

QUESTION OF THE WEEK, WEEK 14–15 (1–12.4.2026)

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 611

The margin of error is 4 % and thereby the answers are considered to reflect the opinions of the population in Jakobstad.

FÄBODA

In the Question of the Week the residents were asked: *“This survey is part of the Fäboda project, which started in January 2025 and aims to involve residents in the region in developing the Fäboda area together. The project is carried out by Centria University of Applied Sciences and the Arctic Museum Nanoq in collaboration with the town of Jakobstad, associations, and businesses in the area, and above all, you, the residents of the region. The project is a Leader project funded by Aktion Österbotten, with additional funding from the foundations Svenska Kulturfonden and Keskitien Säätiö.*

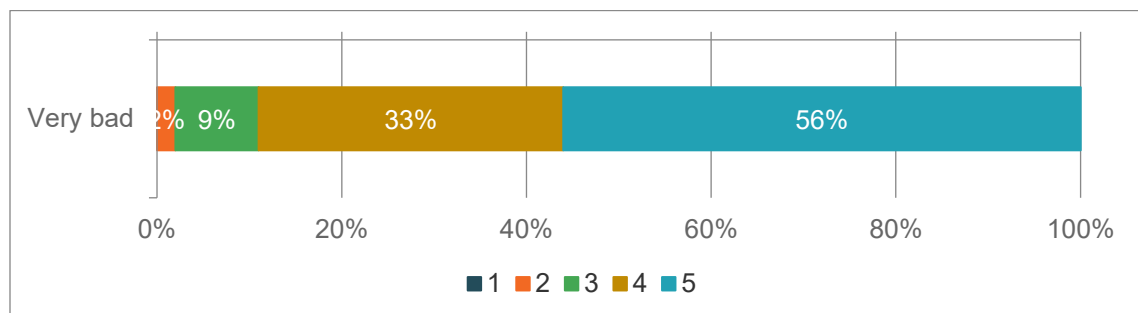
The Fäboda project has been running for a little over a year and will end this coming autumn. During this time, we have organized a wide range of events, such as community clean-ups, summer exercise sessions, a children's summer camp day, a mushroom course, a Christmas event at the shelter, as well as a winter day during which we practiced, among other things, ice safety. During the spring, we will also arrange a forest excursion using map applications and an overnight event.

Throughout the project, it has become clear that people appreciate when things happen in Fäboda, and they are eager to participate when the events are communicated well. Participation has taken place throughout the entire year, and we are pleased to see that the winter events have also been popular.

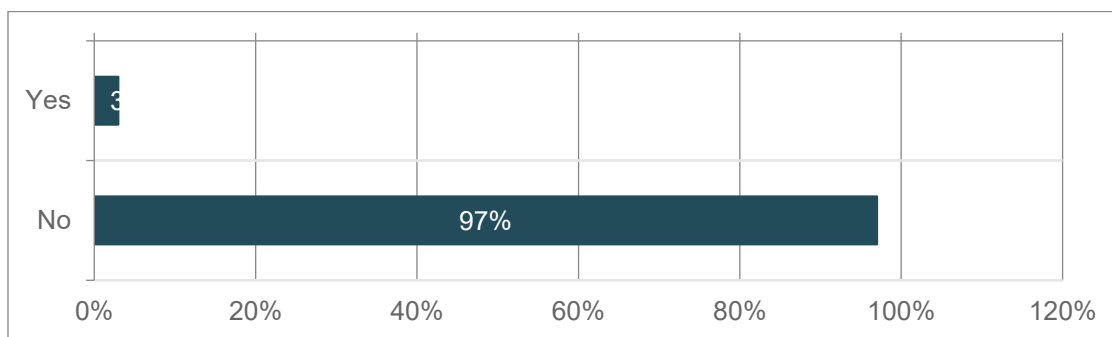
Now we would like to hear how we can shape the future of Fäboda together. What kind of activities would you like to see in the future? Would it be beneficial to establish a joint Fäboda association that could act as a unifying force in the area? And if such an association is established, in what way or how would you like to participate in its activities? Thank you for responding and sharing your thoughts about Fäboda!

Satisfaction and safety

How satisfied are you? (1–5 scale) 1 = Very bad, 5 = Very good”



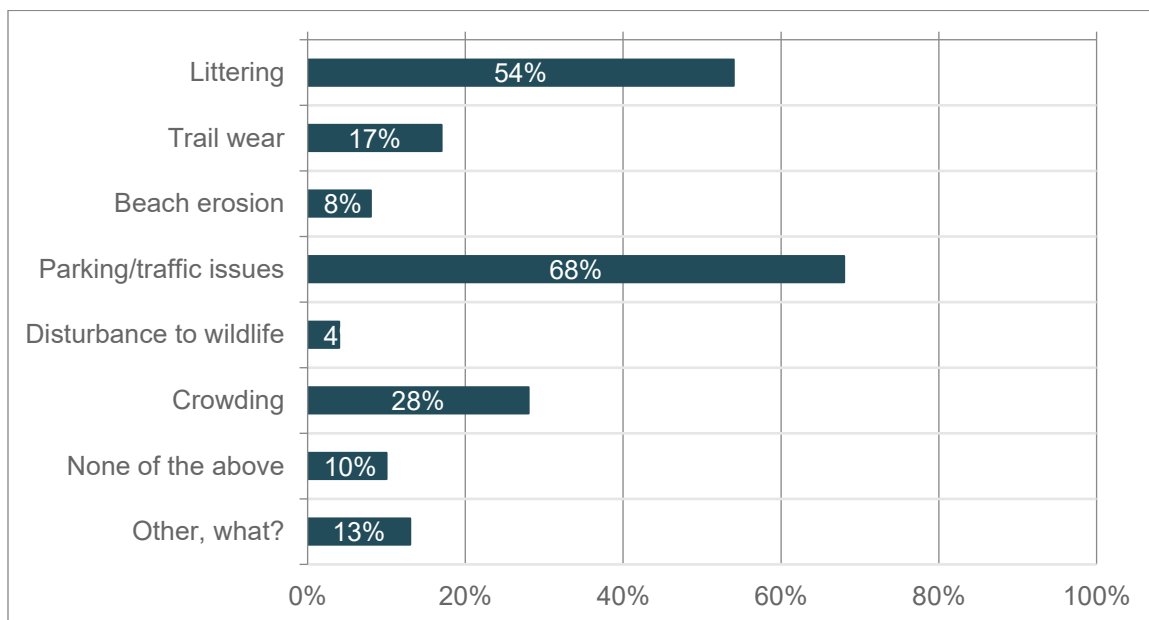
“Have you ever felt unsafe?”



The ones that answered Yes received the follow-up question: ***“Please describe”***

Feelings of insecurity in Fäboda are mainly experienced during times of large crowds, congestion, and loud groups, especially in summer and late evenings. Insufficient lighting, a sense of desolation, and perceived disorderly or inconsiderate behavior contribute to social unease, even though specific incidents are rarely mentioned. Traffic-related problems, such as overcrowded parking areas, aggressive driving, and unsafe cycling routes, negatively affect the sense of safety. In addition, concerns are raised about irresponsible use of fire, inadequate signage, and risks related to swimming and water safety.

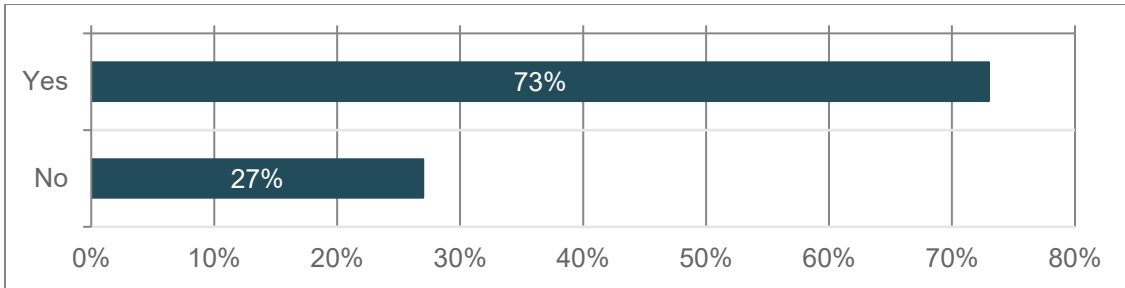
“What environmental challenges have you observed? (you can choose several options)”



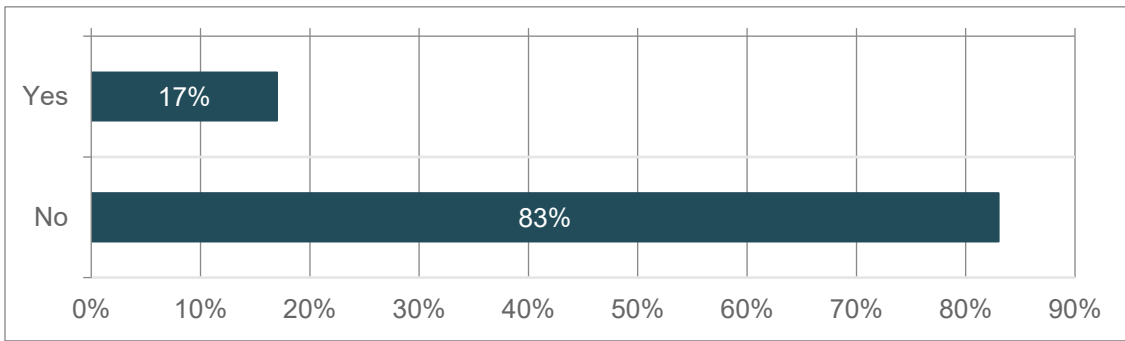
Those who answered ***“Other, what?”*** mentioned, among other things, the encroachment of vegetation on beaches, especially at Lillsand, with an increased presence of reeds, aquatic plants, and other vegetation that deteriorates the natural environment and bathing conditions. Many also point to wear and damage to nature caused by unplanned fires, motor vehicles in the terrain, the formation of informal paths, littering, as well as logging and development perceived as insensitive. In addition, problems related to caravan and camping areas, insufficient services and maintenance, and disturbances in the form of noise and increased pressure from visitors are highlighted.

"Fäboda Association"

Do you think the project should establish a Fäboda Association that would continue the activities after the project has ended?"

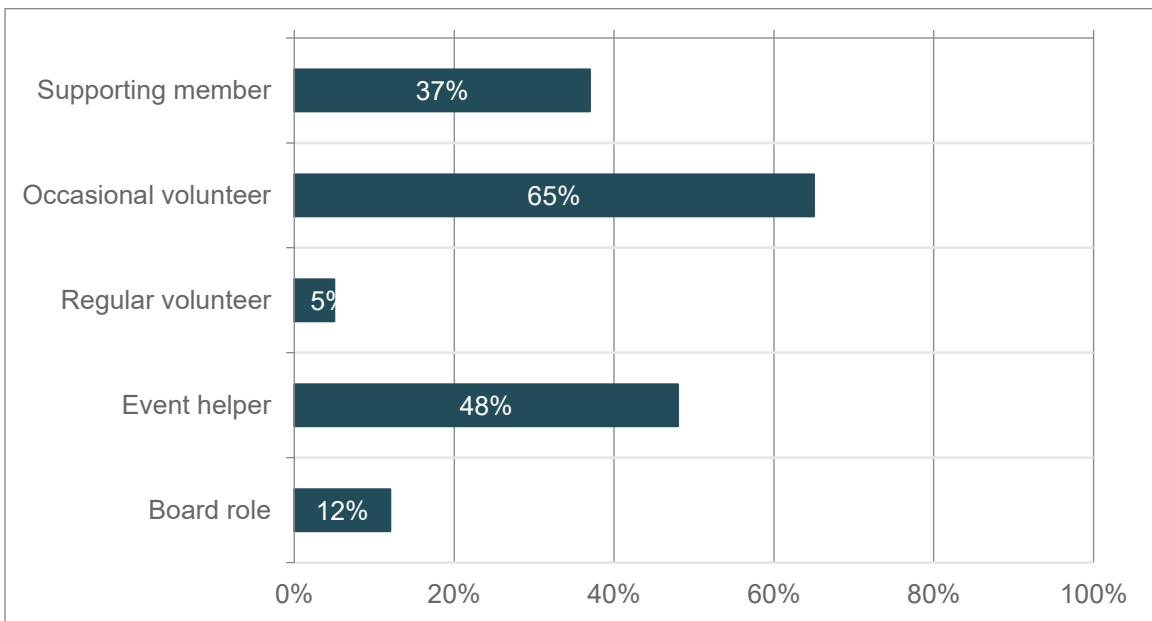


"Would you join it?"

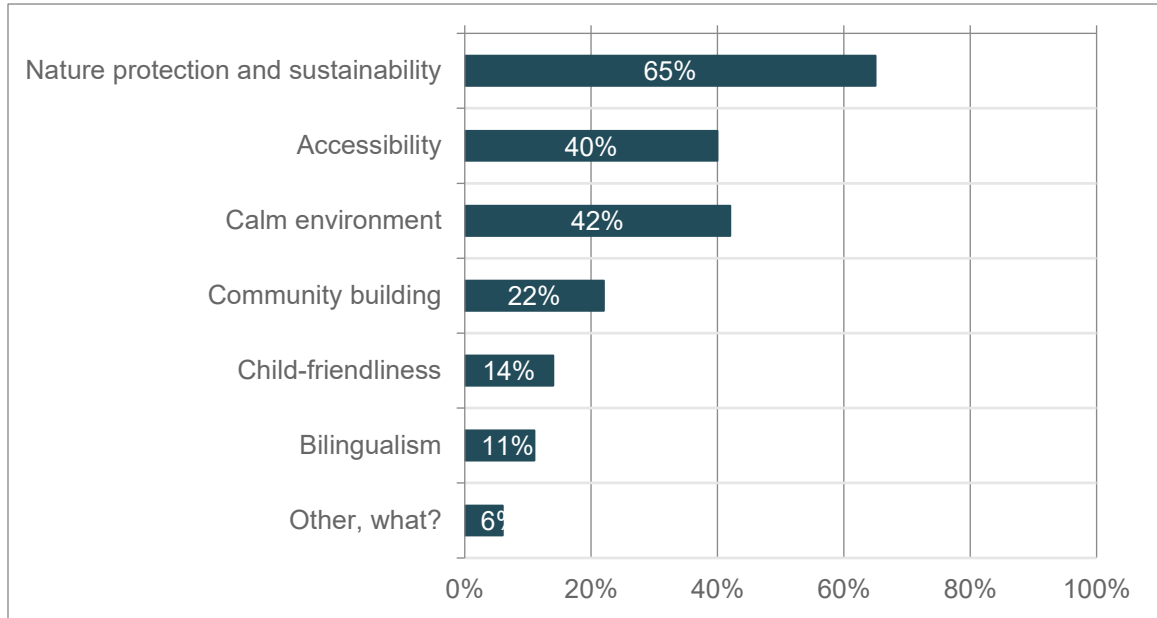


17 percent (105 people) answered **Yes**.

Those who answered **Yes** were asked a follow-up question: *"What level of engagement would suit you? (you can choose several options)"*

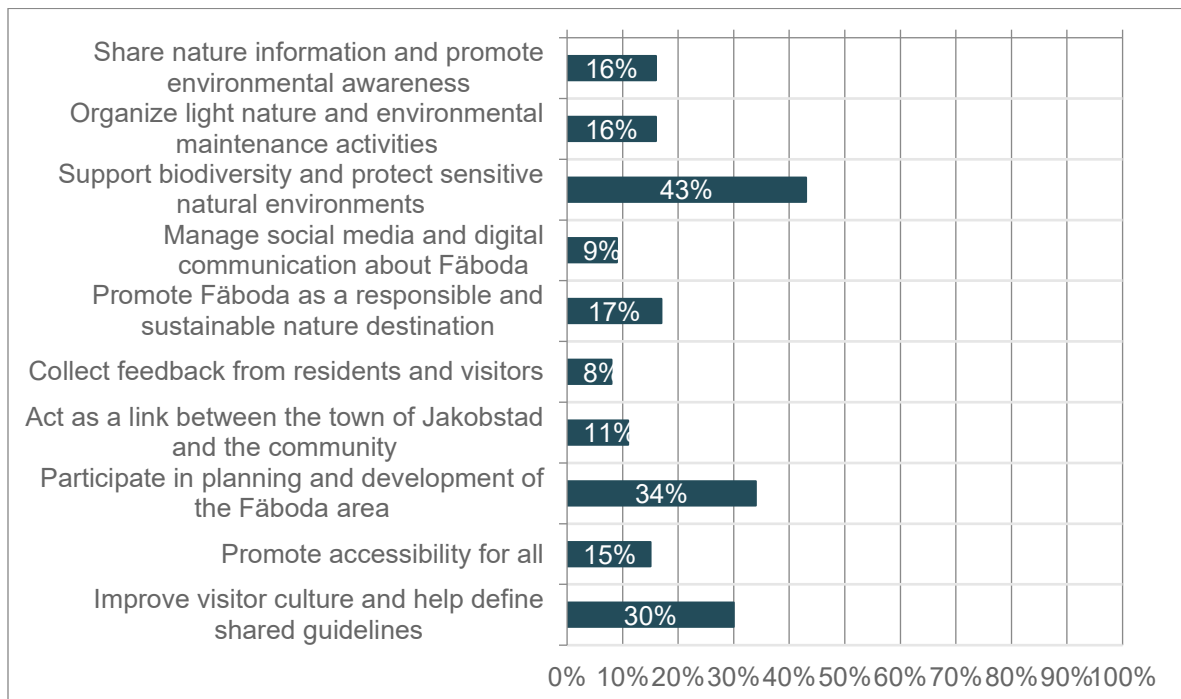


“Which values should be promoted through the association’s activities? Select the two you consider most important”



Those who answered ***“Other, what?”*** emphasized the importance of protecting and respecting nature, limiting development, and reducing wear and tear, while preserving the area’s tranquillity and natural heritage. At the same time, the need for controlled development is highlighted, including better services, tourism adaptation, and commercial activities that do not come at the expense of nature. Openness, cooperation, multilingualism, and consideration of different user groups—such as residents, visitors, and business operators—are also emphasized as key values.

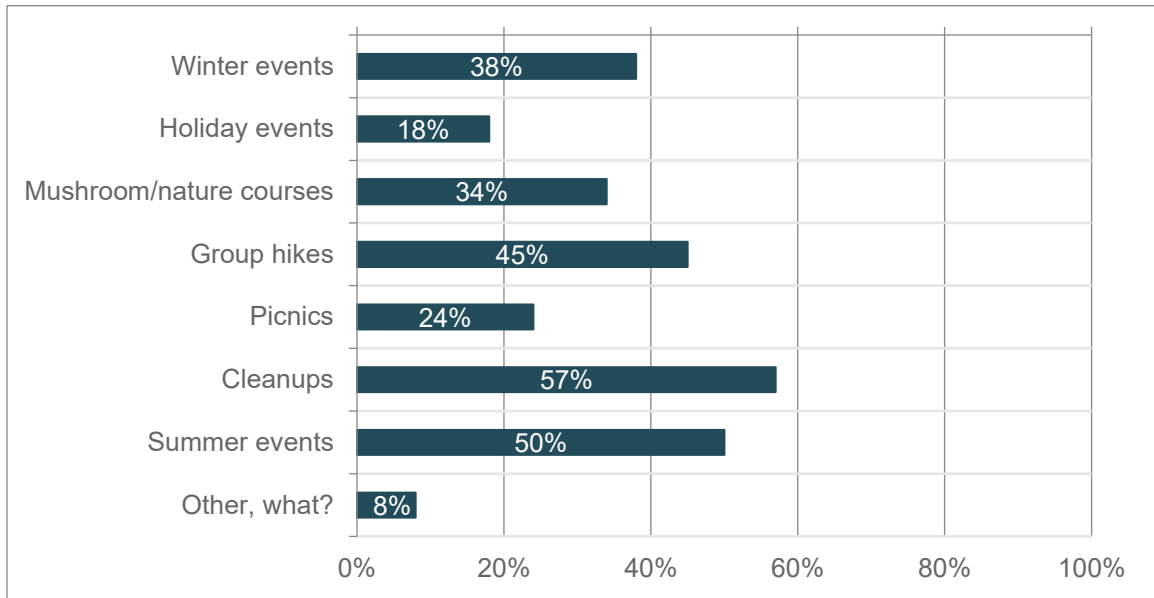
“What should a Fäboda Association do? Select the two you consider most important.”



“What should the association not do?”

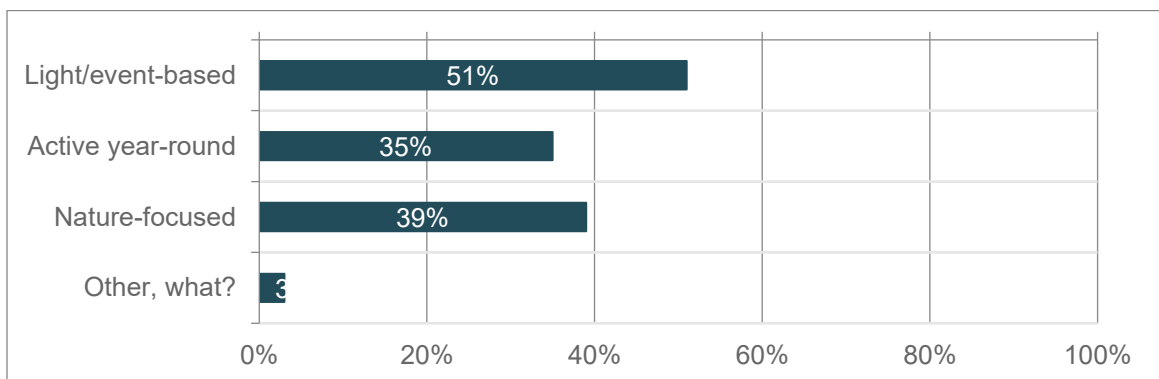
130 people answered this voluntary question. A clear majority believe that the association should not contribute to development, commercialization, or mass tourism that could risk damaging Fäboda’s nature, tranquility, and accessibility for the general public. The association should also not promote political interests, act as a power authority, take over responsibilities of the town, or favor specific groups such as long-term caravan residents. Many also emphasize that the association should not initiate large events, new construction, or activities that increase wear on nature or limit the area’s open and inclusive character.

“What events should be arranged? (you can choose several options)”

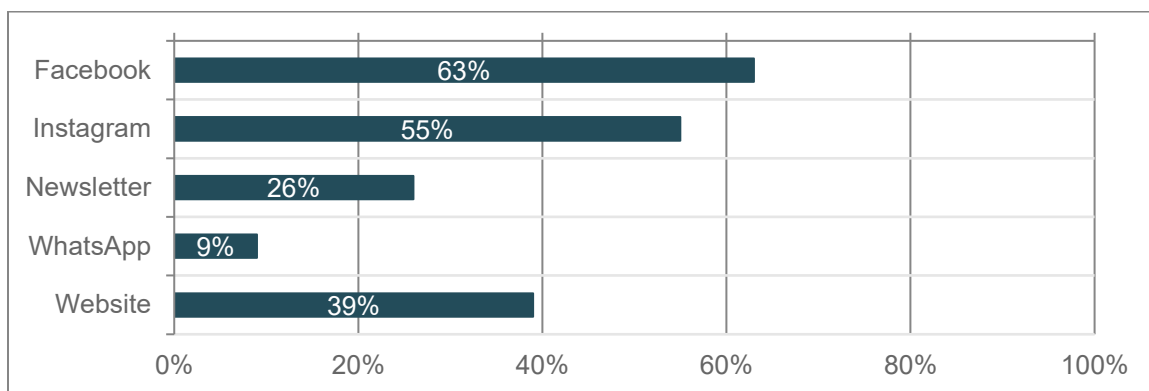


A large proportion of those who answered ***“Other, what?”*** emphasize that the association should organize few or no events at all, and that the area should primarily be allowed to remain a calm natural environment. Among those who propose activities, the focus is mainly on small-scale, nature- and well-being-related activities such as yoga, meditation, light exercise, winter swimming, and low-key cultural elements. Informational, discussion-based, and educational events on the environment, sustainability, and nature conservation, as well as inclusive activities for children and young people, are also mentioned as desirable—provided that they do not lead to commercialization or increased wear on nature.

“How active should the association be? (you can choose several options)”



“Which communication channels would you prefer? (you can choose several options)”



“What does Fäboda mean to you?”

358 people answered this voluntary question. For most respondents, Fäboda represents a very important place for peace, recovery, and connection with nature, close to the sea, forests, and open landscapes. The area is often described as a breathing space, an oasis, or a “living room” that makes a strong contribution to well-being, quality of life, and mental health throughout the year. Many also highlight strong emotional ties to Fäboda through childhood memories, community, family life, and traditions. The untouched and relatively undeveloped nature is emphasized as Fäboda’s greatest value and something that should be preserved for future generations. At the same time, wishes are expressed for improved accessibility, particularly regarding safe cycling routes, parking, and basic services. Overall, it is stressed that any potential development must be carried out with care, with the tranquility of nature, openness, and accessibility for all as guiding principles.

NEXT STEP

The Fäboda Project thanks residents for their responses and engagement! The responses clearly show that the area continues to be an important destination for residents, and a place for recovery and relaxing nature experiences. Interest in establishing a Fäboda association is strong, and the project takes this wish very seriously. There is also clear interest in organizing sustainable, small-scale, and nature-oriented activities with minimal impact on the area’s wonderful natural environment. Over the past year, the project has tested activities such as community clean-up days, yoga, and mushroom courses, and there is strong potential for an association to steward the legacy of these experiments and further develop them in a way that is respectful of nature. The next step in this process is to invite residents, summer visitors, other guests, and friends of Fäboda to discussion events focused on shared guidelines for comfort and coexistence. Please follow **@ourfaboda** on Instagram and **Our Fäboda** on Facebook for up-to-date information, as well as the Town of Jakobstad’s official communication channels. The next clean-up event will take place at Lillsand on May 16, 2026, and we hope as many people as possible will have the opportunity to participate. Thank you once again for your responses!

More information:

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