

Pride In Place: Stoke Park and Chantry

Neighbourhood Board

Recruitment Pack – Board

Members

About Pride in Place

Pride in Place is a UK Government scheme that gives up to £20 million to selected neighbourhoods to help improve their local area.

It lets local people decide what matters most, such as improving green spaces, setting up new community facilities, or supporting local services and projects.

Two areas in Ipswich have been selected by the government to receive this funding.

These are:

- **Stoke Park and Chantry**
- **Whitehouse**

As the decisions related to this funding are for the community to decide new **Neighbourhood Boards**, made up by a majority of independent people who live or work in those areas, will be established.

These boards will have responsibility for engaging with local communities and making decisions on how to spend the funding. The **Neighbourhood Boards** should lay the foundations for community-led partnerships that continue to drive change well beyond the ten years of funding.

The money provided by the Programme should sow the seeds for longer-term transformation, with communities using it to: take ownership of assets to ensure they benefit local people or bring in revenue; crowd in philanthropic funding; or leverage in social investment, so that **Neighbourhood Boards** leave a lasting legacy in each area.

A brief timetable of the first steps of the project:

- **Summer 2026** – Recruit the new Neighbourhood Boards
- **Summer 2026 onwards** – Community Engagement to understand local priorities and early funding ideas
- **Winter 2026/27** - Neighbourhood Boards produce their first Four Year funding plan to inform their next steps and a Ten Year Vision beyond that

The aim for the Board

While they will initially be a Board supported by the Council, the expectation is that these Boards will soon become stand-alone organisations which drive the change and spend the funding in partnership with local residents.

This could be a charity, a CIC, Trust or whatever model the Board chooses based on which is best to deliver its future funding plans.

Board Members will be supported to develop these structures with expert advice and guidance in the initial years of the project.

Stoke Park and Chantry Neighbourhood Board Member

Is this the role for you?

We are looking for passionate and well-connected local people to take on voluntary roles as Board Members for the new Stoke Park and Chantry Neighbourhood Board.

This is a rare and meaningful opportunity to help shape the long-term future of your neighbourhood and ensure local people choose the direction of this significant funding.

As Board Members you will have the chance to scope ten years of £20mil investments into your local area, driven by the priorities of local people and communities.

You should have a strong commitment to the neighbourhood, an ability to listen, and your determination to champion the community's voice should shine through. Neighbourhood Boards should lay the foundations for community-led partnerships that continue to drive change well beyond the ten years of funding and as Board Members it will be your input which will create that lasting legacy. It is no small task!

The ideal Board Members are willing to listen, represent the area and the diversity of people living in it, and be passionate to bring their experience, skills and local knowledge to bear on future plans.

All Board Members do not have to be directly living or working within the boundaries of the project, but the Board has to be majority locally led. This may mean if you have a strong skill which will benefit the Board despite not having a local connection, your application can still be considered.

If you're passionate about your community and ready to lead positive change, we want to hear from you. Step forward and help shape the future of your neighbourhood.

Important information

Expenses

Whilst this is a voluntary role, similar to that of a school governor or charity trustee, to ensure that the Neighbourhood Board has the right membership, and to ensure the position up to candidates who might otherwise be unable to put themselves forward, expenses linked to the delivery of the responsibilities of this role will be covered, including transport, child care and any reasonable costs that allow candidates to perform their duty.

Support and training

You won't be doing this alone! The Council will support you with any training you may need, which might be delivered by other partners such as local charities, as well as access to a pool of subject experts you might like to speak to. You will be supported with secretariat administration and in developing your Board so it functions well and in the way you would like it to.

Code of Conduct

All Board Members will be expected to sign up to a code of conduct outlining the principles of working in a public position. This is included on our website so you can see ahead of applying what the expectations are. [Join the Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board | ipswich.gov.uk](https://www.ipswich.gov.uk)

Board Member Role description

Purpose of the role:

To be a key participant in the Stoke Park and Chantry Pride in Place Board. This will be someone who is passionate about the community coming together to share their ideas in an open and collaborative way. The Board Members are champions for Stoke Park and Chantry and support the Chair to undertake the Board role in a meaningful and impactful way. Board Members can live or work in the area, although they can also come from outside the ward so long as they have skills or a connection which will benefit the Board and its programme.

There are no formal qualification requirements for this role – we are seeking the right people based on who they are.

We expect the time commitment to be around 2-4 hrs. a month. There will be the need to read some Board papers and to attend Board Meetings in person.

A Board Members should be someone who:

- Is deeply connected to their community and very committed to making it an even better place to live.
- Is able to get local people excited about the opportunity Pride in Place brings.
- Has a good connection to areas of the local neighbourhood, whether that is the wider community, a specific group or local businesses, and can reflect their views without personal bias.
- Is happy to use their own life experience, skills and passions to help shape engagement and project developments
- Supports fair and open decision making and is able to help the Chair to take Board decisions back into the community.
- Thinks creatively about solutions to problems and improve the area and wants to take part in events that bring people together.

A Board Member should not be:

- Involved solely to benefit one community or organisation – this is about representing the wider community.
- Expected to undertake lots of admin or directly deliver projects – this is about decision making and getting the right projects underway through others

Skills of a good Board Member:

- Be able to see how to turn community ideas into fundable projects
- Fair and balanced, ensuring that all voices are heard
- Be able to see the points of view of others and put themselves in their shoes
- Be able to reflect the Board discussions back to the wider community
- Welcoming, open and listens deeply to others

How to apply

If you like the sound of the opportunity, to apply, please submit your CV and use our application form to complete three short questions explaining why you have a deep connection to the area and why you would be well suited to the role.

The questions are:

- Why would you make a good Board Member?
- What strengths and opportunities do you see in the area to build on?
- What would success in the area look like in ten years' time?

Applications should be submitted via our webform [here](#) by 09:00 on Thursday 9th July 2026.

Recruitment timetable

Interviews will take place in the neighbourhood on 17th July 2026 with candidates being informed whether they have been selected for interview no later than 14th July 2026.

The interview panel will be chaired by the newly appointed Chair, alongside Jack Abbott MP and include representatives from Ipswich Borough Council.