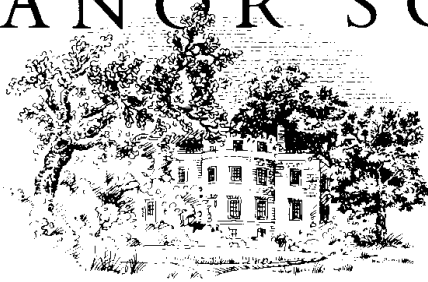


# LEE MANOR SOCIETY



For further details on some of the topics below, visit <http://www.leemanorsociety.org>  
Please consider changing to our email distribution – write to [news@leemanorsociety.org](mailto:news@leemanorsociety.org)

**Next Regular Meeting**  
**7.30pm on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014**  
**at: 105 Burnt Ash Road, London SE12 8RA**  
*Open to all residents in the area. Formalities end 9.00pm with refreshments after*

## Notes of our Meeting on 8th October 2014

**Present:** Charles Batchelor (Chairman), Ralph White (Deputy Chairman), David Plumer, Sylvia Ling, Lorraine Burton (Treasurer), Sue Byford, Jenny Lowen, Patti Byford, Judy Cole, Diana Stevenson, David Ford, John Dann and Sheila Peck (Secretary).

**Apologies:** Dan Griffin, Veronica Simmons, Pauline Hatfield, Frances Mignuolo, Rita Craft, and Anita Whitfield.

### Leegate

As a result of the interest shown in the redevelopment of Leegate at the Council's Annual Questions and Answers Session on 17th September, the Deputy Mayor agreed to arrange another public consultation on 14th October at Trinity School. This meeting heard presentations from Council representatives, Cllr Jim Mallory on behalf of the Assembly Leegate Working Party, and St. Modwen. Residents raised concerns about the lack of public space in the new development, the size of the supermarket and traffic and pollution issues. The response from the planners was that these issues could only be addressed following a formal planning application. The Society, as a member of the Working Party, is pressing for these matters to be resolved before a formal application.

### Replacement Boundary Stone for Handen Road

The replacement stone is now ready for installation. It is an exact replica of the original plus an inscription 'LMS 2014' to record our involvement in the replacement. The stone will be installed outside No. 9 Handen Road although we have not yet been able to arrange a timetable with the Council. We have spoken to the householder and they are supportive. If possible we would prefer the Stone to be installed by the Mason under the supervision of the Council's contractors.

### Street Trees

The joint bid with David Ford for Assembly Funding was a success. Initially the total of the bids exceeded the amount of money available but, at the suggestion of Cllr. Mallory, it was agreed that each bid be slightly reduced so that every bid was successful. The Trees bid was reduced to £1,920. Lee Manor Society's contribution was reduced by the same percentage as the bid which means we will give £720. There have also been 2 donations received from residents in Woodyates Road. Arrangements were made for Charles, David and Sheila to do a

survey of Brightfield Road, Lampmead Road, Manor Lane and the upper part of Burnt Ash Road before having discussions with the Council representative to agree the planting sites.

\*Look out for the crop of medlars on two recent plantings in Manor Lane (on the east side near the corners of Micheldever Road and Handen Road respectively). The apple-like fruits are small but distinctive with a deep hollow at one end surrounded by large withered sepals. Once believed to be a cure for kidney stones and digestive disorders, medlars can be made into jelly.

### **Local Assembly Meeting**

The two main points of the Assembly this time were, firstly the Big Budget Challenge for the Council to reduce their spending by a third and secondly the allocation of the Assembly Funding. For the first part of the evening each table of attendees undertook an exercise to present suggestions for ways in which the Council could/should reduce their annual spending. Not knowing why and how services are needed and delivered made this impossible, a problem also encountered by the Lewisham Congress Meeting (see below).

The second part of the evening was spent allocating the Assembly funding as already mentioned. We are hoping to learn the results of the CPZ Consultation later this month.

### **Graffiti Action**

Graffiti has appeared on some of the shops in the parade near Lee Station. The Society has contacted the shop-owners and the council and arrangements have been made to assist in removal.

### **Lewisham Congress Meeting**

Charles represented the Society at a meeting called by the Mayor to improve community cohesion on 2nd October. Following presentations by representatives of the police, NHS, business and others, the meeting considered where the Council might make cuts in its budget but, as the Assembly found, this was a near-impossible task.

### **The Ice House**

This year we had our second-best ever attendance over the Open House weekend despite a postal glitch that meant we were not listed in the official booklet. We had 573 visitors over 10hrs of opening. Our best ever numbers were in 2008 when the Ice House was open for 11hrs. Over the full six-months opening period this year we had 1,656 visitors. Since we first opened the Ice House in 2000 we have had 21,236 visitors, an average of 105 for each session.

### **Traffic**

The local police have been carrying out informal surveys on speeding in the area and have issued tickets to several drivers exceeding the 30mph limit although there were apparently no guilty parties exceeding the limit in Staplehurst Road and Leahurst Road – a focus of attention. Surprisingly, it is not currently possible to enforce the 20mph limit. Whilst we appreciate that speeding should be controlled it is disturbing to note that cars travelling at a lower speed create more air pollution because fuel catalysis don't work at lower speed levels.

### **Finances**

Lorraine reported that we have £1,400 left in the kitty until our next fundraising in May 2015. Forthcoming spending commitments include the street tree funding of £720, the balance of payment for the replacement Parish Boundary Stone and anticipated expenses for printing.

*We thank Jenny for hosting the meeting.*