

CDO's report for January 2025

Northstowe Community Forums 2024

The next Forum will be held on Wednesday 5 March at Western Park Pavilion. It will be offered as a hybrid meeting, broadcast live on Microsoft Teams.

Community Networkers

The next Community Networkers meeting is on Wednesday 12 February, a reminder with requests for agenda items will be sent to all community groups. Please contact northstowe.community@scambbs.gov.uk if you have any community events that you would like added to the calendar or would like to know more about the group.

Digital Assistance

The digital sessions will now take place on the second Friday of each month at the same time as the Mobile Library. The sessions will be advertised on the back of the Community Forum flyers and will be delivered to all Northstowe residents. The volunteers will receive access to a training platform managed by Connecting Cambridgeshire.

Northstowe Table Tennis Group

Working with Northstowe Table Tennis to support their initial sessions in 2025 at Northstowe Education Centre. The first sessions took place on Monday 13 January and Saturday 18 January, both were very successful with adults and families participating. Future sessions will take place on Monday evenings at 7pm and Saturday mornings at 10am.

Drama Group

A new Amateur Dramatics group is being set up by a local resident and are being supported by Northstowe Arts. The first session is scheduled for Thursday 30 January.

Menopause Support Group Meetings

The Menopause Group meetings are free and take place monthly on a Wednesday evening. The meeting in January included a speaker from Over Power, he provided

information on nutrition and fitness. The next meeting on Wednesday February 19 February will be about Skin Care. They will be advertised on Northstowe Facebook pages and community Noticeboards.

Social Walking Group

The CDOs have been supporting the walks, the next one is on Friday 14 February. Future walking dates, routes and themes will be advertised on the Northstowe Community Facebook pages and the noticeboards at The Cabin and Western Park Pavilion.

Drop In Session with the CDOs

The next Drop-in session for residents is on Tuesday 4 February at The Cabin from 1pm – 2pm. We are available if anybody wants to set up a meeting, whether this is within working hours or not. Most people drop in on an ad-hoc basis and we always make time to see them.

Community Activation Grant Fund

SCDC are administering the Northstowe Community Activation Grant Fund on behalf of Homes England. Some applications have already been received previously and have been successful. Last month Northstowe Arts received funding towards Light Up Northstowe. www.scamb.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/northstowe/northstowe-community-activation-fund.

Welcome Pack Delivery

We delivered welcome packs to residents in parcels H5, H12 and H13. Welcome packs were also delivered to Phase 2 residents on the Keepmoat site. We try to engage residents in conversations regarding their new community while also completing the occupation counts.

Hallmaster

All room bookings for The Cabin are made through Hallmaster, if you would like to see room availability, size and capacity or make a booking please go to: [The Cabin - South Cambs District Council \(scamb.gov.uk\)](http://TheCabin-SouthCambsDistrictCouncil.scamb.gov.uk). We often meet residents and organisations to show them around The Cabin and discuss their option for room hire.

Meetings attended with external agencies

- Part of the Northstowe Health and Wellbeing Group, the first meeting was held on Thursday 9 January at The Cabin.
- Part of a team providing input into the plans for a new community building north of Cherry Hinton.
- Attending Northstowe Open Space and Landscape monthly meetings
- Liaising with BPHA to support their services in the community
- Liaising with the Cambridge City Council Cohesion and Resettlement Team with the view of supporting refugees who have been relocated to Northstowe
- Recurring meetings with Smart Journeys discussing Sustainable Travel Plans
- Part of the Northstowe Communications Group which promotes Northstowe and its events; this includes Henbe Communications (supporting Homes England). This month included a Northstowe Place Making Brand creative session.
- Participated in the Proactive Neighbourhoods – South Cambs MAF meetings
- Part of the Northstowe Social Value Steering group
- Quarterly Northstowe Update meeting with Homes England, Northstowe Town Council, Longstanton Parish Council.

Meetings with Community Groups

- Supporting and promoting the Social Walks through discussions including external agencies.
- Northstowe Sports & Wellbeing Committee meeting.
- Sustainable Northstowe meeting.
- Participating in the Northstowe Youth Partnership, sub-group meeting.
- Working with Northstowe Arts on an Art Exhibition to take place in September 2025.

Other work:

- Working with colleagues for the social and economic benefit of the community.
- Assisting with the formation of new community activities.
- Discussing ideas and plans for future events.
- Processing bookings at The Cabin for community groups, individuals and businesses on a daily basis including raising invoices, checking payments and following up requests.
- Part of the SCDC Growth Team meetings.
- Signing up new keyholders for The Cabin.
- Supporting Residents with welfare connections.
- Testing the alarms and emergency lights at the Cabin on a regular basis.
- Part of various community WhatsApp groups i.e. Cabin Keyholders, coordinating out of hours access arrangements for The Cabin.
- Collecting food for the community larder on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and making this available for collection from The Cabin.
- Designing promotional material and updating social media.
- Writing reports and articles for local publication.
- Evening and weekend meetings and events in furtherance of the above.
- Maintenance work at The Cabin – being onsite when work is carried out i.e. 6 monthly lighting test, water testing and Wi-Fi.

If you would like to get involved in any projects or activities, or help with other volunteering opportunities please contact us on

northstowe.community@scambbs.gov.uk