

Northstowe Connectors meeting 8 September 2021

Chaired by:

Scott Liddle - Community Connector, Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC)

Notes taken by:

Jon London - South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC)

Present:

Jon London SCDC

Scott Liddle - CCC

Josh Montero - Emmanuel Church Richard - Mayor

Naveen - Northstowe badminton club

Ellen - SCDC

Hillary - LDHS

Christine Sprowell - living sport

Andrew - Northstowe News / Gamers

Marcin - Northstowe running festival

Nazanin - with Mari - art and culture

Mari - "as-yet-unnamed-arts group"/ pioneer Café/FotW

Beth Cope - Pathfinder church / youth partnership

Peter - Fotw/Café

Kathy - Northstowe Social / Sports & Wellbeing

Paula - "as-yet-unnamed-arts group"

Maria - Town council / sustainable Northstowe / allotments

(Please note, as there is a wide range of persons attending these meetings surnames have only been given for those persons who are attending as part of a paid role. This is to avoid accidentally breaching privacy for residents attending.)

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr. Firouz Thompson, County Councillor

Mark Nokkert (Town Clerk)

Hannah Tweddle - Pathfinder Church

Agenda:

1) Chairman's Welcome (Scott Liddle)

Scott promoted a project he is working on to create a set of webpages to promote what is going on in Northstowe, those groups that promote health and wellbeing, the aim is not just for a list of services, but also their accessibility, (for example autism awareness, or wheelchair accessibility)

2) Guest Slot: Park-Play (Jane Davey, Tesco Community liaison)

Jane Davey did not attend.

3) Christmas & Holiday activities (Who will do what)

It was made clear at the start of this agenda item that these are not firm offers from groups to run events. Most groups have some form of management structure that needs to sign off on decisions. This is to gauge the ambitions of individuals and groups to run events.

- Hannah Tweddle
 - Hannah keen to do advent windows again this year (write-in comment)
 - Walking Craft Fair
- Northstowe Social
 - Free refreshments at the lighting of the Christmas tree
 - possible Christmas fruit machine
 - happy to loan out their santa suit
 - possibly run Santa's postbox again
 - Could run photo booth again
 - Will be running a Halloween Treasure Trail
- As yet unnamed arts group
 - winter festival
 - Lantern parade (possible tie in with Christmas tree switch-on)
- Emmanuel Church
 - Carols outdoors, by Christmas tree on green
 - Nativity scene

- Happy to contribute to Christmas event
- Pathfinder Church
 - Carols
 - "lots of outdoor burning things"
- Sustainable Northstowe (Reported second-hand)
 - Christmas jumper, party-wear and Christmas decoration swap
 - Toy swaps (in December and January)

Jon London took an action to collate Christmas events calendar in time for the 1 October deadline for article submissions to the next issue of Northstowe News.

There was a long discussion about the possibility of a bonfire night / Festival of lights / fireworks display. The group is keen to do something with a focus on 'lights' but want to be careful not to just organise a traditional fireworks display. Ideas such as laser light shows were spoken about. This will be looked at by Northstowe town Council. Possible date was 4 December.

4) Welcome Pack Update

Jon London requested a paragraph including contact details from each group to go into the updated welcome pack.

5) AOB

- 10 November meeting — Mari will chair
- The History Annexe should start construction May 2022 in time for an opening in summer 2022 (LDHS)
- Pioneer Café will be open Thursday and Friday in partnership with Pathfinder school, then standard Wednesday mornings after that
- As yet unnamed arts group:
 - aims to constitute and gain a name
 - Long term funding strategy being formulated
 - Aspire to do a summer festival

Arts Pavilions: first display will be a set of hanging paper birds made by children and will be hung up in one of the pavilions. Members of the public will be invited to help hang these.

- LDHS has shared that they have digital copies of artworks by a noted local artist who was around during the RAF Oakington times — and would be happy to provide them as a pavilion installation.
- LDHS shared that Longstanton used to have an active arts group
- Northstowe Community Wing will be open Monday to Thursday - 10am to 2pm Covid notwithstanding. Best time to come is the café on Wednesday mornings
- No co-working yet at the Wing — email Jon London, he will try to make it happen
- Running festival was a fantastic success!!!
- LDHS would like photos of everyday life in Northstowe in 2021 for their archive.
- A question was raised about why streets have the names they do in Northstowe, which was answered by Hilary — possible future article(s) for Northstowe News
- Next month is the Forum so no Networkers meeting is 10 November
- Chair of November 10 Community Networkers is Mari