

LEEMANOR SOCIETY



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Next Meeting

**8pm on 13th February 2008 at
105 Burnt Ash Road, SE12 8RA**

Open to all residents in the area. Ends 9.30pm-nibbles afterwards

Note of our Meeting on 16th January at 11 Wantage Road

Present: Charles Batchelor (Chairman), Ralph White, Steve Griffiths, Sylvia Ling, David Plumer, Andrea Breugalmans, May Clarke and Sheila Peck

Apologies: Suki Picarda, Fay Carney, Sue Byford and Jeremy Carden

Annual Social Evening

We had a successful and very enjoyable evening at Stark Gallery and were pleased to welcome both local residents and representatives of several local organisations. After accounting for donations and the proceeds of the raffle the evening cost the Society approximately £50.00.

Baring Archive

The Society was invited to visit the Baring Archive which is retained in the offices of ING Bank in London Wall in the evening of 15 January. Thirteen of us went along. It was extremely interesting to see the collection of paintings, which include portraits of members of the Baring family, and a selection of letters, legal documents and newspaper articles relating to the Bank and the former family home. We all greatly appreciate having been given the opportunity to view the collection which we thoroughly enjoyed despite the appalling weather on the day.

News on Pending Planning Applications

- **110 Burnt Ash Road:** See November Notes. Unfortunately the Sycamore Tree has been removed which means there is nothing in the front garden other than the tarmac, wheelie bins and bags of builders materials. One reason given for removal of the tree was “good arboricultural practice.”
- **46 Effingham Road:** The Amenity Societies’ Panel rejected the application for the construction of an extension to the rear roof slope on the grounds that it would be excessive development.
- **Station Yard Development, Lee Station:** The Amenity Panel queried whether the proposed planting would be sufficient to block the noise from the railway lines.
- **27 Southbrook Road:** A Tree Preservation Order has been issued in respect of the Sycamore tree for which an Application to fell was submitted.
- **35 Southbrook Road:** We have noted that the left-side front wall has been removed although this was not included in the previous application for the construction of a disabled lift shaft. We are also concerned at the poor finish and high level of the hard standing and are making further enquiries of the Council.

Unauthorised Parking

The foreign (Dutch?) lorry is still parking in Effingham Road on a regular basis. Since previous efforts to obtain enforcement of heavy vehicle parking restrictions by the Council, the Police or TFL have been unsuccessful we are considering submitting a formal Petition to the Mayor. We have prepared a suitable document and will be seeking signatures in the near future.

Manor House Gardens

Via the Quaggy Waterways Action Group we heard, last November, that the Environment Agency may have a sum in the region of £2,000.00 which they are prepared to put towards the cost of constructing a bridge over the River within the Gardens - but the money must be taken up by March this year. A bridge would provide very welcome additional access to the Park. Charles received an e-mail on 23 November last advising that the matter is on the Council's/Steve Bullock's Agenda and we will monitor progress although there is no further news at present.

Conservation Area Review

There is no further news at the moment other than that it is being worked on and that the final proposal will be put to the Council this year. We are concerned that we have heard nothing further about the Society's wish to include Hedgley Street.

Manor House Library

Unfortunately damage has already occurred in that one of the Entrance Gate pillars has been knocked over. The garden wall is independently listed Grade 2 (whereas the House itself is listed Grade 2*) and the Council are therefore considering removing the pillar pending completion of the works to avoid further damage. (This has since been done.)

The Library in the House is now closed and the only facility available now is in the Mobile Library which is parked permanently in front of the building. Due to lack of space, the selection of books available is very limited.

Northbrook School

We have received an enquiry from Mike Tyrrell, the grandson of a former caretaker of the school, concerning the location (and hopeful preservation) of stonework which was rescued from the original school building after it was bombed. We have ascertained that stonework bearing the School Crest is in the wall of the entrance lobby of the existing school and are making further enquiries about its preservation.

Safer Neighbourhood Group

The Society needs a Representative to attend meetings – roughly once every two months - of the Group on its behalf. Would anyone who is able and willing to take on this responsibility please let us know.

Many thanks to Bernard and Andrea for hosting the meeting