



Community Alert

Loose Parish Council (LPC) – Keeping you updated

Issue No. 43

06 May 2025

Update on the closure of Loose Road

For those who have not yet heard, SGN and KCC held a meeting today regarding the ongoing gas repairs. Unfortunately, the information provided below is not the update anyone would wish for. However, whilst intensely frustrating and inconvenient for us all, we have to accept the necessity, for both public safety and to sustain our gas supply in the future.

SGN Update – Tuesday 6 May – Loose Road Maidstone

Our engineers are continuing to repair leaks found on our pipes in Loose Road. Further investigations have identified that a significant section of the gas network along Loose Road and Cripple Street is in poor condition. We have carried out multiple repairs but for everyone's safety and to avoid future disruption we have made the decision to urgently replace these gas mains with new plastic pipe.

Working in close consultation with Kent Council, we have arranged for our contractor, WCB Utilities to provide two engineering teams at short notice to start this work on Tuesday 6 May, with a third team planned to join them on Monday 12 May. WCB Utilities will be working extended hours alongside SGN's emergency engineers who will be monitoring the area for further gas escapes.

For everyone's safety, while we carry out this work, Loose Road will need to remain closed until Sunday 1 June. During this time, we also aim to replace a section of old metal gas main along Cripple Street and into the junction with Boughton Lane. We will initially be using traffic lights at these locations but depending on site conditions we may need to install additional road closures to ensure the safety of our engineers and road users. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses within the closure points where it is safe to do so, and access will always be possible via the signed diversion routes

We advise to turn off Sat Nav's and follow the signed diversion routes and avoid using smaller roads that are not suitable for heavy traffic. Bus services are affected, please contact the operators directly for changes to routes and bus stop locations.

We understand this is a busy route and we are sorry for the inconvenience being caused. We will be working hard to upgrade the gas network and once completed the new plastic pipe with a life span of 80 years will provide a safe and reliable supply of gas into the future.

We would like to thank MBC Cllr Brian Clarke for providing the Parish Council and residents regular information. He has also updated that the diversion signage has been discussed at length today. A number of measures are going to be taken to improve the clarity, location and enforcement of the signage to try to stop inappropriate route choices by HGV drivers.

If anyone has further queries or needs support during this challenging time, please contact office@loose-pc.gov.uk and our team will do their best to help.



RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER EVENT

Do you need any help or advice concerning your pets? Come along to one of our FREE events and speak to a professional about their health, behaviour, or general wellbeing.

07
May

LOOSE

King George V
Playing Field

10am - 2pm

Being a pet owner, whether it's a dog, cat, or small mammal, is a privilege. Pets bring so much joy and love into our lives but being a responsible pet owner is a big commitment. Pets need our help to maintain a happy, healthy, long life.



Scan here to find out what we're doing in your neighbourhood

An update on your Councillors for Loose

County Council (KCC) Division Cllrs: Elected 1/5/25

Cllr Paul Thomas (Maidstone South) – North Loose
Cllr Robert Ford (Rural West) – South Loose

Maidstone Borough (MBC) Cllrs – Loose & Linton Ward

Cllr Brian Clark & Cllr Simon Wales

Loose Parish Council (LPC) – 9/13 volunteer Councillors

Currently 4 vacancies – contact our office if interested in representing the views of your neighbours and helping make decisions on community priorities and spending in Loose.

Email: office@loose-pc.gov.uk Website: www.loose-pc.gov.uk