

NORTHSTOWE
TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - MINUTES (*draft*)

held on Wed. **16th MARCH 2022** at Northstowe Secondary College

Presentations given on the evening have been [added to the Town Council website](#).

Questions raised have been collated and together with **answers** are also presented [on the Town Council website](#).

AGENDA ITEM	MINUTES
<p>Welcome from the Chairman of Northstowe Town Council</p> <p>And apologies for absence received.</p>	<p>The Town Mayor, Cllr Richard Owen, opened the meeting at 19:00.</p> <p>Following his welcome to the first ever Northstowe Annual Town Meeting, the Mayor run through logistics for the day, and provided an overview of the evening’s presentations and speakers.</p> <p>Apologies had been received from the following Town Councillors: Cllr Benedicic; Cllr Castelino; Cllr Susarla. Apologies had also been received from South Cambridgeshire District Council Ward Member Cllr Cheung Johnson and County Council Member Cllr Thompson, who both expressed their wish to receive and respond to any questions people may have.</p> <p>The meeting was attended by 27 people in total.</p>
TOWN COUNCIL REPORTS	
<p>Northstowe Town Council: Report on Council activities during the previous year</p> <p><i>The Mayor, Cllr Richard Owen</i></p>	<p>The Town Mayor, Cllr Richard Owen, in a presentation provided an overview of what the Town Council has been doing since its inception just under a year earlier, and provided an understanding of the activities and partnerships it is involved in. He also provided an overview of the Council’s finances for its first year and ended his presentation highlighting the opportunity for residents to come forward to become a Town</p>

	Councillor at the elections to be held in May.
<p>Northstowe Town Council - Events and Markets Committee: work to date & plans</p> <p><i>Cllr Deborah Oluwasanya, Chair of Events and Markets Committee</i></p>	Cllr Deborah Oluwasanya, Chair of the Town Council’s Events and Markets Committee, gave a presentation , setting out the activities set in motion through the committee’s work. She highlighted involvement in several key Northstowe events including the Council-led Christmas Switch-on event, and presented the emerging plans for piloting a market in Northstowe. She ended by flagging up the plans for an event to be organised for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Weekend celebrations.
<p>Northstowe Town Council – Planning Committee: work to date & plans</p> <p><i>Cllr Paul Littlemore, Chair of the Planning Committee</i></p>	Cllr Paul Littlemore, Chair of the Town Council’s Planning Committee, gave a presentation , setting out what the committee had achieved since the start of involvement in planning matters in May 2021. In this, he highlighted that the committee had provided a consultation response in 27 cases, including input into major applications such as for the Phase 1 Sports Pavilion and the outline planning applications for Northstowe phase 3A and 3B and what the Town Council had been able to do in influencing the outcomes of these applications. He ended with mentioning the Hydrology Working Group set up by the Town Council to collate all relevant data and understand better the hydrology issues across Northstowe.
<i>Questions from the floor</i>	Questions raised by attendees have been collated and together with answers presented on the Town Council website .
REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILS	The Mayor introduced this session, highlighting that productive cooperation and information exchange between the Town Council and the other tiers of Local Authority, in particular at the District and County Council level, is important to benefit the Northstowe community. The following presentations highlight what the Ward Members, representing Northstowe parish, are involved in.
<p>Report from the County Councillor for Longstanton, Northstowe, Over, Oakington & Westwick</p> <p><i>Cllr Firouz Thompson</i></p>	<i>County Council Member Cllr Thompson had sent her apologies and expressed the wish to receive and respond to any questions people may have.</i>
<p>Report from the District Councillors for Longstanton, Oakington & Westwick and Northstowe</p>	Cllr Alex Malyon mentioned that she had been impressed with the robust way the Town Council, from its inception in May 2021, has gone about representing the Northstowe community. She then provided an overview of key recent developments that the Ward Members have been involved in and where they have

<p><i>Cllr Sarah Cheung Johnson / Cllr Alex Malyon</i></p>	<p>provided comments towards improvements, most notably related to the phase 3A and 3B outline planning applications and to the application for the phase 1 sports pavilion. Regarding further facilities, she highlighted that they would continue to push for SCDC commitment to Northstowe, in particular related to the Local Centre and Enterprise Zone plans, and to ensure community input into future developments including retail facilities and GP services.</p>
<p>Report from the South Cambs DC Community Development Officers <i>Kathryn Beck / Mihaela Stan</i></p>	<p>Kathryn Beck provided an understanding of the range of work the Northstowe Community Development Officers get involved in, and highlighted the work they lead on regarding e.g. the quarterly Northstowe Community Forums and the Welcome Packs for new residents. She continued, mentioning the work done in close cooperation with different organisations such as Homes England, and highlighted online accounts they manage such as the Northstowe Community Facebook page that has seen a sharp rise in engagement over the last months. She ended by highlighting that the Development Officers are working with a number of community organisations, supporting many community-led events and initiatives, and providing support to the Town Council for instance around the development of a market in town.</p>
<p><i>Questions from the floor</i></p>	<p>Questions raised by attendees have been collated and together with answers presented on the Town Council website.</p>
<p>REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS</p>	<p>The Mayor provided an introduction, highlighting that there are many very active community-led initiatives that the Town Council has started to work with in a positive, collaborative manner. The following presentations give an understanding of the depth and breadth of exciting work being done in the community.</p>
<p>Northstowe Arts <i>Mari O'Neill</i></p>	<p>Mari O'Neill gave a presentation setting out the work done by Northstowe Arts. She highlighted that the organisation's mission is 'to develop community-led creative projects and activities in Northstowe and surrounding villages.' Key activities have been the Northstowe Winter Festival, and activities at the three Arts Pavilions at the Secondary College, and that they have lots of plans for further activities throughout the rest of the year. She ended by mentioning that the organisation is in the process of becoming a CIC.</p>
<p>Sustainable Northstowe <i>Carla Bros Sabria</i></p>	<p>Carla Bros Sabria gave a presentation, setting out the work done by Sustainable Northstowe. She set out the group's vision 'for Northstowe to be a green, clean, biodiverse and interconnected place for current and future residents.' She then gave an overview of the varied range of activities and events the organisation has set up or is involved in, such as the Food Pantry, community litter picks, sustainable Saturdays, and clothes and plants swaps.</p>

<p>Northstowe Youth Hive <i>Revd Beth Cope</i></p>	<p>Revd Beth Cope gave a presentation, setting out the work done by the recently formed Northstowe Youth Hive, a resident-led community group. She explained how young people have, from the start, been very much involved in deciding the aims and focus of the Northstowe Youth Hive and its forward plans and designed their own logo. The Youth Hive's focus is on 'Bringing together Northstowe's young people from different cultures, faiths, genders and backgrounds to: have fun, develop, and make a difference.' She continued, highlighting key partnerships and links that have been created with e.g. the Connections Bus Project, and ended by setting out the group's forward plans.</p>
<p>Northstowe Sports and Wellbeing <i>Graeme Sharp / Kathy Males</i></p>	<p>Graeme Sharp and Kathy Males gave a verbal presentation, setting out the work done by Northstowe Sports and Wellbeing. They highlighted the work they do with a range of local sports clubs and groups, as well as with Living Sports and SCDC, to get local people to engage with activities such as health walks. They asked for residents to let them know what other activities they wish see happening in Northstowe.</p>
<p>Northstowe Social <i>Marzia Calcagno</i></p>	<p>Marzia Calcagno gave a verbal presentation, setting out the work done by Northstowe Social, highlighting that their mission is very much focused on residents coming together, meeting each other and having fun activities. With that, she highlighted some of activities such as the human fruit machine at the running festival and the successful international picnic bring-and-share.</p>
<p><i>Questions from the floor</i></p>	<p>Questions raised by attendees have been collated and together with answers presented on the Town Council website.</p>
<p><i>Refreshments & a chance to catch up with people</i></p>	<p>Thank you!</p>