

LEEMANOR SOCIETY



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Next Meeting

7.30pm on 14th November 2012

at: 66 Effingham Road, London SE12 8NU

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

Notes of our Meeting on 24th October 2012 at 94 Manor Lane

Present: Charles Batchelor (Chairman), David Plumer, Sylvia Ling, Elizabeth Caulfield, Suki Picarda, Faye Carney, Steve Griffiths, Tony Branton, Jill Stoker, Richard Halladay, Ann Halladay, Cllr Sven Griesenbeck and Sheila Peck (Secretary)

Apologies: Frances Migniuolo, Andrea Breugelmans, Ralph White and Jenny Lane

Progress on Leegate

A sub-committee of Society members held a meeting on 23rd October with John Miller, Head of Planning, and Gemma Barnes, Planning Officer, at their request to discuss our views on the Leegate proposals. We repeated our opposition to the present proposals involving a large superstore that would swallow up much of the public space, generate lots of traffic, and still leave the ugly corner offices and shops standing (though re-clad). The planners appeared sympathetic to our arguments against siting any store entrance on the quieter Leyland Road side of the site, against retaining the corner structures and in favour of retaining public open space. There was very little discussion that the present proposals do not involve much housing provision.

Street Trees

The council's tree department has carried out a survey of part of Manor Lane and Burnt Ash Road where we have proposed co-funding street tree planting. Six of the potential planting sites proved unsuitable because of underground cabling/pipes but eight were suitable. We will hold a follow-up meeting with the tree officer.

Boones Chapel Social Evening

We all agreed that the Boone's Chapel had been a good location for the Social evening particularly in view of its local historic interest. We would like to thank Charlie Mackeith for allowing us to use the Chapel. We made a £50 contribution to costs for the evening. The event was very well attended and we were pleased to welcome our Mayor, Steve Bullock and his wife. We would like to use the Chapel again and are considering the possibility of asking Charlie or another speaker to give a short talk.

Planning issues

Graham Webb/Post office corner at Lee Green - We are pleased to report that that Planning Application for the construction of an additional two storeys over the cottages (mentioned in our last Notes) has been rejected by Greenwich council. The main reason given was that “the proposed extension by reason of its design, scale and prominence would constitute an obtrusive, dominant and incongruous form of development that would fail to harmonise with the original host building, would be out of keeping with surrounding development and would result in a dominant form of development that would impact negatively on the character and appearance of the area.” Other reasons given were the cramped size of the proposed flats and the fact that their balconies would have been too close to the New Tiger’s Head, adversely affecting the amenity of people living there.

Solar Panels - Faye queried the installation of Solar Panels on roofs as some more have appeared on a roof within the Conservation Area. We will take this issue up with the planning department.

Bench at the corner of Taunton Road and Wantage Road

Despite the concerns raised last month, we are pleased to report that people are seen using the bench. Ralph is looking into providing paving in front of the seat.

Controlled Parking Zone consultation

The council has completed its survey of residents’ views and is due to present them to community groups next month.

Annual Bulb Planting

Steve confirmed that he has at least 300 bulbs to be planted in local green spaces and he and Charles agreed they would arrange a date to do the job.

Ice House Annual Review

David reported that we had 1,174 visitors to the Ice House this year which is an average of 83 for each day of opening. Since we opened the Ice House 12 years ago there have been 17,786 visitors.

We would like to thank Elizabeth Caulfield for hosting the meeting

Note added:

Marriage Act 1949, Civil Partnership Act 2004

We have been informed that there is a proposal that the first floor rooms at the Manor House be approved as a venue for Marriages and Civil Partnerships. We agree this is ‘a seemly and dignified venue for the proceedings’ and will introduce a useful revenue stream to support the Manor House’. We do, however, want to be reassured that access to the library and other facilities in the building, as well as to Manor House Gardens will not be impeded by Wedding Parties to the detriment of the public at large, should the proposal be approved.