

LEEMANOR SOCIETY



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Next Regular Meeting
7.30pm on Wednesday 19th October 2016
(one week later than usual)
at: Leegate Community Centre – first floor

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

Notes of our Meeting on Wednesday 14th September 2016

Present: Ralph White(Chairman), David Plumer, David Ford, Sue Byford, Chris Peters, Frances Mignuolo, Patti Byford, Charles Batchelor, Patricia Turrent, Pippa Bampton, Judy Cole and Sheila Peck (Secretary).

Apologies: Rita Craft, Lorraine Burton, Diana Stevenson, Sylvia Ling, Theresa Webb, Suki Goldman, Gill Stoker and Veronica Simmonds.

Planning

A general note: It is open to anyone to object to a Planning Application provided they give a ‘planning’ reason for the objection. Personal details must also be provided.

9 Staplehurst Road (outside the Conservation Area): Adjacent to the new Biscuit Factory redevelopment. Sainsbury’s have submitted an application for the creation of a Sainsbury’s Local. David Ford pointed out that the Planning Inspectors had already agreed to having a Tesco’s Local on the site and so they are very unlikely to oppose the Sainsbury Application. We agreed that we would prefer the retention of the existing building structure if possible but would not object to the proposed new store.

172 Manor Lane: Change of use to Tattoo Studio. This is an emotive topic and we understand residents’ concerns but we have been unable to uncover any concrete planning objections and until we have evidence it was agreed that we would not object to the proposal. Individuals can, of course, submit their own views.

111 Brightfield Road: Construction of a single storey extension at the rear together with a roof extension in the rear slope. Both the side and rear of this development would be visible from Manor House gardens and the single storey extension would adversely affect the rear aspect of 113 Brightfield Road. Charles agreed to look at the plans in detail and let us have his suggestions for a possible objection which has now been submitted.

12 Brightfield Road: Installation of replacement ground level timber glazed window in the front elevation and timber double glazed windows at first floor level. This will restore the

frontage to the original design and is therefore supported by the Society. We also had no objection to the proposed alterations to the rear of the property.

22 Manor Lane: Construction of a dormer extension to the rear slope with 3 front roof lights. As is usual for an Article 4 Conservation Area, we do not agree with the proposed front roof lights although regrettably we think they will be approved. Charles has registered our objection.

Manor House and Library

As stated in last month's Newsletter, the Council are still looking for a partner to run [Manor House Library](#) as part of the extension of their Community Library Model. Thirteen organisations have already shown interest and have indicated they will submit Expressions of Interest. The Council expect more organisations to come forward before the mid-September deadline. A new timetable for negotiations anticipates the re-opening of the Library on 31st March 2017. In the meantime, from 17th October (later than first planned), the Library will be open for reduced hours only on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday each week and will be managed by security staff. The Library Service will support the library operations through a peripatetic service identical to that already used in Blackheath, Grove Park, Crofton Park, Sydenham and New Cross. The rest of the building will be available for public hire as usual provided that the hirer is generating income for the Service. The Library Working Party is to meet with Council officers for an update on 5th October.

Lewisham Local Community Contribution Card

Ralph confirmed he had applied for Cards for Lee Manor Society members and would circulate them as soon as they are available. Cards are available free to local volunteers and Card holders can enjoy favourable deals from local shops and businesses. Lee Manor Society enjoys a benefit on the hire of the Community Centre for our monthly meetings which is much appreciated.

Trees

We submitted an application for a grant of £2,400 from the Local Assembly annual fund and David Ford confirmed he had received a strong indication that it has been successful. Each new tree costs £240 which means that the grant will fund ten new trees in the Conservation Area. The Society is itself facilitating the provision of four more trees, two from Society funds and 2 funded by local residents.

David and Charles will meet with Conway (the Council's road maintenance contractors) in the near future and will raise with them the problem of pavement tarmac being laid right up to the base of tree trunks and the covering over of the previously usual small area of soil around the base of the trunk to allow water access to the tree roots.

20mph Speed Limited

Ralph reminded us that Lewisham Council has now introduced a 20mph speed limit on all roads under their control. Its application to side roads (already in force) is probably non-contentious, but its practicability on trunk roads – especially bus routes which then feed into neighbouring boroughs without the scheme needs to be questioned.

We thank Lee Green Community Centre for hosting the meeting.