

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Lee Manor Society
held at 8.00 pm on Thursday 8 May 2008
in the Parish Room at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Handen Road, Lee.**

Present were the Chairman, Charles Batchelor, Officers and 30 members. The Chairman welcomed everyone present and introduced the Society.

Charles reported on the Society's activities over the previous twelve months as summarised in the Annual News Letter and offered his sincere thanks to all local residents and Society members for their efforts and support throughout the year. Without such generous help and support we would not be able to achieve our aims of preserving the identity and the community of the Conservation Area. We are very pleased that, at long last, Lewisham Council has agreed that the Area be extended to include the West side of Manor Lane, Hedgley Street, Brightfield Road, part of Lampmead Road, the shopping parade on the East side of Burnt Ash Road (opposite the Northbrook Public House) and the row of mature trees on the East side of Burnt Ash Road which runs down to Leegate. The Society has been keen to have the Area extended for some considerable time and is especially pleased that it managed to persuade the Council to include Hedgley Street which was not their original intention.

The Society has been involved in discussions with the Council over the refurbishment of the Manor House and also the proposed rebuilding of Northbrook School where negotiations are on-going. We have obtained confirmation that the Crest from the original school and a Memorial Stone which is installed in the main entrance hall of the existing school building will be preserved and re-installed in the new building. We have also arranged for the transfer of several mature plants and shrubs from the school grounds to Manor House Gardens. The Council's plans and drawings for the new Northbrook School were on display and the Society confirmed its support for the School but will continue to pursue its objections concerning the overall mass and inevitable adverse impact the proposed new building will have on the surrounding residential area. It is hoped that there will be a Public Meeting to enable local residents to express their views in person.

Our supervision of the opening of the Ice House on the first and third Sundays of the summer months is on-going and our graffiti busting team continues its monthly duties which, in view of the welcome reduction in graffiti, now include gardening and planting.

The Treasurer presented a Summary of the audited Accounts for the year ending 31st January 2008. The total income for the year was £1,200.96 of which almost 75% came from last year's extremely successful Plant Mart. Expenditure for the year was almost £1,000.00 which left a balance in hand of £2,754.78. We had no unusual expenses last year and the balance in hand is a small increase on that which was in hand at 31st January 2007.

All the existing Officers stood for re-election - Charles Batchelor as Chairman, Ralph White as Vice-Chairman, Steve Griffiths as Treasurer and Sheila Peck as Secretary. Don Coombe took the Chair. There were no other nominations. The election of the officers *nem com* was proposed by Don Coombe and seconded by Jim Mallory and was carried unanimously. Charles Batchelor resumed the Chair and then closed the formal part of the AGM and requested questions from those present. There was a question about the preservation of 3 trees at the Northbrook School Taunton Road site which were planted in memory of 3 students who died within a very short period of time. The precise location of the trees was not known but the Society agreed to make further enquiries to see if preservation is possible. .

Nick Pond, Lewisham's Ecological Regeneration Manager then gave a very interesting talk about Nature Conservation in Lewisham Borough including the Council's particular interest in 'green roofs' and its intention to install one on a prominent building in the Borough. The Council offices in Catford are apparently under consideration for this proposal.

We offer sincere thanks to the Reverend Richard Bainbridge and the Church of the Good Shepherd for allowing us to use the Parish Room for the Meeting.