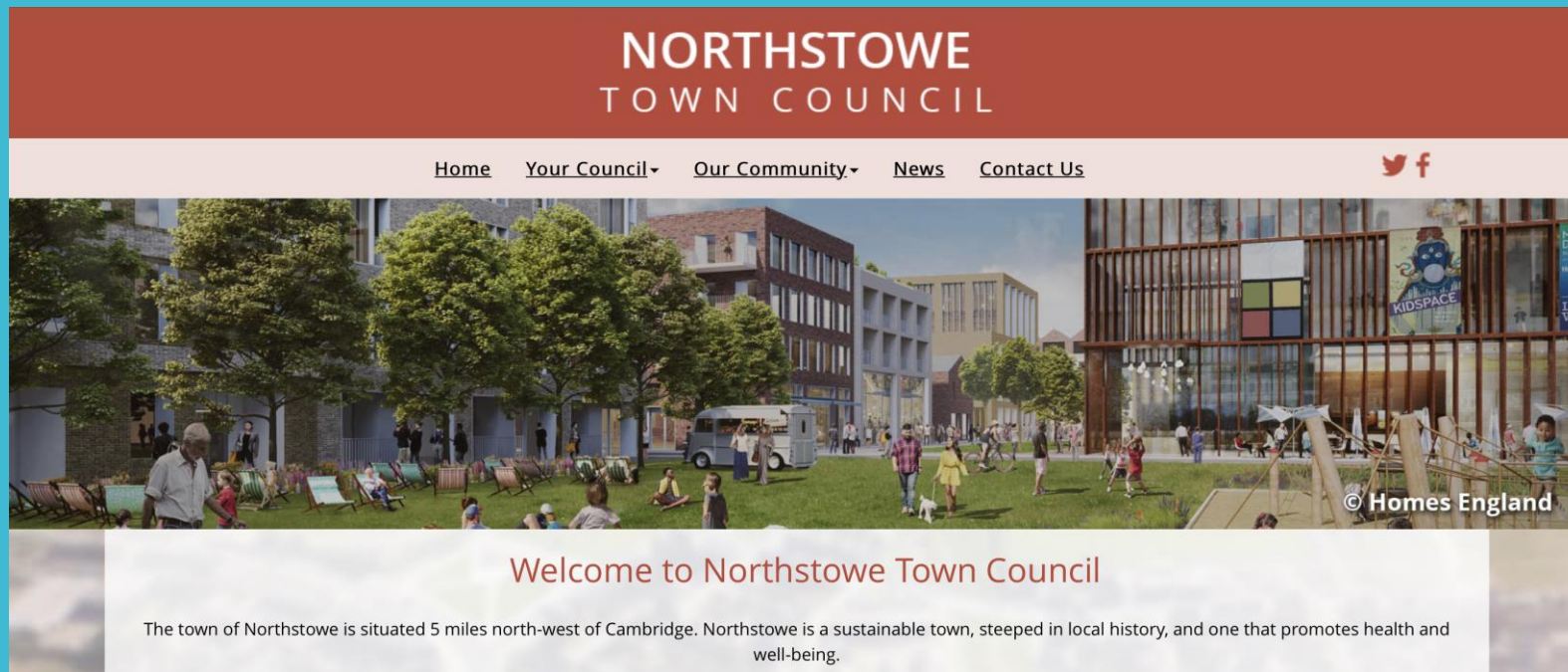


Northstowe Town Council

2022 Annual Town Meeting

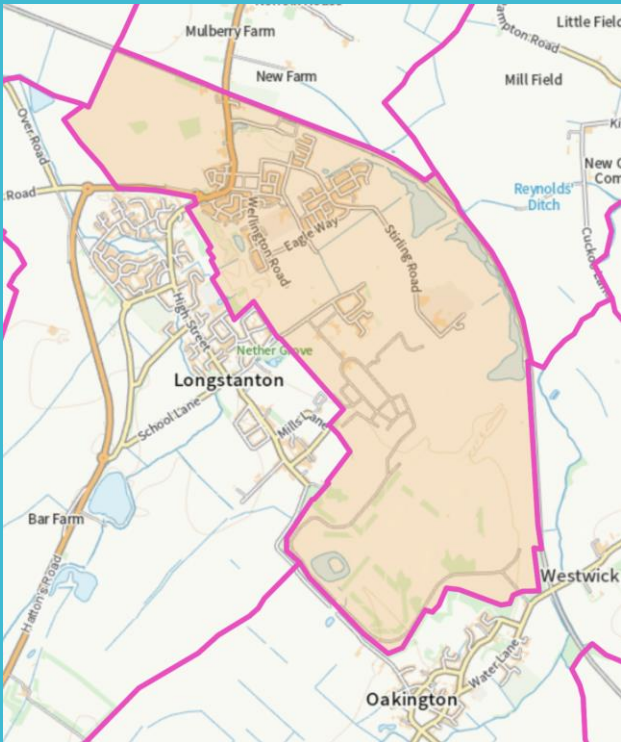


Cllr Richard Owen, Town Mayor

Agenda

TIMING	SPEAKERS
7:00	Welcome from the Chairman of Northstowe Town Council And apologies for absence received.
TOWN COUNCIL REPORTS	
7:05-7:30	Northstowe Town Council: Report on Council activities during the previous year <i>The Mayor, Cllr Richard Owen</i>
	Northstowe Town Council - Events and Markets Committee: work to date & plans <i>Cllr Deborah Oluwasanya, Chair of Events and Markets Committee</i>
	Northstowe Town Council – Planning Committee: work to date & plans <i>Cllr Paul Littlemore, Chair of the Planning Committee</i>
	<i>Questions from the floor</i>
REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILS	
7:30-8:00	Report from the County Councillor for Longstanton, Northstowe, Over, Oakington & Westwick <i>Cllr Firouz Thompson</i>
	Report from the District Councillors for Longstanton, Oakington & Westwick and Northstowe <i>Cllr Sarah Cheung Johnson / Cllr Alex Malyon</i>
	Report from the South Cambs DC Community Development Officers <i>Kathryn Beck / Mihaela Stan</i>
	<i>Questions from the floor</i>
REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS	
8:00-8:30	Northstowe Arts <i>Mari O'Neill</i>
	Sustainable Northstowe <i>Carla Bros Sabria</i>
	Northstowe Youth Hive <i>Revd Beth Cope</i>
	Northstowe Sports and Wellbeing <i>Graeme Sharp / Kathy Males</i>
	Northstowe Social <i>Marzia Calcagno</i>
	<i>Questions from the floor</i>
8:30-9:00	<i>Refreshments & a chance to catch up with people</i>

Who are we?



- Northstowe Town Council represents Northstowe and Rampton Drift as first tier of local government.
- Elections in May 2021 for a 1-year term – 15 Independent councillors elected from 20 candidates.
- One full-time employee – Town Clerk (Mark Nokkert).
- Full council meetings every month as well as committees:

Town Council Committees

Planning Committee

Finance & Governance Committee

Personnel Committee

Events & Markets Committee

Assets and Asset Transfer Committee

NORTHSTOWE
TOWN COUNCIL

What have we done so far?

Committees /
Working Groups

- Our first responsibility has been to represent your interests!
- We have been a key voice for you through planning process
 - Representations on key applications, Northstowe Phase 3a/3b
 - Holding developers to account (e.g. piling)
 - See Cllr Littlemore's presentation
- Events and Markets Committee Working Group
 - Laying the groundwork to create and run our first market
 - See Cllr Oluwasanya's presentation
- Leading on environmental / water issues
 - Sustainability working group jointly with LPC
 - Hydrology working group working to examine data and uncover causes of long-standing issues across Northstowe / Longstanton

NORTHSTOWE
TOWN COUNCIL

What have we done so far?

Representation on external groups

In addition to formal committees and working groups, we represent Northstowe residents across many different areas:

- Phase 1 Open Space group (with Greenbelt, SCDC, L&Q)
 - Working to resolve residents issues with maintenance and ensure questions are addressed.
- Northstowe Support Partnership /Youth Partnership
- Northstowe Faith Strategy Group
- Heritage Building Working Group

We are also working with Homes England to feed back on designs as town centre plans come forward.

What have we done so far?

- Helped support Northstowe events
 - Partner for Northstowe Running Festival
 - Remembrance Sunday event
 - Christmas events (with Northstowe Arts)



NORTHSTOWE
TOWN COUNCIL

Northstowe's first Town Clerk!



One of our most important early tasks was to recruit and employ our first town clerk, Proper Officer and RFO.

We employed Mark Nokkert to this post in August 2021, and he has done a fantastic job so far!

As Proper Officer, Mark is responsible for:

- Setting meeting agendas
- Advising the council on what we can / cannot do
- Liaising with outside groups to enable the council to make decisions
- Organising and planning events the Town Council is involved with

As RFO, he is responsible for maintaining and presenting our accounts.

Northstowe – Staffing requirements

As Northstowe grows, the responsibilities of our town council will grow with it, and we will need to employ more staff to handle:

- Building management
- Sports facility management
- Event and market planning
- Taking on open space maintenance
- ...and much more!

This will be a gradual process over the next few years.

Finances – 2021-22

Our accounts and finances are open to be viewed on the Town Council website – most of our income comes from precept (council tax), so we need to manage this responsibly.

Our first year's precept was set at **£66,472.80** (**£81.99** for band D house).

Most of this budget (aside from clerk salary) was for setting up council, councillor and clerk training and support for events.

We estimate spending over the past year to be approx.. **£50,000** – we are able to move **£18,000** into our general reserves.

Total general reserves: **£34,000 → £52,000**

Finances – 2022-23

As Northstowe grows over the next few years, the tasks the Town Council will need to carry out will increase in scope:

- Starting our own market / significant increase in community events
- Potential to take over management of sports facilities
- Engagement with outside bodies on development of town / local centre
- Adoption of grants policy to support community groups
- Employment of assistant clerk to help cover additional workload.

As a result, the required budget will increase compared to last year.

Finances – 2022-23

General reserves at start of year: **£52,000**

Estimated expenditure for 2022-23: **£100,972.50**

Precept requested for the year: **£90,250.86**

Band D house equivalent: **£86.09 (was £81.99, +5%)**

The increase in precept is mitigated by the growth in number of houses, and our choice to use some of our general reserves to limit the increase.

We also have income from S106 agreements in Phase 2 – these are earmarked for specific purposes (e.g. Town Noticeboards). We are looking into how best to use these funds for the community.

What's Next?

The next few years will be critically important for Northstowe, and the Town Council will have a huge role to play and decisions to take:

- Many more events being planned / supported by Town Council, starting with Jubilee events and Northstowe Day
- First retail land being developed (next to the Green)
- Town Centre development starting
- Community facilities being built (Pavilion, Community centre, Civic Hub) - we will need to decide whether to take on management.
- The First Northstowe Market – coming later this year!

As our town grows and people start moving into Phase 2, ensuring there are activities and support for all our residents in Northstowe and Rampton Drift will be crucial.

Elections 5th May 2022



CALLING ALL COMMUNITY HEROES



**YOUR LOCAL
COUNCIL NEEDS YOU!**
MAKE A CHANGE
BECOME A COUNCILLOR

To find out more contact: [Northstowe Town Clerk](#)

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- Elections for a 4 year term on Northstowe Town Council will be held on 5th May 2022.
- There will be so much happening in Northstowe over the next 4 years, including development of the Town Centre
- This is your chance to have a real impact on how Northstowe develops!

NORTHSTOWE
TOWN COUNCIL