

LEE MANOR SOCIETY



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OUR NEXT MEETING
8 pm Wednesday 8 February 2006
105 Burnt Ash Road

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

Note of our 9 January 2006 meeting, at 13 Manor Way

Present: Charles Batchelor, Ralph White Steve Griffiths, Sylvia Ling, David Plumer, Roy Cromb, Andrea Breugelmans, Sheila Peck, Jeremy Carden, Yvette Croucher, Katherina Rist, John Radcliffe, David Stopp, Olivia Hausen

Apologies: Pat and Peter Richardson, May Clarke, Julian Bowsher, Faye Carney, Pauline Hatfield

News on planning applications

- a planning application has been submitted for an extension at the rear of 13 Effingham Road
- Charles is continuing to press the Council about possible enforcement action over the new front garden wall with tall railings being built at the old vicarage in Handen Road.
- owners of the new café at 105 Manor Lane have been asked by the Council to remove the new internally-illuminated sign, before enforcement action is taken. This type of sign is not permitted within the conservation area.
- the Amenity Societies panel recommended against a solar panel on the dormer at the rear of 62 Southbrook Road, and the felling of a front garden lime at 49 Effingham Road. It raised no objection to a new front wall and gates at 69 Effingham Road.
- a list of new/recent planning applications is available at

<http://www4.lewisham.gov.uk/acolnet/lewis-xslpagesDC/acolnetcgi.exe>

Click 'Advanced Search', and select 'Lee Green' from the Ward name drop-down menu.

Help us with the 30th birthday of the Lee Manor Society

Charles, Ralph, Faye and Jeremy are working up ideas for the celebration, likely to be on Friday 17 September. If you have any photos or recollections we could use, please contact us.

Website

A new website for the Society is under construction.

Manor House Library

The proposals are still going through the planning process. It is worrying that the Manor House Project team has not met for some time and Ralph has asked our local Councillors to help ensure that the scheme does not founder yet again. However, we have been informally reassured by the relevant Officer that Council commitment to the Manor House Project remains.

Meeting with your local Councillors

Lewisham are hosting a public meeting on Monday 30 January to hear local views on issues of concern. This will include a presentation about the plans for development in Lewisham town centre. It will provide a chance to hear and meet local councillors for Lee Green, Lewisham Central and Blackheath wards. The meeting is at 7pm at Emmanuel Pentecostal Church, 372 Lee High Road (close to the Stark Gallery).

Amenity issues

- The parking of rental cars by National (from the Lee High Road depot) on roads like Wantage continues, although currently less than before. The Council highways staff take the view that nothing can be done, apart from declaring a Controlled Parking Zone. However, the Society feel this may be an unlawful use of land in planning terms, for example. The highways are being used to run a business operation, because the depot is not large enough to store the number of vehicles involved. **Action:** We will write to National if the problem continues, and if the response is not satisfactory we will take further action.
- The siting of the park bench has now been agreed, in consultation with Glendales and the Gardens Group. It should be installed close to the Ice House, inside the main grass area, in time for Spring and a hand over ceremony is tentatively planned for Saturday 1 April.
- The Society has suggested 5 new sites for street trees to the Council.
- Work on the pavements and crossings at Lee Green has been held up by problems with underground cabling, but these were being resolved and the project should be completed. Some concern was expressed about the new illuminated advertising which had appeared on the pavement between Taunton Road and the bus layby.
- The attractive New Tigers Head pub, and adjoining newsagents at Lee Green are now closed; and the Post Office on the other side of the pub is due to move. **Action:** ask LB Greenwich if they know what changes may be planned for the corner, and monitor developments.

Northbrook School

John Radcliffe, the headmaster, outlined the new proposals for the future of the school. The previous scheme proved unaffordable. It will remain on its present site, and be wholly rebuilt, for about 600 pupils (a smaller increase than before). New sports facilities will be built on the private sports field behind the Fire Station, which the school is acquiring, and these will be available for community use. The Ennersdale Road School site will be used to house the school during reconstruction which is due to start in 2007 and finish in 2009. He is very keen to involve neighbouring residents and the Society in considering the plans, which architects are about to start working up; and the aim is to reflect local community and local history in the design, and create a new building of high quality within the same footprint, but with changed massing to the rear. The caretaker's house will be demolished. Clearly there will be disruption during the building project. The Society emphasised the need for a good quality building which complements local architecture, noting that its prominent site next to the conservation area calls for careful handling.

Help tackle local graffiti!

The next outing of the Society graffiti-busters is due on Sunday 26 February. Meet outside 11 Wantage Road at the earlier time of 2pm. Anyone is welcome to help.

Pavements

The Society wrote to Councillor Gavin Moore, who is responsible for regeneration, on November 6 raising issues relating to the quality of pavements locally. We have still not received a reply.

Dates for your diaries

The Ice House reopens on **2nd April**, for the 2006 season. 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, and possibly with an extra Sunday in some 5 week months. Our AGM is planned for **16th May**, with the Plant Mart on **20th May** (to be confirmed).

Many thanks to Roy and Maggie for their hospitality