

Neighbourhood Board / Pride in Place report April 2026

Written in my capacity as a Resident on the Board but covering the Town Council representation until the appointment of our Clerk

I think its worth confirming that the Board have now received confirmation that the 1st 4 year plan that was submitted towards the end of 2025 has been accepted which is really great news

The significant funds will arrive in April 2027. Meanwhile the Board continue to operate with the use of its capacity funding

There was a 3 way PiP meeting with Eastbourne and Hastings held at the Manor Barn. Actions and ideas were shared and thoughts shared around collaborative working could benefit all 3 Towns. These will be held every 6 months with Hastings holding the 2nd one in September 26

Work continues with 2 working groups. One for the investigations into the Fountains. As Im sure you can imagine its not going to be as straightforward as it could be with land ownership, LGR etc. But there is the will to resolve issues. Our Clerk will be apart of that working group as it is essential that BTC are involved regarding the future long term management of the facility should the feasibility be a success

There is a 2nd working group regarding the exits routes from the Railway Station to bring visitors out straight into Devonshire Square. There have been initial discussions with Network rail but there will be a huge amount of work involved in this to understand the benefit, what it may look like and the regeneration benefit behind it.

All influencers from the Town have been selected and Im delighted to say that the Chair of the Board has invited me to Chair this working group which I have accepted.

As the center of most Towns appear to be changing with less and less shops being required its crucial that the right decisions are made. It's a massive opportunity to link the Railway direct to the Seafront and promenade with some of the regeneration that is being created there

Whilst I was away I know that some councillors attended a get together with some Board members. Im told it was a good gathering with the main takeaway being that these will happen on a regular basis in the future. Working together on major projects will ensure that the best outcome can be achieved for the benefit of Bexhill

That's a fullest update as I can provide. Always happy to answer questions (if I can) and your future reports will be provided by The Town Clerk

Regards

Paul Wilson