

Held on Friday 6 June 2025, 12:00 - 14:00
No. 11 St Thomas's Square, Ryde, Isle of Wight PO33 2PJ



Board Members Present	
Steven Holbrook (SH) - Chair	Also in attendance
Carol Jaye (CJ)	Lois Southgate (LS) (IWC as Secretariat)
Louise Dandy (LD)	Colin Rowland (CR) (IW Council)
Lisa Gagliani (LG)	Ann Barber (AB) (IW Council)
Phil Jordan (PJ)	Peter Fellows (PF) (IW Council)
Diana Conyers (DC)	Fiona Capewell (FC) (IW Council)
Cllr Karen Lucioni (KL)	Catherine Healey (Deputising for MP Joe Robertson)
Allan Bridges (ABr)	Sarah Chatwin (SC) (Place Spark)
Trevor Nicholas (TN)	Stuart Sayce (SS) (Place Spark)
	Jim Pegler (Deputising for Donna Jones)

Item	
1.	Apologies for Absence Rachael Randall, Joe Robertson, Alex Minns, Luke Kerr, Donna Jones, Chris Ward.
2.	Declarations of Interest Agreed as being as per previous meetings as no changes at present.
3.	Review minutes and actions of the meeting held on 02/05/2025 The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as an accurate record. Outstanding actions were reviewed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action 1: <i>Arrange a meeting with the Finance Subcommittee – To be scheduled upon RR's return from annual leave.</i> • Action 2: <i>Present the draft community engagement plan at the next meeting – Completed; Place Spark is present at this meeting to support the presentation.</i> • Action 3: <i>Project Management team to review Local Business Task Force proposals alongside community engagement plans and gather feedback – FC has provided an update following discussions with LG.</i> • Action 4: <i>Refer the proposal for setting up the new charity to the Secretariat for review and consideration – A meeting with Williams Associates has been arranged in the coming weeks</i>

4.	<p>Programme Management Update – Fiona Capewell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretariat Transition: Project files transferred from RTC to IWC; IWC email setup in progress; recruitment section now live on IWC website. Thanks extended to RTC staff for support. • Branding & Website: Final logo pending; website updated with new name and recruitment tab. Social media accounts updated—Facebook renaming may require a new page. • Events: Stand booked for IW Business Expo to promote the Board and town plans. Business roundtable discussions underway to support community engagement. • Town Maps: Consultations ongoing with designers and businesses for paper maps. Totem wayfinding project in early stages; may align with Greenlink scheme. • Community Engagement: Insights from Bexhill Town Board highlight the importance of ongoing, inclusive engagement and addressing data gaps. • Staffing costs: IWC staff costs to be reviewed by the Finance Committee upon RR's return from annual leave.
5.	<p>Board Recruitment - Update from Pete Fellows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recruitment advert and accompanying information pack were issued several weeks ago. The advert has been published on the Isle of Wight Council website, Ryde Town Board noticeboards, LinkedIn, the Chamber of Commerce platform, and the Facebook page. • To date, three applications have been received. The recruitment sought individuals with expertise in three key areas: under-16 education, commercial development, and health. The current deadline for applications is Monday of next week, though there is flexibility to extend this if necessary. • A preliminary review of applications has been scheduled for next week, with interviews to follow if required. It was noted that only one applicant specified the position they were applying for.
6.	<p>Proposal from Place Spark for continued Community Engagement work and Investment Plan</p> <p>Stuart Sayce from Place Spark provided the following update:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three-Pronged Approach: A structured strategy is being adopted to ensure the regeneration plan is ready for submission to Central Government by December. • Inclusive Outreach: Emphasis is on reaching underrepresented groups across Ryde's socioeconomic spectrum. The approach reverses traditional consultation by focusing on those not yet heard, ensuring broad and fair representation. • Community-Led Engagement: Using JSNA data, local businesses and organisations will be empowered to lead consultations through their networks, making engagement more relevant and accessible. • Self-Checking Mechanism: The plan includes a built-in review process to ensure alignment with funding requirements and project goals. This dynamic process supports the development of key documents without delay. • Use of Existing Resources: Previous strategies and background policies are being recycled to inform the new plan, streamlining development. • Awaiting Government Guidance: Final content requirements are pending. However, the team is confident the structure will remain similar to previous processes, allowing for continuity in project identification and evaluation. • Project Pipeline: A list of 2025–2030 projects is in place. Around six priority schemes are being developed to a 'shovel-ready' state, including planning, legal, and partnership preparations. • Due Diligence: Risk assessments and project depth reviews are underway as part of standard processing. • Outreach Presentation: A presentation is being prepared to highlight potential consultation gaps. This will run in parallel with regeneration plan development and early-stage project work. • Consultation Framework: The framework will be reviewed continuously to ensure it meets inclusive outreach goals. Adjustments will be made as needed to address any shortfalls • Next Steps: A programme document aligning with the three-pronged approach and the general prospectus will be completed by the end of next week. The target date for submission is 01/11/2025 <p>SH Suggested that the Chamber of Commerce could assist with the business engagement.</p> <p>CJ identified the need to make engaging young people interesting to them and not in the form of a formal meeting.</p> <p>DC identified the Ryde Community Forum as a good resource for reaching community groups</p>
7.	<p>Terms of Reference for RNB Business Taskforce to be ratified - request from previous meeting</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KL proposed an amendment to Item 5, recommending that the term “Town Government” be revised to “Town Council.” • The proposed amendment was unanimously agreed upon by all members present <p>Discussion: Status of the Ryde Business Association and RNB Business Taskforce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LG provided a summary of her recent activities, referencing her report from the May meeting to update those who were not present and to offer a brief recap. She noted that due to a new employment commitment, her availability has reduced. While she remains committed to the Board, her capacity to undertake additional work is now limited. • PJ confirmed that the recently ratified Terms of Reference include a commitment by the Board to support the establishment of a functioning Business Association within the town. In light of this, progressing efforts to re-establish the Ryde Business Association is considered a priority. • It was confirmed that the Ryde Business Association (RBA) is currently non-operational. The MPs Forum, while active, was not established to function as the RBA. Instead, it serves as a platform for gathering public opinion, which the Board may use to inform its engagement strategies. • A local business owner previously involved with the RBA has expressed interest in reviving the group. FC will engage with local business stakeholders to assess the current landscape and explore opportunities to re-establish a functioning RBA. <p>ACTION: FC to meet with local business groups to establish position and progress towards an active RBA.</p>
8.	<p>Updates from MHCLG (verbal update)</p> <p>No formal updates have been received to date, despite follow-up efforts. The latest feedback indicates that guidance is expected imminently</p>
9.	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Buildings at Risk</p> <p>Cllr Jordan raised awareness of two significant Ryde buildings currently at risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ryde Arena (Ice Rink): The building remains vacant, and the agent representing the owners has been in contact, indicating they are actively seeking a solution. While no immediate proposals are on the table, the site remains vulnerable and its future uncertain. • Ryde Town Hall: A pre-application has been submitted by the owner for potential residential conversion of the left-hand side of the building. This signals possible changes to the building’s use and ownership.

These updates are shared for awareness only—no decisions are required at this stage. However, members are asked to note the potential implications for Ryde’s heritage and regeneration priorities

Sports Facility Proposal and Boundary Amendment

Proposal for Sports Facility Development

SH presented a proposal to address the shortage of sports facilities in Ryde by developing a new multi-use 3G pitch on land behind Ryde Cricket Club. Key elements of the proposal include:

- A 3G pitch suitable for hockey and football (training only), to be managed by Ryde School, ensuring free use for the school and long-term sustainability through a managed maintenance fund.
- The facility would support Ryde Cricket Club (currently facing financial and membership challenges), Ryde School (with outdated facilities), and the local hockey club (which lacks a home base).
- A broader vision to evolve the site into a community sports and social hub, potentially involving additional clubs and activities.

Proposed Boundary Amendment – Ryde Cricket Club

To enable the project, Steven proposed extending the Ryde Neighbourhood Board boundary to include Ryde Cricket Club. The Board discussed the proposal, noting:

- The potential to enhance local sports infrastructure and community engagement.
- Accessibility and sustainability considerations, given the site’s location.
- Cllr JP supported the boundary change but stressed the importance of ensuring that sports-based interventions are inclusive and effective in addressing youth engagement and community safety. He highlighted the need for providers to demonstrate how they will reach and involve young people, particularly those at risk of anti-social behaviour.

Outcome:

The Board voted in favour of submitting a formal request to government for the proposed boundary change

ACTION: PF to submit the boundary change proposal to MHCLG

Public Realm Presentation Request

- CR requested that Natasha Dix, Service Director for Waste, Environment and Public Realm, be invited to a future meeting to present on public realm opportunities, management, and existing work already underway in Ryde. Request approved.

ACTION: Add to agenda for the July RNB meeting – FC

Acknowledgement of Project Progress

- AB commended FC for her swift and effective leadership in advancing the project. He noted the significant amount of work completed within a short timeframe, particularly in terms of setting up meetings and coordinating various elements.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AB also acknowledged the challenges involved in processing and consolidating a large volume of information—often in less accessible formats—and praised FC’s ability to piece everything together efficiently. He emphasised that the pace and quality of progress made so far is commendable and deserving of recognition <p>Neighbourhood Board Westminster event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SH informed the Board that he will be attending a full-day session in Westminster next week alongside the other 75 Neighbourhood Board Chairs. He noted that the previous session was highly productive and anticipates that the upcoming meeting will be similarly valuable. • The event is expected to provide further guidance and insight into national developments, as well as an opportunity to learn from the experiences of other Boards. SH described the format as similar to a “speed dating” setup, allowing for rapid exchanges of ideas and best practices
11.	<p>Details of next meeting</p> <p>Friday 4 July 2025, 12:00 - 14:00 at No. 11 St Thomas’s Square, Ryde</p>

Meeting closed at 13:10