

Pride in Place Programme – Greenstead, Colchester

Greenstead Community Board

Shadow Board Meeting

Date: 4 June 2026

Time: 10:30am

Location: Beyond the Box, Avon Way, Colchester, CO4 3TZ

Attendance

- Rev. Sue Howlett (Chair)
- Elizabeth Alake-Akinyemi
- Stephen Onichabor
- Nicky Young
- Tom Taylor
- Lisa Cross
- Pam Cox
- Samantha Jones

Apologies

- Philip Sullivan
- Nic Davey
- Scott Tatum

Also in attendance:

Adam Fox (Office of Pam Cox MP), Tim Fox (Community360), Rory Doyle (Colchester City Council)

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

- The minutes of the previous meeting were **agreed and approved for publication**.
- Chair's introduction delivered by **Rev. Sue Howlett** included setting out the necessary steps to approve a governance framework and decisions required by the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government to ensure that the process is compliant.

Election of Vice-Chair

- Rev. Sue Howlett proposed **Elizabeth Alake-Akinyemi** as Co-Chair.
- Proposal seconded by **Samantha Jones**.
- It was agreed that the role should be **Vice-Chair** rather than Co-Chair.
- **Decision:** Elizabeth Alake-Akinyemi elected as Vice-Chair (unanimous).

2. Board & Project Support

- Support arrangements noted:
 - **Community360**
 - **Communications and Engagement support**
- **Tim Fox** to provide interim support while recruitment for a Project Manager takes place.
- The funding for this role is covered by the initial funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) held by Colchester City Council. **Tom Taylor** to circulate the agreement between **Colchester City Council (CCC)** and **Community360** to ensure transparency around expenditure.
- Minutes of meetings to be published on the website – greenstead.org.uk
 - **Action:** Tim Fox and Adam Fox to progress this.
- The Residents Panel identified as key to effective communication.
- Pam Cox proposed issuing a press release with Rev Sue Howlett to formally announce the Board.

3. Governance

- Reviewed:
 - Terms of Reference
 - Code of Conduct
- **Decision:** Governance documents approved, with an amendment to address situations where decisions cannot be made due to lack of quorum.
- **Decision:** Board to be formally named “**Greenstead Community Board**” to avoid confusion with other neighbourhood initiatives.

4. Submission to Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)

- **Decision:** Board agreed to submit details to MHCLG.
- **Decision:** Boundary to be extended to include Hazlemere & Colchester Academy schools.
- Funding can still be spent outside of the boundary if it benefits people who live within the boundary. Discussion held on ensuring residents at the edges of the boundary are involved, that includes the Greenstead side of the Hythe.

5. Existing Greenstead Projects

- Updates received on:
 - **Heart of Greenstead**
 - **Royal Society of Arts (RSA) – Connected Places**

Heart of Greenstead

- Update provided by Rory Doyle.
- The Council has underwritten the project costs.
- Focus on building capacity within the Greenstead Community Association.
- Discussion noted:
 - Existing activity (e.g. pedal power initiatives, community centre developments).
 - Need to clearly articulate the additional value of the Pride in Place programme.

RSA Connected Places

- Ongoing community research in the Greenstead area highlighted.
 - Further detail to be brought forward at a later meeting.
-

6. Report Back from Panels

- Updates expected from:
 - Residents Panel
 - Youth Panel
 - Business Panel

All groups have now met. Connie Kawenga is supporting work of the Residents Panel.

7. Project Funding Process

- **Action:** Tim Fox to provide a framework for new funding proposals to come forward. Board to consider at the next meeting.
-

8. Future Meeting Dates

- **2 July 2026**
- **6 August 2026**
- **3 September 2026**
- **1 October 2026**
- **5 November 2026**

- **3 December 2026**

Discussion on support required to complete submission to MHCLG in the Autumn. Board to review at next meeting if additional capacity will be required.

Samantha Jones agreed to share experience from Clacton to ensure the Board has forward sight of submission document in good time.

9. Any Other Business (AOB)

- No additional items raised.