

Northstowe Phase 1 Open Space Management & Maintenance

Steering Group Meeting

20 May 2025

Teams Meeting - Time: 12pm

Attendees

- (EC) Ellen Cox, SCDC
- (MS) Mihaela Stan, SCDC
- (ED) Elizabeth Davy, SCDC
- (TP) Tam Parry, Cambridgeshire County Council
- (LM) Luke Mills, Greater Cambridge Shared Planning
- (AWy) Cllr Andrew Wycherley, Longstanton Parish Council
- (KS) Katherine Snell, Urban & Civic
- (AL) Adam Lewis, Greenbelt

Apologies

- (LH) Lee Heykoop, Homes England
- (NW) Niki Wagstaff, Homes England
- (MN) Mark Nokkert, Northstowe Town Council

TC= town council PC=parish council LPA=Local Planning Authority AW = Anglian Water

	Notes	Action
1.0	Apologies received.	
2.0	Minutes and Actions of Previous Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">- An error was noted in last time's minutes where Phase 11 was used instead of Phase 1 – this was corrected	
2.1	Notes of previous meeting were agreed.	
3.0	Matters arising not picked up in later agenda items	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EC flagged that not all the members of the Steering Group are attending limiting the conversations which can be had at times. - LM shared the Management and Maintenance Strategy which references the members of the Open Space Steering Group (CCC, SCDC, Longstanton Parish Council until and if Northstowe Town Council becomes established, Anglian Water, Gallagher (now Urban&Civic), Greenbelt and any other body with a legal interest in the Public Realm. 	
4.0	Escrow Like Account <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nothing was approved at the last meeting. - Nothing has changed since the last update was sent last month. 	
5.0	Anglian Water Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Action: EC will follow up with AW on actions from the last meeting. - EC noticed a resident had shared a picture of full bins round the lake. EC will flag this with AW. 	EC
6.0	Maintenance and Management Update – Greenbelt	
6.1	Greenbelt's Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Couple of thefts of shrubs from the local square - Graffiti has been removed from several bins and street lighting. Same tagger. Awy reminded the group that Cambridge City Council provided support to removal graffiti previously. - Junior Parkrun is planned to start in September – October and a site walk was conducted with them. An exact starting date needs to be provided. - H8 - soil and seeding done. BDW paid Greenbelt to water the seeding. Once the area has taken Greenbelt will invoice residents. - H9 – legal engrossment taken place and waiting for the agreement to be signed by BDW. - Littering in the Kingfisher Pond – have removed as many items from the pond as possible. 	
6.2	Northstowe Sign Lighting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An agreement was reached to use the escrow account to replace the lights this time (£2880). However, if they 	

	become faulty again, it might be that it is not feasible to have the lights anymore, especially that the area is fully lit anyway.	
6.3	<p>Water logging between the 3G and Kingfisher Pond and between the 3G and MUGA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The group discussed the proposals which were shared ahead of the meeting in relation to improving the ground conditions between 3G pitch and Kingfisher Pond and between the 3G and MUGA. - The group's overall opinion was NTC need to give their view. AWy did state that the area needs improving. LM will seek advice from drainage advice. - LM also feels the TC need to be involved in the decision - Actions: 1. LM will discuss this with the drainage officer to confirm the costing is justified and reasonable. 2. LM will also check if planning permission is needed in this case - Action: EC will approach NTC. 	<p>LM</p> <p>EC</p>
6.4	<p>Tree watering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Since the last meeting NTC have come back with a few questions to Greenbelt which have been responded to. It is difficult to estimate how many visits from the contractor will be necessary as the weather could be unpredictable so an estimate on costings would be difficult. - Given that so much time has passed, and we have already had a very large dry spell some trees may have already suffered. - Agreed not to take this forward any further this year. Conversations can resume in the autumn regarding next year. 	
7.0	Urban&Civic Update on Works	
7.1	<p>General update on finishing works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highway works are progressing, doing cycleways and remedial works around the school and The Cabin. U&C are bringing forward the works along Stirling Road forward following feedback from the young people and their experience travelling to school. - Action: EC will circulate the map - The road north of the square needs to be re-named and a proposal will be made to the TC so they can name this road 	
7.2	BDW bird boxes	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BDW have put the application in. LM confirmed this has been received and will be reviewed. The ecologist consultee will comment on this soon and the decision deadline is 27 June. - Whilst U&C is happy to assist BDW to discharge their ecological planning obligations by allowing installation of the swift tower and bird boxes within the open space land, there is no clarity of the long-term maintenance responsibilities and how these costs should be covered. - U&C does not accept responsibility for the long-term maintenance and seeks clarity on the planning authority's position should any work be required in the future and whether the costs should be covered by the escrow-like account. 	
7.3	<p>Works to the old golf course entrance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KS has not heard back from the contractor so will chase and might have an update for next time 	
8.0	<p>Community bookings</p> <p>N/A</p>	
9.0	<p>Homes England</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TP updated that discussions are taking place with HE regarding potentially opening up the link between Phase 1 & 2 once the current earthworks are complete. However, the route may have to be closed again in the future. 	
10.0	Next meeting: 24 June	