

Northstowe Faith Strategy Group Meeting

15 November 2023

Attendees:

- Clare Gibbons, SCDC
- Ellen Cox, SCDC
- Revd. Beth Cope, Pathfinder Church
- Revd. Stephen Dove, Pathfinder Church
- Jawad Nawash, Northstowe Muslims
- Mohammad Abdullah, Northstowe Muslims
- Cllr Dan Greef, Northstowe Town Council

Apologies – Hindu Samaj Northstowe

1. Cambridge Central Mosque Visit

- Northstowe Muslims happy to help facilitate a visit. Mohammad had been waiting to hear back from one of the imams at the mosque to help arrange a visit, but now recommends using the official tour.
- On the Cambridge Central Mosque website there is a tour taking place Saturday 25th November at 11.30am. Please register your interest with EC who will book online for everyone wishing to attend, **Action EC**.

2. Faith Allocation Process

- Trigger for the land to be transferred to SCDC is 75% of neighbouring parcel H13 (69 occupations). Currently 49 houses are occupied. Likely to meet this trigger between January-March next year.
- Land is currently being used as a site compound.
- Land also needs to be serviced land and service corridor needs to be approved.
- Serviced land means all utilities must be provided off a spur.
- Once the land is ready L&Q will serve notice and SCDC will instruct a surveyor to inspect the land to ensure it conforms. The surveyor will also be instructed to value the land.

- SCDC having conversations internally re. how much support can be provided by SCDC to give a helpful steer to groups wishing to bid.
- SCDC were previously looking at opening the bidding process in January, but this will be delayed as need to have had the land surveyed first. The earliest the bidding process will be opened – end of March.
- SCDC are building a webpage with various information and reviewing the content.
 - However, the Phase 1 s106 agreement can be viewed [here](#).
 - This application consists of 190 documents. However, limit the search by document type from the Document Type drop-down menu, using the term “Application Legal Agreement/S106/UU”; the Faith/Community Land is dealt with in Schedule 11
 - Alternatively, arrange a time to view the hard copy the Community Development team holds at The Cabin, using Northstowe.Community@scams.gov.uk
- JN asked what groups should be doing now. CG advised groups to think about what they want to do, establish a vision, and explore whether they may want to collaborate with anyone. They could also be thinking about sources of funding, bearing in mind that funds may be needed to develop any proposal.
- SCDC also needs further clarification around the asset transfer policy. The freehold of the land will be transferred to SCDC. SCDC need clarification on whether they can transfer the freehold or a long-term leasehold. CG stated though that even if a freehold was transferred it would still come with strict covenants.
- A conversation was had around possibly extending the bidding process for a whole year. BC stated this would mean all grants opportunities which open throughout the year could be explored.
- SCDC to look at the possibility of extending the bidding window,
Action CG.
- BC asked about the details of Lot 2 on Phase 2. CG confirmed these have still not been received.

- CG also reminded groups that not just faith groups can apply for the Phase 1 allocation, community groups can too. CG stated it might be worth re-inviting Mark Freeman from C CVS to the meetings, so he is aware what stage we are at, **Action CG**.
- Next meeting Wednesday 17 January, 5.30pm The Cabin