

Pride in Place – Wecock

Neighbourhood Board Members Recruitment Pack

About Pride in Place

Pride in Place is a long-term, government-funded programme that helps communities make their neighbourhoods better places to live. This pack has been prepared for the Wecock Pride in Place Programme.

Purpose of the programme

- build stronger communities by helping people feel connected, supported and proud of where they live
- create thriving places by improving local spaces, facilities and the look and feel of the neighbourhood
- give local people more say by ensuring residents help decide what matters most and how funding is used

How decisions will be made

Each Pride in Place will have a community-led neighbourhood board chaired by an independent chair and made up mostly of local residents and people who work in the area, alongside elected representatives and the local council as the accountable body. The board will listen to the community, look at local needs, choose priorities, agree how funding is used and create a long-term plan for the area.

Wecock summary

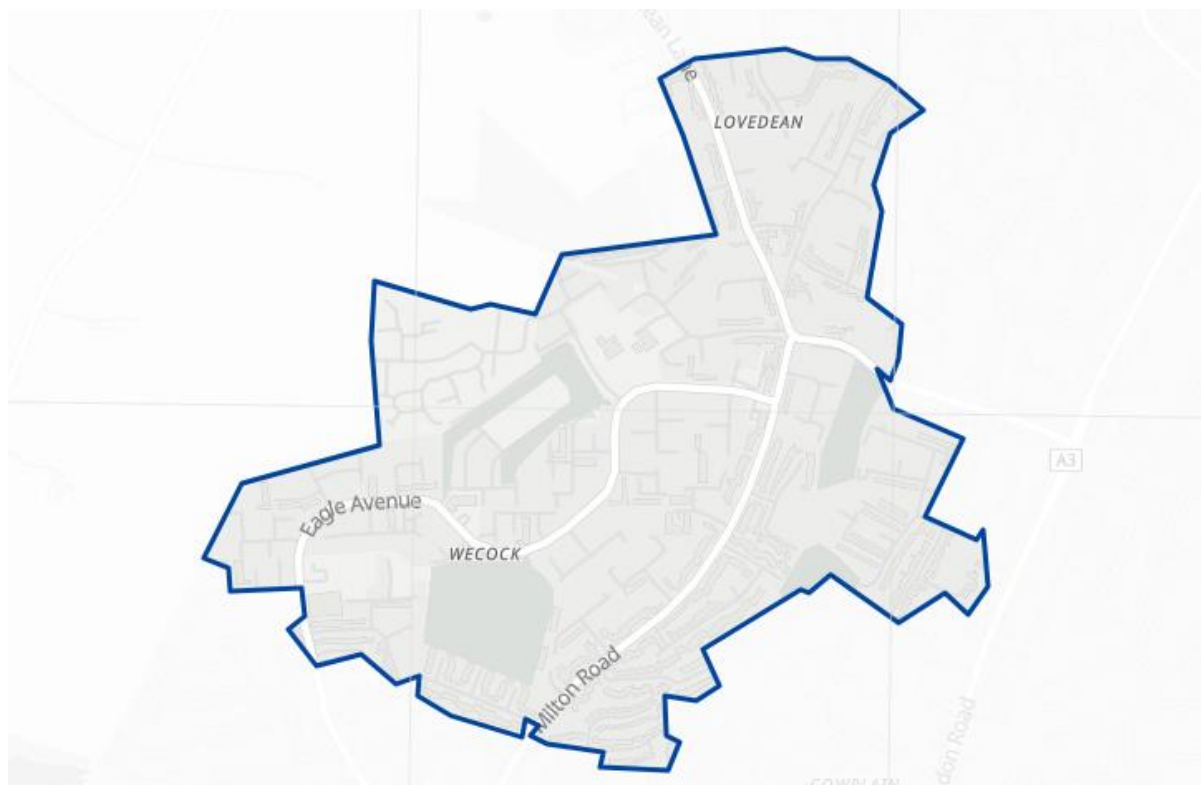
Wecock is an established community in Havant with a strong local identity, a mix of housing, valued local facilities and real potential for the future. From schools and neighbourhood shops to community spaces and green areas, it has the building blocks of a place people care about and want to see thrive.

Like many communities, Wecock also faces challenges. Government benchmarking shows that 61% of residents are satisfied with the area as a place to live and 63% say that many or some people in the area can be trusted. But only 26% feel the area has improved in the last year, and just 14% feel listened to. This points to a clear need for visible change and stronger local voice.

Pride in Place is an opportunity to build on Wecock's strengths, back local ambition and bring people together around a shared vision for the future. With the right community leadership, it can support practical improvements, greater confidence and renewed pride in Wecock.

Wecock Area Boundary

The government have designed the boundary of the Wecock area. One of the first tasks of the board is to agree the boundary and request a change if necessary.



The Independent Chair

Your independent co-chairs for Wecock are Marie Hattersley and Ann Waters. More information about them can be found in Appendix A.

Board Membership – Pride in Place Wecock

Help shape the future of Wecock. We are looking for local residents, workers, community leaders and partners to join the Wecock Neighbourhood Board. This is a chance to help shape a long-term vision for the area, influence local investment and ensure the voices of the community are at the heart of decision-making.

What is the Neighbourhood Board? The board brings together residents, businesses, community organisations, elected representatives and other local partners to guide Pride in Place activity in Wecock. It will help identify priorities, shape a neighbourhood plan and

oversee delivery of projects that make a visible difference locally. More than half of board members must live or work in the area.

We are looking for people who:

- care about Wecock and want to make it an even better place to live
- can work positively with others and listen to different views
- want to help shape priorities and support practical local action
- can make time for regular meetings and occasional additional activity

What you will do:

- help develop a neighbourhood plan for Wecock
- bring local insight, ideas and community connections
- work with others to agree priorities and review progress
- champion open, fair and community-led decision-making

Role details: This is expected to be a voluntary role, similar to serving as a school governor or charity trustee. Reasonable expenses may be covered. Board members will usually serve an initial term of three years and will be expected to declare interests and sign up to a code of conduct.

How to apply: If you are interested in helping shape the future of Wecock, please send a one-page expression of interest to prideinplace@havant.gov.uk by **29 June**. Please outline your interest in Wecock, any relevant skills or experience, your capacity to undertake the role, and any support requirements. Shortlisted applicants may be invited to an informal discussion.

Appendix A – Co-chair Biographies

Marie Hattersley

Since moving to the Wecock area 12 years ago I have been a trustee at Acorn Community Centre, the Chair of Governors at the local primary school as well as volunteering and working with a number of local community organisations. I understand the importance of working with others towards the same shared goals. I am currently a housing officer at Portsmouth City Council which has given me first hand experience of the challenges that the residents of the area face. The challenge for the Pride in Place programme is to be able to address these in a sustainable and inclusive way. My leadership experience makes me confident that I can guide and encourage the other board members to make an effective team. There will be much to learn as a board and we will need to connect people from all walks to have the impact the area deserves.

Pride in Place is a massive opportunity for Wecock, and I am excited to have the chance to be a major part of it.

Ann Waters

I have lived in Wecock for over thirty years and raised our children here. It is an amazing community where people look out for each other. This community has changed from a place no one wants to live to one many want to return to. I have been part of the group of volunteers running the Acorn Community Centre, acting as vice chair and then chair of trustees for the past thirty years. I absolutely love working in partnership with others and believe we are able to serve our community far more effectively than if we did it alone.

I am passionate about creating a place where all have a strong sense of belonging.

I believe the Pride in Place funding can create many positive opportunities to see life improve, and for many to be empowered to make the changes they know are needed. I want to be able to bring individuals who are invested in this area together, facilitate deep and insightful conversations about the way ahead.

Appendix B - Code of Conduct (Draft)

Introduction

Being a member of the Wecock Neighbourhood Board is a public role. You are expected to act with the same high standards as a councillor and represent the interests of local residents.

Purpose

This Code helps you to:

- understand the behaviour expected of you
- act with integrity and accountability
- protect yourself, others and the board
- maintain public trust and confidence

Key Principles

As a board member, you will:

- act with **honesty and integrity**
- treat everyone with **respect and fairness**
- make decisions in the **best interests of the community**
- avoid **conflicts of interest**
- use resources **responsibly**
- lead by example

When the Code Applies

This Code applies from when you take on the role and covers:

- meetings, whether in person or online
- emails and written communication
- social media and public behaviour in your role

Expected Standards

You must:

- **show respect** to everyone
- **not bully, harass or discriminate**
- **keep confidential information private**
- **not damage the reputation** of the board
- **not misuse your position** for personal gain
- **use board resources properly**
- **follow the Code and cooperate with any investigations**
- **declare any relevant interests**

- **avoid inappropriate gifts or hospitality**

Appendix C - Registering Interests

Within 28 days of becoming a member of the Wecock Neighbourhood Board, or of being reappointed, members must register with the accountable body any interests that fall within the categories of disclosable pecuniary interests or other registerable interests. Members must also keep their register of interests up to date and notify the accountable body within 28 days of becoming aware of any new interest or any change to a registered interest.

If a matter arises at a meeting that directly relates to one of a member's disclosable pecuniary interests, the member must declare the interest, must not take part in the discussion or vote on the matter, and must leave the room unless a dispensation has been granted. Similar principles apply to other registerable interests and non-registerable interests where a reasonable member of the public would consider that the interest could affect the member's view of the wider public interest.

Table 1: Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Subject	Description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or financial benefit received in connection with board member duties during the previous 12 months.
Contracts	Any contract between the member, or certain connected persons or bodies, and the neighbourhood board that has not been fully discharged.
Land and property	Any beneficial interest in land within the area of the neighbourhood board.
Licences	Any licence to occupy land in the area of the neighbourhood board for a month or longer.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body with a place of business or land in the area, where the relevant statutory threshold is met.

Other Registerable Interests

In addition to disclosable pecuniary interests, members should also register the following other interests:

- any unpaid directorships
- any body of which you are a member, or in a position of general control or management, and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority

- any body that exercises functions of a public nature, is directed to charitable purposes, or has as one of its principal purposes the influence of public opinion or policy, including any political party or trade union, of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management

Appendix D - The Seven Principles of Public Life

These principles set the standard for anyone serving in a public role and should guide the conduct of all board members.

- **Selflessness** - Holders of public office should act solely in the public interest.
- **Integrity** - Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might seek to influence them improperly.
- **Objectivity** - Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.
- **Accountability** - Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to appropriate scrutiny.
- **Openness** - Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent way.
- **Honesty** - Holders of public office should be truthful.
- **Leadership** - Holders of public office should demonstrate these principles in their own behaviour and actively promote them.