Community Alert

Loose Parish Council (LPC) – Keeping you updated

Issue No. 68 **23 October 2026**

THE LOOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SURVEY CLOSES TODAY – Have you given your views?



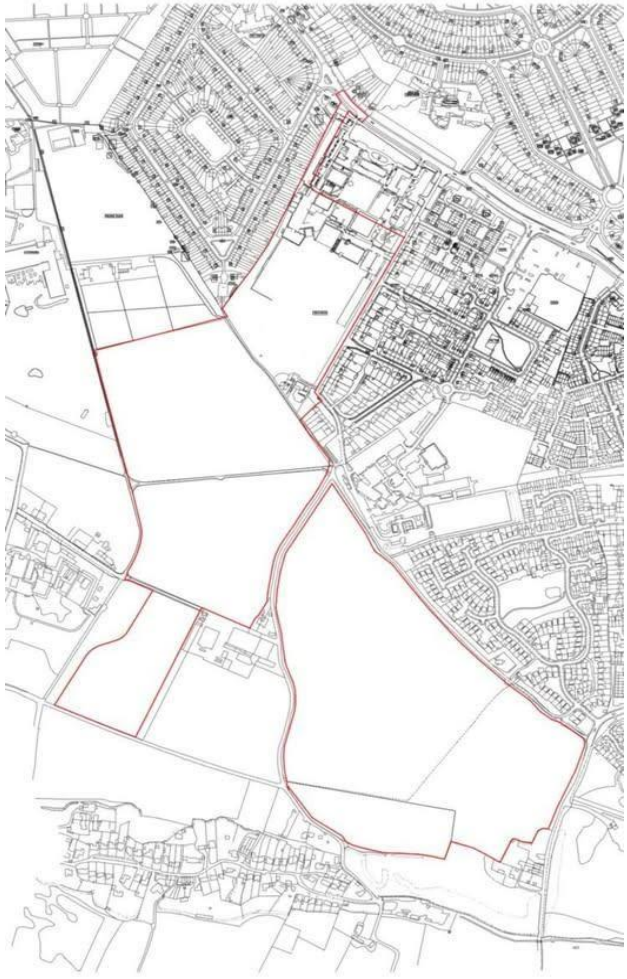
We have seen this week that applications like the one below make it extremely important that the Loose community protects itself – and the new Loose Neighbourhood Plan contains policies that will strive to seek the best outcome for Loose on matters such as housing and infrastructure development. It can be viewed on our website and has been written by the community, for our community, so if you are a Loose resident, please give it your support by completing the quick consultation survey by the deadline, which is **TODAY** Friday 23 October: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LooseReg14

PLANNING APPLICATION NOTIFICATION

The following application has been published for Environmental Screening opinion and will be discussed at the next LPC Planning Committee meeting on 2 November 2026.

26/503961/ENVSCR | EIA Screening opinion - construction of up to 560 residential dwellings together, access, landscaping, amenity and open space provision and other associated works | Land At Maidstone Police Headquarters & Land At Pested Bars Road Sutton Road Maidstone.

Residents can view the application and make comments directly onto the MBC Planning Portal: 26/503961/ENVSCR | EIA Screening opinion - Sutton Road Maidstone Kent



The proposed area is formed of two sites allocated for housing in Maidstone's Local Plan which MBC adopted in 2024: Policy LPRSA362 Land at Maidstone Police Headquarters (247 homes) and Policy LPRSA270 Land at Pested Bars (300 homes). Part of the Pested Bars site falls within Loose Parish, so the new Loose Neighbourhood Plan seeks to address and influence the implications of the allocation.

How can you help? ACT NOW! Complete the Loose Neighbourhood Plan survey TODAY! Support the Plan and its policies or tell us if anything is missing: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LooseReg14

www.loose-pc.gov.uk

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POND WORKS WEEKEND 2: Sat 24/Sun 25 Oct

After making a fantastic start two weekends ago, we propose to continue the work in and around the Loose stream and pond on Sat 24 & Sun 25 October.

Volunteers are needed for wet and dry jobs! With our new floating platforms those in the water are able to clear the watercress and vegetation at a much faster rate so we would appreciate a few more "dryside" volunteers to wheelbarrow it to the skip.





You don't have to come to both sessions, or stay for the whole time, a spare hour or two will be a significant help. Meeting at the Kirkdale end of the stream from 9.30am. Finish is usually around midday. We have some sets of waders for those wishing to get into the water. We hope to see some of you there!

GREENWAY WORKING PARTY: Mon 26 Oct

Over the summer, volunteers put in an incredible effort to cut back the vegetation on the Greenway (the path between Cripple Street and Old Drive / Lancet Lane).



On Monday 26 Oct we hope to have two groups in action to undertake more maintenance. The Community Pay Back team will be working on the verges at the Cripple Street end – and we would like to form a working group at the other end. This second group will go inside the land adjacent to the Greenway and cut back the vegetation next to the boundary fence. This will prevent it growing back through the fence quite so quickly. Jobs will mainly involve cutting and piling the cuttings a short distance away. If you would like to get involved, please turn up at the gate to the cricket field at 9.30am. Gloves are obviously recommended and if you have any suitable tools you are willing to use, do bring them along. Any questions contact Nicky at office@loose-pc.gov.uk

You can also use this address to log your interest in receiving a direct email about our volunteering opportunities.

POSTBOX CLOSURE – Church Street



We are currently investigating the sudden closure of the post box in Church Street in the village, without any replacement or alternative provision. The box was well-used by residents who now need to travel up Old Loose Hill for their nearest service.

Progress with the matter is slow so we encourage residents impacted by this closure to also contact Royal Mail as 'people power' may help push progress. The link is here: Royal Mail Complaints

FOOTPATH CLOSURE – Loose Rd to Pickering St (alongside King George V Recreation Ground)

As SGN progress their gas mains replacement project they have advised that they need to shut the KM53 footpath between Loose Rd and Pickering Street (alongside King George V Recreation Ground) from 9 Nov to 4 Dec to install a new main. The alternative route for pedestrians will be to use Walnut Tree Avenue and Northleigh Close.

COMMUNITY ALERT:

Please help us to increase the reach of our Community Alert so that more people receive the updates and information. If you find this alert useful, please suggest friends and neighbours subscribe via our website. Thank you!

www.loose-pc.gov.uk