

Scarborough Neighbourhood Board

Extraordinary General Meeting

Via Microsoft Teams

Wednesday 25 February 2026

In attendance:

Heath Samples HS Chair	Richard Cooper RC Beyond Housing
VC: Richard Boyes RB Scarborough Business Partnership	Sam Allum SA North Yorkshire Sport
Adrian Perry AP Scarborough and District Civic Society	Simon Bull SB Scarborough Business Ambassadors
Alison Hume AH MP – Scarborough & Whitby	Cllr Mark Crane MC NYC
Caroline Routh CR Stephen Joseph Theatre	Helen Jackson HJ NYC
Mark Williamson MW English Heritage	Lauren Hopson-Haw LH NYC
Matthew Butterworth MBT Coventry University	Laurie Wilsher LW minutes NYC
Mel Bonney MBN CAVCA	

Minutes

1. Programme Guidance Changes:

- KLV outlined the recent Pride in Place programme guidance and the implications for Board membership. These include:
 - A requirement for over 51% of members to live and/or work in Scarborough. This should comfortably be achieved with the Boards' membership as it stands.
 - Changes to mandatory representation ie. Only one ward Councillor now required, police representation no longer a formal requirement
 - The MP has strengthened authority to support the Chair in formalising board membership decisions.
- The Board must transition to a community-led model within the next three years. The approach taken to achieve this remains at the Board's discretion. A pilot

programme is currently being undertaken by MHCLG and learning from this will help shape the most appropriate approach for Scarborough.

2. Rationale for governance changes:

- HS outlined the rationale for the proposed governance changes. The revisions aim to ensure governance processes can withstand external scrutiny, improve public confidence in the programme and reinforce transparent, credible decision-making.
- The changes respond to concerns raised by MHCLG regarding the optics of Board members submitting bids, as well as concerns communicated to the Chair from the community reflecting a negative perception of conflict-of-interest management.

3. Thematic Group Restructuring:

- HS proposed a revised process for advancing project proposals going forward.
- The thematic groups will have a more influential role in programme decision-making processes, acting as the primary forum for review of community proposals and making recommendations to the Board based on this initial assessment. These groups will also support oversight of development and delivery of projects selected for progression.
- Membership of the thematic groups will be reviewed, with current Chairs remaining in post if they choose to and a Vice chair appointed for each group.
- It was determined thematic Group Chairs, if not an existing Board member, will act in an advisory capacity to the main board and will be able to attend meetings on this basis.
- The Thematic Groups will meet on a more regular basis moving forward and will link in with the ongoing community engagement plan

4. Approval of amendments:

- The Board agreed with the rationale for changes, recognising that increased transparency and strengthened independent oversight will better support the programme's objectives
- Board members raised concerns regarding how the Board will balance sector representation, independent governance and the retention of specialist skills

and knowledge. The Chair is confident the two-tier system supported by the thematic groups, will maintain and enhance sector expertise while ensuring strong, independent governance at the higher-level.

- The Board approved amendments to the Terms of Reference subject to legal review. These changes will take immediate effect.

5. Next steps:

- Following the Board's next scheduled meeting, a formal review of Board membership will be undertaken by the Chair, Vice Chair and MP to support the transition towards a more independent structure.
- Board members with active bids will consult with the Chair to confirm their decision regarding their position on the main Board.
- The Terms of Reference, Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest documents will be amended to reflect these decisions. Revised documents will be presented for formal approval at a future meeting.

Action: Officers to circulate the eleven project briefs/business cases at earliest opportunity to allow members sufficient time for review.