Motherwell Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board Meeting Notes
Braidhurst High School
Friday 28 August 2026

Attendees: Cllr Andrew Duffy-Lawson (ADL), Pamela Nash MP (PN), Professor Christopher Moore (CM), Collette Donald (CD), Barry McCormack (BM), Danielle Jarvie (DJ), Geraldine El Masrour (GM), Greg Kane (GK), Richard Bolton (RB), Lynn McFarlane (LM) and John Mulholland (JM, Chair)

Apologies: Cllr David Robb (DR), Clare Adamson (CA) MSP

Observers: Pamela Humphries (PH), Kirsty Gray (KG), Chris Smart, Conor Lanigan (CL) (all North Lanarkshire Council). Cllr Kenny Duffy (KD)

Item	Summary	Actions
1	**Welcome & introductions** JM welcomed everyone to the first Motherwell Pride in Place (PIP) neighbourhood board meeting. PN briefly discussed the history of PIP and how the project had reached its current position with all board members. PN thanked CL/KG for their involvement and hard work to date. All attendees introduced themselves with a brief background of work and experience.	All Points Noted

2	**Pride in Place Governance** A report was presented outlining the Pride in Place Governance arrangements, including summarising the role and responsibilities of the Neighbourhood Board and the responsibilities of North Lanarkshire Council as the accountable body. The Draft terms of reference were discussed – with an update to item 10.1 within the TOR highlighted and approved by board. It was advised that the board consists of 13 members at present with a potential to increase this to a maximum of 15 if the Board would like to consider this. An update was provided on Capacity Funding received by the council as accountable body and how the initial payment instalment has been used to support establishment of the Neighbourhood Board and to progress early consultation activity. It was noted that recommendations for how the Capacity Funding could be allocated would be brought to the next board meeting for discussion and approval by the board. It was noted that, in addition to the early-stage capacity funding of £150,000, a further £270,000 in Capacity Funding has now been received and capital funding of £117,000. PN requested that the "Plan for North Lanarkshire" be circulated to all board members for review. The Plan for North Lanarkshire | North Lanarkshire Council The Board approved the updated Terms of Reference and for the title of the board to be 'Motherwell Pride in Place Board'. The Board also noted: • That North Lanarkshire Council is the accountable body for this funding and responsible for establishing and supporting an independent Neighbourhood Board • That the Neighbourhood Board is responsible for developing the Pride in Place Plan for Forgewood, North Motherwell and Motherwell town centre and associated Investment Plan(s), with a strategic oversight role to ensure that these plans align with local priorities. The strategic oversight role of the Board will continue into the delivery phase of the programme. • The roles and responsibilities of Board members and North Lanarkshire Council • The Capacity Funding budget received to support establishment of the Neighbourhood Board and facilitation of early community engagement.	All Points Noted CL/KG
3	**Community engagement update** A report was presented providing an update on the progress made to date with community engagement activity undertaken to support development of the Motherwell Pride in Place Plan. A wide-ranging engagement programme has commenced, including online surveys; engagement activity with primary schools, stakeholder workshops and	All Points Noted

	the launch of a community empowerment grant fund to support engagement and awareness raising through community-led activity. Some clear priorities are emerging from the responses so far including, improved safety, opportunities for young people and issues relating to health and wellbeing. The feedback received to date will inform and help to develop a draft vision and priorities for change. Further consultation with local people will be undertaken on the emerging themes over the month of September alongside a workshop with board members. This workshop will also focus on developing an initial 4-year Investment Plan. A proposal to establish working groups, involving key partners within the area and local residents, to support the work of the board was outlined. The Pride and Place Plan approval process was outlined, including key milestones towards the deadline for submission of the plan by 30 November, set by the UK Government. There was discussion on further engagement with school pupils including secondary pupils at Braidhurst High, Our Lady's High and Dalziel High. This will be taken forward by the NLC project support team, working with contacts within the schools. The Board noted the report, agreed the approach for the next stage of engagement and plan development and to the establishment of working groups to assist with ongoing engagement and delivery.	
4	**Community empowerment grants** A report was presented advising the board of a key element of the overall community engagement approach to date, of enabling community organisations to lead locally based engagement and raise awareness of Pride in Place through Community Empowerment Grants. Updates were provided to the board on the grant assessment and award process, the groups and activities supported by the grant funding. To date, nine grants have been awarded totalling £44,550, with the funding provided from the Capacity Funding budget in line with UK Government eligible use criteria. The grant funded has supported local groups and organisations to provide activities for families and children with additional needs; community events and wellbeing programmes; youth outreach and cultural events; town centre markets and social activities, whilst promoting the Pride in Place local priorities survey and raising awareness of the Pride in Place Programme. The report highlighted additional grant funding applications recommended for approval, to support the next stage of consultation over the Autumn/Winter through funded activities with an additional funding requirement of £20,000 from the Capacity Funding budget for the Board's approval.	All Points Noted

	Two board members declared an interest in this item and did not participate in the vote on this decision, in line with the approved Terms of Reference for the board. A discussion was held regarding the capacity of local groups to complete funding applications and the complexity of the applications for some funds. It was suggested that groups who had previously been unsuccessful with their grant applications could be supported through capacity building activity ahead of future funding rounds, to improve their confidence in submitting a strong application. It was agreed that this was a good approach. It was also discussed whether VANL as the local Third Sector Interface could assist with this process and the Wellness Hub would have a lot of experience. The Board, not including the two board members with a declared interest, agreed to the allocation of a further £20,000 from the initial Capacity Funding budget to support four additional organisations to raise awareness and support the next stage of consultation over the Autumn/Winter through funded activities. The Board also noted the progress made with piloting of Community Empowerment rants using Pride in Place capacity funding to support community engagement activity.	
5	**Draft Vision & Priority Outcomes** A report was presented on a draft Vision and Priority Areas for Change in Forgewood, North Motherwell and Motherwell town centre. These have been informed by a programme of community and stakeholder engagement undertaken to date and analysis of socio-economic and demographic evidence. The evidence gathered to date demonstrates strong community pride and ambition for Motherwell's future, whilst also identifying challenges relating to deprivation, health inequalities, economic activity, community safety, youth opportunity, environmental quality, community facilities and town centre vitality. The emerging priority themes were outlined and the need to link these the UK Government Pride in Place Programme objectives. Further consultation and engagement activity planned to seem feedback on and refine these draft priorities was also highlighted. The Board agreed to launch of this consultation in early September. In parallel with developing the vision and priorities for change, a focus is also needed on developing an Investment Plan for the first 4 years of the Pride in Place Programme. Detail was provided on a proposed workshop with the Board in September, to enable board members to discuss and agree both the vision and priorities for change and to start developing the investment plan.	All Points Noted

	Board members discussed the draft vision and agreed this should be amended to create a clear and concise vision statement. It was also agreed that consultation material issued during September should refer to priority themes, with the wording of the outcomes then finalised after the planned workshop and consultation period. There was a discussion on demographics within the Pride in Place area boundary and the key issues that the area faces, with a particular emphasis on health. Board members requested that an overview of the socio-economic and health data is provided to the board to inform discussion of the vision and priorities for change. It was also raised that it would be useful for lessons learned from other Pride in Place area to be collated and shared with the Board. The was a discussion on accessibility of the survey on the draft priority themes with it agreed that both paper-based and digital access solutions would be provided, working with local groups and anchor organisations. Board members were encouraged to promote and circulate the survey to their networks. The Board agreed that the draft vision statement and priorities for change would be discussed further at the planned workshop on 18th September to allow board members to input fully into a final version along with feedback from local people on the draft priority themes.	CL CL CL/ KG CL
6	**Any other current business** Board members raised opportunities to approach groups out with the boundary, but active within the boundary, to make sure connections are made with as many organisations as possible. Some particular groups and networks to connect with were suggested, including Lanarkshire Deaf Hub, VANL, Motherwell Community Board, local business networks/contacts, Motherwell Consortium and opportunities highlighted to raise awareness of Pride in Place (PIP) at meetings of established networks and the Community Board. It was also suggested that Connecting with NLC staff who live and work in the PIP area would be of benefit. The format and duration of the workshop planned for 18th September was discussed. It was agreed that the workshop would consider both the vision and priority outcomes and the investment plan, and we extended to between 10am – 2pm. The expectations of the workshop were explained and the venue confirmed as Braidhurst High School. Future board meetings were discussed, with it confirmed that the meeting planned on 9th and 30th Oct would be held in the morning. Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interest forms were issued for all board members to sign and return to NLC. A board members email circulation list will be created. JM thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting. **Date of next Board meeting 9th October 2026** *(Board workshop 18th September)*	All Points Noted CL