

LEEMANOR SOCIETY



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Next Regular Meeting

7.30pm on Wednesday 8th July 2015
at: 12 Micheldever Road, SE12 8LX

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

Notes of our Meeting on 18th June 2015

Present: Ralph White (Chairman), Charles Batchelor, David Plumer, Sylvia Ling, Anita Whitfield, Frances Migniuolo, Rita Craft, Chris Peters, Patti Byford, Mary and Jim Jagger and Sheila Peck (Secretary)

Apologies: Veronica Simmons, Diana Stevenson, Bruce Allison, Jim Mallory and Norma Powell.

Report on Plant Mart and AGM

We had another successful Plant Mart in May which raised just on £1,000 for the Society. Many thanks to all those who contributed and attended and especially to the helpers and the owners of 2, 4 and 6 Micheldever Road for the use of their front gardens.

At the AGM on 20th May our long standing Chairman, Charles Batchelor stood down and Ralph White was elected to take his place. We thank Charles for his many years of dedicated hard work as Chairman of the Society. Sheila Peck was re-elected as Secretary and Lorraine Burton as Treasurer. Heidi Alexander, our local MP. gave a very interesting talk about her experiences in the post. Please see also Heidi's recent interview with Cheryl Armitage published on www.leegreen.london

Leegate

We have heard that St. Modwen's Planning Application will not go to Lewisham Council's Strategic Planning Committee in July as expected. We understand there has been extended correspondence with Transport for London (TfL) who have expressed concerns over the traffic impact and increased pollution levels the proposed development will cause to the Burnt Ash Road / Lee High Road crossroads. TfL have asked that Lewisham Council's consideration be delayed until their plans for the proposed remodelling of the junction are agreed and completed. We hope the Application will be considered at the Strategic Planning Committee's September meeting but even this is doubtful.

Street Trees

This year's planting of additional street trees has not gone as well as we had hoped. First of all we are two short on the numbers agreed with Lewisham Council and, in addition, two of the

trees planted have already died. We have also experienced problems with the planting itself: one tree was planted leaning out into the road and had to be pushed back and another had a broken watering device which was ineffective. We have expressed our concerns to the Lewisham Council representative and are awaiting confirmation of the contribution we should make towards the actual cost of successful plantings.

Sandbags at Abbey Manor School

We're sure that you all remember the dramatic burst water main last year in Burnt Ash Road. To provide protection, Thames Water deposited sandbags at the entrance to Abbey Manor School. Nine months later the sandbags were still *in situ*. The school asked for the sandbags to be removed but nothing happened. Finally Charles, as Chairman of Lee Manor Society, wrote to Thames Water on our headed notepaper pointing out the length of time which had elapsed since the flooding and asking for the sandbags to be removed – and he was successful!

Planning

A Planning Application has been submitted in Greenwich Borough for the conversion of the ground floor of the New Tiger's Head Public House into 3 flats. The two upper floors of the building are already used as flats. Charles has filed an objection to the Application on behalf of Lee Manor Society on the grounds that it is mean in scale and there is a lack of natural light to the proposed dwellings. The redevelopment of Leegate is intended to revitalise the Lee Green crossroads and attract more people to the area. The Society has previously tried – and failed – to gain local listing status for this prominent building, and feels that the suggested conversion of the ground floor of the New Tiger's Head into flats would deprive the crossroads of good public / catering / retail premises on a prominent corner which would be detrimental to the economic vitality of the area.

Neighbourhood Policing

PC Ben Smith has been the dedicated PC for the Lee Green Ward for four years but has recently informed us that, in a couple of months, he will be moving to work with the Directorate of Professional Standards. So, from the beginning of June the new dedicated PC for Lee Green Ward is PC Jamie Layton, although PC Smith will still be around to give help during the changeover period and will continue to work at Lewisham Police Station. Ben has assured us that PC Layton is an extremely experienced and capable Police Officer who has worked alongside Ben for the past two years. We thank Ben for all his hard and dedicated work on behalf of the ward.

Lee Green Lives

Additional funding has been secured from Lewisham Council which will enable the Lee Green Lives group (working with the Lee Green Assembly) to increase their ability to meet the needs of people in the area and also retain and extend the services of their excellent coordinator, Shirley Kirkland. By working with local community groups, the Community Centre in Leegate already provides a wide range of services for people of all needs, ages and backgrounds and aims to increase their outreach and activities even more.

We thank the Community Centre for hosting the meeting