

LEE MANOR SOCIETY



For further details on some of the topics below, visit <http://www.leemanorsociety.org>
Please consider changing to our email distribution – write to news@leemanorsociety.org

Next Regular Meeting
7.30pm on Wednesday 9th May 2012
at: 66 Effingham Road, SE12 8NU

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

Notes of our Meeting on 18th April 2012 at 105 Burnt Ash Road

Present: Charles Batchelor (Chairman), Ralph White (Deputy Chairman), David Plumer, Sylvia Ling, Dan Griffin, Elizabeth Caulfield, Patti Byford, Anita Whitfield, Suki Picarda, Lorraine Burton (Treasurer), Barbara Bird, Frances Mignuolo, Jason Dalrymple, Veronica Simmons and Sheila Peck (Secretary)

Apologies: Faye Carney and Steve Griffiths.

AGM - Wednesday, 16th May at 7.30pm, Baring Room, Manor House Library

The Annual Newsletter has been printed and will be delivered to residents shortly. Our guest AGM Speaker this year will be local historian Diana Rimel who will give an illustrated talk on The History of Lewisham and Lee.

Plant Mart - Saturday 19th May 2-4pm, 2-6 Micheldever Road

The Plant Mart Sub-Committee have held their first ‘get-together’ and have confirmed they will adopt the same model as previously with regard to both layout and advertising. Donations of [plants and goods for stalls](#) will, as usual be most welcome.

Annual Social Evening

We have booked the Boone’s Chapel for Friday 14th September, 7.30-9.30pm. This is an exciting venue that we hope will appeal to our guests. If the weather is fine we will be able to spill out into the garden. Due to the reorganisation at Stark Gallery we were unable to arrange a social last year.

Leegate

St Modwen, owners of the shopping centre, has held its initial “drop-in” consultation although distribution of the invitations was patchy with several members reporting they did not receive the leaflets. The consultation took place over a Friday and Saturday morning and lunchtime. Future consultation must allow a longer weekend session to accommodate people at work in the week. We are pressing for a public meeting to allow a more general discussion than is possible at a drop-in session where residents put their questions to company representatives on a one-to-one basis. One possibility is that the ward assembly meeting could be used for this purpose.

Progress on discussion of CPZ

Members of the Working Party attended the Mayor and Cabinet Meeting on 11th April and our [Report](#) was presented. The Committee agreed to consider the contents of the Report and let us know their conclusions in due course

Street Bench.

Riverwood (Greenwich Mencap) have now delivered and installed our street bench at the junction of Wantage and Taunton Roads. We hope you all like it (we definitely do!) and that you will enjoy taking advantage of this new local street facility.

Local listing of Boone's Almshouses at Emmanuel Pentecostal Church

Another item on the Agenda at the Mayor and Cabinet Meeting on 11th April was the Society's Application for Local Listing of the Almshouses which was supported by the Victorian Society. We are pleased to report that the application was successful and that it covers not only the almshouses but also the front wall boundary which identifies the style of brickwork used for the buildings. Unfortunately Local Listing does not have any real statutory powers but it does give the Council a moral obligation towards the structures and gives the buildings and boundary wall local status. The Planning Application for redevelopment previously submitted by the Church has been withdrawn.

Street Trees

A tree in Effingham Road has been removed by the Council supposedly because it was infected - but our investigative enquiries do not support this claim. We are concerned that the Council can, if they wish, remove any street tree in the area but residents have to obtain Planning Permission to remove garden trees. Three trees in Effingham Road have been removed and not replaced. When the Council removes a tree they tarmac over the empty space in the pavement. We feel strongly that the Council should also be required to get consent to a removal and also that they should be required to replace any tree which they remove. We are pursuing this option with the council with the help of Jim Mallory, one of our ward councillors. The Society is considering the possibility of replacing lost trees ourselves and will investigate possible sources of funding. In addition there is a need for pollarding of the trees in Micheldever Road and Handen Road. Pollarding has been carried out only twice in the last 25 years. Trees are part of the character of the Conservation Area and we all agreed that Charles should raise our concerns with the Council.

Parish Boundary Marker - Health and Safety Risk!

We were recently notified that a damaged Parish Boundary Marker in Handen Road had been marked indicating that the Council intended to carry out work. Our enquiries revealed that the Highways Department consider it to be a health and safety risk because people could trip over and therefore intend to remove it. We have pointed out that the Marker is locally listed as a historic structure. It has been in the same position and condition for the last 30 years at least without there being any problem. The Marker is so close to the wall that it would almost impossible to get close enough to trip over it. But this has not persuaded the Council to change its mind. We are considering the possibility of installing a modern replacement of the original Marker.

We would like to thank Charles for hosting the meeting