

## **CDO's report for February 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. Flyers were delivered to all residents w/c 17 February.

### Community Networkers

The Northstowe Community Networkers Group met on Wednesday 12 February, the agenda included LEL (London Edinburgh London) cycle ride, which has a checkpoint in Northstowe, African Heritage Group, Midsummer Festival and community group diary dates. Please contact [northstowe.community@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:northstowe.community@scambs.gov.uk) if you have any community events that you are planning and would like added to the calendar.

### New Defibrillator at The Cabin

We had a defibrillator donated by the developers which has now been installed inside The Cabin. It is in the storage room attached to the wall between the storage room door to the kitchen and storage room door to assembly room 1. It is important to mention that while the storage room is not locked, this can only be accessed when The Cabin is open. The box where the defib is stored is not locked like the other outdoor devices so it can be accessed by anyone without the need to call the emergency services to provide a code to unlock. People should still call 999 in an emergency to be provided with the appropriate advice. This information will be added in the next Northstowe News as an update to all residents.

### Digital Assistance

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

### Let's Cook

We worked with Let's Cook to arrange three sessions over the February half term holiday for primary school aged children. The sessions will look at nutrition, meal planning, preparation and cooking.

#### Northstowe Table Tennis Group

We have been supporting this group with some of their Monday sessions 7pm – 9pm. The group has also provided coaching and the use of a table tennis robot. On Saturday mornings there is a session more suitable for families and beginners at 10am.

#### Drama Group

We supported the set-up of a new Amateur Dramatics group which will fall under the umbrella of Northstowe Arts. The group will meet every Thursday 7-8:30pm with their first show at the Midsummer Festival in June.

#### Menopause Support Group Meetings

The Menopause Group meetings are free and take place monthly on a Wednesday evening. The meeting in February was about skin care. The next meeting on Wednesday 19 March will be looking at menopause and art; resilience and energy. Future meetings will be advertised on Northstowe Facebook pages and community Noticeboards.

#### Social Walking Group

The CDOs have been supporting the walks. The next walk is on Friday 14 March starting at the Cabin at 10:15am. 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 March 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. No new applications have been received recently.

[www.scams.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/northstowe/northstowe-community-activation-fund](http://www.scams.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/northstowe/northstowe-community-activation-fund)

### Welcome Pack Delivery

We delivered welcome packs to residents in Phase 1 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 \(scams.gov.uk\)](http://TheCabin-SouthCambsDistrictCouncil.scams.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.
- Attending Northstowe Open Space and Landscape monthly meetings.
- Liaising with BPHA to support their services in the community.
- Part of the Support Refugees Working Group, liaising with various professionals including the Cambridge City Council Cohesion and Resettlement Team with the view of supporting refugees who have been relocated to Northstowe.
- Part of the Northstowe Tenure Integration Group.
- Recurring meetings with Smart Journeys discussing Sustainable Travel Plan.
- Part of the Northstowe Communications Group which promotes Northstowe and events; this includes Henbe Communications (supporting Homes England).
- Participate 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.
- Part of the Pathways for Young Parents Group.
- Supporting Voi with their expansion within South Cambridgeshire.

#### Meetings with Community Groups

- Supporting and promoting the Social Walks through discussions including external agencies.
- Northstowe Sports & Wellbeing Committee meeting. The AGM was on Tuesday 4 February.
- Planning to attend the tree planting day on Saturday 8 March with Sustainable Northstowe.
- 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 and workshops.
- 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.

Professional Development:

- TCPA: Child friendly planning and design: insights and experiences from European cities webinar
- Fraud training
- CIC Webinar
- TCPA: Planning Reform Update webinar

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](mailto:northstowe.community@scambbs.gov.uk)