

LEE MANOR SOCIETY



www.leemanorsociety.org
email: news@leemanorsociety.org

Next Regular Meeting
7.30pm on Wednesday, 8 January 2014
At 105 Burnt Ash Road, London SE12 8RA

Open to all residents in the area. Formalities end 9pm – refreshments afterwards

Notes of our meeting on 13th November, 2013 at 103 Taunton Road

Present: Charles Batchelor (Chairman), Jenny Lowen, Sylvia Ling, Rita Croft, Elisabeth Caulfield, Anita Whitfield, Frances Migniuolo, David Plumer, Sue Byford, Judy Cole, Chris Peters, Cllr Sven Griesenbeck and Anne Fisher

Apologies: Ralph White, Sheila Peck, Suki Picarda, Veronica Simmons, Cllr Jim Mallory

Leegate Redevelopment

The Leegate Assembly sub-committee – on which we sit – had a meeting with ASDA and St Modwen on 10th October – the first time they had met ASDA face-to-face. ASDA stated that the new shopping centre would only be financially viable if it were 30,000 square feet – they would not consider a smaller area. Parking would be on the roof, with entry for delivery lorries in Leyland Road. St Modwen wants to retain the office area at the north corner of the site (at the junction of Eltham Road and Burnt Ash Road), and to add cladding to the outside of the building. A hotel and replacement housing would be incorporated on this part of the site. Small shops would be retained at ground level, facing Eltham Road and Burnt Ash Road, and new shops would also be built on the site of the car wash. The Edmund Halley pub would be reinstated as part of the development.

The plans do not allow for the open public space we wish to retain. The present walkway through the centre would be replaced by a closed walkway within the ASDA store – this remains a fundamental concern for the sub-committee. ASDA rejected a suggestion that some office, storage or retail space could be built on a second floor to allow for the open space to be retained.

The council Planning Department is not in favour of St Modwen's intention to retain the existing north corner of the site. The planners think comprehensive redevelopment of the whole site is needed. In addition, we believe councillors are unlikely to approve the scheme if it doesn't incorporate more (affordable) housing. Before St Modwen puts in a planning application, there will be public consultation.

The sub-committee will report back to the next Lee Green Assembly meeting.

Update on the Council's damaging proposals to reduce contact with conservation groups

Charles has written to Heidi Alexander to raise the profile of our protests to the Council's plans. The story and picture in the News Shopper provoked a letter in reply. It's important to get as much press coverage as possible, and to write to anyone who might be able to influence the council to reconsider.

Handen Football Club

We received an email from Helen Stephenson, whose grandfather Reginald (known as Jack) Watson lived in Fernbrook Road. She wrote that he played for Handen Football Club in 1908-9, and wondered whether this had a connection to Handen Road, Lee. Does anyone know?

Welcome letter

Earlier this year we completed production of a welcome letter for new residents. Ralph has a stock which is available to members to deliver to new arrivals in their street. Do please let us know of new arrivals and contact Ralph on our Society email address news@leemansociety.org for information and copies. New arrivals will also be given a copy of the Society brochure.

Our thanks to Jenny for hosting the meeting.