

# Northstowe Community Update

## May 2017

### First residents are in

The very first residents of Northstowe moved into their new homes at the end of April. With 26 of the 92 plots on the [Bloor Homes](#) site already sold off plan, further occupations will take place steadily over the summer months (avg 4-5 per month). A preview and welcome event to mark the first residents moving in took place on 11th May followed by the public launch of the show homes and full marketing suite on 13th May. Progress on site is moving quickly - construction has started on 44 properties so far and Bloor expect to be off site within 24 months.



### What's happening on site?

Gallagher contractors will complete remaining earthworks at the Hatton's Rd ponds by end June and finish up bulk earthworks on the western end of the Phase 1 site and final 'snagging' on the roads around the school towards the end of May.

[Taylor Wimpey](#), [Linden](#) and [Bovis](#) have all started preparations for construction putting their compounds in place and [Barratt](#) are expected to move on site shortly. All are working towards first occupations in the autumn.

Landscape architects Randall Thorp, who have been involved with some of the innovative play areas at Cambourne, have been engaged by Gallagher to look at the design of the 5 main play areas to be provided across Phase 1. Dick Longdin made a call at the Forum to the local community, young and old, to get actively involved as part of the public consultation process to help guide and shape the final designs selected. He explained how the traditional concepts of play area design could be challenged. You can take a look at how the play areas might look in his presentation [here](#). If you are interested in getting involved email [northstowecommunity@scams.gov.uk](mailto:northstowecommunity@scams.gov.uk).



### Planning News

The draft Maintenance and Management Strategy for Phase 1 open spaces is under negotiation with Gallagher Estates and is expected to be submitted shortly. Pre-application discussions continue with the housebuilders on their subsequent Phase 1 parcels. By agreeing points up front, it is hoped lead times through to approval will be minimised.

Planning permission for Phase 2 (3500 homes) was granted at the beginning of the year. HCA have been busy working on the Design Code which sets out the guiding principles for the look, feel and movement across the development forming a detailed technical guide for the Phase 2 build. This will be submitted in the next couple of months following examination by a Quality Panel (group of professional urban designers and experts) and local public consultation this month. Across the board progress is stepping up as initial discussions with HCA on Phase 3 (for a further 5000 homes) are set to commence in the autumn.

In conjunction with the Design Code, HCA have engaged landscape architects Chris Blandford Associates to develop the Healthy Living and Youth and Play Strategy to look at healthy living measures and play opportunities that can be developed to encourage all future residents, whatever age, to lead active, healthy lifestyles. Local community consultation will take place during May and June including a community workshop. Contact us if you would like to get involved.



## Community News

NHS England have provided continued funding for the Healthy New Town programme for the next 2 years to look at how best to provide healthcare for Northstowe residents and health facilities for the town centre in Phase 2. An activity plan has been drawn up to ensure the Healthy New Town principles are applied to all aspects of the development. Work has also been commissioned to look at older people's accommodation and care needs, population growth and capacity planning for health and social care needs along with the Healthy Living and Youth and Play Strategy.

CMAT (Cambridge Meridian Academies Trust), who will be delivering the new secondary and Special school, held an update meeting for parents on 19 April. The first set of new students will start in September 2019 with construction expected to commence during 2018. [Read more](#)

The Community Wing at the school is taking shape. The micro self service library is in place and furniture is on its way for the café and community use spaces. Plans are underway to get the pop up café and home working hub up and running over the next few months.

The Community New Residents packs, including lots of local information, a history leaflet, running and walking routes developed by local residents and much more, have now been personally delivered to the first new residents by representatives from the Northstowe Community Working Group (NCWG) who will continue to visit residents as they move in. Take a look at some of the welcome info on [www.northstowe.com](http://www.northstowe.com). The NCWG are now turning their attention to building a programme of activities and community projects for the coming year.



If you would like to join the NCWG or are involved in any groups interested in using the community wing facilities, would like to volunteer or have any ideas for new community activities or projects, please email [northstowe.community@scamb.gov.uk](mailto:northstowe.community@scamb.gov.uk).

It was great to see so many, including future Northstowe residents, attend the Drop-in and Forum last month. [Find out more](#) on what was covered. The **next Community Forum and Drop-in** is on Wednesday **19 July** at The Pathfinder School, Northstowe (access off Station Rd B1050). Drop-in from 6pm followed by the Forum 7 -9pm.

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