

# LEE MANOR SOCIETY



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## Next Meeting

7.30pm on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011

at: **The Community Centre, Unit 3, Leegate (opposite Iceland)**

*Open to all residents in the area. Formalities end 9.00pm. Nibbles afterwards*

## Notes of our Meeting on 9 February at 47 Handen Road

**Present:** Charles Batchelor (Chairman), Ralph White (Deputy Chairman), Steven Griffiths (Treasurer), Rev Richard Bainbridge, PCSO Stephen Eaton, Andrea Breugelmanns, Patty Byford, Paul Connolly, Sylvia Ling, Sheila Peck (Secretary), Suki Picarda, David Plumer, Anita Whitfield.

**Apologies:** Pauline Beck, Faye Carney, Jim Mallory, Frances Migniuolo,

### Local crime

PCSO Stephen Eaton of the Safer Neighbourhoods Team gave us an update on local crime matters and noted that crime in the area remains low compared to other areas. However, there had been a few break-ins recently in and around the conservation area. A burglar caught in Northbrook Road had now been convicted and imprisoned, but break-ins continue. Householders are reminded that unattended open back doors are a target for sneak thieves seeking laptops and other small valuable items.

Vehicle crime is the other main local problem. Items left on view in cars are a real temptation. In some cases cars were being stolen. Police and PCSOs were actively patrolling, using various techniques to catch offenders and also reduce crime opportunities. If you see anyone acting suspiciously, for example showing unusual interest in cars or properties, then call the police immediately. Please don't leave things on view in cars, hallways, or front windows (e.g. car keys) that might tempt someone to crime.

We noted that poor street lighting remains an issue. Please report any failed lights directly to the council via the [LoveLewisham.org](http://LoveLewisham.org) web site – also very useful for reporting graffiti, fly-tipping etc.

### Lewisham Core Strategy

Charles represented the Society and the Focas Group of Lewisham conservation societies at a two-day hearing (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> February) in front of an inspector to consider Lewisham's planning document up to 2026. We argued for stronger policies to protect the heritage assets including conservation areas and the environment of the borough, such as street trees. A subsequent meeting with planning officers led to them agreeing to beef up policy statements in these areas: after initially rejecting our suggestions about street trees, the council

introduced several references including a commitment to replace trees where losses occur. The Council is expected to finalise the document once the inspector has reported.

### **Trinity School Plaques**

Two of the plaques removed from the former Northbrook School had now been installed at the new Trinity School. However, being set into the ground outside, rather than inside or on an external wall seemed to leave them vulnerable to weather damage over time. We agreed to write to the school and see if they could not be better displayed. One plaque or panel appears to be absent, commemorating Princess Margaret's visit to open the previous building.

### **Planning matters**

**Brindishe School** - has proposed a single-storey extension on the Effingham Road frontage, to the east of the boiler room. It is to ease space constraints caused by the need to accommodate a one-off 'bulge' class because of unanticipated high demand for primary school places.

**66 Taunton Road.** - the Planning department held a well-attended public meeting in the library to hear views about the proposal for a house to be built behind the existing one. Local residents expressed strong objections and we reiterated our opposition on the grounds of damage to the character of the park, overlooking of nearby gardens, difficulty of car access and unsuitability in a conservation area. The application will now go to a council Planning sub-committee.

### **Ice House Rôta**

We are drawing up a rôta for the year ahead. The Ice House reopens on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April from 3-5pm. Any additional volunteers for the rôta please email Charles on [batchelorc@gmail.com](mailto:batchelorc@gmail.com)

### **Controlled parking**

We noted that a CPZ had been adopted now for Dallinger Rd and Holme Lacey Rd. The 9am - 5pm enforcement still seems excessive compared with the 2 h mid-day CPZ previously hinted at for the Lee Station area by officers at a recent Local Assembly meeting.

### **AOB**

We noted the ongoing concern of some residents about **parking** by teachers locally. It was agreed that this could be raised at the next Lee Green Assembly meeting, including the idea of better utilizing the Leegate Centre car park.

**Society's welcome letter:** this was agreed, with the addition of a map on the reverse side to show the conservation area.

### **Diary dates**

**Plant Mart:** Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May from 2-4pm at 2-6 Micheldever Road. Donations of plants, bric-à-brac, cakes, jams, books and raffle prizes – and the services of a Face Painter! will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Sylvia, Faye, Pam or Ralph on [plantmart@leemanorsociety.org](mailto:plantmart@leemanorsociety.org)

**AGM:** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm in Baring Room of The Manor House.

**Social evening:** Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 7.30pm Stark Gallery, Lee High Road

**Open House weekend:** 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> September - **Ice house** open noon-5pm.

*We would like to thank the Rev.Richard Bainbridge for hosting the meeting.*