrating 70 years' service, where the Lord Deputy Lieutenant lit the beacon on Hillyfields, one of Loughton's green spaces. Tea parties and cutting cakes were many! Then the death of our dear Queen Elizabeth II, during the period of mourning I was to wear black clothing together with a black ribbon, and I read the proclamation at the library to local Loughtonians proclaiming the new King and shouted 3 cheers for His Majesty.

I attended about 40 events being photographed by David Jackman for Everything Epping Forest at most! I only wear my chain on official engagements, but welcome the friendly recognition smile I receive when walking around town.

LTC staff organise major events at which I am guest of honour. Jessel Green Family Fun Day is an extremely popular fixture that attracted a staggering 3000+ people last year.

We look forward to Loughton Day this September, an event taking place at Loughton Cricket Ground showcasing local charities and organisations.

We have an allotment competition with a quite magnificent cup awarded to the winner. Prizes for the best Christmas Window Competition, where shopkeepers compete, and I am one of three judges. Christmas cards with designs produced by locals, the winning card being submitted to print for distribution. We maintain the safety of our playgrounds and outdoor gyms, playing fields, Roding Valley Recreation Ground (RVRG) tennis courts, and hire out our function rooms, the Murray and Kingsley Halls and latterly Buckingham Court. We order street furniture, instal heritage plaques, organise flower baskets, and maintain the War Memorial and drinking fountain.

At the War Memorial floral tributes were laid following the death of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II; and wreaths on 11 November for annual remembrance day. However, my most memorable occasion was leading the procession from The British Legion to the War Memorial, followed by a marching band and laying the Loughton Wreath in memory of those that gave their lives in both world wars. Then standing upon a podium alongside Dame Eleanor Laing MP and Mrs Caroline Pond, as past chairman of EFDC, where uniformed personnel marched past and saluted us. It was one of those moments where I had to pinch myself to know it was real.

Of the Jewish events in Loughton, of which I was very at home, the menorah lighting on Standard Green and the Holocaust Memorial Day where my heartfelt thoughts were expressed.

As Mayor I nominated a charity that benefits local residents. A treasure hunt was held on 23 April in Loughton High Road to raise monies for Lopping Hall, our multi-purpose community venue.

My Mayoral term ended in May, incorporating the coronation of King Charles III with all the invitations that brought. Street parties on Sunday 7 May were planned and Loughton residents were encouraged to join in the celebrations. Hopefully Church Lane, the street I live at, will host one.

Cllr Barbara Cohen
Town Mayor

Loughton Town Council

1 Buckingham Court,
Rectory Lane,
Loughton
IG10 2QZ

Tel **020 8508 4200**

Fax **020 8508 4400**

contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk

Town Clerk **Mark Squire**

Planning & Licensing

Cllr Carol Davies

In the last year the Planning and Licensing Committee held 22 meetings.

Chaired by myself, supported by my deputy Cllr Will Kaufman and experienced Planning Committee members, (Cllrs Stella Murphy, Phillip Abraham, Kevin Rainbow, John Riley and Graham Wiskin) and our very capable Town Council Planning Clerk Debra Paris and Jonathon Glynn, we have considered:

- 305 planning applications, of those we objected to 181 and raised no objection to 122. (The Committee made no comment in two instances, one application being duplicated by EFDC, the other being an application from the Town Mayor, Cllr Cohen.)
- 22 appeals – we objected to 16 and our appeal comments were lodged with the Inspector. (6 were for information only.)
- 5 licensing applications – objecting to 3.
- 18 amended applications or re-consultations. Of these we objected to 13 - the remaining 5 we had no objection to.

Owing to the sad death of HM Queen Elizabeth II, the Committee meeting for 12 September 2022 was cancelled with applications on that agenda being submitted under delegated powers, in order that comments to the Local Planning Authority were in time.

EFDC's new local plan has now been accepted by the Inspector. We are pleased that Jessel Green and the two London Underground sites, at Loughton and Debden Tube Stations have been successfully removed from this.

Also, regarding a recent proposal for 38 flats at Loughton Library - I can confirm that EFDC objected to the application, the key issue that the 38 flats exceeds the 20 flats allowed for in the draft Local Plan, and that there would be an adverse effect from pollution on the (SAC) or Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation as well as on the York Hill Conservation Area.

Regarding the SAC, EFDC have devised a so-called pollution mitigation strategy, consisting of charging developers of new houses to make an unspecified financial contribution. They are also likely to institute a clean air zone (CAZ) charging motorists to drive through the Forest. However, as the effectiveness of both the mitigation strategy and CAZ are completely unproven, we will continue to object to planning applications that create pollution, impact the Forest and negatively affect the health and wellbeing of residents.

EFDC made two new TPO's (Tree Preservation Orders) in Loughton this year and consulted the Committee on the Statement of Principles under The Gambling Act 2005.

Currently there is unfortunately a large development of 48 properties proposed for the EFDC ex-nursery site. Situated next to Hillyfields Open Space, bordering the GROW Community Garden, the plans include a 4-storey block of flats, large car park and the removal of most of the plots of mature trees. As this

site is elevated this will increase the negative impact and overbearing effect on the amenity of the surrounding neighbouring properties and street scene. This Committee objected most strongly to this application. However, it will ultimately be decided by EFDC's Development Management Committee rather than being voted on by its Area Plans South Sub-Committee.

For the 2023 Loughton Building Design Award, Cllr Barbara Cohen, Town Mayor, Cllr Chris Pond, Chairman of The Environment & Heritage Committee and myself considered two applications.

The first, an ex-local authority house, part of the original Debden Estate situated at the bottom of Newmans Lane, one of the post war permanent prefabricated British Iron and Steel Federation Houses. Since it had become quite dilapidated over time, it has been given a complete yet sensitive makeover.

The second, an extension adjoining a 1920's 'Wrenaissance' house in Church Lane by renowned firm of Wallis Gilbert and Partners. This development has paid such attention to the detail and styling of 'Limber', the main dwelling, that it blends in perfectly.

Although both quite different, importantly each property's refurbishment adds considerably to the street scene in their respective settings. It's for this reason my fellow judges and I decided both were worthy of note, with the award going to 49 Church Lane and the runner up being Newmans Lane.

I congratulate both architects and developers.



Recreation

Cllr David Wixley

I'm pleased to announce that work on building a new playground on the Roding Valley Recreation Ground (RVRG) is due to start in early April and expected to be completed by the Summer.

On the subject of playgrounds, the Council was approached by a mother whose young son suffers from food allergies. We were made aware that someone touching food and then playground equipment could result in a child suffering an allergic reaction as allergens can remain on surfaces. We responded to the mother's request and put up warning notices.

The basic message is:

1. Not to eat near play equipment.
2. Dispose of litter responsibly.
3. Wash/clean hands after eating.

As in previous years we received awards from the Essex Playing Fields Association with the RVRG and Willingale Road Playing Field both receiving Certificates of Merit as well as the playgrounds at Traps Hill, Newmans Lane and Westall Road receiving runner-up and silver awards respectively. In achieving these awards we recognize the efforts of our staff and the District Council's Ground Maintenance team in making this success possible.

In August the Town Mayor, Cllr Barbara Cohen, and myself took part in a hedgerow survey on the RVRG. This was organised by the District Council's Countrycare team and stemmed from an initiative by "The People's Trust for Endangered Species". The scheme is probably aimed at the farming community with the objective of demonstrating the benefits of healthy hedgerows to farmers. A short report on the survey can be

found in the agenda for the Recreation Committee meeting of 7.9.22 via the LTC website.

For reasons of tree safety and management the Council commissioned a tree survey in 2021. The survey recommended work to be carried out which included the removal of dead Cherry trees on the Roding Valley Recreation Ground. It is proposed to plant replacement Cherry trees over a period of time as funds permit.

At our November meeting the Committee received a presentation from Mr Fabrizio Luca Ferrari who is the Epping Forest District Council's Public Health Improvement Officer. His presentation outlined EFDC's Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2022-26 which was well received with members' questions being answered.

The Willingale Road Nature Reserve continues to benefit from volunteer workdays held on 6.10.22 and 5.1.23 organized by EFDC's Countrycare team. There are plans for a moth survey in April or May.

The Committee is responsible for two community halls. The Murray Hall where the Council is looking into whether or not it is viable and cost effective to install solar panels and the Kingsley Hall where essential repairs and improvements have been made to the rear garden area.

It was good to see the return of the Jessel Green Family Fun Day after a break of 3 years due to the Covid pandemic, the event seemed more popular than ever. This year's event will be held on Sunday 25 June.

Finally, I thank officers and Committee members for their contributions throughout the year.

Resources & General Services

Cllr Michael Owen

The Resources and General Services Committee bears the responsibility of overseeing the finances of the Town Council (TC) ensuring it conducts itself with utmost openness, transparency, and ethical standards. The Committee carries out the day-to-day financial transactions necessary for the smooth running of the TC overseeing staff salaries, insurance, bill payments, banking arrangements, Council admin, personnel and employment matters, staff management, IT and office equipment, Members' expenses, management of Buckingham Court. Furthermore, the Committee is responsible for producing the quarterly TC Magazine, "Think Loughton," managing the Town Noticeboards and Website, and administering the Financial Assistance Scheme.

The Committee organises Civic Celebrations, such as the Christmas Card Competition and Citizenship Awards. It undertakes policy reviews, contract reviews, training strategy, internal audits, and banking and investment reviews on an annual basis. I am pleased to advise that the Council received a clean audit report from the External Auditors.

Each year, the Committee reviews the Council's insurances, Council-wide priorities and policies, such as the Essex Pension Fund Administration Strategy, Investment Strategy and Policy, Members Remuneration Scheme, Procedure to fill a Casual Vacancy, Laptop Use, Staff Absence, Data Protection, Code of Conduct and Complaints procedure, Freedom of Information Publication Scheme, Health and Safety, and Training Strategy. This year, the TC faced significant challenges due to the fallout from the Covid pandemic and global inflation issues, which hindered our ability to plan for the longer term. Despite this, we have tried to keep the increase in council tax to an absolute minimum, given that RPI was at 13.7% and CPI at 10.7% as of November '22. To achieve this, we made savings, reduced expenditure on certain projects, and postponed others. There will be no increase in the Councillors' Parish Allowance. This year the tax base which

will be used to calculate the 2023/24 Band D Council Tax for Loughton Town Council (LTC) is 12,667.9 (12,732.8 last year) and will mean LTC's annual council tax for a Band D property will be £71.39. An increase of approximately £6.23.

Awarding grants to local groups and organisations is a critical function of the Committee, and we ensure these awards benefit people living in Loughton providing a positive impact on the local community. This year, we are supporting 17 organisations (up from 14 last year), and the full list is available in the Committee's February 2023 minutes. The committee for the grants consists of three members, which will increase to four next year to include the previous cycle's Mayor, who brings a better insight into the decision-making process due to their involvement in local organisations during their mayoral tenure. Additionally, there is a separate grant provision of £8,500 to Citizens Advice Epping Forest.

On 15 December 2022, Cllr Murray visited the Office and undertook a financial check on purchase orders and receipts for the Financial Year 2022/23. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our Town Clerk, Mark Squire, who continues to do excellent work, our Deputy Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer, Kim Lumb, our Community Manager, Pippa Bryce, and all our hard-working officers. Lastly, I thank all the members of the Resources Committee for their commitment and dedication to the welfare of the residents of Loughton by scrutinising the Town's finances carefully and conscientiously.

In January 2023, the Committee passed a resolution to sign up to the Civility and Respect Pledge for local councils and requested that this protocol be included in the Councillors' induction pack. The Committee was tasked with supplying bunting for both Loughton High Road and The Broadway for King Charles' Coronation celebrations in May 2023 which we were pleased to support.

Environment & Heritage

Cllr Chris Pond

As usual, the Committee met roughly 6-weekly. Topics covered included:

Thames Water (TW)
Loughton's water infrastructure has continued to deteriorate, and Committee members have tried to bring TW to discussions on this. Unfortunately, they are accountable to nobody, save their distant shareholders. Although they did agree to a couple of video link meetings, mains continue to burst frequently. Remedying this would require action at a national government level. We do what we can but beyond moaning, that is nil.

Benches - York Hill Green
A major issue at the beginning of the year was the question of returning these benches, with their view into Kent, which had been removed by order of the Head Epping Forest Constable - as they sit on City of London land. Eventually, the Committee (on a most unusual vote) decided to have them replaced.

Allotments
The three sites in Loughton all contributed to the successful Horticultural Show, which the Committee facilitated. At present, this part of the Committee work is going without incident.

Wombles
There have been litter picking expeditions at roughly 6-weekly intervals, where a team of 6-10 people patrol and remove litter from two or three beats. It is a great pity this is necessary, but the improvement is great.

Signage
Jointly with the Forest, we got funding for pedestrian signage to guide people who arrive at the station towards the Forest, which is not as straightforward for a visitor as one might think.

St Johns Churchyard
We were notified by the Church that they intended to apply to the Ministry of Justice that they proposed to close the churchyard. This process is governed by a rather cumbersome statutory process; we held a useful preliminary meeting with them, but the Order has not yet been applied for. This would mean the Church no longer maintained their

churchyard, and that LTC would have to decide if it wished to assume the responsibility, or passport it to Epping Forest District Council.

Alleyways
I obtained some funding from Essex County Council for naming some further alleyways within Loughton. The aim is to encourage walking and develop shortcuts for pedestrians, e.g., to shops, bus stops, and stations, and to provide an alternative to car use.

Claybury Hospital War Memorial
This was found in Loughton and returned to Redbridge Museum after we had cared for it for the time the Museum was closed.



Attendance at meetings during the municipal year 2022/23

Committee/ Councillor	Council 7 meetings	Planning & Licensing #22 meetings	Recreation 5 meetings	Environment & Heritage 5 meetings	Resources & General Services 6 meetings
P Abraham	5	19*			
P Beales**				*	
R Brookes	5		4		4*
B Cohen	7	2		5*	3*
C Davies	3	20*		1	
T Downing	3			1	
S Fontenelle	6	2	5*	5*	2
L House	5		4*		
J Jennings	3				1*
W Kauffman	5	20*			3*
N MacKinnon	6	1	5*		
S Murphy	5	18*			
S Murray	6		5*		5*
M Owen	3				5*
C C Pond	7			5*	1
C P Pond	6			5*	2
K Rainbow	6	20*			
J Riley	5	18*			1
M Stubbings	6	2	5*	1	6*
K Valentine	5		5*	5*	
G Wiskin	7	19*		4*	
D Wixley	6	2	5*	4	6

* a member of that committee

** Cllr P Beales has been granted a leave of absence

#One Planning Meeting scheduled for 12/9/22 was cancelled following the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II. (Planning Committee Comments for that meeting were submitted under powers of delegated authority)

Financial Report

£	2021/22	2022/23**
Band D precept figure per household	62.44	65.16
Income		
Precept	782,675	829,663
Interest	57	11,481
Operating income	145,211	152,900
Total receipts	927,943	994,044
Running Costs		
Resources & General Services	208,462	269,571
Environment & Heritage	212,866	201,015
Recreation	542,338	630,279
Planning & Licensing	34,000	34,170
Total payments	997,666	1,135,035
Summary		
Balance c/forward	702,489	632,766
Add receipts	927,943	994,044
Less payments	997,666	1,135,035
Balance c/forward	632,766	491,775
Total net assets represented by:		
General fund	343,594	267,530
Earmarked reserves	289,172	224,245
Overall balances	632,766	491,775

**Unapproved & unaudited. For a detailed copy of the accounts please contact the council.

Members' Allowances 2022/23

The Parish Basic Allowance for 2022/23 was £120 pa			
Councillor	Parish Basic Allowance	Travel & Subsistence	Total
	£	£	£
P Abraham	120.00		120.00
R Brookes	120.00		120.00
B Cohen	120.00		120.00
C Davies	120.00		120.00
T Downing	120.00		120.00
S Fontenelle	120.00		120.00
L House	120.00		120.00
N MacKinnon	120.00		120.00
S Murphy	120.00		120.00
C C Pond	120.00		120.00
C P Pond	120.00		120.00
M Stubbings	120.00		120.00
G Wiskin	120.00		120.00
D Wixley	120.00		120.00

Cllrs P Beales, J Jennings, W Kauffman, S Murray, M Owen, K Rainbow, J Riley, and K Valentine have renounced their right to claim the allowance.

Councillors list, by ward, during the year 2022/23

Alderton Ward

Cllr Philip Abraham
Cllr Michael Stubbings
Cllr Katie Valentine

Roding Ward

Cllr Rose Brookes
Cllr Neil MacKinnon
Cllr Stephen Murray
Cllr David Wixley

Broadway Ward

Cllr Philip Beales
Cllr Les House
Cllr Kevin Rainbow

St John's Ward

Cllr Michael Owen
Cllr Caroline Pond
Cllr Chris Pond

Fairmead Ward

Cllr Carol Davies
Cllr Sebastian Fontenelle
Cllr Will Kauffman

St Mary's Ward

Cllr Barbara Cohen
Cllr J Jennings
Cllr G Wiskin

Forest Ward

Cllr Trevor Downing
Cllr Stella Murphy
Cllr Jon Riley

Contact details for the councillors may be viewed at www.loughton-tc.gov.uk

■ **25 Jun 150th Anniversary of the Church of the Holy Innocents** launch of Arts Trail around the Church, storytelling in the afternoon and Victorian Teas. The Church of the Holy Innocents, Church Lane, High Beach, IG10 4BF (see above). Parking Restrictions Enforced in area – avoid Red Routes.

■ **4 Jul 2pm Gresty Ragtimers** Theydon & Abridge Jazz Club, Abridge Village Hall, 39 Ongar Road, RM4 1UD. Disabled facilities. Free Parking / Bar / tea & coffee. Open to non-members (membership available, £7.50 p/person - 'til end of Dec '23). Event prices £10 per person. Enquiries: davedyer24@gmail.com or Dave or Sheila Dyer 07903 879209 www.theydonjazzclub.weebly.com

■ **11 Jul 8pm Butterflies, Maharajas, and Tiaras Symbols of Power & Wealth in the Courts of China, the subcontinent & Europe in the 18th, 19th & 20th centuries**, lecture by Peter le Rossignol, Fellow of the Society of Antiquities with 40 years' experience of lecturing. The Arts Society, Bancroft's Prep School, 611 High Road, Woodford Green, IG8 0RF. All new members welcome. Donation Requested. Enquiries: Mary Affleck 07767 662762 marycaffleck@gmail.com

■ **15 Jul 2.30pm The Dudley Moore Story: Jazz from Dagenham to Hollywood!** Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Road, IG10 1RB. Fundraising event for the National Jazz Archive. Tickets £20 from www.wegotickets.com or 020 8502 4701/ events@nationaljazzarchive.org.uk

■ **15 Jul 7pm The Roding Players Orchestra Summer Concert** St Mary's Church, 201 High Road, IG10 1BB. Tickets: £10, £9 concessions, under 11s free – available on the door (cash or card), includes refreshments. Contact: Shirley Fuller – shirley.fuller55@gmail.com 07713 113384 http://www.rodingplayers.co.uk

■ **16 Jul 3pm Walk in Concert** with retiring collection. The Church of the Holy Innocents, Church Lane, High Beach, IG10 4BF (see above). [Parking Restrictions Enforced in area – avoid Red Routes.]

■ **18 Jul 2pm The Peter Rudeforth Jazz Band** Theydon & Abridge Jazz Club, Abridge Village Hall, 39 Ongar Road, RM4 1UD. Disabled facilities. Free Parking / Bar / tea & coffee. Open to non-members (membership available, £7.50 p/person - 'til end of Dec '23). Event prices £10 p/person. Enquiries: davedyer24@gmail.com or Dave or Sheila Dyer 07903 879209 www.theydonjazzclub.weebly.com

■ **27 Jul 7.45pm Essex Handicrafts Association Woodlands Branch**, Subject to be confirmed. Meets on the 4th Thursday of each month in the church hall at Loughton Methodist church contact Karen Myles 020 8508 4581 (see p13)

■ **1 Aug 2pm Shooting Stars** Theydon & Abridge Jazz Club, Abridge Village Hall, 39 Ongar Road, RM4 1UD. Disabled facilities. Free Parking / Bar / tea & coffee. Open to non-members (membership available, £7.50 p/person - 'til end of Dec '23). Event prices £10 p/person. Enquiries: davedyer24@gmail.com or Dave or Sheila Dyer 07903 879209 www.theydonjazzclub.weebly.com

■ **15 Aug 2pm Mike McQuaid's Hot 4** Theydon & Abridge Jazz Club, Abridge Village Hall, 39 Ongar Road, RM4 1UD. Disabled facilities. Free Parking / Bar / tea & coffee. Open to non-members (membership available, £7.50 p/person - 'til end of Dec '23). Event prices £10 p/person. Enquiries: davedyer24@gmail.com or Dave or Sheila Dyer 07903 879209 www.theydonjazzclub.weebly.com

■ **20 Aug 3pm Walk in Concert** with retiring collection. The Church of the Holy Innocents, Church Lane, High Beach, IG10 4BF (see above). Parking Restrictions Enforced in area – avoid Red Routes.

■ **29 Aug 2pm The Peter Rudeforth Jazz Band** Theydon & Abridge Jazz Club, Abridge Village Hall, 39 Ongar Road, RM4 1UD. Disabled facilities. Free Parking / Bar / tea & coffee. Open to non-members (membership available, £7.50 p/person - 'til end of Dec '23). Event prices £10 p/person. Enquiries: davedyer24@gmail.com or Dave or Sheila Dyer 07903 879209 www.theydonjazzclub.weebly.com

■ **2 Sept 2-4pm Loughton Horticultural Show 2023 & Best Allotment Awards** The Murray Hall, Borders Lane, IG10 3SB. Doors open to exhibitors at 9am. Classes for all ages. Prize giving at 4pm, (followed by Best Allotment Awards presentation). Refreshments available. Free Admission (see page 6).



Disclaimer: Loughton Town Council takes no responsibility for events organised by external organisations/ individuals that are listed above. Please always check details and availability with the relevant organiser.

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Annual Town Meeting

LOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL held its Annual Town Meeting on 15 March 2023 at The Murray Hall. Residents were invited to view displays from local community groups, organisations and charities that had been awarded financial assistance by the Council, following their successful grant applications.

This year those applications totalled £35,441. They were:

Affordable Counselling Epping Forest £500; Alfie James Productions £200; Basics Essex £1,000; Epping Forest Foodbank £2,000; Loughton Chigwell & District Synagogue £500 - Supply of weekly food parcels; Loughton Methodist Church £1,000; Restore Community – GROW Community Garden £2,500; Restore Community – Noah's Ark Toddler Groups £3,000; Restore Community – Oakwood Hill Community Centre £3,000; Restore Community – Oakwood Hill Youth Club £1,500; Samaritans – Redbridge Branch £700; Spark – a branch of Worth Unlimited £1,500; St Mary's Church Loughton – Ignite £249; St Mary's Church Loughton – defibrillator *£750; St Mary's Church Loughton £500 Laptop – safeguarding training / storing sensitive information securely; St Michaels Café - £1,000; 3Food4U £3,500; Voluntary Action Epping Forest £1,000; Youth Employment Strategy £1,750; and Citizens Advice – Epping Forest District £8,500.

(If the defibrillator can go on outside

wall for public access the full amount (£1,542) would be awarded.)

The evening also included presentations by the Town Mayor to the winners of the Loughton Building Design Award 2023 (see page 7), and the Citizenship Award 2023. Heidi Chow received the Citizenship Award, in recognition of her dedication and voluntary work within the community, especially for the GROW Community Garden. Cllr Cohen said *"Heidi has been volunteering for GROW Community Garden for over 6 years, more recently taking a lead role. The Community Garden project brings many benefits to a variety of local residents. Bringing people together, combating social isolation it provides outdoor activity promoting health and wellbeing. This is a particularly important project for adults or children with learning difficulties to participate in"*. A Town Councillor recently said, *"Whenever I visit the GROW Community Garden, I leave feeling the world is a better place than when I arrived!"*. Heidi was presented with a Silver Rose Bowl to keep for a year, along with a glass engraved award and scroll for keeps, plus a cheque for £250 to her chosen charity.

A Certificate of Recognition was also presented to Mohan Panesar, for his exceptional work - above and beyond, benefitting Loughton residents for over 30 years in his work as a pharmacist in The Broadway.



Top photo: TM, Cllr Cohen, centre with cheque, with group representatives receiving their Financial Assistance certificates

Bottom photo: L-R Heidi Chow, Citizenship Award Winner with her rose bowl and TM, Cllr Barbara Cohen



WHAT A BUSY year so far:

- Launched our first cooking classes, with the talented Jenn.
- Expanded our 3Social & Memory Cafes to include chair yoga, from fantastic practitioner Sally, every 2nd Thursday of the month 2-4pm at Loughton Club.
- Proudly chosen by Essex County Council to partner and rollout the national Multiply programme. PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE A £20 VOUCHER ON

COMPLETION OF ANY COURSE.

Email: Colette.3food4u@gmail.com or WhatsApp: 07553033939

- And generously awarded a grant by Loughton Town Council. A lifeline as we have seen a 50% increase in demand for 3Food4U within the last 6 months, but we are working tirelessly to meet the demand in all sorts of innovative ways.

But we need your support – we're running very low on some essentials:

Long life milk, tuna & other tinned fish, tomatoes, cooking sauce, various soup, rice, custard, rice pudding, biscuits, cereal, coffee/tea.

Please drop off donations to any of our hubs: Balgores Estate Agent Loughton or Sainsbury's Debden. Or visit our fundraising page to donate: <https://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20356308>

Our Community Surplus Hub runs every Tues 11.30-1pm at The Loughton Club, IG10 4NX, offering free groceries, clothes and essentials without assessment or referral to anyone that needs it.

Website: www.3food4u.org Email: info.3food4u@gmail.com Tel : 01992 842642 / 07973166940

Loughton - then & now

THIS PICTURE, looking up York Hill between the wars, shows (left) Alma Cottage, no 46, and right, Inglewood, no 48. No 46 is a not untypical Loughton weatherboard cottage probably of 18th century origin; no 48 was built in Edwardian times. The history of the land of no 46 is dealt with extensively by Waller (historian) in Loughton 100 years ago.

The cottage was the scene for a small private school, which may have been Loughton's first. Steeds Way was created by the owner of Loughton Lodge, Godfrey Lomer as a build-to-rent. The present appearance of Alma Cottage, encased in later building so it resembles a much later house, dates from a compromise planning application of 1972,

after two attempts to demolish and replace failed. No 48, and its semi-neighbour Kilindini, are in pretty original condition; in the latter, once Hacienda, lived pre-WW1 Gladys Unger, the American playwright, and the Loughton jewel theft of 1911. Note how the fabled holly hedges of York Hill ("Little Cornwall") are actually of modern origin.



York Hill - past



York Hill - present

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Scan to find out more information



SAVE THE DAY



SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2023
11am – 4pm
is LOUGHTON DAY

**Event showcasing Loughton's
 organisations, groups
 and charities.**

**At Loughton Cricket Club,
 High Road, The Uplands,
 Loughton IG10 1NQ**

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Regular activities

Amendments to: debra.paris@loughton-tc.gov.uk

ALLOTMENTS

Loughton Potato Ground, Baldwins Hill. www.loughtonpotatoground.com
Roding Road Allotment & Leisure Gardens Association, Roding Road. www.rodingleisuregardens.co.uk/
Willingale Road Allotments, Loughton Town Council 020 8508 4200

ANIMAL TRAINING

Epping Green Dog Agility Club Epping Cricket Club, Epping. Thurs Evenings 6.30-8.30pm. Jodie Lucas 07804 630394

ARTS & CRAFTS

Creative Art Classes LifeWorks Centre, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. £12. Tues & Thurs. 07944 589998 www.ruthdronsfield.co.uk

Essex Handicrafts Association, Woodlands Branch, The Studio, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. 4th Thurs, 7.45pm. Karen Myles, branch secretary. 020 8508 4581

Loughton Arts Centre, Lopping Hall, 189 High Road, IG10 4LF. Mon-Sat 10am-4pm. Local artists & photographers work. 07532 053194 <http://www.loughtonarts.org/>

The Arts Bar, Lopping Hall. 2nd Fri from 7pm. For creative people to meet, view the latest exhibition at Loughton Arts Centre & meet the artist (as above).

Thursday Art Group, Loughton Baptist Church, 92 High Rd. Thurs, 1.30pm £3 (incl tea & biscuits) 020 8502 1379 / theormes5@hotmail.co.uk

Woodford & District Floral Arrangement Group, Churchill Room, Wanstead Library, Spratt Hall Rd, E11. 3rd Mons, 6.45 for 7.30pm. Visitors £4. <http://nafas.org.uk/nafas-areas/>

COUNSELLING

Affordable Counselling Epping Forest Waltham Abbey 9.30am – 12.30 midday Tues/Thurs. Epping 3.15pm-6.15pm Thurs. 01992 573402

Samaritans. Free, confidential emotional support for the distressed & despairing available 24/7. 020 8553 9900 / 116 123 / jo@samaritans.org / [txt 07725909090](tel:07725909090)

Spark Counselling and Mentoring for young people. Loughton Youth Centre, Borders Lane, Loughton 020 8508 6743 Spark@worthunlimited.co.uk Free service - donations accepted

EDUCATION

Music Lessons, Loughton Music Academy, High Rd. 020 8502 2992 www.loughtonmusicacademy.co.uk

FOOD

3Food4U Loughton Community Surplus Hub runs every Tues 11.30am-1pm at The Loughton Club, 8 Station Road IG10 4NX. Contact us at Website: www.3food4u.org Email: info.3food4u@gmail.com Tel: 01992 842642

Loughton Foodbank Weds, 10am-12 noon, St Mary's Church, 201 High Rd & Sats, 10.30am-12 noon, St. John's on the Broadway, 66 The Broadway, IG10 3ST, 07402 032313 <https://www.loughtonfoodbank.org.uk>

GENERAL INTEREST

Bell ringing, St John the Baptist Church, Church Lane. Tues, 8-9pm (in tower). No experience necessary. Yvonne Finch 07748 970754

Book Groups Loughton Library, Traps Hill 4th Mons, 1.30pm 0333 0132677
Calligraphy for beginners (adults) 07956 544262

Epping Forest Conservation Volunteers, The Warren, Epping New Rd most Suns. Kevin Mason 8529 9273 efcv2@yahoo.co.uk www.efcv.co.uk

Epping Forest Countrycare, EFDC's Countryside team. Volunteering projects in district's nature reserves. Thurs 10am-4pm 01992 788203 www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/index.php/out-and-about/countrycare

Epping Forest & District Stamp Club, Roding Valley High School, Alderton Hill, 2nd Tues (most months) 8pm. 01992 654001

Epping Forest Singers A friendly non-auditioned choir singing a mixed repertoire. Rehearsals: Thursdays (term time only) at Buckhurst Hill Community Primary School IG9 6DS. 7.30-9.30 pm. Further details: www.eppingforestingers.com

Essex Wildlife Trust – Roding Valley Meadows. Volunteer work parties undertaking practical reserve management, Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 10am-3pm. Contact: roding@essexwt.org.uk / 020 8500 3094

Forest Creative Writers, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Road, Loughton, Thurs (term-time) 1-3pm. Midge Venables 020 8504 1261

Forest Musical Theatre Company, Tues & Weds (rehearsals). email rachel@forestmusical.co.uk or visit www.forestmusical.co.uk

Friends of Light & Healing, Kingsley Hall, Kingsley Rd. An evening of clairvoyance. Alternate Thurs, 7.30 for 8pm. 07743 376468

Green Heart Mindfulness Meditation Group meet at Roding Valley Recreation Ground on an adhoc basis - please contact Susan Latchford for details: mobile 07514 078728 or by email at susan.boshanka@gmail.com

Hornby Railway Collectors Association, St John's Church Scout Hall, Church Lane. 2nd Thurs, 5-10pm alternate months. David Southgate 020 8508 7530

Loughton Amateur Dramatic Society, Lopping Hall, High Rd. Martin Howarth 020 8508 8644 www.lads.org.uk See Dates for the diary.

Loughton Astronomical Society, Scout Hall, Theydon Bois. LAS Astrokyds (6-14 yrs). Thurs 8-10pm. Brian Morton 01992 815804 www.las-astro.org.uk

Loughton Bowling Club Bridge Section, Eleven Acre Rise. Thurs pm. 020 8502 0237

Loughton Bridge Club, Grange Farm - Mon & Weds 7.20pm lindajenkins34@hotmail.com www.bridgewebs.com

Loughton Camera Club, Lopping Hall, High Rd. Weds, 8-10pm. 07873 534 604 www.loughtoncameraclub.org.uk/ Loughton_Camera_Club/Welcome.html

Loughton Chess Club, Loughton Bowling Club, Eleven Acre Rise. Weds, 7.30pm. 020 8508 8407 <http://www.loughtonchess.co.uk/>

Loughton & District Historical Society, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. £2.50 non-mems. 2nd Thurs, 8pm www.loughtonhistoricalsociety.org

Loughton & Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society, All Saints Hse, Romford Rd, Chigwell Row, IG7 4QD. Alt. Fri 7.45pm T: 07850 120180 E: info@lefans.org.uk

RSPB North East London Local Group Talks held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 8pm (except July and August). St Mary's Church, 207 High Road, South Woodford E18 2PA. www.rspb.org.uk/groups/northeastlondon

HEALTH

ADAS (W Essex Alcohol & Drugs Service - by appt) Rectory Lane Health Centre 01279 641347 / admin@adasuk.org.uk www.adasuk.org

Breathe Easy (British Lung Foundation), Tony Carr 01992 573387

Cycling For Health Wednesday morning rides run by Jarvis Goodyear at Epping Forest MTB. For all information and Direct Booking click on this link <https://www.eppingforestmtb.co.uk/cycling-for-health/> For more info contact email Jarvis direct on C4H@eppingforestmtb.co.uk

Lifewalks a voluntary run walk scheme under the supervision of the Lee Valley Park Authority. For More Info Contact: Lyndsey North Community Health & Wellbeing Officer Lee Valley Regional Park Authority M: 07909 000 309 E: LNorth@leevalleypark.org.uk W: visitleevalley.org.uk

Memory Café Rotary Club of Roding, Loughton Club, 8 Station Rd, IG10 4NX. 2nd Fri 10am-12pm. Fran 07984 100379

Open Door Friendship Group for adults with mental ill health. Fridays 3.30/5.30pm St Michael and All Angels Church Hall, Roding Rd, IG10 3EJ

opendoorfriendship@gmail.com + Weds 2pm Yoga sessions at the Methodist Church, High Rd, IG10 1RB £5 members (£10 non-members)

ProActive (W Essex Prostate Cancer men's self-help group) St Margaret's Hospital, The Plain Epping CM16 6TN. Fri monthly 10.30am-2.30pm. Anthony Dollimore 07973 345094 www.proactive.me.uk

LEISURE ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN / YOUNG PEOPLE

2324 (Chigwell) Squadron, Air Training Corps, Buckhurst Hill. Mons & Thurs evenings (13-17 yrs). 020 8505 3353 www.2324squadron.org.uk

7th Epping Forest Scout Group, St Edmund's Church, Traps Hill. Tues: Scouts boys/girls (10½-14½ yrs) 7.30-9pm. Thurs: Beavers boys/girls (6-8 yrs) 5-6pm & Cubs boys/girls (8-10½) 6.30-7.30pm. Keith Davis 07553 376181

16th Epping Forest Scout Group Trinity Church Hall, Mannock Drive. Friday's during term time. Beavers (6-8 yrs) 5-6.15pm, Cubs (8-10 yrs) 6.15-7.45pm & Scouts (10-14 yrs) 7.45-9.30pm. Linda Brede 020 8508 4867 / lulu.brede@gmail.com

30th Loughton Scout Group, St John's Church, Church Lane. Beavers (6-8 yrs), Cubs (8-10 yrs) & Scouts (10-14 yrs) Paul Snowden GSL 020 8508 4336 / info@30thloughton.co.uk

41st Epping Forest Scout Group, Lopping Hall, 189 High Rd. Mons 5.45-9pm Thurs & Fri, 6-9pm Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Explorers girls/boys (6-18) 020 8923 2378 / agsl41@gmail.com

Baby Sensory Stay and Play Loughton Library, Traps Hill, IG10 1HD. Every Tues - 2pm to 3pm. Every Thurs - 10am to 11am. Baby sensory storytime session.

Baby & Toddler Group St Edmund's Parish Hall, Traps Hill. Thurs 9.30-11.30am (term time) stedmundsplaygroup@gmail.com

Baby and Toddler Rhymetime Loughton Library, Traps Hill, IG10 1HD. Every Tues - 10am to 10.30am. Join in with stories and rhymes

Girlguiding in Loughton Rainbows Brownies & Guides (girls aged 5 -17yrs). Leadership opportunities available for girls & women over 14yrs. More information and to register <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/>

Little Angels Baby & Toddler group, St Michael's Church, Roding Rd. Weds 10-11am (term-time) 020 8418 7944

Little Oak's Child & Family Wellbeing Service, 020 8508 0932, please see our Facebook page for programme details
Loughton Youth Centre 106 Borders Lane IG10 3SB. ECC Youth Services in partnership 07557 168088 / louisa.stirling@essex.gov.uk
Accurro: young people with learning difficulties Tues 6-9pm. Action for Family Carers: Young Carers Youth Club Weds 4.30-6.30pm - 2 clubs per month, dates advised on a monthly basis. For further information contact chris.vince@affc.org.uk
Spark Youth Club - Mon/Thurs 3.30-5.30pm term time Age 11-16, 020 8508 6743 Spark@worthunlimited.co.uk

Noah's Ark Toddler Group (under 5s) Oakwood Hill Community Hall, IG10 3NB 10-11.30am Mon (term time) + Trinity Church, Mannock Drive, IG10 2JD. 10-11.30am Tues and Thurs (term time). £1.50 per family. 020 8508 9883

The Loughton Pantomime UpStage Theatre Company Mon 6-7pm 7-15yrs (Junior Chorus). Mon 7-10pm over 16s (Adult Cast) @ Lopping Hall, Loughton, IG10 4LF www.upstage.org.uk hello@upstage.org.uk

Reindeer Explorer Scouts, St Edmund's Church, Traps Hill. Girls/boys (13½-18 yrs). Fri. Dave Martin 07889 189261
Toddler Church, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. (0-5). Tues (term time), 10am. 020 8502 3071 administrator@loughtonmethodist.org.uk

Toddler Toy Time, Loughton Library, Traps Hill, IG10 1HD. Every Weds - 10am to 11am. Soft play equipment. Toys and the sensory wall.

MUSIC

60's music appreciation social group Loughton Club, 8 Station Rd. Last Tues 2-4.30pm 020 8508 8365 / 07761 792691

Epping Forest Guitar Group Mondays (term time) 7.15-9.15pm Lopping Hall. New members welcome - acoustic and classical guitar players. For more info contact info@tonycalvomusic.com

Loughton Folk Club, 8 Station Rd. Live acoustic music. Thurs, 8pm. loughtonfolkclub@googlemail.com

Loughton Ladies Choir Meets every Thurs 2.15-3.45pm St John's Church Hall, Church Lane IG10 1PD. New Members welcome - sopranos/altos Peter Jones - 07769 973405

Loughton Operatic Society, Lopping Hall, High Rd, 020 8505 2033. loughtonoperaticsociety@hotmail.com www.loughtonoperatic.org.uk Rehearsals Tues & Thurs

National Jazz Archive, Loughton Library, Traps Hill Mon-Weds, Fri, 10am-1pm 020 8502 4701 www.nationaljazzarchive.org.uk

Roding Players Orchestra rehearses on Monday evenings from 7pm-9pm at Roding Valley High School. New members always welcome. Contact Miles Harwood on 07715 239101 or milesharwood@aol.com www.rodingleisuregardens.co.uk

South West Essex Choir, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd. Tues, 7.45-10pm. 01992 812606 www.southwestessexchoir.org.uk/
Stand & Deliver Acoustic Open Mic Club, Royal British Legion, 118 Church Hill. 2nd Tues 8pm. Roy Tyzack roy.tyzack@btinternet.com

Theydon & Abridge Jazz Club (TAJC) Abridge Village Hall, 39 Ongar Rd, RM4 1UD. 07903 879209 / 01945 588325. www.theydonjazzclub.weebly.com Every other Tues 2-4.30pm £10 members (£12 non-members)

Woodford Symphony Orchestra welcomes new string players. Rehearsals Thurs, 7.45-9.45pm, Roding Valley High School, 020 8924 9370 www.wsorchestra.org.uk

13 SOCIAL

Bowls Social Bowls for beginners at Loughton Bowls Club, Eleven Acre Rise. From May-Sept. Fri. 5pm. Free parking. Call Chris 020 8508 1661

The Buffaloes, Loughton Club, 8 Station Rd. A charitable brotherhood - members (18+). Tues & Thurs, 8.30pm. mldjaworsfold@yahoo.co.uk www.loughtonclub.blogspot.com

Café Hope St Mary's Church, 201 High Rd. Mon-Fri 9.15am-2.45pm 020 8508 3643

Friday Market, St Michael's Church, Roding Rd. Fri, 10-11.15am

Loughton Probus Club, Gilwell Park, Chingford. 4th Tues (lunch). Secretary Derek Allen 020 8504 3074 www.probusloughton.org.uk/

Over 50s Club, Oakwood Hill Estate Hall. Daily programme of activities. 020 8637 4357

Rotary Club of Loughton, Buckhurst Hill & Chigwell The Blue Boar, Market Place, Abridge, RM4 1UA. 1st Fri 6.15pm www.loughtonrotary.org.uk

Royal British Legion Loughton Branch, 118 Church Hill. Mons & Thurs, 8pm (bingo); Tues & Thurs, 1-4pm line dancing; 2nd & 4th Weds quiz night; last Sun 1-4pm (jazz @ the RBL) 020 8508 5044 www.loughtonrblclub.co.uk

Wesley Café, Loughton Methodist Church, 260 High Rd Mon-Thurs 10am-3pm; Fri 10am-2pm; Sat 10am-1pm Closed Sun. 020 8502 3071

SPORT

All-ability Trampoline Club (disabled people to 19 yrs), Debden Park High School, Willingale Rd. Weds 6.45-7.45pm. Loughton Flyers Trampoline Club & EFDC. Fabrizio Ferrari 01992 564567 / fferrari@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Amici Badminton Club, Roding Valley High School Sports Hall, Alderton Hill. Mons, 8-10pm. Age 30+. Chris 07713 004996

Avenue Lawn Tennis Club, 18 The Avenue, Friendly family club. Membership: juniors 020 8502 3793 & adults 020 8508 4803

Clubbercise Murray Hall, 106 Borders Lane. Easy dance workout routines Weds 7.15-9.15pm Lisa 07877 010158

Colebrook Royals FC, Grange Farm Pavilion, Grange Farm Lane, Chigwell IG7 6DP. Sats & Suns 07951 820444 www.colebrookroyals.co.uk

Connaught Tennis, Squash and Bowls Club Beginners & Improvers Social Lawn Bowls. First 5 sessions free. Make friends, have fun and bowl! Every Tuesday 5pm to 7pm. Connaught Club, Chingford. Call Nicola on 020 8529 2341

EFDC Fitness (all abilities). All classes £5 - first session free. Loughton Bowls Club, Eleven Acre Rise.

Strength & Balance - Mon 10-11am

Beginners Yoga - Tues 10-11am (dementia friendly, free of charge for carers) - Loughton Cricket Club, The Uplands

Pilates - Weds 9.30-10.30am

Keep Fit - Fri 10-11am Enquiries: csreception@eppingforestdc.gov.uk / 01992 564561

Epping Forest HF Walking Group regular Sunday walks in the local area. www.ehfg.org.uk

Epping Forest Sportability Club (EFSC) Multi-sports club for young people with mild-moderate physical & learning difficulties. Oak View School, Whitehills Rd. Sats 10am-1pm (term time) efscc@hotmail.co.uk www.efsportability.com

Flexercise with Caroline Loughton Methodist Church, Wesley Lane, 260 High Rd Tues & Thurs, 10.30-11.30am £7 (First class free) 07714 467784

Katy Little School of Dance, Loughton. Ballet, tap, jazz, examinations & shows. 4 yrs to adults 07712 106941 / www.katylittleschoolofdance.co.uk

Loughton Cricket Club The Uplands, Loughton, IG10 1NQ. Mid April through to September. Children (5yrs) to adults. For info: Contact Cliff Greenhill Chairman 020 8502 2064 cliff.greenhill@btinternet.com www.loughtoncc.hitscricket.com

Loughton Fencing Club Weds, term-time, Debden Park High School, Willingale Rd. All abilities, equipment supplied free. Jnrs 7-8.30pm, snrs 7.30-9pm. First session free. info@loughtonfencingclub.co.uk

Loughton Football Club, Avondale Close. 8-18 yrs + senior team. Suns (youth teams), Sats (snrs) & weekday evenings (training). Keith Campen 020 8508 4757 www.loughtonfc.com/contact-us

Loughton Karate Club, Lopping Hall. All ages & all levels. Suns 5-6pm + weekday evenings. Stephen O' Brien 07758 341584. ALSO **Women's Self-Defence Class** - see website http://loughtonkarateclub.co.uk/

Mountaineering Club, Victoria Tavern, Smarts Lane. Hill walkers & climbers welcome. Mons 8.30pm. www.loughtonmc.org

Lopping Hall community hall in Loughton IG10. Events and shows, rooms to let, dance and keep fit classes, Art Centre. For more info: loppinghallmanager@gmail.com www.loppinghall.org.uk / 020 8508 1660

Loughton Rugby Club, Hornbeam Road, Buckhurst Hill, IG9 6JT. Training Wednesdays 7.30pm. Matches Saturdays. Contact: Michael Walker 07939 468222

Loughton Wado-Kai Karate Club, Roding Valley High School Drama Hut, Alderton Hill. All ages. Weds 7pm. 07971 672542 www.loughtonwadokai.co.uk

Old Loughtonians Hockey Club All ages, beginners to elite welcome, www.oldloughtons.co.uk 020 8504 4010, OLHC@oldloughtonians.co.uk

Pilates classes Epping Forest Community Church, Grosvenor Drive, IG10 2LG, Weds 8pm, Thurs 10am, £5. Suitable for all. www.ginafitnesspilates.co.uk

Roding Valley Angling Club. New members welcome. Darren 07818 392020 / roding.valley.angling.club@gmail.com

Walk - West Essex Ramblers (sorry no dogs). Weekends, Wed & Thurs. 020 8554 1665 / 07434 902394 www.westsexramblers.org.uk

Wing Tjun Kung Fu Roding Valley High School, Alderton Hill. All ages and abilities £8. Sundays (times vary betw 11.15am-3.15pm for each age group) 07977 132111 www.omni-martialarts.co.uk

TALKS

Arts Society Woodford Green, Bancroft's Preparatory School Hall, Whitehall Rd, Woodford Green. Member of NADFAS. 2nd Tues, 7.15 for 8pm. 020 8599 6281

Mothers' Union, St John's Church in Lady Chapel, Church Lane. 3rd Thurs, 10.30am for coffee & speaker. Ivy Southgate 020 8508 7530

National Trust, £3 non-members. Refreshments & NT info. 020 8508 9541 See Dates for the diary

St John's Wives' Group, St. John's Parish Hall, Church. Lane, Loughton, 1st & 3rd Mons 2pm (excluding August). Anne Pratt 020 8508 3539

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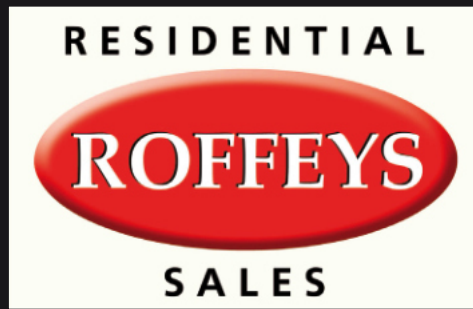
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