

## **CDO's Report for July 2025**

### Northstowe Community Forums 2024

The next forum will be on Wednesday 10 September at Western Park Pavilion starting with a drop-in at 6:30pm and presentations at 7pm. Agendas are usually advertised the week before and questions can be asked during the evening by attendees as well as submitted in advance to:

[northstowe.community@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:northstowe.community@scambs.gov.uk). The meeting will broadcast live on Microsoft Teams, the link will be available on the forum page in due time.

### Community Networkers

The agenda for July covered feedback on the CPR/Defib training at the Community Lounge, feedback from Northstowe Hub on the Midsummer Festival, Northstowe Art Exhibition (September 2025), conference date for Creating Cohesion in New Communities (19 July at NSC), Town Council – market update, CDO update, AOB

### Climate Action

We organised a training session on Climate Action which was going to be delivered by the Climate and Environment Team at South Cambs on 8 July. The event was supported by Sustainable Northstowe, however nobody attended on the night. We would welcome feedback on what could have been done differently or whether this is not the type of event the community are looking to attend.

### 60+ Group

The group has got off to lovely start with information being shared on arts and crafts, hobbies, travels to Europe, Scandinavia and Africa, gardening tips, family and friend visits, and book recommendations. The group meets every couple of weeks on a Thursday morning and is open to residents from Northstowe, the surrounding villages and anyone interested in finding out more about the area. Future dates will be advertised on community noticeboards and Northstowe Facebook pages.

### Digital Assistance

The digital sessions take place on the first Wednesday of each month at the same time as the Food Bank. The next session will take place on Wednesday 5 August.

### Drama Group

The group meet every Thursday evening at The Cabin 7pm - 9pm. New members are always welcome. They are now preparing for their Christmas show.

### Menopause Support Group Meetings

The menopause group meetings are free and take place monthly on a Wednesday evening. The next meeting is on Wednesday 23 July at Western Park Pavilion. Future meetings will be advertised on Northstowe Facebook pages and community noticeboards.

### Social Walking Group

The next walk is on Friday 22 August. Future walking dates, routes and themes will be advertised on the Northstowe Community Facebook pages and community noticeboards.

### Meetings with CDOs

We are available if residents would like to set up a meeting, whether this is within working hours or not. Most people drop in on an ad-hoc basis and we are always happy to make time to see them.

### Kickstart Fund

No applications at the moment.

### Northstowe Community Activation Grant Fund

SCDC are administering the Northstowe Community Activation Grant Fund on behalf of Homes England. This month an application was received from Junior Park Run.

More information about the fund can be found on our website. [Northstowe](#)

[Community Activation Fund - South Cambs District Council](#)

### Cognitive Training for the Elderly

Drop-in sessions for elderly focus on preventing cognitive geriatric illnesses with a local volunteer who has previous experience on the topic of cognitive training. Every Tuesday 10-11am in the café area at The Cabin.

### Welcome Pack Delivery

We will deliver Welcome Packs to residents on Thursday 31 July. Where possible, we engage residents in conversations regarding their new community, ask how they are settling in, and provide information on up-coming events. The BPHA Engagement Officer also delivers our welcome packs to their residents, as an opportunity to engage with them early on.

### Marleigh

From July, Mihaela started splitting her time between Northstowe and Marleigh, a new development on the edge of the city with a view to sharing learning and best practice between the two sites. Mihaela joins Michele at The Cabin every Thursday.

### 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 \(scambs.gov.uk\)](https://scambs.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

- Travel Plan Steering Group on 22 July
- Attending and contributing to the Northstowe Support Partnership meeting.
- Part of the Northstowe Health and Wellbeing Group.
- Liaising with BPHA to support their services in the community.
- Part of the Northstowe Tenure Integration Group.
- Recurring meetings with Smart Journeys discussing Sustainable Travel Plan.
- Part of the Northstowe Partners 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.
- Part of the Northstowe Spaces Group

- Quarterly Northstowe Update meeting with Homes England, Northstowe Town Council, Longstanton Parish Council – to receive minutes
- Part of the Pathways for Young Parents Group.
- Supporting Voi with their expansion within South Cambridgeshire.
- Community Development Roadshow: The purpose of the meeting is to exchange best practice in Community Development, uniting Community Development workers from Town, District, County, and the private sector in this region. The next meeting will take place on 11 September at Wintringham, St Neots.

#### Meetings with Community Groups

- Supporting and promoting the Social Walks through discussions including external agencies, social media and promotional event materials.
- Participating in the Northstowe Youth Partnership, sub-group meeting.
- Working with Northstowe Arts on an Art Exhibition to take place in September 2025 with support from Homes England's Community Activation Fund. There is a free workshop (places limited) on Thursday 26 June with a local artist on drawing techniques.

#### Other work:

- Volunteered at the Midsummer Festival on 21 June
- Attended and supported 'Creating Cohesion in New Communities' conference, Saturday 19 July, Northstowe Secondary College
- Took U3Ac on a site visit in the beginning of July
- Facilitated the Cuppa with a Cop on 10 July at The Cabin
- 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 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@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:northstowe.community@scambs.gov.uk)