

PIP MINUTES

17 April 2026

10:00

The Boathouse Youth

170 Horsebridge Road

Blackpool

FY3 7EA

In attendance:

CW

SL

AH

JF

Amy

AS

MC

SD

DS

KB

WA – note taker

Opening remarks and Agenda Sarah

Thanks for attendance.

Touch base with those absent

Knowledge and experience around the table to draw on

Turn the ship around – Change the narrative on Layton and GP, how do we do it?

Introductions –

Sarah - Hopes dreams and ambitions and wishes from each member attending grew up here and sees that there are still the same issues there were years ago.

Chris - Introduction to the purpose of PIP and the background and the hopes moving forward. PIP is a different way to ask for funding – there will still be funding directly to the council but this is a vehicle to deliver fast change with direct impact from the community. Comparison to other towns. Unanimous decision to choose Sarah as the Chair of the Board. She will be a case study for boards in the future. CW did not choose the area, the government chose it using a metric. The councillors here are embedded in the community and are best placed to give feedback on what is required in the area.

8 engagements events so far – funded by CW office Thanks to Wendy Antonia Grace and Holly for the work and support. Events have been a great success with interesting findings. People didn't think it was real. Looking at other funding PCC lotto etc. Create sustainable effort moving forward. Moving to a charity eventually.

CIC on hold until next week. Send feedback.

After speaking to the department, there has been discussion regarding the funding for the Chair – guidance is that Sarah should be rewarded financially for the work and MCLG will be supportive of that. Equivalent to being a councillor. Government , minister and Number 10 agreed.

KB – The post was advertised as voluntary

CW – It has been agreed as she will take unpaid leave and the work she will do.

MW – it is a line to the position

KB – will a vice chair be remunerated?

CW – if it is the best person then they will be rewarded

Sarah – anyone can apply. It is right that they are rewarded for the work and remunerated if they are the right person

KA – council have asked me to attend. I haven't had it in writing that it cannot be challenged but MHCLG have said that it is the councils decision if it is subject to challenge. I understand MHCLG are supportive but they have said the guidance and responsibility is to the council and it is key we get it right to protect the board.

CW- this is why it has gone to full board. It has been delegated to the leader of the council.

AH – there will be others remunerated ie Chief executive and others which will impact on the money being given. A lot of money deflected from the core funds. Council asking for someone from the council to be paid to support.

CW – I will add clarity around that later. Morcambe hiring via citizen advice x 3 members.

CW – propose

Seconded

In Favour all

No one against

No abstentions

Sarah – Terms of reference – no clear code of conduct, conflict of interest, open to the floor feedback.

Danielle Spencer needs terms of reference!!!! WA to e-mail them

KA – personal interests and sign a declaration

CW- that will be distributed – we must be above reproach.

MW – add all the charities we are members of that could benefit from the funds,

AH – point of order – make sure you ask to receive the information 5 days before the meetings due to the importance of the work

Sarah – we don't need passengers we need active members of the board

Vision and Mission

Sarah – direction needed – what do the floor see the vision as

Empowerment – we expect residents to come to us – meaningful communication and engagement – digitally excluded – knock on doors – we need to address all issues and barriers they face to get them to engage.

AH – strategic plan as residents can be difficult to engage with. Support externally. Another post of a door knocker needed. 50 percent of the board should live and work in the area.

Layton councillor – residents say they have heard it all before. There aren't many people from the community sitting around the table. Residents must feel heard and valued.

Sarah – use different tools. Use their language. Pallets were used to traffic calm, that is their language. The council listened. Our map of the world is different to theirs.

MW – People are now engaging

Mike – using projects is how we engage. People will engage when they see results.

CW – This is phase 2 so we can look at best practice. Spoken with Angela Rayner for experience in Thameside. We used different places and times to test what worked best. Cupcakes and music were best practice and used by other MP's. Ask what residents want as engagement events. Show quick wins ie – potholes and bins.

We had feedback that the residents want something for the children and to build for the future.

Empowerment - we have found that once you use local residents to deliver projects it works.

AH – Army had street reps to communicate with families. Each street has a person Binfluencers ... there is always an influencer in the area that people follow.

Josh – what cross section did you have at the events

CW – we need more youth voices. Feedback through my office to see what other areas do. School councils to engage with the board.

Sarah – what is the awareness of young people. We need young people in Layton to be represented too.

Josh – my social media algorithm didn't bring me to it. I was sent it by Sarah.

CW – young people to engage with older residents. TikTok Pride in Place should be the best in the UK.

Sarah – surveys so far have mostly been filled by adults. What do young people think of the issues raised so far.

Josh – children are malnourished in the area. No access to fresh food in the area. Park is too dark for people to walk through. Vital everyone is asked.

CW – Josh should design what we should be asking.

KB – youth services in her portfolio. Safety and drugs mentioned by primary children at engagement events.

AH – transformation that is evidence lead and a new approach. Strategic plan that we can reference people who have told us what works.

MW – Layton work with local schools. They ask for MH support, no pathway just somewhere to hang out and talk about their future without a programme. Don't trust the media.

KB – youth workers are vital for engagement.

11.15 15 minute break

CW – feedback to be sent to the board from my office from engagement events. PCC are invited which allows us to tap into a pot of money from PoC funds.

KB – crime is at the top of any feedback in Layton. What is the perception of crime ie playing football in the street is not a crime.

CW – crime is dropping but it is more visible on social media which gives the perception there is more crime. Police are more visible. Calls received in the office of CW are often not an actual crim.

KB – Layton PACT is not well attended and not much crime is reported.

AH – cuckooing is an issue in GP and there are some vulnerable adults.

Josh - easy to get drugs on snapchat, outside BHY is a meeting point for drug deals.

AH – targeted approach in GP

CW – other PIP areas have paid for an officer to patrol. Report every single thing to get attention to it. We can approach local police to patrol the area.

Sarah – drug dealers aren't phased by the presence of the police.

Gillian – programmes can be expensive.

Empowerment – is there funding available from sport England?

AH – engagement taking place regarding funding for bowling club.

KB – there is a gym in argosy court that cost millions that isn't being used

CW – this is exactly what the funding is for.

Sarah – council is accountable body, moving to CIC. KA to discuss

KA – MHCLG want by end of July to confirm the membership that is inclusive . November, MHCLG need a 4year investment plan how allocated and confirmed spend then the 10 year vision. All checks section 151 done by council . 150k sitting with council for set up – paid £11403 already. Committed to already 18 and 7k . This year board can spend 275k funding. Next year 1.2 million for next year 27/28 617 capital 617 revenue. GET NUMBERS FROM KA. Need thorough identity of how 1.8 million spent. Need assurances that support is there for the chair and vice. Role to make sure things are happening in between meetings. Who will do planning applications and delivering the projects. I advocate that there is someone from council who can link direct to 151 officer. I recommend to council there is someone like that needed or it won't be served properly.

AH – local government reorg will take place which will change that so we need to be independent of the local authority before 2028 when that happens so CIC before then.

MW – spending review, can this money be pulled when the government changes.

CW – no it has been enshrined in law. I have a different proposal. After talking to MHCLG they advised to speak to local organisation .

Groundworks have agreed to host, until move to CIC. Need a project lead and admin support from council, Wyre offered for free, BCC have asked for money due to funding. Helps facilitate with the 151 officer.

Sarah – Employ in the council to develop and ensure compliance or employ via Mike and are based in the community and on the ground working. We propose a project manager with view to be CEO of the board as the majority of the country do.

AH – we need clarification of the costs and payments and do we need it now.

CW – needs to be a full time project manager that is independent.

AH – is proposal there ready for the CIC?

CW – previous experience tells me this role is crucial as they would provide admin support and work with the council but must be line managed by Sarah.

KA – Clarity – you need someone to do the day to day work to be visible. Either case HR will be dealt with by Council or groundworks but council will not employ someone who will be the CEO of the project. Seems like 2 different jobs.

CW – Morcambe have hired 3 different people to cover all of it.

AW – groundwork are ideal for the project as a partner. FTC may be more appropriate for the jobs.

Sarah – we will take the advert away to and look at it and take some time. Propose some time taken.

KA – I will send the job description the council created.

Sarah – skills audit for the board will be circulated.

QUICK WINS PROPOSALS

CW – list of wins already taken place. 12 month proposals over 3 years.

Sarah – open to the floor for ideas and comments. Has it been a fair and transparent process? Do they reflect the engagement received already?

ID residents for the board

More detail needed for clarity.

Mike - Counselling – The Grange offer it already and not received funding for it. The Grange already have engagement officers that go out. Grange had a food truck – it wasn't suitable.

John – we are duplicating and in danger of wasting the money. Fresh food provision needed. Cooking skills needed. Sustainable provision that is wanted by the residents.

CW – agreed. Grocery style offer rather than bags of food not suitable. CW spoken to NJ about an empty property on Furness avenue to turn it into a grocery provision. Want quick movement.

Josh – can we assemble similar to Hello Fresh food boxes with a whole meal ingredients

CW – Layton do that.

AH – Air fryers and slow cookers were available at the Grange

Mike – Changing the café to be able to teach cooking.

CW – same to be done in schools

John – map out what is already happening and link organisations in do get support.

CW – quick wins needed now.

MW – Crisis resilience funding has been applied for by various organisations but we need to see the gaps.

AH – branding of PIP on things that have been changed so people see it is real and happening.

Empowerment – working in GP with ICB could it be tied together?

Mike – community centre group discusses what they provide in local areas.

AH – food provision is the priority

Sarah – purpose of PIP is to build relationships and represent the community best and what would they choose.

AH – quick wins are from the engagement money so it is ready to go and needs to start now.

Sarah – meet in 6 weeks to discuss and review. Is everyone in agreement? Disconnect of evidence based priorities.

All in agreement.

Mike – engagement has stopped now but needs to carry on.

John – if you do a stall outside people are curious and come over and engage.

May 16th PIP event and opening of Boundary park changing rooms at some other point.

KA – IPSOS did independent engagement about engagement events people want to come along and talk about things.

29th August – love where you live event. Layton.

CW - magazines etc to give updates. Dog shows events.

Reconvene in 7 weeks 12th June - Layton

Comms being sent to organisations

Board membership – who should be involved and who is missing

Young person from Layton

Residents from both areas

Is everyone still wanting to be involved

This fund is once in a generation