

Pride in Place Programme
Beacon Lough and Wrekenton Neighbourhood Board
Neighbourhood Board Meeting
Thursday 23rd April 2026 at Eighton Banks Village Hall

Present: Rev'd Danie Lindley (Chair), Emma Bell, Lesley Burns, Mary Burns, Mitali Deypurkaystha, Nicola Dixon, Mark Ferguson MP, Judith Gibson, Paul Gray, Diane Kindred, Fiona Pollard, Brendan Robson, Kathryn Walker, Keith Wood.

Gateshead Council Officers present: Lindsay Murray, Service Director Economic Development & Regeneration, Kate Price, External Funding Programme Manager, Kerry McGlynn External Funding Programme Manager.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received by Claire Eliison.

2. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomes the Board to the first meeting. All Board member and Council Officers introduced themselves.

3. Board Welcome Back

Lindsay Murray presented the welcome pack in detail. Highlighting objectives, frequency of meetings, Declarations of Interest, Quorum, role of the Council and community engagement

a) Roles and Responsibilities

Lindsay Murray explained the role of the Council as the Accountable Body for the Programme. The Council must ensure the programme is compliant, delivered in-line with the MHCLG guidance, legally, and in-line with procurement regulations.

b) Terms of Reference

Lindsay Murray presented the Terms of Reference for the Neighbourhood Board. The Board was advised they would be required to formally accept the Terms of Reference at the next meeting.

ACTION: All Board Member to read the Terms of Reference before the next meeting.

Rev'd Danie Lindley explained the role of the Chair, and the requirement to appoint a Deputy Chair.

ACTION: Appoint a Deputy Chair.

c) Registrations of Interest

Kate Price presented the Declarations of Interest Policy, highlighting the important role the policy has in the governance of the Board. Board members should contact the

Council Officers if they require any support with completing the Registration of Interests Form.

Declarations of Interest will be a standing item at each board meeting.

ACTION: All Board members must complete and return the Declarations of Interests Form electronically and return it to the Council Officers by email.

d) Funding Profile

Kerry McGlynn explained the Funding Profile of the Programme. Highlighting the examples of Capital and Revenue funding.

e) Training and Development

Kate Price advised the Board that they would be expected to participate in training and development opportunities. A short online training course provided by Connected Voice would be shared. Other options for training will be explored.

ACTION: Board members to share any training or development needs/requirements.

4. Ten Year Vision

Kerry McGlynn briefed the Board on the requirement to produce a 10-year vision and a 4-year investment plan to MHCLG by November 2026. The plan must be based on Community Engagement and reflect the needs and aspirations of residents. We await further detail from MHCLG, which will be shared with the Board when available.

5. Community Engagement

Kate Price explained the importance of community engagement, which is central to the Pride in Place Programme. High quality community engagement must be the basis of the 10-year vision, and engagement must take place throughout the programme.

A capacity payment of £150,000 has been received to establish the Board and to fund high quality community engagement work.

Gateshead based VCSE organisations were asked to submit proposals to undertake community engagement with residents and would receive an award of up to £10,000 to fund the work.

The Neighbourhood Board would consider this in the round at its next meeting.

Action : Officers to prepare a report for consideration on community engagement at the next Neighbourhood Board meeting

The Board discussed the community engagement approach; the key points were:

- The Programme should be highly visible in the community, with the Logo being displayed in places where lots of people can see it, to raise awareness of the programme. E.g. schools, shop windows, shutters of empty shops, community hubs, bus stops
- Raising awareness of the Programme, and engagement opportunities through Facebook resident groups
- Using existing network, groups and events. E.g. Eighton Banks Village Hall has well attended group which would be good engagement opportunities.

- Linking in with local businesses for potential sponsorship opportunities.
- Council owned buildings - some have graffiti on; these could be cleaned up and the Pride in Place Logo could be painted on.

ACTION – a paper for the next board meeting recommending a community engagement approach based on the Board’s feedback.

6. Round Table Discussion

The Chair asked the Board to write down:

- What questions do we want to ask the community?
- What are the things we want to see change?

ACTION – collate the responses from the Board for the next meeting.

The Board discussed the Boundaries on the map of the MSOA.

The Board discussed early spend and ‘quick wins’, to show residents that the funding is being spent in their community.

ACTION – design a framework for a small grants programme for the next board meeting.

The Board discussed the new housing development in Beacon Lough, and the potential Section 106 funding available, and how additional funding should be leveraged into the Programme where possible.

7. AOB

A Pride in Place webpage had been set up on the Council website. Board member profiles, agenda, minutes and papers would be published here in line with transparency requirements.

Any barriers to attending meetings were discussed. e.g. travel expenses, childcare, equipment. Board members can contact the Council officers to discuss this further if required.

It is intended Board papers will be sent electronically but if any Board member requires paper copies, please contact the Council officers.

The Board were asked for permission to take a group photo to celebrate the first Board meeting. This will be featured in a news article and shared via social media.

Branding and publicity – we await further guidance from MHCLG.

ACTION - request information on branding and publicity from MHCLG.

Signed...*D Lindley*.....

Name...Danie Lindley..... (Chair of the Pride in Place Programme Board)

Date 24.05.26