PRIDE IN PLACE
LED BY YOU – BACKED BY UK GOVERNMENT

Platt Bridge & Spring View Neighbourhood Board

Minutes of meeting held on: Monday 12th October 2026 at 5pm
Venue**:** St Nathaniel's Church, Church Road, Platt Bridge, Wigan, WN2 3TB

Attendance

Neighbourhood Board Members	Observers/Board Support
Lisa Jane Aldred – Chair (LJA) Cllr Martyn Smethurst (MS) Claire Burnham (CB) David Baxter (DB) Sue Hughes (SH) Nigel Geary (NG) John Pendlebury (JP) Guy Lambert (GL)	Karen Parker (KP) Stephanie Dermott – Secretariat (SD)

1.	**Welcome and Introductions** The Chair (LJA) welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were given for the new board support member KP.
2.	**Apologies for Absence** Secretariat declared that there had been five apologies for absence: Rt Hon Andy Burnham Norman Prior Ben Gosling Tracy Sheppard Eunice Smethurst
3.	**Declarations of Interest** The Chair asked Board members if they have any declarations of interest related to any items within the agenda. No declarations were raised.

4.	**Financial Overview** The Secretariat presented a summary of Pride in Place funding and expenditure to date.
5.	**Community Engagement** LJA spoke about what we mean be community engagement and how it feeds into the development of the Pride in Place 10 year plan. JP, GL and NG highlighted the need for visible engagement, actions and improvements so that residents can see that progress is being made. LJA outlined a proposal to allocate funding towards community engagement in multiple areas across the Pride in Place boundary, including a dedicated youth allocation. MS requested that the Board engage with the Care Leavers Hub as part of its community engagement activity. NG noted that there may be a need to establish dedicated stakeholder groups, such as business representatives and residents in Spring View, where engagement to date has been limited. LJA suggested working with consultants already active in the area to develop an engagement plan for Spring View. CB emphasised the importance of engaging with businesses to identify opportunities for social value, employment and skills development across the area. NG proposed himself to lead on developing engagement with local businesses. GL asked what community engagement activities would involve. LJA explained that the aim was to reach out to local people and encourage their participation in the conversation. CB and KP expanded on this, highlighting the importance of ensuring residents feel engaged in shaping the programme. MS suggested offering incentives to encourage engagement from young people. SH highlighted the importance of also engaging with older residents, particularly those who are already volunteering and possess strong knowledge of the local community.

	The board voted unanimously to divide community engagement funding into six distinct categories: Platt Bridge area, Spring View area, Bamfurlong area, Woodcock Drive area, Millers Lane area and Youth engagement. The Board agreed lead members for each of the six categories, supported by the remaining members. **Action:** Secretariat to circulate list of board contact details to collaborate on this work. **Action:** Lead members to engage with community groups in their respective categories and develop proposals for the allocated budgets, to be presented to the Board for consideration and approval at a future meeting. *JP exited the meeting at 18:19* DB raised the importance of marketing and communications activity to increase awareness of Pride in Place and ensure that every household is aware of the programme. LJA spoke about establishing a dedicated Facebook page to support communications and community engagement. **Action:** Secretariat to be added as an administrator of the Facebook page. SH highlighted the need to provide hard-copy surveys for residents who are less confident using digital technology. **Action:** Secretariat to produce hard-copy versions of the survey. The Board discussed the use of a prize draw as an incentive to encourage survey participation. **Action:** Chair and Secretariat to identify suitable prizes and develop arrangements for the prize draw.
6.	**Quick Wins** LJA asked the board to consider ideas for 'quick win' projects. Secretariat noted that monitoring to be returned to MHCLG by 29th October will contain information on community engagement and planned projects. NG highlighted concerns around the cleanliness and appearance of local areas. The Secretariat confirmed that this issue has been raised through survey responses, and GL also emphasised this as a key priority.

	The Board agreed to explore an area clean-up initiative as a potential quick win, including undertaking site visits, identifying issues, establishing ownership and responsibilities, reviewing any long-term plans, and considering measures such as the provision of additional litter bins. SH spoke about renovations needed at the community centre. LJA suggested considering ideas and priorities emerging from the ongoing Town Centre Resilience consultation as potential projects for the Board to explore further.
7.	**AOB** None
8.	**Date(s) of next meeting** Monday 19th October at 5pm

The meeting concluded at 7:10pm