

Minutes of the inaugural meeting of the Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board for Wick and Toddington. It was held on Friday 10 July 2026, 9am, at The New Millennium Chamber, Manor House, Church Street, Littlehampton, BN17 5EW and via Teams.

Present:

Board Members: Jon Jolly – Chair, Alison Griffiths MP, Councillor Freddie Tandy, Bernadette Kielty, Chris Smehurst, Clive Mills, Graham Tiley, Ian Buckman, Jenny Rowley, Lauren Roffey, Michael Dorrington, Paul Sanderson, Paula Kennaby, Rachel Sadler, Lesley Searson.

In Attendance: Laura Chrysostomou (Littlehampton Town Clerk), Karl Roberts (Deputy CEO Arun District Council), Suzie Moffatt (Pride in Place Project Manager), Janet Webb (Trainer and Facilitator), Ben Wood (Parliamentary Assistant to Alison Griffith MP).

1. Welcome, Housekeeping and Apologies

- 1.1. The Chair, Jon Jolly, welcomed the duly appointed members to the inaugural meeting of the Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board for Wick and Toddington.
- 1.2. There were no apologies. Karl Roberts, Deputy Chief Executive of Arun District Council joined virtually for the geographical boundary discussion as representative of the accountable body.
- 1.3. Members noted the venue's evacuation procedures. The meeting was not open to members of the public. Recording, filming, photography, live streaming or audio recording was not permitted unless expressly authorised by the Chair.
- 1.4. Minutes of the meeting would be published on the Littlehampton Town Council website following the meeting and circulated to attendees. They would also be included in the following agenda to be confirmed as a true record and signed.
- 1.5. Within the boards introduction, members were reminded of the overarching ambition to support places that residents are proud of while giving communities greater influence over local decision-making. The national Pride in Place programme is structured around three broad themes:



- Stronger Communities
- Thriving Places
- Taking Back Local Control

2. Outline of the Project – Summary

- 2.1. The Board received a report, previously circulated, which provided an overview on its role, purpose, and aspirations.
- 2.2. The Chair explained that, while some formal processes were required because of the Council and government funding context, the intention was for the Board to work collaboratively and develop strong relationships through open and informal discussion.
- 2.3. Members were advised that a 10-Year Plan would need to be submitted to central government by the end of November 2026. The initial period would therefore involve an intensive programme of community engagement to understand local priorities and develop an evidence base for the Plan.
- 2.4. It was confirmed that the Plan was intended to be iterative and capable of being revisited, rather than being a one-off document that cannot subsequently respond to changing circumstances or community priorities.
- 2.5. The level of flexibility within the programme was discussed, provided proposals can demonstrate and evidence community need. The Board discussed opportunities to use the funding in ways that could create longer-term benefits rather than viewing the £20 million allocation solely as money to be spent. Potential approaches discussed included:
 - Seed funding;
 - Investment in community facilities;
 - Support for local initiatives; and
 - Other approaches capable of leveraging additional investment or creating sustainable benefits.

3. Ways of Working and Introduction Activities

- 3.1. Detailed minutes were not taken during the introductory and "getting to know each other" exercises within this section of the meeting, to allow members to participate freely.
- 3.2. The Trainer and Facilitator led introductory exercises, designed to help Board members get to know one another and explore individual working styles, motivations, values and beliefs. The aim being to develop effective communication, mutual respect, trust and positive working relationships across the Board.



The meeting adjourned for a break at 10.35am.

The meeting reconvened at 10.50am.

4. Pride in Place Geographical Boundary Lines

- 4.1. The Board reviewed the proposed geographical boundary for the Wick and Toddington Pride in Place area. It was explained that the original programme boundaries were based on census geography and therefore did not necessarily correspond neatly with electoral wards, parish boundaries or boundaries used by other public services.
- 4.2. It was also noted that Pride in Place funding may, where appropriate, support activity outside the immediate geographical boundary where this demonstrably benefits residents living within the designated area.
- 4.3. Members agreed to propose the following areas within the project's boundaries be included or considered:
 - Both Eastern and Western sides of Wick Street;
 - Kent Road;
 - Sussex Street;
 - Electoral or Parish boundaries shouldn't influence the final boundary;
 - Ensure the final area broadly reflected what residents would instinctively recognise as Wick and Toddington.
- 4.4. The general view of members was that the boundary should prioritise local identity and residents' understanding of Wick and Toddington, rather than attempting to replicate an existing administrative boundary.

It was resolved that:

The proposed broader boundary, incorporating the areas identified above be approved for adoption and submitted for approval by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

5. Future meetings

- 5.1. It was noted that Board meetings and workshops would initially need to take place more frequently due to the tight timetable for community engagement and development of the initial Pride in Place Plan. Provisional dates would be circulated to members and future meeting and workshop dates that maximised attendance would be confirmed outside of the meeting.
- 5.2. It was also proposed that future Board meetings and workshops should, where possible, rotate between venues across Wick and Toddington, helping



to maintain a visible presence within the communities covered by the programme.

The meeting was brought to a close at 11.30am.

Chair

