

# LEE MANOR SOCIETY



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## Next meeting

**7.30 pm on Wednesday 8 October 2014**

**at: 103 Taunton Road, SE12**

*Open to all residents in the area. Formalities end 9.00pm - refreshments afterwards*

## Notes of our Meeting on 10th September 2014

**Present:** Charles Batchelor (Chairman), Chris Peters, David Plumer, Geraldine and Olivia Wharton, Jenny Lowen, Veronica Simmons, Sue Byford, Mike Keogh, Diana Stevenson, Patti Byford, Anita Whitfield, Sarah McMichael, Andrew Alford, Elisabeth Caulfield, Paul Lowndes and Sheila Peck (Secretary)

**Apologies:** Ralph White, Frances Migniuolo, Rita Croft, Bruce Allison, Gill Stoker, Judy Cole and Jim Mallory.

### Leegate

We have heard nothing further from St. Modwen since the meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> July. Charles has reported on the present position in an article published recently in the Blackheath Society Newsletter. Another group of local residents (name yet to be decided) who would prefer not to have a large supermarket in the Leegate Centre have submitted some of the questions to the Council's annual [Questions and Answers Session](#) due to be held on 17<sup>th</sup> September.

### Improving Access to the Quaggy River

Mike Keogh addressed the meeting on behalf of QWAG (Quaggy Waterways Action Group). He acknowledged that creating access to the river had been considered as part of the refurbishment of Manor House Gardens with Lottery funding in the late 1990s but the idea had not been pursued. It was agreed that enquiries should be made of Carolyn Bosworth-Davis to confirm why the idea was not pursued at that time. Mike suggested that the opening up of the river would improve water flow to reduce flood risk as well as generally improve biodiversity. It was agreed that the location originally proposed should be reconsidered as it was essential to preserve the safety of the dog walking area, young children and also the young ducklings which run along

the edge of the river. The open area near the hard recreation court could be an alternative possibility. A decision was made to make a written note of all the pros and cons and to then reconsider the proposal.

### **Parish Boundary Stone in Handen Road**

The mason has now cut the stone and Charles will meet him to discuss the details of the lettering. The idea is to replicate the original stone with an additional note to acknowledge Lee Manor Society's involvement in the replacement. Lewisham Council will install the stone free of charge.

### **Street Trees**

Charles has been in touch with David Ford who is a member of Lee Green Ward Local Plan Co-ordinating Committee. David is already intending to make an application for Assembly Funding to finance tree replacements in Woodyates Road, Manor Park and Effingham Road and Charles will suggest that they make a joint application which will include Brightfield Road, Lampmead Road and the upper part of Burnt Ash Road (beyond Lee Station). Rick Farr, one of Lewisham Council's Tree Officers, has confirmed that the Council will plant three trees in Effingham Road to replace some of those which have been removed because of fungal disease and Charles will meet him next week to discuss his additional proposals. The Council has a list of trees which are acceptable for street planting. The cost of replacement is £240 per tree. Previously the Society has contributed to the cost to increase the number of trees provided and it was agreed that we would offer to contribute £1,000.00 towards these replacements

### **Historic Insurance Plaques on houses**

Some houses in the Conservation Area still have old insurance company plaques attached. The plaques were originally fixed to confirm identification of the insurance company in case of damage and although no longer used are quite now valuable. Occupiers of properties still bearing plaques should protect them and resist suggestions by builders etc. for removal as they are in fact quite valuable.

### **A.O.B.**

**Open House Weekend:** Although it is not in the first issue of the official Open House Guidebook, the Ice House will, as usual be open over the weekend of 20-21 September. We have asked the organisers to include the Ice House in the brochure update and added to the on-line list.

**CPZ Consultation:** Charles has asked if we could have lower signposts installed against property boundaries rather than tall ones on the pavement edge. Such signs would be less obtrusive and at eye-level and therefore more easily visible from cars. A query was raised whether such signs would be more susceptible to theft and/or vandalism.

*We thank Leigate Community Centre for the use of their facilities for the meeting*