

## **Northstowe Community Networkers Meeting**

**18<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Attendees:

Mari O'Neill- Northstowe Arts

Cllr Richard Owen- Northstowe Town Council

Naveen Castelino- Sports and Welbeing

Marzia- Northstowe Social

Marcin- Northstowe Running Festival

Rev'd Dr Beth Cope- Pathfinder Church

Peter Cope- Pioneer café/FOTW

Ellen Bridges- SCDC

Kathryn Beck- SCDC

Apologies: Mihaela Stan- SCDC

No fixed agenda, however KB suggested points of discussion:

**Northstowe Day- Debrief-**

What went well?, Lessons learnt? Do it again?

**Went well comments:**

At the Green- connections with new people

Allowed more in-depth conversations

Well organised

People from surrounding villages attended and provided positive feedback.

Local MP stayed longer than arranged and provided positive feedback ref community groups.

Art Pavilions- successful- lots of activities so reason to go there.

Table Tennis had 5-6 people participate with 10-12 residents expressing an interest with a taster session being organised.

Great atmosphere- crowds encouragement engagement.

Residents saw different areas of Northstowe (NSC)- showcased NSC and the pavilions.

Positive feedback from LDHS at the Wing- steady trickle of people coming in.

Overall successful event

### **Lessons Learnt:**

The Green- was more busy from around 11.00- (possibly weather related) and people arriving just before 1pm- still very busy at 1pm- could have gone on longer. People not aware of event at NSC- signage on the Green to let them know- after packed up?

People not knowing where NSC was- an interactive walking map was previously discussed but groups had limited capacity.

Internal group communication- confusion over Scouts attending to help set up.

Two venues on same day- exhausting.

### **Going forward**

Community event “Fete” type of event in May every year at one location.

Dates TBC: Action for groups to email Northstowe CDO's with dates of planned events/activities and discuss at next networkers meeting.

Separate events at the Art Pavilions- who will continue to deliver events.

Marcin offered for stands at the Northstowe running festival in Sept at Western Park.

### **Community website:**

Peter explained that he had purchased the website domain

[www.northstowe.community.org](http://www.northstowe.community.org) a while back and had used it to showcase the Northstowe day event, link in with Northstowe news and keen for information for the community to be on there including an events calendar. The calendar was produced by SCDC for community groups to upload their events. Issues for users who do not have a gmail account, NSC also have a calendar so need to consider how to tie everything in.

Kathryn advised that with Shola had met a group who have offered to provide Northstowe a website managed by them with a journalist to “debunk” FB stories, have up to date events etc- website is [www.hihub.info](http://www.hihub.info) .Kathryn praised content of

website but explained concern that already lots of websites. Facebook groups with information scattered for Northstowe residents. Kathryn is working with Homes England to update their website content and ensure that websites are all linked. Working group also discussed to support management of the Northstowe community website, so not reliant on one person. Action for Kathryn to arrange a meeting with Peter, Northstowe news and shola to discuss this further.

#### Lake Naming competition

Kathryn advised Homes England led competition has expired- 57 entries. H/England have invited a member of the community to be part of judging panel along with Cllrs. Beth suggested a Youth Hive member- Action for Beth to speak with young person/parent and they will email Kathryn directly. Judging on 9<sup>th</sup> June virtually.

#### Ellen- SCDC Update:

Northstowe Community forum date scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> July is likely to be postponed to later in July due to reports needing to go to Council mid-July. New date of forum TBC and proposed to be in person. Group asked whether this could be hybrid and recorded available on the SCDC website. Hybrid unlikely but Ellen will look into what recordings could be available on the SCDC website.

#### AOB:

Concern ref House by urban splash going into administration- homes there already isolated from others- engagement with residents there on whats going on in community suggested- Kathryn to Action.

Town Council advised they are considering "Park Play" and will be discussing in full at TC meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

#### Next Meeting