

Northstowe Support Partnership

Town Council Report – September 2022

The **Northstowe Support Partnership** was established in 2014 and is a multiagency group which aims to have good representation across all the sectors.

Recognising that new communities often benefit from additional support during the early phases of their development, the partnership focuses on bringing together all the Public Service providers including those in the Voluntary / Community sector to work collaboratively around prevention and creating early intervention opportunities. Whilst Northstowe remains a fantastic place to live for many, this work is in keeping with Cambridgeshire County Councils [Supporting New Communities Strategy](#) with an aim to avoid trends seen in other new developments.

The Support Partnership meets every two months, each meeting has two main agenda items:

- **Emerging issues** – where any concerns can be raised this might be from intelligence collected at an organisational/ sector level or because of feedback from the community.
- **Northstowe Projects** – Where the partnership can design, resource, and monitor the delivery of projects targeting specific issues

The meeting is chaired and administered by the Think Communities Team at Cambridgeshire County Council and links into the South Cambridgeshire District Council led Community Safety Partnership acting as a Priority Area PSG (Problem Solving Group)

Emerging Issues

Antisocial behaviour

There are still reports from the public regarding anti-social behaviour. Officers from SCDC discussed possible funding from Police and Crime Commissioners Department to fund projects to tackle these issues. Projects must be community led i.e., detached youth work, speeding etc. They often look for something new and innovative or something that is already happening. 12-week concerted effort to address issues. More information can be found on PCC page. [The Police & Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire | Funding available from the Police and Crime Commissioner \(cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk)

In relation to antisocial behaviour committed by young people, it was suggested to Engage and work directly with young people that are potentially involved in crime and ASB to co-design something that is fitting to them. It was reiterated that detached work is important. Organised youth work (youth clubs, organised events/ activities) won't attract those young people involved in ASB.

Northstowe Projects

Youth Work

Connections bus project had gone well over the summer – Providing weekly youth activities. Northstowe Youth Hive have secured further funding to keep connections Bus Project attending until Easter 2023.

Romsey Mill are now recruiting for a youth worker. This role is currently being advertised as a flexible 22.5 hour post. [Vacancy - Youth Development Worker \(Northstowe\) | Romsey Mill Trust](#)

Community Facilities

SCDC have announced that they will no longer be progressing the purchase of the two Taylor Wimpey show homes and sales office.

The Council was aware of a covenant which prevented the land and homes being purchased for business purposes. However, the Council had received assurances from Taylor Wimpey, and Northstowe master developer L&Q Estates, that the covenants would not be enforced by them, if a facility primarily for use by the community was to be provided there. This was also dependant on a change of use planning permission being secured so the buildings could be used for community purposes. However, further detailed legal checks during the conveyancing process revealed that homeowners surrounding the proposed community buildings also benefit from this covenant. Continuing with the purchase would therefore be a risk which the Council has said would not be appropriate as the community facility could be challenged at any time during the three years it was due to be operational.

Arts Development

Northstowe Arts (NA) were welcomed to the NSP as there first attendance.

Three local people who are Directors of NA which is a CIC. NA covers visual arts, performing arts, things not traditionally seen as arts. It was set up to provide a way for people to spend time exploiting their own creativity. NA is very much Partnership focused. They are currently Coordinating winter festival. Flagship event is Light up Northstowe. Working in partnership with local groups and the Town Council. Working also with Northstowe Secondary College to coordinate pavilions. They are also working with heritage to deliver the heritage annex and to design and deliver a piece of art using artefact found from the archaeological dig.