



Nelson Pride In Place Board
Nelson Town Hall, Wilson Room
Friday 23rd January 2026 at 9:15am

PRESENT MEMBERS

Claire Bennett (CB), In the Chair
Sajad Butt (SB)
Christine Blythe (CBly)
Ruth Thompson (RT)

Shahid Shabbir (SS)
Azhar Ali (AA)
Carl McCoy (CMc)
Faraz Ahmed (FA)
Asjad Mahmood

Pendle Action in the Community (PAC)
3B Systems
Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS
Representing – Jonathon Hinder Member
of Parliament
Bodies In Motion
Lancashire County Council Councillor
Lancashire Constabulary
Nelson Town Councillor
Councillor

OFFICERS

Sue Rae (SR)

Pendle Borough Council

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Lisa O'Loughlin, Dean Langton, Irfan Chaudhary, Inspector Rob Grey, Karen Arciniega, Mesam Ali, Jonathon Hinder, Phillip Spurr, Mevish Mahmood, Rauf Bashir Asjad Mahmood sent apologies for the beginning of the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of interest were noted:

- CB declared an interest in Pendle Food For All and Pendle YES Hub.
- SS declared an interest in Bodies In Motion.
- SB declared an interest in 3B Systems.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (12th December 2025)

The minutes were approved as an accurate record.

Update on actions from minutes

SR reported that the Terms of Reference had been updated, the board requested that these be sent to the board for information and review.

Jonathon Hinder (JH) was requested by the board to challenge the capital and revenue split with government departments and stress the need for more revenue. RT confirmed that JH is doing this at every opportunity.

MM to map existing community groups. – This had not been done due to Mevish not being available.

4. Board Members

Update non-attendance

SR has liaised with non-attending Board members regarding attendance and representation.

Higher Education – Nelson and Colne College (Lisa O'Loughlin)

Discussions are ongoing as the College considers identifying an alternative representative. Due to existing commitments, Lisa is finding it difficult to attend regularly. The Board agreed that maintaining representation from the education sector is essential.

Health Sector – Dr Irfan Chaudhary (GP)

Discussions continue with Irfan as he seeks a colleague who can attend meetings when he is unavailable. The Board agreed that representation from the health sector remains crucial.

Local Business – Joel Feingold

Joel has advised that, due to recently relocating his business, he needed to step away as a board member due to work commitments. The Board asked that he be thanked for his contribution.

The Board also discussed how they would like to approach recruitment for the resulting vacancy.

It was agreed that, moving forward, an Expression of Interest form would be developed. Anyone wishing to be considered for a board position would complete the form, which would then be reviewed by the board before a decision is made.

Bios Reminder

Still to receive LCC Member Representative Azahar Ali, Cllr Faraz Ahmed Nelson Council, Rauf Bashir, Mesam Ali.

CB reminded the board that is a requirement of the funding that detail are published on the website of who is on the board and that the Ministry of Housing, Communities and

Local Government (MHCLG) can easily check this by viewing the website. SR was asked to chase the outstanding Bios.

5. First year funding project

SR informed the Board that all projects on the indicative list have submitted application forms. The total funding requested is £190,000 revenue and £417,000 capital, resulting in an overspend of £41,000 revenue and £57,000 capital. Several projects have increased their costs or added new expenditure since initial discussions.

Of the six additional organisations identified since the Board agreed the indicative list, five have submitted applications, requesting £10,000 revenue and £75,000 capital.

The Board agreed that all applications should be appraised. If required, the task and finish group may request further information or invite applicants to discuss any points needing clarification to support an informed decision.

The Board agreed that appraising all projects would provide greater assurance and flexibility in allocating funding. This approach ensures that if any projects face unforeseen circumstances and are unable to proceed, there are alternative options to draw on, reducing the risk of underspending and maintaining momentum.

SR will circulate all applications and supporting documents to the task and finish group so members can attend the meeting on the 30th fully prepared. Members may contact SR with any questions or clarifications as needed.

6. Identification of Priorities within the four themes for years 2-4

CB highlighted the need for the Board to look in more detail at the four themes submitted to MHCLG and to refine the specific criteria and priorities for Years 2–4. It was agreed that a short workshop session would be incorporated into the next Board meeting to support this work.

SR to arrange workshop to facilitate the board clarify priorities under the four themes for years 2 to 4.

7. Visit to Hastings Commons – Taking Action for the Common Good

SR reported that she was taking a trip to visit a community project which take derelict and difficult buildings around the White Rock area of Hastings into community custody, transforming them into social spaces, homes and workspaces that will always be affordable and open to all.

SR to report key finding of visit to Hasting to the next board meeting.

8. Any Other Business (AOB)

It was noted that no funding decisions have been made at this stage, although we are now moving towards that point.

With the processes agreed for how funding discussions will be managed, and with declarations of interest now recorded, all relevant parties will be asked to leave the room when decisions relating to their interests are being made. We will need to consider how meetings will run in situations where a significant number of members may need to step out.

9. Action Points

Item 3. SR to circulate updated Terms of Reference

Item 4. SR to chase the outstanding Bios.

SR to produce a draft EOI form for board members to review

Item 5. SR to circulate all applications and supporting documents to the task and finish

Item 6. SR to arrange workshop to facilitate the board clarify priorities under the four themes for years 2 to 4.

Item 7. SR to report key finding of visit to Hasting to the next board meeting.

Outstanding from minutes 12th December 2025

MM to map existing community groups.

10. Date of Next Meetings

Friday 20th February at 9:15am – Wilson room, Nelson Town Hall

Friday 13th March at 9:15am – Wilson Room , Nelson Town Hall