

Northstowe Support Partnership - Town Council Report October 2023

*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 will look at the following 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
- **S106 Place Making Fund** – The Partnership has the oversight of the projects and work funded by this money.

The meeting is chaired and administered by the Communities Service 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)

Development and Community Updates

The Temporary Community Centre hosted a very successful Celebration event on Saturday 30 September, with a footfall of approx. 450. The centre is being booked throughout the week, including the Midwifery starting four days a week from w/c 9 Oct. and NHS one day a week. Plans for the Permanent Centre are live, consultation is closed, determination before Christmas with smooth transition. Hand over next week of the Sports Pavilion to contractors = Healthy New Town

Homes England are looking for the best plot of land for the Civic hub working with C.Council, libraries, D. Council and Health Providers. Also looking at the master plan for the Enterprise centre. Hoping for early delivery of market building, plus a temporary facility for a shop and/or café. Keepmoat first residents should be moving in at the end of October.

Education Campus will double the size of NSC, with the sixth form and primary school plus early years.

Youth work

Funding for two years of youth work received through S106. Detached youth work carried out in the summer holidays, they heard the young people wanting a shop.

The sports pavilion will have full catering facilities and vending machines. Pavilion operator is open to all people being able to access the place.

In the TCC they have run 4 sessions with 40 students, 25 on average at each session from different schools. Logistics of rooms makes the sessions difficult; they have been receiving support from N.

Hub café. More people could be reached for the youth group. A dedicated youth centre in P2 near the sports area/pump track is desired – young people want a regular place they can go.

Youth services need to be included at future planning consultations for young people, looking at safety, use of space etc. away from offices. There is a need for contingency for things going wrong, alternative provision. Working in partnerships – faith groups, N. Arts, NSP and local resident groups. Romsey Mill have funding for half of the following year, they will have a £20K deficit, consistent sustainability is needed.

The Town Council can only help if there are long term plans for funding.

Some parishes have small amounts of precept to invest in youth provision each year. Agreement to re-start the sub group with relevant NSP members to look at future funding for Youth in NS.

Child Care Sufficiency

Service is to make sure there are enough child care places. Lots of young families with children in new towns. Not enough places at the moment. There will be 30 places at NSC in September 2024. Covenants on new houses means businesses are not allowed to run from them, therefore no childminding. Work is being done on this for the future to make it less restrictive. The government is also reducing the age of free care to nine months from September 2025. Task force to increase childminders and working in nurseries. A campaign to run in Northstowe – interest in childcare/childminding, the government is offering £600 incentive. Want to publicise training opportunities and courses that could take place at the TCC in 2024. Please inform AF of events they could join. Working on leaflets and posters.

Domestic Abuse • Proposal for Domestic Abuse support through S106 funding for Northstowe –

Proposal - Domestic abuse affects all communities across Cambridgeshire, and new communities are no exception.

As Part of the S106 funding, there was an allocation for Domestic Abuse support for Northstowe for a part time post (0.5fte) for two years. Cambourne West also received S106 funding for a domestic abuse post (0.7fte) for 2 years.

Proposal

To have a single post covering both areas and targeted outreach in both areas.

The funding available would allow the Countywide Domestic Abuse Support Service, commissioned by the County Council, to provide a post for 3 years.

The postholder would work with those who would like support and the role would:

- Risk Assess
- Safety Plan
- Support with legal orders
- Support in the criminal justice system
- Support with increasing security on their home
- Advocate for the Victim Survivor

The postholder can also provide a professional consultancy to professionals working in Cambourne and Northstowe.

- The Cambourne Group agreed for the use of this funding for this purpose at the end of September

If this group agrees with this proposal we would hope to have an individual in post early in 2024

Funding proposal voted on 16 in agreement, 2 abstentions.

Abstention comments -

Keepmoat will be the most dense housing of all, only short way into phase 2 building

Abstaining from lack of information beforehand, requested full report on proposal prior to meeting (including financial)

Community Safety Partnership

Problem solving groups take place each month which are the arenas where partners from multi agencies discussed individual cases. Need to make sure they are joined in partnerships. Information comes from a variety of sources. If residents are concerned about ASB they must report it to the police. Partners can refer on-going issues to the CSP to make them aware.

Agreement to have a sub group meeting on ASB for all relevant NSP participants, as full NSP meeting not appropriate place for incident discussions.

Transfer of Community group funding • Consent from partnership requested to transfer funding held by Cambridge Council Voluntary Services (CCVS) on behalf of dissolved community group – Northstowe Social through to Northstowe Hub

Northstowe Social had held funding received from different funders at the time of dissolution. CCVS were holding the funding for transfer to another Northstowe group once a correct one was found. This was not agreed for grant distribution to a variety of groups but a direct transfer to one group which met the need of community and agreement of original funders.

Consultation has agreed for funding to go to NS Hub (if agreed by NSP) and spent on activities that benefit residents of NS. If this can include food, but not essential. Checked with original funders as far as been able to and they are happy with arrangements.

If NSP agree to this transfer as a broad representation of people and organisations, then CCVS will make transfer and release a joint statement with SCDC and partnership.

Monies to be transferred to the N. Hub proposed and seconded by NSP members. Comment that - Northstowe Hub have already given money to support the most vulnerable students in NS. Summary minutes of this meeting are published by NTC and will act as full disclosure of this transfer.

High Impact Users • Information for professionals who could connect people into this work •

Through a project of wrap around social care. What is going to have the biggest impact for individuals? Soft launch in November, it is a slow project using case conferencing aimed at all ages. What is best for their personal care plan/journey looking at housing, transport, getting work? – what is going to make a difference? Collective group of professionals. Appeal for those who can represent their organisation.

S106 Placemaking fund update

- Heritage project update – Contractor has gone into administration for the Heritage annex, alternative venues are being sorted due to cost. Lead officer will give a report within 6 months.
- Kickstart funding project updates – Last round funded 3 projects (Chess club, Touch Rugby and Northstowe Hub coffee machine). 1 application in for upcoming panel.
- Transfer of Art Pavilion funding out of 'Arts project' category on Spending spreadsheet and into interest and contingency heading.

Homes England provided the funding for the S106 Placemaking fund, please advertise this when allocating funding.

Meeting concluded. Next meeting date 14th December.
