PRIDE IN PLACE
LED BY YOU – BACKED BY UK GOVERNMENT

Gorton South Pride in Place
Neighbourhood Board minutes

Date and Time: Monday 26 October 2026
Location: Goton Hub, Peter Pan room 1 + 2
Chair: Jo Sharples
Vice Chair: Chris Kennedy
Secretariat: Jo Sharples (Board Chair)
Board Members:
[Resident names redacted from published document]
Apologies
Suzanne Richards, Councillor for Longsight

---

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

- Welcome and introductions.
- Apologies noted.

2. Funding Priorities Review & Focus Areas

The Board reviewed the six funding priorities and discussed allocating Board members to focus groups for each area:

1. **Community Wealth Building**
2. **Parks, Facilities & Green Spaces**
3. **Better Connections: Cleaner, Greener, Safer Streets**
4. **Young People: Activity, Advocacy & Opportunity**
5. **Community Activity & Spaces**
6. **Health: Mental, Physical, Social Health & Wellbeing**

Action: Board members to work through the relevant focus groups and develop ideas linked to their priority area.

3. November Event Update

- **Overall Aim**

The proposed theme for the event is:
"You Said, We Heard: How do we take this forward together?"
The event will aim to:

- Raise awareness and explain what Pride in Place (PIP) is through conversations and the newsletter.
- Present the six funding priorities and sense-check them with the community.
- Bring people together, celebrate hope and create an enjoyable community event.
- **Taking the Conversation Further**

The event should gather a further layer of information around each priority, moving beyond general engagement towards greater community participation and decision-making.
Ideas discussed included:

- Asking more detailed questions under each theme, for example **"Where do you feel unsafe?"**, using maps for people to identify locations.
- Exploring how power can be shared and how residents can become more involved in taking ideas forward.
- Asking what community participation should look like over the next year.
- Developing three potential approaches to participation for people to vote on, for example drama, creative making or voting activities.
- Exploring opportunities for residents to help decide how funding is spent.
- Potential mini-grant prizes linked to the six priorities, with **six awards of £600** discussed as an idea.

Action: Beth to develop three ideas for how participation could work.

- **Event Arrangements**
- **Date:** Saturday 21st
- **Time:** 12:00pm–3:00pm
- **Potential venues:** Sacred Heart Hall (£50, capacity 180) or Gorton Hub, which may offer a larger capacity. Venue TBC.
- **Format:** Six activity tables, one for each funding theme, led by Board members/focus groups.
- **Activities:** Each focus group to develop an activity around its funding theme.
- **Photographer:** Troy to contact.
- **Live entertainment:** Music suggested, potentially Jared. To be confirmed.
- **Facilitation:** Creative engagement/facilitation to be explored.
- **Food:** TBC.
- **Panel:** Potential opportunity for attendees to ask questions of the Board.
- **Promotion and Invitations**

Promotion could include:

- Schools and colleges
- Eventbrite/ticketing
- VCSE mini-grant recipients
- Previous Board applicants
- Local schools and other community networks
- **Event Planning**

An online Event Planning Meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday 28th at 10:30am**, involving Mehwish and Nadia.
Beth and Pelumi will also support event planning.

4. Participation & Engagement Strategy

Beth is leading work on the Participation & Engagement Strategy.
The Board discussed different processes for community decision-making, using a **Ladder of Participation** approach to progressively increase engagement, ownership and the sharing of power.

- **Participation Ideas Discussed**
- **Young People's Assembly:** Mapping community safety, identifying safe and unsafe spaces and discussing what could be done about them.

- **Community Soup:** Combining food with accessible community voting on priorities and budgets.
- **Legislative Theatre:** Using a short play, for example around women's safety, to generate discussion, participation and voting.
- **Photography and Exhibitions:** Citizen photography using disposable cameras to identify "grot spots", positive places and potential improvements.
- **Token Voting:** Simple voting approaches similar to supermarket/community token schemes.
- **Small Group Decision-Making:** Small groups discussing particular topics and collectively reaching decisions.
- **Creative Engagement:** Using making and creative activities to help people communicate their views and feelings.
- **Student Budgeting:** Using a pizza/slice activity to explore how participants would divide a budget between projects or priorities.
- **Collaborative Making:** Using collective activities to help people talk through and develop ideas.

The importance of providing incentives for participation was also discussed, including paying people for their time where appropriate and providing free food.

- **Reaching and Involving More People**

The Board discussed:

- Working with residents on **quick wins** in the short term.
- Inviting suggestions and potentially providing small grants to enable improvements.
- Taking engagement directly to people who may be less likely to participate through traditional methods.
- Targeting young people through schools, including Cedar Mount, youth centres, street-based work, parents and GPs.
- Exploring opportunities for voting and participation through social media.
- **Focus Group Action**

Action: Each focus group to meet before the next Board meeting and develop ideas for how people can participate in PIP around their theme, both at the November event and beyond. This should focus on **participation in decision-making and taking ideas forward**, rather than simply carrying out further engagement.

5. Any Other Business

- **Social Media**
- Instagram and TikTok were discussed as potential channels.
- **Action:** Troy to explore/set up social media presence.
- **WhatsApp**
- A main WhatsApp group and separate focus groups for each funding theme were proposed.
- **Action:** Chris to set up the WhatsApp groups.
- **Vision Document**
- The Board agreed that the existing vision document and aims need to be revisited.

- Fesl noted in relation to this action, with responsibility to be confirmed.

6. Date and Location of Next Meeting

- Monday 9 November 2026, Gorton Hub