Gorton South Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board Workshop Minutes

Date and Time: Monday 3rd August 2026 530pm
Location: Gorton Hub, Peter Pan Room
Chair: Jo Sharples
Secretariat: Michael Fletcher, Manchester City Council
Board Members:
[Resident names redacted from published document]
Suzanne Richards, Councillor for Longsight
Fesl Rez- Khan, Councillor for Levenshulme
Observers and other attendees:
Apologies:
Julie Reid, Councillor for Gorton and Abbey Hey

Agenda Items

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

The chair welcomed attendees and explained that the previous meeting had felt slightly overwhelming due to the amount of administration, this session would take a more interactive and collaborative approach.
Board members were split into three groups to work through the agenda topics and share feedback with the wider group.

2. Communications and Engagement Workshop

Aims and Vision
Discussion Questions
- What does Pride in Place mean for Gorton South?
- What are we looking to achieve?

Board members discussed their aspirations for the programme and shared ideas on what success would look like for Gorton South. Each group provided feedback to the wider board on their discussions.

Key Points Raised
- Transparency was highlighted as essential to building trust within the community.

- Councillor Suzanne Richards noted the importance of clearly communicating the different funding streams available and what they can be used for. She suggested that infrastructure-related projects could potentially be delivered through NIRF funding.
- Danny Mac emphasised the need to consider a range of communication methods, including community noticeboards, bus stops and libraries, to ensure information reaches a wider audience.

Group Task Develop a short mission statement that captures the board's main aims and ambitions for Pride in Place in Gorton South.

Actions

- Share feedback from the group discussions with board members who were unable to attend.
- Reflect on the discussions to inform future board development and decision-making.

Stakeholder and Asset Mapping
Discussion Question

- Which communities and wider stakeholders should we involve, and what is the best way to engage them?

Group Task: Key Stakeholder Maps & Ideas on how to organise stakeholder involvement for further development.

The board discussed the importance of mapping both local assets and key stakeholders to ensure engagement activities are inclusive and representative.

Key Points Raised

- Councillor Suzanne Richards stressed the importance of focusing on communities and assets located within the Pride in Place boundary.
- Members identified school gates and bus stops as important local engagement points.
- There was support for taking a hyper-local approach and recognising community assets beyond larger institutions such as Tesco.
- Members discussed the importance of both internal communication with residents and external communication with wider stakeholders and partners.
- The board agreed to revisit this agenda point and further develop stakeholder and asset mapping at a future meeting.

3. Any Other Business

Boundary Adjustments

The chair introduced a discussion on the existing Pride in Place boundary and summarised the rationale behind previous inclusions and exclusions.

Discussion Highlights

- Councillor Suzanne Richards questioned whether the Northmoor area should be included, noting that it could alter the character and focus of the programme area. She expressed support for including the Hemmons Road area but had reservations about the proposed northern extension into Northmoor.
- Councillor Fesl Rez- Khan suggested that board members visit the areas in person before making any decisions and invited members to take part in a site visit.
- Troy raised questions about an area within Belle Vue that is experiencing new housing development.
- Chris suggested removing the Belle Vue section from the proposed boundary.
- Pelumi highlighted an abandoned building near the monastery which could potentially be brought back into community use. He also noted that some important assets requiring investment sit outside the current boundary.
- Mehwish advised against broadening the boundary unless necessary, expressing concern that spreading investment too widely could dilute impact. However, she acknowledged that investment in assets outside the boundary may still be appropriate where there is a clear benefit.

Summary There was broad agreement around the inclusion of the Hemmons Road area. However, views were more mixed regarding the Northmoor extension. Board members recognised the value of continuing to work with groups in Northmoor regardless of any boundary changes.

Outcome The chair proposed a site walk and further review of options to help establish a revised and agreed boundary.

Actions

- Develop several boundary options for consideration.
- Organise a boundary walk of the Annie Lees area for board members to inform future decisions.

Board Remuneration

The board briefly discussed remuneration and support arrangements for members, including:

- Recognition of professional skills and expertise contributed by board members.
- Childcare support.
- Transport costs.

Outcome This item will be carried forward to a future meeting for further discussion.

Meeting Schedule and Locations
Members discussed future meeting arrangements and potential venues.

Action: Board members to suggest suitable locations for future meetings.

4. Date of Next Meeting

- Monday 17th August 1730 location TBC

Action - The chair to propose potential walking routes and meeting arrangements for consideration.