

LEE MANOR SOCIETY



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Next Regular Meeting
7.30pm on 13th March 2013
at: 66 Efingham Road SE12 8NU

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

Notes of our Meeting on 13th February 2013 at 12 Micheldever Road

Present: Charles Batchelor (Chairman), Ralph White (Deputy Chairman), David Plumer, Sylvia Ling, Faye Carney, Steve Griffith, Jenny Lowen, Patti Byford, Veronica Simmons, Bruce Allison, Suki Picarda, Rebecca Devlin, Anita Whitfield, Heather Cheesebrough, Dan Griffin and Sheila Peck (Secretary)

Apologies: Pauline Hatfield, Rev. Richard Bainbridge, Jim Mallory, Bridget Prentice, Jason Dalrymple, PC Ben Smith (Lee Green SNT), Elizabeth Caulfield, Tony Branton, Suki dePicarda and Sue Byford,

Lewisham Council's Planning Strategy

The Council have recently updated their Strategic Planning Document which now seems to be more far reaching in a positive way e.g. to limit the number of fast food take-away facilities in shopping parades, the protection of public houses and the control of infill land/back garden developments. Flank garden development control is also being considered. The Planning Department are still consulting before final decisions are made.

Solar Panels and Dormer Extensions

Unfortunately the Article 4 planning legislation does not cover the installation of Solar Panels on properties and so there are currently no legal grounds on which we can object to such Applications. Currently Lewisham Council do not have any specific policy regarding solar panels but we would suggest that there should be a definitive overall plan formed in the future. We have recently objected to 2 applications for Dormer roof extensions with roof lights on the front elevation

Role of rivers in Lewisham's town centre development

At the recent meeting of QWAG the Developers of Lewisham Gateway gave a presentation on their plans for Confluence Place (where the Quaggy and Ravensbourne Rivers meet near Lewisham Station) which they describe as being 'an attractive open green space with the two rivers passing through it'. It is QWAG's aim to achieve a natural restoration of both rivers and to improve their ecological condition. The proposals will allow people to get closer to the rivers – they is currently hidden in deep culverts – but QWAG's idea of opening up the section in front of the police station will not be implemented. As part of the proposed

development the Quaggy will be re-routed slightly further away from the Station so that it passes through Confluence Place where it will be surrounded by very tall buildings. The Rivers will retain their concrete base although it is intended that this will be covered with gravel which will allow a more natural profile to develop. QWAG are continuing to pursue their aim to improve and naturalise the currently enclosed rivers.

New map for the Conservation Area

Bruce presented his new map of the Conservation Area which we all agreed was what we wanted. We can now proceed with the completion of our 'Welcome Pack' for new residents and the preparation of new Society leaflets.

New Society Leaflet

Further to last month's note, we can confirm that we have accepted the offer from Barbara Polanski, a local graphic designer, to assist in the production of a new Society Leaflet. At our recent meeting we discussed suggestions for both design and content and hope that we will now soon have the leaflet ready for sale/distribution.

Plans for 2013

Wednesday 15th May and Saturday 18th May are now confirmed as dates for the Society's AGM and the Annual Plant Mart respectively. The first opening of the Ice House this year will be on 7th April from 3pm to 5pm and thereafter on the first and third Sunday of each month until 1st September. In addition we will, as usual, be opening the Ice House for the Open House Weekend on the 21st and 22nd September from 12 noon until 5pm.

Leegate

Jim Mallory and Charles made a joint presentation at the recent Local Assembly meeting putting forward a motion on the proposals for consideration/approval of those present. The motion was almost unanimously approved - only 2 objections out of approximately 60 voters. The motion can be seen via the following link:

http://www.leemanorsociety.org/LeeGreenLives/Local_Assembly_Leegate_Motion_13Feb2013.pdf

Controlled Parking Zones

The Assembly also reported on the CPZ recommendations made by the Sustainable Development Select Committee which were issued on the 5th February. The recommendations are generally positive and can be viewed via the following link:

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=5104#mgDocuments>

New Tiger's Head Studio

Rebecca Devlin gave us a presentation on her plan to open, this Spring, a Studio on the Ground Floor and in the Basement of the old pub at the Lee Green crossroads. The Studio will give access to facilities which local artists would find difficult to provide for themselves. The idea is that by joining and paying a membership fee local artists will be able to use, at an hourly rate, facilities such as a dark room, drawing tables and graphic design programmes. It is proposed that there will be a café open to the public in the front of the ground floor which will provide an open view to the other facilities so that customers will be able to view the work/art being produced by the members of the Studio. More information can be found on Facebook and various other websites.

We would like to thank Ralph and Ju for hosting the meeting