DRAFT Minutes of the Skegness Neighbourhood Board Meeting

Held on Tuesday, 03 November 2026 at 2.00pm

Venue: Online via Microsoft Teams

Present:

Board Members:
Paul McCooey – Duncan & Toplis (Chair)
Chris Baron – Former Director of Butlins (Theme Lead: Visitor Economy)
Cllr. Adrian Findley – Skegness Town Council (Theme Lead: Town Centre)
Cllr. Danny Brookes – Lincolnshire County Council (Theme Lead: Physical Infrastructure)
Jacqui Bunce – NHS Integrated Care Board (Theme Lead: Health & Wellbeing)
Katie Chapman – Active Lincolnshire (Theme Lead: Sport & Leisure)
Claire Foster – Kwello Ltd (Theme Lead: Education & Skills)
Dr Batul Dungarwalla – CVS Lincolnshire (Theme Lead: Community/Voluntary Sector)
Tracy Stringfellow – Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire (Theme Lead: Heritage)
Cllr. Steve Kirk – East Lindsey District Council (Portfolio Holder for Coastal Economy)
Sophie Harris – Micronclean (Theme Lead: Work & Productivity)

Advisors & Programme Support:
Bonnie Mitchell – ELDC
Maria Cotton – ELDC
Saskia Zablockyj – ELDC

Observers:
Steve Larner – Skegness Town Council
Carl Beacock – East Lindsey District Council (ELDC)

Apologies:
Brad Johnson – East Coast Pride (Theme Lead: Community)
James Brindle – Magna Vitae (Theme Lead: Culture)
Richard Tice – MP for Boston and Skegness
Jon Burgess – ELDC
George Gustard - ELDC
David Ridley – ELDC
Michelle Gant – The Engaging People Company

Summary of Minutes
The Board approved continuation of the Pride in Skegness Street Scene Operatives scheme to 31 March 2030 and the £310,620 funding request, comprising £272,220

revenue and £38,400 capital. Members supported stronger community involvement, public feedback and clearer programme branding. The Board also approved a £7,500 contribution towards the Coastal Navigators Network partnership and plan-development work. Members noted progress with the funded project portfolio and Community Grant Scheme, agreed that the programme dashboard should accompany future meeting papers, and requested circulation of the submitted MHCLG monitoring return. The next Community Sub-Group meeting and rescheduled MHCLG visit were noted.

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1 Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from: Brad Johnson – East Coast Pride (Theme Lead: Community), James Brindle – Magna Vitae (Theme Lead: Culture), Richard Tice – MP, Jon Burgess – ELDC, George Gustard – ELDC, David Ridley – ELDC and Michelle Gant – The Engaging People Company.

3 Declarations of Interest

Jacqui Bunce declared an interest in the Coastal Navigators Network and withdrew from the meeting before the Board considered and voted on the funding request. Katie Chapman also declared an interest in Active Lincolnshire's involvement as a named partner in the Coastal Navigators Network proposal.

4 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 06 October 2026 were approved as an accurate record. No additional matters arising were raised.

5 Pride in Skegness - Street Scene Operatives

The progress report and a presentation of the Pride in Skegness concept pilot scheme were presented by Carl Beacock. Members were advised that the scheme provided additional environmental improvement activity rather than replacing the Council's core operational services. Although hosted by ELDC, the two posts were deployed in response to local priorities, community requests and councillor referrals, with care taken to avoid their absorption into routine or cyclical maintenance.

The presentation illustrated activity including clearance of alleyways and public rights of way, vegetation management, planting, graffiti removal, jet washing, sand clearance and occasional rapid-response fly-tip recovery. Additional funding secured through wider service resources and the East Lindsey Investment Fund had supported equipment and training, enabling a broader range of work. Liaison with landowners and relevant authorities continued where work was undertaken on land outside the Council's ownership.

Members discussed the scheme's contribution to the cleanliness, appearance and

accessibility of Skegness, including improved access along previously obstructed routes. The importance of maintaining additionality and responding to community priorities was emphasised. The proposal included salaries, transport, tools, training for the operatives, branding for Pride in Place promotional purposes and equipment.

Members were advised that community engagement, partnership working and volunteering were intended to be priorities for the next phase of the scheme. Members also identified opportunities to connect the scheme with the Community Sub-Group and wider community volunteering arrangements.

Clarification was sought on the combined 74 operational hours available each week. It was explained that the initial period had included substantial induction and training and that future delivery would benefit from this work having been completed. A comparison with existing provision was also requested, and it was agreed that a separate breakdown of core operational hours attributable specifically to Skegness, rather than the wider East Lindsey South service area, would be provided.

Members received an update on a operational dashboard being piloted to record locations, before-and-after photographs, referrals and the distribution of operational time. Dedicated web content, QR-code feedback and further social media activity were also in development. Members stressed that residents should be able both to suggest locations and to provide feedback, enabling the Board to evidence community benefit and social value.

Members requested clearer public communications explaining how the scheme was funded, its purpose and its distinction from routine Council services. Existing uniform branding was confirmed to be in place, while the extension proposal provided for more prominent branding. It was agreed that temporary signage at completed locations would be explored and communications coordinated with Programme Officers. Continued liaison on local referrals was also confirmed.

Following the presentation, Carl Beacock left the meeting. Members considered the funding proposal. Members discussed the potential implications of Local Government Reorganisation. It was advised that sufficient funds were available to support continuation of the scheme.

The Board approved continuation of the scheme to 31 March 2030 and the funding request set out in the report of £310,620, comprising £272,220 revenue and £38,400 capital. The report's recommendation was subject to ELDC agreeing to continue hosting the two fixed-term posts for the extended period. Members also requested continued reporting, strengthened branding and arrangements for community referrals, volunteering and public feedback.

6 Coastal Navigators Network Location Partnership

The Coastal Navigators Network proposal was introduced and its purpose in connecting coastal communities, sharing learning and developing coordinated responses to local challenges was outlined. Skegness had participated as a pioneer location, and the

proposal sought to build on existing partnership activity rather than establish a separate, disconnected initiative.

Members were advised that the proposed 12-month work would bring together Skegness and Mablethorpe partners to understand barriers affecting participation in education, training and employment specifically relating to young persons. The work would draw on lived experience, connect existing activity and support the co-design of evidence-based responses. The presentation referred to the reported 80% retention rate at Skegness College and the need to understand the circumstances of those students who had not remained in provision, without assuming the causes in advance.

It was confirmed that the principal output would be evidence gathering and development of a coordinated plan, rather than delivery of a substantial intervention. Smaller actions might emerge during the work, while the findings could inform future project proposals. Members supported the need to hear directly from those affected and to base subsequent investment on evidence.

Active Lincolnshire's involvement as a partner was noted. It was confirmed that discussions with Active Lincolnshire had helped shape the proposal and that the work would build on existing experience and activity. Members also identified opportunities to connect the work with community transport initiatives and other partnership programmes.

The presentation proposed a £7,500 contribution from the Skegness Pride in Place Programme towards the £15,000 partnership fee. The Skegness contribution was proposed to be met from capacity funding.

Jacqui Bunce withdrew from the room before the decision. The Board approved the £7,500 request and supported progression of the partnership and plan-development proposal subject to NHS Lincolnshire ICB consulting with the Community Sub-Group to inform plan development. Following the Board's decision Jacqui Bunce returned to the meeting.

7 Pride in Place Programme Update

Call for Projects & Programme Dashboard
An update was provided on the funded project portfolio. Lincs Digital had entered into a Grant Agreement and was in delivery. The Tower Gardens Masterplan remained at Heads of Terms stage, awaiting documentation from Skegness Town Council. Beach Ability had progressed to the grant-funding stage and was awaiting Section 151 approval before entering into its Grant Agreement.

The Tower Gardens Path Renewal project had completed its Grant Agreement. Members were advised that the conditions requested at the previous meeting had been incorporated, including maintenance and repair capital provision and a requirement for the Board to review and agree the scheme design and costs at RIBA Stage 4, anticipated in February or March 2027.

Members received a demonstration of the programme dashboard, which brought together financial information, delivery milestones, actions log, outputs, communications opportunities, risks and mitigations. Project-level information included delivery organisations, grant totals, start and finish dates, capital and revenue allocations and expected outputs. A four-year financial profile also recorded commitments and forecasts, distinguishing unapproved allowances from approved funding.

Officers explained that an amber risk had been identified in relation to spending within the allocated period, reflecting the absence of a current open call for projects. Future community-led prioritisation through the Community Sub-Group was identified as part of the approach to developing the investment pipeline.

Members welcomed the consolidated information and requested that the dashboard and financial update be circulated with future meeting papers so that Members could review the detail and prepare questions in advance of Board meetings.

Community Grant Scheme
Members noted that the Together for Skegness Community Grant Scheme had launched on 19 October 2026 and was being delivered by Lincolnshire Community Foundation. The first application deadline was 1 December 2026, with further deadlines of 1 March 2027 and 1 June 2027, subject to available funding.

The scheme had been promoted through the Together for Skegness and Lincolnshire Community Foundation websites and social media channels, press releases, councillor communications, newsletters, printed and digital flyers and the Community Sub-Group contact database. Practical support was available to help applicants prepare submissions.

Clarification was sought on whether the source of enquiries and applications was being recorded so that the Board could assess the effectiveness of different publicity channels. It was agreed that Lincolnshire Community Foundation would be asked about recording referral sources for the Community Grant Scheme and reporting that information to the Board. Batul Dungarwalla reported an 80% newsletter opening rate and eight enquiries for assistance with bids through the CVS Lincolnshire newsletter.

Members were advised that Lincolnshire Community Foundation was coordinating the assessment panel and seeking participation from Skegness residents, including people who might not ordinarily undertake such a role. Future reporting would cover enquiries, applications, awards, outputs and remaining funds, enabling the Board to monitor delivery and the scope for subsequent rounds.

8 Any Other Business

Action Tracker

Members reviewed the actions arising from the previous meeting. It was reported that the East Coast Pride attendance and impact report had been received. Updated expenditure against the £80,000 Street Scene allocation and the extension proposal had been included in the meeting papers, and the programme dashboard had been presented.

The Community Sub-Group papers, action plan and contact information had been circulated, and the next face-to-face meeting had been arranged for 10 November 2026. Members were reminded to continue identifying additional community contacts and gaps in representation. Timely submission of the MHCLG monitoring return was confirmed. The Tower Gardens maintenance and future capital provisions had been addressed in the contractual documentation, and the requested individual attendance report had been sent to the relevant Member.

New actions included circulation of the programme dashboard with future papers, circulation of the submitted monitoring return and development of the Street Scene branding and communications proposals.

Local Government Reorganisation
A brief verbal update was provided on the indicative timetable. Members noted that the position remained subject to confirmation and that Local Government Reorganisation would remain a standing item.

Monitoring Return
It was confirmed that the MHCLG monitoring return had been submitted and approved. It was agreed that the submitted document should be circulated to Members rather than reviewed on screen during the meeting.

Community Sub-Group
Members noted that the next Community Sub-Group meeting would take place on 10 November 2026.

MHCLG visit rescheduled
Members were advised that the MHCLG visit postponed from October had been rescheduled for 13 November 2026 and would cover Skegness and Mablethorpe.

9 Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 01 December 2026 at 2.00pm, online via Microsoft Teams.

The meeting concluded at 3.24pm.

ACTIONS TRACKER

BOARD MEETING	ACTION	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE
06.10.2026	Provide East Coast Pride headline attendance and impact report	Complete	BJ
06.10.2026	Obtain and circulate expenditure against the £80,000 Street Scene allocation	Complete	JB/BM
06.10.2026	Present programme dashboard and capacity funding update	Complete	JB/BM
06.10.2026	Obtain report on options and costs for extending the Street Scene pilot	Complete	JB/BM
06.10.2026	Circulate Community Sub-Group papers, action plan and contacts	Complete	MG
06.10.2026	Arrange next face-to-face Community Sub-Group meeting	Complete	SZ/MG
06.10.2026	Provide community contacts and identify gaps in representation	Complete	All Board Members
06.10.2026	Submit MHCLG return and present submitted return to Members	Complete	Programme Team
06.10.2026	Include appropriate Tower Gardens maintenance and future capital assurances in Heads of Terms	Complete	JB
06.10.2026	Send Cllr. Findley his individual attendance report	Complete	SZ
06.10.2026	Continue liaison with Carl Beacock on local Street Scene priorities	Complete	AF
03.11.2026	Provide Board Members with core operational hours attributable to Skegness	To Do	CB
03.11.2026	Follow up community referral, public feedback, branding, arrangements for Pride in Skegness activity	In Progress	BM/SZ

03.11.2026	Connect CB with volunteering platform support	To Do	BD
03.11.2026	Circulate programme dashboard with Board papers	To Do	BM
03.11.2026	Ask LCF to record how grant applicants heard about the scheme and report findings	To Do	BM
03.11.2026	Circulate submitted MHCLG monitoring return to Board Members	To Do	BM