

# LEE MANOR SOCIETY



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**Next Regular Meeting**  
**7.30pm on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2012**  
**at: The Old Tiger's Head , Lee Green**  
**As usual, there is no August meeting**

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

## **Notes of our Meeting on 11th July 2012 at 105 Burnt Ash Road**

**Present:** Charles Batchelor (Chair), David Plumer, Sylvia Ling, Elizabeth Caulfield, Patti Byford, Veronica Simmons, Sue Byford, Bruce Allison, Faye Carney, Dan Griffin (late arrival), and Sheila Peck (Secretary)

**Apologies:** Steve Griffiths, Anita Whitfield, Ralph White, Andrea Breugelmanns, Pauline Hadfield, Jim Mallory, Tony Branton, Heidi Alexander, Suki Picarda, Frances Migniuolo and Lorraine Burton (Treasurer).

## **Traffic Accidents in Burnt Ash Road**

A spate of accidents on Burnt Ash Road at the corner of Dorville Road and Micheldever Road has caused concern. The council is apparently looking at painting yellow lines to improve sight lines and reduce congestion but this may not happen for a few months. In the longer term, a possible future controlled parking zone (CPZ) should improve traffic conditions.

## **Leegate Redevelopment Plans**

The Leegate Redevelopment Working Group, on which we are represented, had a meeting with St Modwen and Lewisham's planners at the end of June. The meeting was well attended by representatives of local groups and residents. We made a strong case to St Modwen and the planners for rejection of the present proposals for a very large Asda superstore. We objected on the grounds of the scale of the development, the loss of public spaces, lack of housing, excessive traffic generation and the general lack of vision in the proposals. The proposal to retain and re-clad the corner buildings was also criticized for retaining the most visible aspect of the present unloved shopping centre. We believe that the current proposal suits Asda and St Modwen but does nothing for the local community. We are urging a smaller "anchor" store that would still leave opportunities for other small stores to flourish. Large superstores offer such a wide range of products and services that they can suck all the life out of shopping centres. St Modwen said they would consider our proposals. Another meeting is planned for September. We would like to thank all those who have responded to our request for comments on the policy document which is on our website. We urge others to respond.

## **Street Trees**

Charles has arranged a further meeting with John Thompson and Rick Farr (Tree Officers from Lewisham Council) on 25<sup>th</sup> July to discuss possible tree planting projects in Manor Lane and Burnt Ash Road. We discussed the suggested contribution to the cost by the Society and it was agreed that we would not contribute to planting outside the Conservation Area and that any contribution would be approved by the Committee.

## **Welcome Letter progress**

Bruce and Ralph have made a decision over the map options - see last month's Notes. Bruce has agreed to check the boundaries and add the colouring similar to the original version so that we should soon be able to complete our 'Welcome Pack' for newcomers to the Conservation Area.

## **Manor Park Bridge Opening**

Several members attended the opening of the new bridge over the River Quaggy which provides additional access to Manor Park from Longhurst Road. The official opening of the bridge was performed by Mayor Steve Bullock on the morning of Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. It was a lovely day, the event was very well attended and resulted in queues at the new café in the Park. Several local groups, including us, had tables to publicise themselves to visitors and as a result, we have decided we should obtain a Banner to draw more attention to our table at future events.

## **Planning**

At the last Panel Meeting the Planning Officer advised that the Council are looking into creating areas of special local character (which may not be quite sufficiently preserved to warrant creating a Conservation Area) and asked for suggestions. So far eleven areas have been suggested including Manor Park because of the large villas in the section which leads down to Lee High Road. The Park improvements increase the appeal of the area. The Lee Green junction is also on the list.

## **Sash Windows**

We have been contacted by a new local firm which makes double-glazed wooden sash windows and other types of carpentry. We cannot specifically recommend any business but we are happy to mention Benchmark Sashes Ltd. They can be contacted on 07925 306111 and have a workshop just off Old Road.

## **Annual Social Evening**

This year our Annual Social Evening will be held on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September at the Boones Chapel on Lee High Road. The evening will begin at 7.30pm as usual. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in our new venue. If you haven't yet seen inside the Chapel we strongly recommend it!

*We would like to thank Charles for hosting the meeting*