

Pride in Place Meeting – 16 October 2025

Attendees:

Board Members:

Kate Willard (Interim Chair)
Dame Rebecca Harris MP
Steve Bish
Elaine De Can
Thea Behrman
Alex Hawkins
Tracy Harris
Derek Gray
Peter Tassel
Caroline McCarron

Officers/Support:

Ian Butt
Amanda Parrott
Mark Spriggs
Russell Dolton
Frances Moffett-Kouadio

Apologies:

Joel Friedman
Larry Fentiman
Greg Middleton
Angela Hutchings
Lance Wosko

Minutes:

Minutes of meeting of 22nd September 2025 to be presented at the next meeting.

Declarations of Interest Register:

Members of the board were reminded to complete the declarations of interest register.

Finance and Governance:

A specific session on finance and governance for Pride in Place is scheduled for the 23 October 2025.

Programme Update:

A discussion took place in relation to the draft Vision, the draft Investment Plan and the draft Regeneration Plan. However, engagement is needed to finalised all aspects of the work.

BOARD NOTED THE PROGRAMME OF WORK AND NEXT STEPS.

Vision Statement:

A draft vision was circulated for discussion, with final comments welcomed by email by 18 October to feed into the engagement.

BOARD NOTED THE DRAFT VISION AND AGREED TO PROVIDE ANY COMMENTS BY
EMAIL BY 18 OCTOBER 2025.

Connecting places on Canvey:

A discussion took place about the different places identified by the board and through previous engagement activities as needing regeneration on Canvey Island. This discussion focused on Canvey Lake, Canvey Town Centre and Canvey Seafront. Issues identified included:

- Lack of visual relationship between town centre and seafront.
- The need to strengthen businesses and mix of town centre uses – a vibrant town centre supports a vibrant seafront and vice versa.
- The need to improve the public realm.
- The potential to create a market square, and improved spaces for events etc.
- The need to improve movement between the lake, the town centre and the seafront.
- The opportunity to better connect the lake to the town centre.
- The opportunity to better connect King George V playing fields and services there to the town centre and seafront.
- The opportunity to improve flood resilience through our approach to regeneration.

The discussion resulted in agreement that there was a need for a high level piece of work to feed into the regeneration plan and investment plan that looked at the connectivity between these places and set out some proposals as to how they could be addressed.

BOARD AGREED TO RUNNING AN ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION WITH A BUDGET OF
£10,000 TO LOOK AT THE CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN PLACES ON CANVEY ISLAND AND
THE OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE PLACES AND THEIR CONNECTIVITY WITH ONE
ANOTHER.

Engagement:

The need for engagement to inform the Regeneration Plan and Investment Plan was discussed, with a need for it to be completed by the end of October to facilitate the completion of the Regeneration Plan by the submission deadline in November 2025. The following approach to engagement was set out by Thea Behrman.

- Main focus is half term week with use of an empty shop in the Knightswick Centre.
- The engagement will also be taken on tour – the library, care homes, USP college etc.

- Engagement will be undertaken using postcards, but will also seek to record conversations that occur, especially when on tour. Samples of the engagement materials were shared.
- Specific engagement with school children delivery by School Sports Partnership:
 - Focus groups with children from all 12 schools = 200 to 400 children and young people.
- Specific engagement with young people delivery by Yellow Door:
 - Discussions with young people as part of youth work activities; and
 - A Facebook Survey.
- Gap noted in respect of businesses:
 - Council to use Business Newsletter and specific questionnaire for businesses.
- CAVS offered to circulate all engagement information to their network of volunteers and organisations.

BOARD AGREED THE APPROACH TO ENGAGEMENT.