

LEE MANOR SOCIETY



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Lee Manor Society held at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th May 2009 in the Baring Room at The Manor House, Old Road, Lee

Present were the Chairman, Charles Batchelor, the Officers (Ralph White Deputy Chair, Steve Griffiths Treasurer, Sheila Peck Secretary) and 24 members. The Chairman welcomed everyone present and expressed our pleasure at being able to hold the AGM in the newly refurbished Library building. Charles reported on the Society's activities during the previous year as summarised in the Annual News Letter and on the recent decision of Lewisham Council to refer major Planning Applications to both the Design Panel, which is comprised of architects, and the Amenities Panel, which represents Conservation Areas in the Borough. This decision will mean that, in future, the Amenities Panel will be involved in the consideration of major redevelopment Applications (such as that for the Northbrook School site) in or adjoining Conservation Areas .

The design of the Lee Green History Panel we intend to install at the Lee Green crossroads has finally been agreed and we are hoping for delivery within the next few weeks. Our preferred location for the Panel has been approved by TfL. The cost of the Panel has been funded partly by a Locality Fund grant and partly by the Society and we are extremely grateful to Jeremy Carden who, once again, has been a tremendous help in planning the design.

Charles offered his sincere thanks to all local residents and Society members for their much valued support and contribution to the efforts of the Society in maintaining the benefits and atmosphere of the Conservation Area.

The Treasurer presented a summary of the audited Accounts for the year to 31 January 2009. The total income for the year (including the Council's Locality Fund grant of £1,800.00 towards the cost of our Lee Green Panel) was £2,914.90. Overall takings were slightly less than last year but, as a result of a change in Bank, the interest earned on our deposits has increased slightly.

The Deputy Chairman emphasised our appreciation of the renovation work which has been undertaken to the Manor House and reflected back to meeting Mayor Bullock on site 4 years ago when he came to consider whether renovation would be beneficial and/or necessary. Fortunately, despite objections from some Council Officers, the Mayor managed to get sufficient support to obtain the award of the necessary funding. This success proves that lobbying works.

All existing Officers stood for re-election. Doug Earle took the Chair and, as there were no other nominations, he proposed the election of Charles as Chairman which was seconded by Sue Byford and carried unanimously. The election of the other officers was carried *nem con*.

Mark Pearce from Architects Buttress Fuller Alsop Williams gave a very interesting illustrated presentation entitled 'The Refurbishment of the Manor House'. It was fascinating to learn how they had been able to reconstruct the alcove in the Baring Room and how old conduit ducts had been used to enable the installation of modern conduits.

The meeting ended with a short discussion about our attitude towards off-street parking and the Council's continued efforts to expand the CPZ zones.

We offer our sincere thanks to Antonio Rizzo and the Council for facilitating the use of the Manor House for our Meeting.