

STURRY AND BROAD OAK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Committee Meeting, Monday 11 March 2024 Minutes

Meeting was held at The Golden Lion, and commenced at 18.30

Present: Peta Boucher, Ann Davies, Roshna Ahmad, Heather Stennett, Freda Tassell, Fred Tassell, Lynn Burnett, Kathleen Warner, Peter Campbell, Carol, David Wadmore

Apologies for absence: Trevor Pilbeam, Peter Reynolds

Minutes of the previous meeting: Minutes of previous meeting agreed. Matters Arising and items discussed.

Ann pointed out that in the previous minutes regarding the Woodlands, it was just the management brief that had been approved by the Parish Council,

Treasurer's Report

The balance of £196 from the Christmas Tombola was handed over to be paid into the account. Online access to the account was still in progress.

Local Plan

This has been now published, outlining the district development up to 2040. Ann pointed out there was a 12 week consultation progress, during which time it should be scrutinised against National Planning Policy Frameworks among other considerations. Kathleen reported that a recent conversation with a Broad Oak site manager revealed that flooding was still an issue and that there may be a plan to include water run off with waste water. It was suggested that Peta send a request to the PC for a site visit by councillors.

It was suggested that volunteers on the committee should take on research and comment on specific locations included in the Local Plan.

Ann D to provide an inventory of local issues.

Peta said that at a recent CPRE meeting, their planning officer (Richard) said that the number of houses proposed in the Local Plan was inaccurate and the figure inflated. This was based on analysis of national trends. The meeting also predicted a population increase to 70m.

Peter asked if there would be a Sabora submission in response to the local plan, and it was agreed there should be a summary of comments.

Ann said that there should be a public meeting asap (organised by the PC). She would also mention the possibility of producing leaflets to be distributed in the area. Sabora will help put this together and distribute if needed.

Sabora to put Local Plan information on the website.

Peter mentioned the Sustainable Transport Roundtable meeting and how there is a modal shift in public transport. The planning officers have written the local plan to move away from reliance on cars and to build in local amenities in their development proposals. Discussion followed around the viability of the Park and Ride at Sturry.

CCC were working with Stagecoach re bus provision and that a strategy group for transport was to be formed.

Peta pointed out that a holistic approach was needed and that the Sturry Road was the second busiest road in the area after Rheims way.

Events

The PC turned down our request to use Park View open space for a "Summer In Sturry" event. They are, however, proposing to organise their own event. The meeting asked Ann to convey our support to the PC in this enterprise.

Highways Improvement

Peta walked around the area with Councillor Harry McKenzie to see how parking on pavements and grass verges was having a bad effect. Evidently this was decriminalised in 2004. Heather mentioned that Broad Oak has signs that are too small and too high. Harry has said that he will push for better signage and requested that committee members contact him with any such incidents of poor parking.

Speedwatch

The recent public meeting organised by the Parish Council called for volunteers. Info from hand held cameras is forwarded to the police for them to decide on action, if any.

Six volunteers and a co-ordinator are needed. Sabora agreed to give publicity to this scheme.

Safer Crossings

KCC have a Highways Improvement Plan that is open to all members of the public for comment. Peta suggested that we push for safer crossings and a

permanent speed camera. The 30mph zone should be extended to before the Sweechgate junction. Crossings should be moved from 40mph zones.

Nature Garden

Outline plan has been submitted to CCC and we are waiting for a response.

Walking Group

Sturry walks are proving popular, although some difficulty in finding convenient dates. Other walk leaders are needed. The new development has a running group, and it was agreed that we need to communicate more with residents there. DW to produce a Sturry Walks poster which Ann will help get put in PC notice boards.

AGM

Given the proximity of the annual Parish Meeting, (date TBD), it was agreed to hold the AGM in June/July. Suggestions needed for a guest speaker. Should we hold the meeting in the Parish Church?

AOB

Peter mentioned his proposal for a WWII walk and the possibility of a pub walk. Sabora will support these ideas and help as much as possible.

Roshna mentioned the money workshop to be held on the 19th.

There are changes planned for local boundaries that will affect the number of councillors, and also the national boundary that puts Sturry and Broad Oak in a new constituency that embraces Thanet and Sandwich.

Following councillor Marsh's comments re Sturry Library, Sabora will keep a watching brief in case it faces closure under KCC cutbacks.

Heather suggested that there be a Sabora team at the Twinning Association quiz night on Saturday 12th April, Broad Oak Village Hall, 7.30.

The meeting closed at 20.30.

Next meeting will be Tuesday 2 April, 6.30pm Golden Lion