

LEEMANOR SOCIETY



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Next Regular Meeting 7.30pm on 11th June 2014

at: The Community Centre, Leigate

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

Notes of our Meeting on 14th May 2014

Present: Charles Batchelor (Chairman), Ralph White (Deputy Chair), David Plumer, Elisabeth Caulfield, Sylvia Ling, Anita Whitfield, Patti Byford, Chris Peters and Sheila Peck (Secretary).

Apologies: Rita Craft, Dan Griffin, Jenny Lowen, Sue Byford, P.C. Ben Smith (SNT), Suki Picarda, and Frances Migniuolo.

Plant Mart – Saturday 17th May

The signage has already been put up. The final plan details were circulated and Ralph confirmed that all the local helpers and donors had been briefed. It was agreed that ‘setting-up’ would commence at 10am. **Note added:** we raised over £1000 on the day - a new record - and we send our grateful thanks to those who helped by donating and/or purchasing all the items in the sale.

AGM

The booking of the main room in the Manor House (and the kitchen) has been confirmed. Dr Geraldene Wharton has agreed to give a talk about the Rivers of Lewisham and the benefits of restoration. Patti, Elisabeth, Veronica and Jenny agreed to take care of refreshments. Both Ralph and Sheila will be away which means that Charles and Lorraine will be the only Officers on the top table. **Note added:** All Officers were re-elected *nem con vis*. Charles Batchelor (Chairman), Sheila Peck (Secretary), Lorraine Burton (Treasurer) and Ralph White (Deputy Chairman).

Leigate

Charles circulated a copy of the Lewisham Design Panel’s Report on the revised proposals for the redevelopment of Leigate. The Report was issued four days before the meeting with St. Modwyn which was reported in last month’s Notes but the strength of its criticisms was not made clear at that meeting. The Panel is critical of the lack of ‘public amenity’ and expressed its dislike of the proposed enclosed arcade/mall which it would not include as a public realm because it will be closed at night and will be in private ownership. The Report also criticizes the lack of provision of community facilities within the development. In addition the Report includes a number of criticisms of the design of the proposed housing and, interestingly, suggests that the ASDA parking should be put underground and the resident parking above

ground. **Note added:** at a recent meeting of the Lee Green Assembly sub-committee, Charles was asked to draft a response to the latest St Modwyn proposal with due reference to the Design Panel assessment and this is currently in hand.

Ice House Panels

The order has now been placed with A. J. Wells & Sons and we have paid a deposit. A slight problem has arisen because the Company have not been able to 'open' some of the files on the CD we sent them. **Note added:** Ralph and Jeremy have now resolved the issue.

Parish Boundary Stone

Through the Conservation Officer at Lewisham Council we have sent a request to the Highways Department for advice as to whether there are any objections to our proposal to replace the Handen Road Parish Boundary Stone which was removed after it was damaged. **Note added:** We have since been notified that the Highways Department has no objection subject to their nominated contractor installing the stone.

Ice House Rota

We are now in the second month of opening the Ice House this year. The fourth version of the Duty Rota has been circulated, as there was still need of confirmation of volunteers for 1st June. We also intend to open for the Manor House Gardens Festival on 21 June.

Planning

18 Handen Road – the front garden wall has collapsed/been pushed over by two Lime Trees on the boundary. The Landlord has been advised that demolition is not acceptable. Lewisham Planning Department is looking into the replacement.

Conservation Area

1. As a result of the demolition of the Boone's Almshouses we have been contacted by a resident of Wisteria Road who is a Planning Officer in Richmond and has suggested we should consider including Lee High Road within the Conservation Area.
2. We have also been contacted by a resident of Leyland Road to ask if that could be included within the Conservation Area.

We are considering both requests/suggestions.

Quaggy River

QWAG are considering the possibility of 'breaking out' the Quaggy River in the dog walking area of Manor House Gardens behind the houses in Taunton Road. The 'break out' would form a 'scrape' which would be beneficial to wild life and would improve access to the river. If you would like to see what it means, a similar thing has already been done at the Catford end of Ladywell Fields, by coincidence, also in their dog walking area. In principle we thought the proposal would be a good idea although we were concerned about the possible need to remove established trees.

We thank Charles for hosting the meeting