



Torquay Place Leadership Board Meeting Agenda

Monday, 15 June 2026 at 10.40 am

to be held in Banking Hall, Castle Circus entrance on the left corner of the Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR

Membership

Jim Parker
Chris Balch
Anne-Marie Bond
Tracey Cabache
Steve Darling
Callum Elliott
Emma Ellis
Vince Flower
Laurence Frewin
Peter Friend
Jess Gane
Alison Hernandez
Peter Knight

Councillor Cordelia Law
Roy Linden
Richard Marsh
Rose Millard
Steve Reynolds
Lynne Roberts
Councillor David Thomas
Alan Tilley
Lee Tozer
Mike Westcott
Alan Denby
Caroline Cozens

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence, including notifications of any changes to the membership of the Board.

2. Minutes

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 20 April 2026.

(Pages 5 - 8)

3. Declarations of Interest

a) To receive declarations of non pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda

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Simon Bellamy, Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR

Email: governance.support@torbay.gov.uk - www.torbay.gov.uk

For reference: Having declared their non pecuniary interest members may remain in the meeting and speak and, vote on the matter in question. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.

- b)** To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda

For reference: Where a Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest he/she must leave the meeting during consideration of the item. However, the Member may remain in the meeting to make representations, answer questions or give evidence if the public have a right to do so, but having done so the Member must then immediately leave the meeting, may not vote and must not improperly seek to influence the outcome of the matter. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.

Where the interest is for issues relating to prioritisation of topics, approval of a prioritisation matrix and where approval of Grant Funding is being discussed, the Monitoring Officer has granted a dispensation to Board Members to remain in meetings of the Torquay Place Leadership Board and take part in discussions but not to vote on any application made by themselves or their organisation.

(Please Note: If Members and Officers wish to seek advice on any potential interests they may have, they should contact Governance Support or Legal Services prior to the meeting.)

4. Urgent Items

To consider any other items that the Chair decides are urgent.

5. Finance Update

To receive an update on the latest financial position of the Torquay Place Leadership Board.

6. Any Other Business

7. Torbay Communities report

(Pages 9 - 12)

8. Review of Vision and delivery programme

9. Scores and consideration of new and remaining funding applications

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Minutes of the Torquay Place Leadership Board

20 April 2026

-: Present :-

Jim Parker (Chair), Chris Balch, Anne-Marie Bond, Tracey Cabache, Steve Darling, Callum Elliott, Emma Ellis, Laurence Frewin, Peter Friend, Jess Gane, Alison Hernandez, Councillor Cordelia Law, Rose Millard, Lynne Roberts, Councillor David Thomas and Lee Tozer

(Also in attendance: Simon Bellamy, Teresa Buckley, Jon-Paul Hedge)

18. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Vince Flower, Steve Reynolds and Mike Westcott. James Stock attended in place of Roy Linden.

19. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Torquay Place Leadership Board held on 5 December 2025 were confirmed as a correct record.

20. Declarations of Interest

Tracey Cabache declared a non-pecuniary interest in all funding applications as Director of Torbay Communities and due to her involvement in managing the process for funding and wishing to maintain independence, and did not participate in any votes.

Individual Member interests were declared at the commencement of each vote, and are listed under each item in Minute 22. Members who declared an interest were permitted to take part in the debate but not to vote.

21. Urgent Items

The Interim Place Manager detailed the procurement process that had been undertaken recently, confirming that Torbay Communities had been awarded a 10-year contract in partnership with Locality to assist the Board and applicants' in delivering the Pride in Place funding.

The Interim Place Manager also confirmed that the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) had issued a formal Memorandum of Understanding, setting out practical details of how funding will be issued and

Torbay Council's responsibilities as accountable body. The Interim Place Manager confirmed that the Memorandum had been signed by the Chair of Torquay Place Leadership Board and the Chief Executive of Torbay Council. It was also explained that the Board had some responsibilities in monitoring and reporting back to MHCLG, and that while Members had seen the initial draft of the first report, a further update was required following this meeting. Members supported the principle of the Interim Place Manager finalising the report and returning it to MHCLG, and it was confirmed that the full report will be issued to Members as part of the documentation for the next meeting.

22. Funding

The Interim Place Manager thanked Members for their work in analysing the proposals which had been put forward for consideration. The process undertaken to date was described, and a table presented showing weighted overall scorings for the 16 projects under consideration.

Discussion points included:

- the overall evaluation process, discussing at length how the data may be used fairly and constructively in guiding their decisions;
- the availability of seed funding;
- the capacity to carry forward funds to later years;
- specific detail on proposals where options were presented and final figures were not available;
- the outcome of workshops and how these informed the Boards priorities, and;
- how the decisions before them could be made to maximise community impact, especially in deprived areas, and deliver significant change.

Members discussed projects where other funding sources may be available, and took advice from Council Officers on projects where feasibility studies were requested alongside longer term funding, and how the fund could be utilised to facilitate the projects in question without committing to multi-year funding where the efficacy was not yet known.

The Board also sought assurances that projects which were not funded at this round would continue to be considered for funding. The Interim Place Manager confirmed that conversations would continue with these organisations, and the projects which did not receive funding would remain eligible for consideration at future meetings.

The Board arrived at a consensus around six projects, and agreed to the initial principle that funding would be restricted to single capital projects or year-1 only where revenue funding was requested, in order that the fund was not over committed. All the projects taken forward supported the four previously-agreed priorities for awarding funding (physically improving the town centre, reducing crime and improving safety, improving neighbourhoods (including affordable housing) and work and skills). Members who had a personal interest in the funding application were not permitted to vote.

It was agreed unanimously (by those entitled to vote) that the following projects would receive funding as detailed :

St Mary Magdalene Church

Interests declared – none

£3,600 capital and £34,000 revenue to stop the Living Room from closing and continue operations twice weekly for the coming year. This funding was conditional and if they secured alternative funding to support homeless people, this funding would be returned. Torbay Communities and Torbay Council, where possible, to support to help identify a longer-term funding provision.

Royal Lyceum Theatre Revitalisation

Interests declared – none

£141,587 capital funding for roof repairs, preliminary repairs to front facade and completion of kitchen.

Ellacombe Community Multi-Use Facility

Interests Declared:

Peter Friend, as a part of Together Church.

£60,000 capital to enable safe and controlled reopening of part of the building for restricted use.

Barton Recreation Ground Community Hub

Interests Declared:

Jim Parker, as the chair of Barton Cricket Club.

£35,000 revenue for architectural design, surveys, and cost validation for plans to transform Barton Recreation Ground into a modern Community, Health, Wellbeing and Sports Hub, acting as the physical anchor for the Torbay cradle-to-career strategy across Torquay.

Higher Union Street Regeneration

Interest declared – none

£10,740 capital and £8,500 revenue to improve shop fronts and window displays in Torre, plus a new 6-month hub.

Windmill Centre and Windmill Hill

Interests declared:

Emma Ellis, as the Chief Officer of the Windmill Charity Torbay; and

Lynne Roberts, as a Partnership Manager for Sanctuary Housing.

£21,000 revenue for a feasibility study into renovations and costed options for a new community hub. The hub would improve accessibility, enhance sustainability, increase engagement with the community and community capacity.

Action – to confirm the totals allocated and remaining amount of funding for Year 1 (Jon-Paul Hedge).

(Note: Tracey Cabache declared a non-pecuniary interest in all funding applications as Director of Torbay Communities and due to her involvement in managing the process for funding and wishing to maintain independence and did not participate in any votes.)

Chair

Report to the Torquay Place Leadership Board on Pride in Place activities April 2026

1. Introduction

Torbay Communities was commissioned in April 2026 to continue to support the development of the Pride in Place initiatives for the next 4 years. This report summarises where we are in terms of the allocation of funds following the April Board meeting, the priorities for the June meeting and considerations for the next stages of the Pride in Place programme.

2. Current funding situation

In advance of the April meeting the Board scored 16 of the 30 proposals that were on the Pride in Place long short list. From this wider 30 list:

- 6 projects were funded
- 10 were carried forward
- 2 went to the Council Quality Assurance Panel in April but needed more time to submit 2nd drafts of their business plan and are being considered today
- 9 projects are on hold and have not yet submitted business plans
- 3 projects have merged into the above

The total funds committed at the April meeting was £314,427. Total 2026/26 funds left to allocate are £277,573 see attached Interim Funding Report.

(For perspective next year's funding is £1,992,000 (Revenue £256,000, capital £1,736,000))

All of the projects who were allocated funding in April have received a Grant Funding Agreement from the Council and have had a mobilisation meeting.

All of the projects funded met the Pride in Place aims of **Thriving places, Stronger communities, Taking back control**. Many of the projects contribute to more than one local Pride in Place priority, the pie chart in the attached Interim Funding Report illustrates the break down by priority of the allocation of funding agreed to the 6 projects which is:

Priority	Funds allocated	% of overall 26/27 funds
Improving the Town Centre	£85,055	14%
Crime and Safety	£85,055	14%
Improving our neighbourhoods	£92,800	16%
Work and Skills	£51,517	9%

NB For the purposes of this analysis the Higher Union Street Regeneration project is included as a Town Centre project because of its close proximity to the Town Centre and the impact of Castle Circus on this area.

Looking in more detail at the Improving the Town Centre including crime and safety priority, which was the highest priority for the public, we identified at the workshops earlier this year that we needed in investment in 4 areas:

1. Long term regeneration
2. Improving the current appearance of the Town Centre
3. Providing alternatives for the street-attached community
4. Re-utilising spaces in the Town Centre for non-retail use asap to increase the footfall.

The Town Centre funding allocated to date broadly fall into these areas:

Investment areas	Funds allocated	% of 26/27 funds
Long term regeneration	0	0%
Improving the current appearance of the Town Centre	£19,240	4%
Providing alternatives for the street-attached community	£179,187	30%
Re-utilising spaces in the Town Centre for non-retail use asap to increase the footfall	0	0%

From the public’s perspective improving our neighbourhoods, including crime and safety was the second most important priority, and to this the Board added Work and Skills.

When considering the allocation of the remaining funds it is important to take into account:

- 2026/27 will be an important year to re-engage the community on the Pride in Place initiative and being able to demonstrate that funds have been invested in

the areas they identified as priorities 10 months ago is crucial to this engagement.

- We need to show progress on the ground so what can effectively and visibly be delivered in the short to medium term with the remaining 2026-27 funds.

Further development of Business Cases

A very valid point was raised at the last Board meeting that some business cases relied on too much ongoing revenue costs which is not in the gift of the Pride in Place funding. Torbay Communities will work with groups in this situation to see if an alternative resourcing model can be developed for these projects, so that the mainly capital Pride in Place funding can leverage other sustainable revenue sources. It was agreed that applicants would not be asked to resubmit business cases for the June meeting. But some may come back with a revised business case in September.

3. Decisions for the June meeting

Board members are asked to:

- Score the 2 new Business Cases that have been circulated
- Consider if they want to fund either of these projects or any of the 10 carried over from April in their current form
- Consider whether there are projects that they would like to see revised business plans for in September

4. Further development of the pipeline and impact

As we move into the autumn we suggest there is a Board reflection on:

- Are our decisions fulfilling the vision and regeneration plan submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government?
- How do we move away from a set of individual schemes and build something that is greater than the sum of its parts?
- How do we use the Pride in Place funding to leverage in additional funds?
- How do we develop an application process that is more targeted at gaps that are undermining our collective delivery and opportunities to maximise impact?

5. Wider activities

In the next quarter Torbay Communities will be:

- Running a media campaign that promotes Pride in Place and shares information about the first year's worth of funding

- Individually updating every resident¹ and group that was involved in the August 2025 engagement
- Opening a Pride in Place high street hub on Union Street
- Conducting a review of the application process to date and make recommendations for the future
- Consider board development needs

¹ Who agreed to be contacted