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# Shipley Towns Fund

Introduction to  
Board Members

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[Shipley Towns Fund Website](#)



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**Adam Clerkin (Chair)**  
CarnaudMetalbox Engineering Ltd

Adam Clerkin is the current Head of Operations for CarnaudMetalbox Engineering (CMBE), which is a high precision engineering business based in Shipley. He has worked at CMBE for fourteen years in a variety of roles in both engineering and operations.

Adam is an MBA graduate from Bradford University who is a passionate and proven leader of growth and change. In his spare time, he is a caravan enthusiast, and a regular visitor to the east coast with his wife and two boys.



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## **Cllr Alex Ross-Shaw**

Portfolio Holder – Regeneration, Planning & Transport (Bradford Council)

Cllr Alex Ross-Shaw provides political and strategic direction for the Council in these areas as well as housing, homelessness and the Council's estate management.

As Portfolio Holder, Alex is leading on a number of key projects for the Council, including transport investments on Hard Ings in Keighley and the Shipley Canal Road Corridor. He is also works closely with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and key stakeholders.



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## **Sir Philip Davies MP** Member of Parliament

Philip graduated from Huddersfield University with an Upper Second-Class Honours degree in Historical and Political Studies. Before being elected, Philip worked for Asda for 12 years, working his way up from the bottom to be a Senior Marketing Manager.

Philip was elected as Conservative Member of Parliament for Shipley in 2005, with a majority of 422 and was re-elected in 2010, 2015, 2017 and 2019 with a share of the vote of over 50%. He has served on the Justice Select Committee, Women & Equalities Select Committee and currently on the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Selection Committee.

When not working, Philip enjoys all sports, horse-racing in particular, and is a season ticket holder at Bradford City.



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**Cllr Mike Connors**  
Chair, Shipley Town Council

Mike is 61 years old and has lived in Shipley since 2000. He has an MBA from the University of Bradford, which he achieved in 1991.

His early career was in the IT industry with Rolls-Royce plc in Derby and following on from that, gained international experience as a Project Manager in both Belgium and the Netherlands, including 6 years with the European Patent Office in The Hague.

More recently, Mike has been running small businesses in Leeds and Bradford, including acting as a Managing Agent for residential flats and is the current chair of Shipley Town Council.

Mike has two teenage children who are being educated in Bradford and enjoys travelling, walking and sightseeing around Yorkshire.



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**Dominic Pix**  
Managing Director, TecnAir

Managing Director of TecnAir Manufacturing, a family business with its HQ in Shipley, they are a pneumatic custom solutions provider with multiple UK owned overseas offices.

Professional goals are to manufacture more in the UK, currently enjoying investing in a recession with further plans to expand in the future.



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## **James Skirrow**

Senior Property Management Surveyor, Carter Towler

A highly experienced and well-regarded property management professional, James has over 20 years' experience. He has held senior positions with WSB Property Consultants, CBRE and Savills prior to joining Carter Towler.

He specialises in developing and executing highly effective property management strategies for national investment funds, property companies and high net worth private clients.



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**Diana Bird**  
Principal, Shipley College

Diana is the Principal of Shipley College and has a degree and masters in Cultural Studies. She is an experienced teacher and ESOL subject specialist who has held roles as Head of Teaching, Learning and Assessment and Head of Sector for Essential Skills before being appointed as Vice-Principle for Curriculum in August 2020 and became Principal in 2022.



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## **Helen Horsman**

**Director of Central Services, The Cellar Trust**

Helen is a natural organiser and oversees all non-client facing services including communications, fundraising and estates. Prior to joining The Cellar Trust, Helen worked for some well-known Yorkshire-based companies before running her own hospitality business for many years.

Helen is passionate about working for a charity, mental health and wellbeing in the local area.

Helen enjoys being outdoors and can often be found heading off in her camper van with her dog and children, either to seek out waterfalls or to paddle on calmer waters.



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## **Nicola Murray**

Director of Kynd, Co-Chair of South Square, Facilitator at Bradford Death Cafe

Nicola runs Kynd and has over 20 years experience working across Bradford. Known for her community cohesion efforts, green credentials, advocacy for teenagers and background as an ex-Art Teacher, Nicola values nature's role in fostering creativity and wellbeing.

Versatile and creative, she is characterised by boundless curiosity and a genuine love for people.



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**Joy Hart**  
Manager, The Hive

Joy oversees the running of Hive and supports all members of staff in their individual roles. She is the first point of contact for many people who come along to Hive, whether they are service users, partners or other agencies.

Joy actively seeks and applies for various funding in order for Hive to provide the projects and services that they offer to the community.



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## **Barry Cooper**

Owner, Perkins Jewellers and Chair of the Shipley Anti-Crime Partnership

He has been in retail since 1997 and been based in Shipley since 2006. He is passionate about ensuring a successful and vibrant town centre.



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## **Adam Sutcliffe**

Lead Mentor of British Design Fund, Product Designer &  
Entrepreneur

Adam works closely with the British Design Fund's portfolio of investee companies, offering support with any aspect of their product development, business growth and strategy.

Adam has a rich mix of skills and experience, including a human-centric and holistic approach to problem solving and improving people's lives.



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## **Scot Flight**

Managing Director, Flight & Cox Financial Solutions Ltd

Scot has nearly 40 years experience in the financial and property sectors and has held senior positions at the two largest corporate property companies. Using this experience, he co-founded his own mortgage and protection brokerage which is based in Baildon.

He lives in Menston and is a father of two boys and recently became a grandfather for the first time. He is a keen golfer and been a spectator at nearly every Open Championship since 1975 . He also loves cooking, travelling and experiencing different cultures.



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**Alec Porter**  
ShIPLEY Resident

Alec has lived in ShIPLEY for 39 years and previously worked for Adult Social Care at the Council, where he retired in 2022 as Service Manager.

Alec founded the Strategic Disability Partnership, which was a voluntary organisation that made Bradford more accessible to disabled people. This included having the largest number of fully inclusive accessible toilets in the UK.

He is an IMPOWER Associate and has worked in the NHS settings to improve patient flow and experience.



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