

Sabora: Minutes of meeting Tuesday 14 January 2025

Present: Peta Boucher, Kathleen Warner, Heather Stennett, David Wadmore, Peter Campbell, Roshna Ahmad, Joseph Morris, Siobhan Maroney, Ann Davies, Lynn Burnett, Sarah Goddard

Apologies: Fred and Freda Tassell, Trevor Pilbeam

Resignations: Fred and Freda have designed to step down from the committee. The meeting recorded a unanimous vote of thanks to them. Peta agreed to write to them and send flowers on behalf of the committee.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and agreed.

Matters arising:

No matters arising

Membership Secretary and Treasurer:

Peter Campbell reported that sales from the Christmas event had been paid in and that A payment had been made to Joseph for all his work on restructuring the website. A card reader has now been purchased. Peter suggested a mail out should take place soon re subs. There was some debate regarding the membership questions on the Facebook page. Suggestions required for next meeting.
Matters arising from Peter's report.
HS suggested that the treasurer to send out monthly summary.
Creation of a committee email group.
Roshna to follow up on whereabouts of donations box left at church during the Christmas Tree event.

Local Developments.

Peta reported that the sale of Chequers Wood would be going ahead. The Friends of Chequers Wood are starting a fund raising campaign (amount needed thought to be circa £100,000. Ann asked if Kent Wild Life Trust had been approached, and suggested an Article 4 direction by CCC. Further reading: (<https://www.planningdirect.co.uk/find-out-about/permitted-development/article-4-directions>) Heather asked how much involvement there was from the Friends of Fordwich. Peta would ask the question to ACRA.
The meeting decided that they would support the effort to buy the woodland for the community through publicity, but felt that there were more pressing areas in our immediate area that would require our fund raising and campaigning attention. A Sturry Walk was suggested for the area.

Landfill site: Siobhan reported that there have been increasing problems with lorries queuing locally to access the landfill site, many having travelled great distances. Peta suggested that we collate evidence and contact KCC Highways and raise the issues with our local councillors and the Parish Council

Broad Oak reservoir: Heather informed the meeting that SEWater had now served eviction notices on properties in the valley Believed to be three years notice.

Planning info: Peter mentioned that the system of automatic planning alerts was not working properly and that perhaps an email group should be set up to inform committee members of any proposals that impact our area.

Joint Transport Board: Roshna told the meeting that the next meeting would be on the 18th March, where progress on the Link Road and flyover would be on the agenda.

Peta will be visiting the water treatment works on March 5th.

Green Saborgs:

The meeting agreed to incorporate the Green Saborgs group and to hold and administer their finances. David will organise their own email address.

Peter will ring fence their funds, either by a separate savings account or by creating separate accounting codes.

Saborg membership will be added to Sabora membership benefits in future publicity.

Sarah Goddard was welcomed to the committee.

Summer Event:

It is expected that this will take place in June, however, Roshna is waiting for confirmation of dates from the church. It was decided that a sub-committee should be formed to include the church, ourselves and the Fordwich Twinning Assoc. Suggestions to contact other local interest groups, such as the Over 50s were also made.

Any Other Business

Lighting: Joseph told the meeting that he had contacted KCC re the lack of lighting on Sturry Hill and by the new development. KCC were looking into it. Joseph will follow up.

Litter and dog excrement: This has reached an intolerable level. Sabora will contact councillors, publicise the reporting tools available on the CCC website. Parking on green verges and pavements has also increased.

Siobhan reported that according to CCC, for them to support a community litter-pick it would need to be in a 30mph road area with pavements. This is problematical as many of the worst affected areas do not have pavements. Will take this to out CCC councillors.

Social events: there was agreement that a social event, possibly in Chapters would be a good idea. Suggestions for formats of such an evening required for next meeting.

Meeting with councillors: Keji has agreed to meet us at 9.30am on Thursday 6th February. The Parish Council office meeting room has been made available.

The meeting ended at 20.30

Next meeting; Tuesday 18th February, Golden Lion, 18.30