

LEE MANOR SOCIETY



Minutes of Lee Manor Society meeting, 2nd September 2025

PRESENT: Charles Batchelor, Barbara Bird (notes), Simon Bucks, John Byrne, Rita Craft, David Dannreuther, Mary Donovan, David Ford, Jan Ford, Mike Haste, Frances Migniuolo, David Plumer, Karen Pratt (chair)

1. Apologies Grace Blyth

2. Minutes of meeting held on 6th May 2025 Approved.

3. Finance Simon presented the Income and Expenditure Account for the 12 months ended 31st July 2025. See separate document.

4. Funding and Expenditure

a. **Fundraising:** Our main sources of income are from the Plant Mart, Ice House donations, Grant applications, and matched funding for street trees from residents.

The Plant Mart in 2026 will be held on 9th May. Ideas for additional activities to increase the income are welcome. It needs to be publicised early. We need to attract more volunteers.

b. **Expenditure:** The cost of running the Society, particularly the website for information dissemination, noticeboards and banners advertising our activities, such as the Plant Mart and the Community Garden. We continue to work on the Big Bed project (in Manor House gardens, jointly with Glendale and the Friends of Manor House Gardens), and we are developing a Heritage Trail.

5. Tree Planting: Southbrook Road project and Ralph's tree

We are in negotiation with council officers for the agreed planting of 14 trees in Southbrook Road.

The planting in Manor House Gardens of the tree in memory of Ralph White is due to go ahead from November. Charles will make arrangements concerning the plaque.

6. Planning Mike presented a full report on recent and current planning issues (see separate document). There will be a link on the website to monthly reports in future. Mike also

commented on various problems remaining in relation to the Leegate redevelopment, including construction logistics (access for lorries, etc.).

The meeting wishes to express its appreciation of the considerable and impressive work Mike has put in concerning all aspects of the Leegate redevelopment.

7. Sustainable Streets No progress to report, as there has been no further communication since the Council's decision in the summer to extend SS to three local roads in the Lee Green area: Burnt Ash Rd, Cambridge Rd and Upwood Rd. The Council decision appears to extend the existing parking restrictions used in the Lee Manor Conservation area. i.e. 10am-12noon to the new roads.

8. Volunteers As well as the remaining volunteer slots needing to be filled for opening the Ice House this summer, we need to plan ahead to attract volunteers for the Ice House and the Plant Mart next year.

9. Celebration of LMS 50 years in 2026 – any suggestions?

An exhibition in Manor House Library was proposed. Frances will consult the library about having a 2- 4 week exhibition in the foyer during the summer next year.

We must mention the anniversary on everything we publish next year, and emphasise it at next year's AGM.

10. AGM planning The AGM will take place in the Baring Room of Manor House Library at 7.30pm on Wednesday October 1st. Local historian Paul Wright will give an illustrated talk on some little-known aspects of the history of Lee.

11. AOB

The restoration of the Good Shepherd church wall continues, and continues to require further funding. So far the work on the section facing Handen Road has been completed.

Simon and Mike are representing the Society in contact with the South East London Forum.

The Society will hold a Christmas Social on Wednesday, 10 December, 7.30pm, at the Old Tiger's Head Pub at Lee Green Crossroads. The schedule for the Society's meetings and events for 2026 will be discussed and then circulated later.

Representatives from the police **Safer Neighbourhood Team**, PC Joseph Campbell and PCSO Iulian Matei, attended the meeting to introduce a new initiative for improving contact with the community. [Their new platform Met Engage](#) provides an opportunity for members of the public to contact the police about our concerns regarding community policing, and it's possible to find out more and sign up at metengage.co.uk.

Society members were saddened to hear of the death, after a short illness, of **Patti Byford** on June 13th at the age of 85. Patti was a long-term supporter of the Society, including

volunteering at the Ice House openings in Manor House Gardens. An early interest in art led to her first job at a women's clothing design company. In later life she took up art classes, becoming a skilled portraitist. Patti's funeral was held on July 24th at Hither Green Crematorium.