

LEEMANOR SOCIETY



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Next Regular Meeting
7.30pm on Wednesday 14th September 2016
at: Leegate Community Centre
Open to all residents in the area. Formalities end 9.00pm – d.i.y. refreshments afterwards

Notes of our Meeting on 13th July 2016

Present: Ralph White(Chairman), David Plumer, David Ford, Sue Byford, Chris Peters, Frances Migniuolo, Patti Byford, Sylvia Ling, Diana Stevenson, Suki Goldman, Pippa Bampton, Gill Stoker and Sheila Peck (Secretary).

Apologies: Rita Craft, Lorraine Burton, Charles Batchelor, and Veronica Simmonds.

Matters arising from last Meeting

Post Boxes: David F. advised that all the Post Boxes in SE12 will be repainted by the end of this year.

CPZ: The signage is not all yet regularized but the system is now operational.

Planning

30 Lampmead Road: A Planning Application for the reconstruction has already been submitted and approved. There had been a previous Application to which we objected but was approved and the new Application, submitted retrospectively on advice from the Council, simply included the necessary restoration details following the collapse.

Stables Cottage, Micheldever Road: We all agreed that we had no objection to the proposals other than a preference for wooden doors and window frames.

Leegate: The Application was approved at the Strategic Planning Committee meeting on 17th May subject to concerns raised by some Committee members relating to traffic, pollution, the linear square on Burnt Ash Road, the entrance arcade which could become a trolley park and the small proportion of affordable homes. The written confirmation/minutes of the meeting are still not available (23 August) although we have heard that the only concerns now being made relate to the entrance arcade and the linear square. A Strategic Planning Committee meeting scheduled for 7th July was cancelled. Charles Batchelor did write to the Chairman of the Committee setting out our concerns but we have not had a reply.

Manor House and Library

Only GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited) put forward a proposal to take over the running of the library and the building and, sadly, that was not feasible because it included the setting up a

children's day nursery in the lower Ground Floor. To fulfil Ofsted requirements, a day nursery would need access to an enclosed and private outdoor play space which could not be overlooked. This would require the construction of a tall fence at the rear of the Manor House. Such a fence would obscure the view of the building and not be permissible in view of the Grade II* Listed status of the Manor House; the GLL proposal has therefore been dropped. The Lewisham Library and Information Service will no longer be responsible for the building from mid-September. The Council will take over management responsibility and the building will remain open to the public but for reduced hours – specific details to be announced. The library service will continue to be available on a self-service basis only with occasional visits from peripatetic Lewisham library staff. The search for a new 'partner' to run the building has commenced and an update on progress will be provided to the Council's Safer Stronger Select Committee in September.

Lewisham Local Community Contributor Card

A new scheme has been initiated which is designed to recognize the invaluable contribution made by volunteers in strengthening the local community and to boost spending in the local economy. The Card is free to local volunteers who can sign up at www.lewishamlocal.org.uk. Card holders can enjoy favourable deals from local shops and businesses and also discounted room hire at the LeeGreenLives Community Centre.

Trees

The Brockley Society have been active in supporting the planting of trees for several years. This year the Society has instigated the formation of a new group 'Lewisham Street Trees' which has volunteers from seven Lewisham Wards who look for ways to fund trees across the Borough. Each tree costs £240 and has to be watched over and watered for 2 years. The Council will give a choice of location and species, arranging professional planting with 2 support stakes and insurances against failure or damage. If you are interested in supporting the scheme you can register on-line at www.brockleystreettrees.blogspot.co.uk.

In our own area, David Ford and Charles Batchelor continue to spearhead the planting of new trees and the replacement of dead or damaged trees and we will be pleased to receive ideas from you about where action needs to be taken - please contact us and let us know what you think.

Conservation area

It has become apparent on some specific occasions that advice sought on behalf of residents by contractors has in fact emerged from Building Control only. We will follow this up because it could explain the volume of apparently undocumented work being progressed in the Conservation area.

We thank Lee Green Community Centre for facilitating the meeting.