

Clayton and Newton Heath Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board - Minutes

Date and Time: Wednesday 30 September 2026

Location: The Beacon centre, Clayton

Chair: Andrew Wickens

Vice Chair: Jim Battle

Secretariat: Michael Fletcher, Manchester City Council

Board Members:

[Resident names redacted from published document]

Apologies

Lucy Powell, MP for Manchester Central

Ben Williams, Office manager for Lucy Powell

Carmine Grimshaw. Vice Chair

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

a) Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

b) Chair's Actions and Activities

The Chair provided an update on recent activities, including attendance at a peer-to-peer meeting where programme budgets were discussed. Board members were advised that budget information could be shared if required.

The Chair also reported on recent engagement activity undertaken jointly with the Vice Chair, including discussions with a local law firm regarding potential involvement and support. An update was provided on discussions with SharpFutures regarding the development of a branding and communications brief. Board members heard that stakeholder engagement workshops could be facilitated to support communications planning. SharpFutures also highlighted the opportunity to work with its local youth panel, known as "The Pod", to help shape branding and engagement activity.

c) Vice Chair Update: Schools and Sports Centres and schools Engagement

The Vice Chair reported that there are seven primary schools across Clayton and Newton Heath which provide a valuable route into communities through parenting groups and wider engagement activities.

Board members agreed there was a significant opportunity to engage children and young people at an early age and ensure they help shape the Pride in Place programme.

It was proposed that discussions be held with schools to explore:

- Awareness and understanding of Pride in Place.

- Opportunities for ongoing engagement.
- Ways schools can contribute to future programme delivery.

The Vice Chair agreed to circulate proposed dates for engagement sessions and invited Board members to participate. The Secretariat confirmed that the accountable body would support the coordination and facilitation of these sessions which would be funded via the PIP capacity fund.

The Board agreed that creating stronger links between schools would help establish a wider local network and generate valuable insights to inform future interventions.

Actions

- Vice Chair to circulate dates for school engagement sessions.
- Secretariat to support planning and facilitation of school engagement activity.

Sports and Leisure Facilities

The Vice Chair highlighted the concentration of nationally significant sports facilities within the area, including:

- National Cycling Centre/Velodrome
- BMX facilities
- Taekwondo Centre

While these facilities represent major local assets, concerns were raised that local residents do not always benefit from or access these opportunities.

The Board discussed barriers to participation, including:

- Digital exclusion.
- Lack of targeted youth support.
- Limited awareness of opportunities.
- Challenges around behaviour support and inclusion.

The Board stressed the need to better understand and remove barriers preventing local people from accessing these facilities and to focus on developing local talent.

Potential links/ contacts identified included:

- Annabelle Edwards (British Cycling Community Engagement).
- Kerrie Rimmer (board member) and relevant engagement staff at the Velodrome.

A proposal was made to establish a small task-and-finish subgroup focused on improving access and participation.

Proposed Membership

- Jim
- Sean
- Kerrie
- Janet H

Actions

- Secretariat to establish contacts with local sports facilities and relevant community engagement officers.
- Follow up community engagement contacts at the Velodrome.
- Establish a subgroup to identify barriers and opportunities for local participation in sports facilities.

d) Board Member Updates

Board members were invited to report on recent activities and engagement within their communities.

e) Equity vs Equality Across Clayton and Newton Heath

Discussion commenced around the principles of equity and equality within the programme and how resources and opportunities should be distributed across both neighbourhood areas. Further consideration will be required as programme priorities are developed, I has been long discussed that respective neighbourhood identities be celebrated and protected across the programme.

2. Items for Any Other Business of an Urgent Nature

The Secretariat confirmed with members a board engagement event scheduled for:

Monday 19 October, 12:00pm to 3:00pm

The key themes emerging from engagement activity were shared with the Board to inform discussions regarding programme priorities.

3. Pride in Place Plan: Priority Themes

a) Review of Engagement Findings

Board members reviewed the engagement papers circulated in advance of the meeting and discussed the priority themes that should underpin the Pride in Place programme.

Several members noted the importance of ensuring that older people are sufficiently reflected within the programme. Concerns were raised regarding:

- A lack of suitable meeting spaces.
- Limited provision for older residents.
- Accessibility barriers affecting participation.

The Working Men's Club was highlighted as an example of an organisation attempting to create opportunities for older people but experiencing challenges.

The Board agreed that further work is needed to identify suitable and accessible venues and activities for older residents.

Jim suggested that volunteering opportunities should be strengthened within the programme and proposed consideration of a dedicated Pride in Place Community Worker role to:

- Support volunteer development.
- Coordinate local activity.
- Work across both neighbourhoods.
- Connect with Primary Care Networks (PCNs) and local care organisations.

Action

- Investigate accessible venues and opportunities available for older residents.

b) Agreed Priority Themes

Following discussion, the Board agreed that the **following themes** should form the basis of future programme development:

1. Protecting, Securing and Activating Green Spaces

Key considerations included:

- Improving perceptions of safety during both daytime and evening periods.
- Building on successful interventions already delivered elsewhere, i.e. Delamere Park.
- Identifying opportunities at locations such as Gaskell Street and Brookdale Park.
- Ensuring appropriate community stewardship and activity within outdoor spaces.

2. Increasing Community Engagement and Involvement in the Public Realm

Focus on:

- Strengthening resident participation.
- Building local pride.
- Supporting community-led activity.
- Encouraging wider involvement in neighbourhood decision-making.

3. Engaging, listening to and understanding Children and Young People

Focus on:

- Working with schools and youth organisations.
- Capturing young people's aspirations and experiences.
- Ensuring young people influence future investments and interventions.

4. Engaging Older People and Responding to Local Needs

Focus on:

- Reducing social isolation.
- Improving access to venues and activities.
- Creating opportunities for volunteering and participation.
- Better understanding the needs of older residents.

The Chair advised that future programme development should continue to be informed by the themes emerging from community engagement.

The Board also discussed developing a "Problems and Solutions" exercise to help translate identified challenges into practical interventions.

4. Communications Strategy

Due to time constraints, this item was deferred to a future meeting.

5. Quick Wins Implementation

Due to time constraints, this item was deferred to a future meeting.

6. Any Other Business

• a) Newton Heath Mural

Board representation on the mural project was discussed.

The following members were nominated:

- Andrew
- Janet Hiscock
- Thelma

Action

- Andrew to circulate the mural brief.
- Two Board representatives to be selected following review of the brief.

7. Date of Next Meeting

‘Theory of Change Workshop’

Date: Wednesday 14 October

Time: 10:00am

Venue: Newton Heath Sure Start Centre, Great Newton Street

Action Log

Action	Lead
Circulate dates for school engagement sessions	Jim/ Secretariat
Support planning and facilitation of school engagement activities	Secretariat
Establish contacts with local sports facilities and community engagement teams	Secretariat
Follow up Velodrome community engagement contacts	Secretariat
Establish sports access subgroup	Jim / Sean / Kerrie / Janet H
Identify accessible venues and opportunities for older people	Secretariat/ Board
Circulate Newton Heath mural brief	Andrew
Select two Board representatives for mural project	Board

