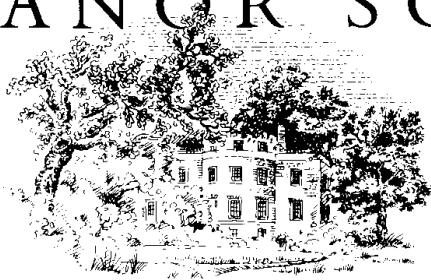


LEE MANOR SOCIETY



www.leemanorsociety.org
email: news@leemanorsociety.org

Next Regular Meeting
7.30pm on Wednesday 14th September 2011
The Music Room, The Old Tigers Head, Lee Green
Open to all residents in the area. Formalities end 9.00pm - nibbles afterwards

Notes of our Meeting on 27th July 2011 at 105 Burnt Ash Road

Present: Charles Batchelor (Chairman), Ralph White (Deputy Chairman), David Plumer, Paul Connolly, Anita Whitfield, Sylvia Ling, Faye Carney, Veronica Simmons, Jeremy Carden, Dan Griffin, Sven Griesenbeck, Frances Mignivolo. PCSO Zoe Lucas (SNT), Elizabeth Caulfield, Edward Hill, and Sheila Peck (Secretary)

Apologies: Jackie Percy, Steve Griffiths and Andrea Breugelmanns.

Greenwich Equestrian Olympics

Edward Hill, a member of Transition Westcombe, which is against the staging of the Olympic Equestrian events in Greenwich Park, was invited to talk to the meeting as part of our programme of inviting short presentations on matters of interest. Edward pointed out that there are trees in Greenwich Park which were planted in the 17th Century and whose roots are therefore quite sensitive. Any heavy activity within 15 metres of such trees is likely to cause them damage. The stadium, which will be 31 metres high, will accommodate 23,000 people and there will also be an 'entertainment' tower which will be even taller. The tower, apparently, does not appear on the Planning Application design plans. Public access to Greenwich Park could be severely restricted for as long as 6 months. Another concern is traffic congestion which, as we all know, is already a problem in the area around Greenwich Park. So far, the objectors have not been successful in their efforts to move the event from the Park but they have not given up; their next move is to be a publicity drive to put pressure on the sponsors of the Games. In four previous Olympic Games the Equestrian Event has been moved quite late in the preparation timetable, the most recent being the Beijing Games. *(The Society has not taken a view on or any action in lobbying for or against the staging of the equestrian events in Greenwich Park.)*

Treasurer

We are pleased to report that we have taken up an offer from Lorraine Burton, a long-term local resident and a qualified accountant, to take on the role of treasurer. Lorraine is acquainted with the work and aims of the Society and she will attend our next meeting on September 14.

Planning Matters

The Manse, 372 Lee High Road – The Emmanuel Pentecostal Church - former Boone's Almshouses and chapel. An application has been made for the demolition of all the existing buildings on the site and their replacement with a three-storey building housing a meeting room, seminar rooms and restaurant. There will also be an underground garage and 12 homes built on the site. There is a stone plaque on the side wall of the existing Church which confirms that the Almshouses were built in 1897 by the 'Worshipful Company of Merchant Taylors of the Fraternity of St John the Baptist in the City of London' as Trustees of the Christopher Boon's Trust Estate. Unfortunately neither the cottages nor the original Church is a listed building and neither has been properly preserved. Some years ago the existing frontage to the Church was added thereby concealing the original Church building. We believe that the suggested bulk and style of the replacement buildings is quite out of character with the surrounding buildings and is of poor design. Apart from a curious reference to the nesting habits of the London black redstart, there is no mention made of conservation issues or of the existence of the neighbouring conservation area. The quality of plans and elevations is very poor. The Society and about 16 local residents have lodged objections to the application – [DC/11/77354](#) – viewable in the planning section of the council's website. We have asked the council to organise a public meeting so residents can express their views.

Stark Social Evening

The Stark Gallery is currently closed for refurbishment and will re-open on 26th September as a café with exhibition space. We all thoroughly enjoy using the Stark facilities for our Annual Social Event and have therefore decided to delay the annual get-together by a month so that we will be able to continue to do so. This year then, the Society's Annual Social Event will be held on Friday 7th October at the new Stark Café - make a note in your diary now.

Time Credits Proposal for Lee

The council is working on plans for a time credits scheme in Lewisham. This would run alongside existing time share schemes and would issue paper credits, cashable for access to council services including training, events and activities. Credits would be earned by doing good works such as caring for the elderly or tidying gardens. This scheme has been tried in south Wales and has led to increased community involvement and reduced anti-social behaviour.

New Seating Bench within the Conservation Area

We discussed the provision of a new bench on a local street – possibly at the corner of Taunton Road and Wantage Road. Sylvia is to investigate 'Riverwood' who work in partnership with Greenwich Mencap and use reclaimed driftwood from the River Thames. She will report back to the next meeting.

Northbrook Public House

The pub, at the corner of Burnt Ash Road and Southbrook Road, has for several weeks been covered with unsightly white blotches of paint. Refurbishment work was started but has been halted – apparently because of a dispute between the new landlord and the property company which owns the building. The pub is locally listed and is in the conservation area. We have written to the planning department but they have replied that they have no powers to take action.

We would like to thank Charles for hosting the meeting