Clayton and Newton Heath Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board minutes

Date and Time: Tuesday 10 November 2026
Location: Newton Heath Library
Chair: Andrew Wickens
Vice Chair: Jim Battle
Secretariat: Michael Fletcher, Manchester City Council
Board Members:
[Resident names redacted from published document]
Apologies

Agenda Items

1. Welcome & Apologies

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies were received and noted.

2. To Receive and/or Approve

The minutes and actions from the previous meeting were received and approved.

3. Items for Any Other Business of an Urgent Nature

No urgent items were raised by Board members.

4. Board Activity

a) Chair's Actions and Activities

The Chair provided an update following the recent peer-to-peer session held the previous Friday.

The Chair also updated the Board on discussions with the University of Manchester regarding monitoring and evaluation of the programme. Concerns raised by another Chair around ensuring appropriate representation throughout the project were highlighted. It was confirmed that this would be considered and addressed before any decisions were taken.

b) Vice Chair's Activities

Jim provided an update on progress in Newton Heath. Headteachers have been contacted and consulted, with a view to holding a further meeting in January.

Action: Secretariat to explore development of an information pack about the Pride in Place programme to support engagement with schools.

All Clayton schools are expected to have been contacted and consulted by mid-December, followed by a similar approach to arranging a collective meeting with schools.

The Chair also confirmed that an artist has been appointed for the mural in Newton Heath District Centre. This will provide an opportunity for local people to become involved in the design process.

c) Board Members' Activities

No additional Board member activities were reported.

5. Draft Regeneration Plan

The Secretariat clarified the timetable for reviewing the Draft Regeneration Plan. Board members will have a further period to provide feedback, with the intention that the final plan will be presented for Board sign-off at the next meeting.

Cllr Flanagan referred to Briscoe Lane Academy and emphasised the importance of ensuring that local people benefit from employment and work opportunities arising from the programme.

It was suggested that **Priority 3 should more clearly address strengthening connections between young people and employment**, including additional reference to young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).

Action: Cllr Flanagan to circulate additional wording setting out the areas he considers should be strengthened for consideration within the Draft Regeneration Plan.

Janet also highlighted the importance of ensuring that **intergenerational activity and opportunities are reflected within the plan**.

6. Board Engagement and Housekeeping

Board attendance and participation were discussed.
Cllr Flanagan suggested that a separate meeting could be arranged to consider attendance and wider Board engagement.

Action: Secretariat to support the arrangement of a separate discussion on Board attendance and engagement if required.

7. Communication Strategy and Implementation

North Manchester Radio

The Chair provided an update following a meeting with Tom, Chair of the Harpurhey Board, and North Manchester Radio (NMR).

The Board heard that Roch Valley Radio has taken NMR under its wing, with new trustees in place. Current core operating costs were reported as approximately £15,000. The Chairs felt there could be an opportunity for Pride in Place Boards to support NMR during this period.

Cllr Flanagan noted previous involvement from Cllrs Karney and Curley and discussed potential opportunities for support. However, it was emphasised that any proposal would need to demonstrate **clear benefits for residents within the Clayton and Newton Heath Pride in Place area**.

The Secretariat confirmed that while elements of a potential communications approach are emerging, no firm strategy or proposal has yet been agreed.
The Chair provided information on NMR's current listener reach.

Ben asked whether NMR was broadcasting on DAB, which was confirmed. He also reiterated Lucy's offer to support and contribute to communications activity.

Jim provided further background on the radio station's reach and emphasised that any arrangement should provide clear opportunities and benefits for people in Clayton and Newton Heath, demonstrating appropriate return on investment. It was recognised that a straightforward grant may not be sufficient to achieve this.

Janet D highlighted that any financial support or formal relationship should be supported by an appropriate Service Level Agreement (SLA) to ensure accountability and compliance.

The possibility of identifying a trustee representative from the Newton Heath Board was also discussed.

Cllr Flanagan suggested there may be opportunities to explore GMP funding and that the communications budget could potentially support this activity. The importance of having Board representation within any future arrangement was also highlighted.
The use and potential carry-forward of capacity funding was queried. Cllr Flanagan advised that this could potentially be carried forward subject to a Board decision.

Jim clarified that **a formal proposal should first be received from NMR before the Board considers any commitment or decision**.

Next steps:

- Await a formal proposal from NMR.
- Any proposal should demonstrate tangible benefits for Clayton and Newton Heath residents.
- Consider appropriate governance arrangements, including an SLA if funding is provided.
- Explore the potential for Board representation/trustee involvement.
- Consider relevant funding routes once a proposal has been received.

8. ‘Quick Wins’ Implementation

The potential work with North Manchester Radio was identified as an initiative that could potentially sit within the Board's **Quick Wins** activity.

No commitment was made at this stage, and further consideration will follow receipt of a proposal from NMR.

9. Any Other Business
It was suggested that a **seasonal social** could take place alongside the Board meeting on **8 December**, with the venue to be confirmed.

Ben reiterated that Lucy's constituency office remains available to support the Board. Where significant blockages or issues arise, these can be raised with the office where intervention or additional support may be helpful.

10. Future Meetings
The next meeting was noted as:
Tuesday 24 November, **Newton Heath Library**

Actions Summary

Action	Lead
Explore development of an information pack about Pride in Place to support engagement with schools.	Secretariat
Circulate additional wording regarding young people, employment and NEETs for consideration within the Draft Regeneration Plan.	Cllr Flanagan
Support a separate discussion on Board attendance and engagement if required.	Secretariat
Submit a formal proposal setting out the potential NMR offer and benefits to Clayton and Newton Heath residents.	NMR
Consider governance, SLA, Board representation and appropriate funding routes once an NMR proposal is received.	Board / Secretariat
Confirm arrangements and venue for the proposed 8 December seasonal social.	Secretariat