

Northstowe CDOs Report for May 2024

Northstowe Community Forum – New Venue

The last Forum was on Wednesday 8 May at the Western Park Pavilion in Northstowe. The drop-in session started at 6:30pm and the presentations at 7pm. The presentation notes are now on the South Cambridgeshire District Council website, which has a webpage dedicated to the Northstowe Community Forum. Within this is a section, 'Has your question been asked before?' with a list of common questions asked at recent forums.

Raised Beds at The Cabin

We worked with the Youth Hive, Northstowe Hub and Keepmoat to organise planting sessions for the raised beds at The Cabin. After two successful design sessions, the planting of the beds will take place on Saturday 18 May, bookings have been open online through Northstowe Hub.

Menopause Group

We are part of the group organising the Menopause meetings. The first session took place at the Cabin on Wednesday 24 April. The event was greatly appreciated by all those who attended, there was lots of peer support, exchange of information and laughter. The meetings are on Wednesdays from 6pm – 7:30pm, the next sessions are: May 22, June 19, July 17.

Touch Rugby

We have been working with Cambridge Rugby Club, Elite Sports, and Cambridgeshire County Council to start touch rugby sessions at Western Park Pavilion on Wednesday 5 June. This has been made possible through Kickstart funding from Homes England.

Midsummer Festival 22 June 2024

Preparations for the Midsummer Festival are under way, this will take place on The Green, it's an event for the whole community. We are supporting Northstowe Arts and Northstowe Hub with preparations, there is participation from many other groups.

Elections for the Police and Crime Commissioner

The Cabin was used as a polling station for this recent election (02 May), where we all worked as election officers to support this.

Holi Mela Festival

We supported Northstowe Hindu Samaj group by volunteering at the Holi Mela Festival on Saturday 27 April. Even though the weather was cold, it was a well-

attended event with people coming from as far as London to take part in the celebration.

Meetings attended with external agencies

- Smart Journeys to discuss travel initiatives in Northstowe and update the travel brochure for Phase 2
- Elite sports to prepare the Activation event and sports groups in Northstowe
- Northstowe Support Partnership, liaising with professionals to support development in the community
- Attending Northstowe Open Space and Landscape monthly meetings
- Met with IMPAKT to discuss domestic abuse provision in Northstowe
- We participated in development of the Northstowe Phase 3A design code, involving meetings and on-site visit
- Engaging Young People and Adults in the community, working group for a conference in October
- Part of the Northstowe Communications Group which promotes Northstowe and its events; this includes Henbe Communications

Meetings with Community Groups

- Chairing, taking minutes, preparing agendas for the Community Networkers meeting where future events and initiatives are discussed
- Kickstart applications, providing information and helping interested parties to complete the application form
- Further meeting with residents to discuss and plan future events and activities i.e. junior bowling and chess group
- Attending and taking minutes for The Cabin's Management Board Meeting
- Attending and taking minutes for the Western Park Pavilion Management Board meeting
- Supporting and promoting the Social Walks through discussions including external agencies
- Participating in the Northstowe Youth Partnership, sub-group meeting
- We met with residents to discuss future Menopause meetings

Other work:

- Attending the Sport and Wellbeing Group meetings as a co-opted member.
- Processing bookings at The Cabin for community groups, individuals and businesses on a daily basis including raising invoices, checking payments and following up requests.
- We are preparing to make the transition to a new booking system, Hallmaster, and have conducted work to make sure this will go smoothly.

- We created a video to indicate the location of the defibrillator and the blood kit at Western Park Pavilion. This can be viewed on Facebook.
- Part of various community WhatsApp groups i.e. Cabin Keyholders, coordinating out of hours access arrangements for The Cabin.
- Working towards establishing a Digital Assistance programme.
- Supporting a local resident to create a WhatsApp Chanel for the community.
- Working to start up new sporting activities, we are looking for volunteer coaches for Touch Rugby.
- Delivery of Welcome packs to Phase 2 residents, talking to them about activities and events in the community to encourage integration into the Northstowe community.
- Supporting Sustainable Northstowe to organise the Great Big Green Week, liaising with external agencies, schools and residents.
- 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.
- Involvement in Northstowe Neighbourhood film.
- Evening and weekend meetings and events in furtherance of the above.

To contact the Community Development Officers, please email Northstowe.community@scamb.gov.uk