Notes of the Ryde Neighbourhood Board Meeting
Held on Friday 03 October 2025,
No. 11 St Thomas' Square, Ryde, Isle of Wight P033 2PJ

Board Members Present	Also in attendance
Steven Holbrook (SH) - Chair	Peter Fellows (PF) (IW Council)
Rachael Randall (RR)	Fiona Capewell (FC) (IW Council)
Louise Dandy (LD)	Ann Barber (AB) (IW Council)
Lisa Gagliani (LG)	Alex Minns (AM) (IW Council)
Phil Jordan (PJ)	Catherine Heatley (CH)
Diana Conyers (DC)	Jim Peglar (JP)
Karen Lucioni (KL)	**Guest Speaker**
Allan Bridges (ABr)	Stuart Sayce
David Redrup (DR)	
Carol Jaye (CJ)	
Zoe Thompson (ZT)	
Richard May (RM)	
Michele Legg (ML)	
David Langdon (DL)	
Luke Kerr (LK)	

Item		ACTION
1.	**Welcome, Introductions and Apologies** Apologies received from Chris Ward, Donna Jones, Joe Robertson and Trevor Nicholas. The Chair informed members that Geoff Underwood had resigned from the board and that Rachel Randall had been appointed as Vice-Chair.	
2.	**Declarations of Interest** None declared.	
3.	**To agree the minutes and review actions of the meeting held on 05 September 2025** The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed as a true record.	

4.	**Programme Management Update** **FC updated the board on the following:** • Business consultation undertaken – final 1-1s with business owners. • Attended Network Ryde as part of Youth Consultation. • Updated the board on the recent Q&A sessions where there appears to be some misinformation circling regarding a number of issues. It was agreed that clearer communications were needed and that they were looking at appointing an outside agency to manage this for the board. **Action FC** to draw up contract spec for communications management and send to local companies. **PF updated the board on the following:** • There is new strategic link with the MHCLG – Emily Attwood • The government have extended the scheme to 169 new areas. • MHCLG host webinars every Monday afternoon regarding the Pride in Place Programme – PF will continue to attend and feedback any updates	**FC**
5.	**Ryde Society Public Meeting** The Chair reported that he attended the Ryde Society Public Meeting on behalf of the board as agreed at the last meeting. The Chair fed back that the key issues raised were regarding communications, consultation and transparency. The Chair added that he believed improved communications would dispel much of the misinformation regarding the board's activity. He also reported that he attended a Ryde Town Council meeting to update Councillor's on the work of the board and receive questions from members. Despite attending in the spirit of partnership the Chair reported that one Councillor led a personal attack with factually incorrect information regarding a possible project at Ryde Cricket Club. He reiterated that no projects have been agreed and that the projects put forward will be based on the feedback from the public consultation.	
6.	**Update from PlaceSPARK – Project Evaluation progress - Stuart Sayce** **SS updated board members on the following:** • That the consultation undertaken over the summer had now closed. This phase of consultation was largely targeted at groups and demographics that were identified as underrepresented in the original round of consultation. • That a list has been compiled of projects that were raised by consultees and that an initial sift had taken place ensuring that the projects aligned with MHCLG funding aims and the boards strategic aims. • A process for evaluating the remaining projects had been agreed with the accountable body and the board's finance committee with the	

weighting agreed at:

Consultation ranking	50%
Deliverability/ Sustainability	30%
Value for Money	20%

- The board were provided with the 'Long List' of projects with approximate values for their information. SS confirmed that the evaluation process would be undertaken in the week starting 06/10/2025 and the results passed to members when ready for their consideration. He asked that members review the full project list and submit any comments by 15 October.

- He reminded members that the total cost of all of the projects far outweighs the funds available but that the investment plan didn't require the exact projects to be defined, just the type of projects and their themes.

- Deadline for submission to MHCLG is 28th November.

Questions and comments from board members:

LK raised he had concerns about the value attributed to some of the projects highlighted.
SS *explained that the amounts at this stage are 'rough guesses' and further work will take place to get exact costs if the project progresses. He confirmed that approximate figures are acceptable in the investment plan.*

RR raised that a 'Community Grants Pot' should be included in the plan to help resilience within the community and promote community 'buy in'. This would help build trust in the board.

RM raised that he was pleased to see seafront playparks improvements were included in the project list but raised the issue that some areas lacked any play spaces, and this heading should be widened to include new as well as existing parks.

ML commented that the project list didn't include anything specifically for older people.
SS replied that that this was not highlighted in the consultation but that many of the projects support all regardless of age.

DC asked for clarity of exactly what needed to be submitted to MHCLG in November.
SS *replied that an 'outline plan' is all that is required projects do not need to*

	be clearly defined at this stage.	
7.	**Approval of Charity Decision Support Workshop Report (Paper) & Discussion of Next Steps** Members approved the report '[Ryde Neighbourhood Board Decision Support Workshop Report: Charitable Structures and Governance]'. Members agreed that a CIO was the preferred vehicle. **SH** raised that support would be required to ensure that the charity was set up with the correct aims, objectives and governance structures and that the board would need assistance from an expert. It was agreed that the IW Council draw up a contract specification and request quotes for the work from a minimum of 3 suitably qualified companies before the next meeting.	**FC**
8.	**Any Other Business** **ZT** left the meeting. **SH** raised that a complaint had been received regarding a decision made relating to 'We Love Ryde' and the co-option process of a non-voting member at the last meeting. **PJ** raised that a clear co-option policy should be developed as currently there are no procedures for this. He was uncomfortable that a decision was made to award the contract without going through the tendering process. **RR** raised that she felt the co-option vote should not have been taken with the person in the room. **LG** explained that the idea of 'We love Ryde' was raised during consultation with businesses back in February and the proposal was not introduced on a whim. **SH** asked members if they wished to reverse the decision and go out to tender. Members agreed to reverse both decisions and go out to tender with exactly the same brief. It was agreed to invite quotes for 2 week period and agree the preferred contractor via email. It was also agreed that a complaints process needs to be drafted and agreed at the next meeting. **Meeting closed 1.55pm**	**PF** **FC** **PF**