

LEEMANOR SOCIETY



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Next Regular Meeting
7.30pm on Wednesday 11th January 2017
The Community Centre, 3 Leegate

Open to all residents in the area. Formalities end 9.00pm – d.i.y. refreshments afterwards

Notes of our Meeting on 9th November 2016

Present: Ralph White (Chairman), David Plumer, David Ford, Sue Byford, Sylvia Ling, Patti Byford, Frances Migniuolo and Sheila Peck (Secretary).
Apologies: Diana Stevenson, Rita Craft and Charles Batchelor.

Planning

A general note: It is open to anyone to object to a Planning Application provided they give a ‘planning’ reason for the objection. Personal details must also be provided.

172 Manor Lane: The application for change of use to a Tattoo Parlour (reported in our September notes) has been approved.

The Lord Northbrook Public House, Burnt Ash Road: The owners have applied to re-decorate the exterior of the building and to include the ‘Fullers’ signage. This has now been completed.

New Tiger’s Head: The Developer’s Application to convert the Ground Floor of the building into flats was refused but the Developer is now appealing against that decision.

Leegate: The matters of concern raised by some Committee members (see our July Notes) are still being considered. We expect to have something more to report in the New Year.

Manor House and Library

The Local Assembly Working Group met recently and agreed that, if possible, they would like to meet representatives of the final contenders to take over the running of the Library - they are working on a plan to map out specific matters they should pay attention to as they are concerned that the Tender documents relate more specifically to the Library only and not to the Manor House as a whole. The Working Group are hoping to get two meetings with Council Officials to discuss changes in the running operations of the Library including unsupported access and whether it will be possible to influence the bidders.

Note (1) added: The Working Group was able to hear presentations from three organisations who have expressed an interest in the Manor House and Library on Saturday 10th December. The organisations were Arts Network, Family Health Lee (both registered charities) and V22 plc (a company registered in the Isle of Man with a subsidiary already running Forest Hill Library). The Working Group were able to offer comments on the three bidders and it is expected that a decision will be reached by Lewisham Council's Mayor and Cabinet at the meeting on 11 January.

Note (2) added: The proposals will go to Mayor and Cabinet on 8 February although the overall timetable is unchanged.

For updates on the progress being made please go to: www.lewisham.gov.uk/libraries

Trees

David and Charles have selected sites for 10 new trees within our area but have still to reach a decision on the variety of preference. The best trees for pollution absorption are Plane or Lime trees. New trees will be planted in Milborough Crescent, Taunton Road, Handen Road, Brightfield Road and Southbrook Road. Two residents (one in Brightfield Road and one in Handen Road) have offered to pay the cost of a tree to be planted in their road. Street-scaping in Manor Lane (including tree planting) is being funded by Lewisham Council.

With reference to the Conway's contribution to street trees which was referred to in last month's Notes, David and Charles have suggested we should consider whether to ask for a one-off donation or perhaps a specified number of trees each year over a set period.

Disabled Parking

Sylvia drew attention to the fact that the disabled parking information on the Traffic Wardens' handsets is inconsistent. The system should identify vehicles with Disabled Parking preference which would mean that it is not necessary to display the 'Disabled Badge' in your car when using a disabled parking space. However, Sylvia (who is entitled to disabled parking) recently received a PCN when she used a disabled parking space but did not display her badge. So, Badge Holders, to be on the safe side, we suggest you always display your Badge when using a specifically allocated space.

Note added: we can now confirm that the written information that Sylvia received is thoroughly misleading, and that it is necessary to display the Blue Badge notice.

Letter Boxes

We now understand that all the letter boxes in SE12 will be repaired and repainted by the end of this year.

We thank Ralph and Ju for hosting the meeting.