

WHAT SHOULD BIG LOCAL SUPPORT?

The public's suggestions

General facilities

Provide public toilets for the Market Place area
(e.g. on Church Street) ... (15 requests - mostly from market traders?)

Make the Market Place completely pedestrian friendly; Provide safe pathways (better surfaces, wheelchair access) (2)

Improved parking (more spaces in Market Place area; more disabled spaces, free parking on Sundays for churchgoers) (2)

Provide more seating, flowers (planters) and trees in the Market Place.
Brighten up the centre. Put more planters in the town. Tidy up shops and buildings; support 'Boston in Bloom' (11)

Move the information centre back into the town centre

Re-model Boston's Custom House Quay and renovate the surrounding historic buildings (*as has been done in Kings Lynn*)

Provide more 'lollipop people' and safer crossings

Install a pedestrian crossing at Liquorpond Street roundabout

Have more cycleways.

Improve roads and reduce traffic congestion. Install a pedestrian bridge over John Adams Way. Tidy up/'green' the odd areas along John Adams Way which serve no useful purpose (5)

Provide cheaper buses and extend services to some villages

Commission a Pilgrim Fathers statue

Provide welcoming signs and/or artworks on roundabouts depicting Boston's heritage. Make more of Boston's history to promote tourism. (3)

Put an archway leading into Wormgate (similar to Dolphin Lane)

Install an information board outlining the history of Wormgate

Make West Street more presentable

Provide free car parking

Advertise the town centre to encourage more visitors and increase business

Employ a gardener and team to maintain high levels of environmental maintenance; promote a tidy, smart town that people will want to visit (2)

" The market place is supposed to be pedestrian... buses come though it... cars drive though it. You can't let go of the child's hand. If the market place was free from traffic then it would be safe for families... most of the councillors don't want the buses coming through the town. There's no

need for the buses... when the May Fair is on in the town the buses go elsewhere. It would not stop the people coming into the town".

"The market place is meant for cultural events. That was what the grant was for... most of BBC's councillors saw the market place as a central community gathering place, but the people of Boston said they wanted cars running through it."

Community

Provide more facilities in town for young children, e.g. adventure playground, soft play areas (11)

Provide more facilities for young people: youth centres/lunch clubs/learning centres, with trained youth workers to run them; provide free or low cost after-school clubs and activities. (12)

Provide more community centres and activities/lunch clubs for the elderly. Purchase a building for a Community Hub, with a volunteer-run community kitchen to feed voluntary workers – at no cost. (8)

Invest in park equipment (incl. outdoor gym equipment) for Burgess Pit. Put in a training track around the perimeter. Have gates at both ends.

Better maintenance of Central Park needed. Keep it open later at night in winter

Help people with disabilities (2)

Bring back the Haven Gallery to public use as a toy museum/art gallery, run by volunteers as a cooperative.

Encourage community integration between the British and migrant workers

Provide training to empower local residents' management committees

Provide Relationships advice and help

Provide aid and sanctuary for Boston women suffering from violence in the home

Provide better communication

Provide interpreter working in offices (Council?) (5)

Raise personal responsibility and citizenship with teenagers and adults alike to cut down on litter/spitting/swearing/public urination

*" There needs to be more activities during the day... it's not the safety factor why I don't go out at night, it's because it's cold and transport is problematic.
If younger people are working all day, regardless of their nationality, do they have the energy to go back out in the evening?"*

"There's very little for the elderly to do or go to as they've closed all the places down... we need community centres for the elderly, and the same for young people... youth centres have been closed. People need places to go to meet other people."

"It's a shame there's not a place or space for people to congregate in Boston. The town needs a central community space."

"We need more Police to help people. There needs to be the ability to talk with the police on a regular basis. How can people be informed when the police need to be talking with the public?"

Leisure and sport

Provide a BMX/skateboard park close to the town centre (3)

Provide a climbing wall (for all ages)

Provide a 5-a-side football court (2)

Provide martial arts facilities. More equipment for Boston judo club (2)

Invest in Central Park: animals and pond. A children's 'wet area' (5)

Organise family sports days in Central Park.

Provide a new swimming and sports centre that caters for all (5)

Provide a free swimming pool (4)

Establish a hockey club for Boston

Help/sponsor local junior sports teams with kits etc.

Provide indoor & outdoor sports facilities for local paraplegics

Build a 'beach' in the summer (2)

Provide a Polish club/disco (2)

The Arts

Provide more/better theatrical shows and events like Party In The Park, Showcase (6)

Provide live music, feature Polish artists, Polish movies in cinema (9)

Provide more arts facilities, especially dance. (4)

Provide summer parties; Festival of Lights along the waterways; floating lights, classical musicians on barges and boats; Venetian masquerade ball. (2)

Organise a Children's Festival

Make proper use of the Haven Gallery – encourage local and young artists (2)

Provide Blackfriars with some help.

Further develop Witham Way Country Park

" Any new summer festival would need to have local acts – songwriters, bands... there's a wealth of talent at Boston College. Sam Newsom Centre is a huge source of untapped potential."

"Party in the Park needs to come back."

There needs to be more things for kids in all the parks. There needs to be a free festival for the people of Boston. If you are paying for parking then it should be free."

"The town is lacking culture. There are no art galleries or museums any more. The Haven has closed down. We have a lot of history... there's lots of sports and activities people can do but there really nothing cultural... we need more visual and music activities"

Witham Way Country Park should be developed. The Park needs wooden sculptures... of owls, butterflies, bugs... we need artists to work with."

Health

GPs to be more transparent

" GPs have a central role in the health of the town. Could GPs meet with the public on a regular basis to explore the concerns of the people of Boston?"

"We need a sports centre with health facilities (gym etc.). They are either too small, too expensive or outside the town."

Housing

Invest in social/affordable housing (3)

Security

Provide more/improved policing (2)

Provide better street lighting and cameras (9)

Support for business

We need a Credit Union for Boston/invest in the Lincolnshire Credit Union (2)

Introduce a 'local currency' (similar to that in areas of Cornwall/Devon) that can be traded in local shops and businesses.

Ring-fence money for small start-up businesses. Provide a community pot where voluntary and community groups could obtain funds. (2)

Provide lower rates for small businesses

Reopen the Haven Gallery for business use.

Invest in property to gain funds to promote local bursaries/grants

Shopping

Put a supermarket back on the Somerfield site

Provide a new Superstore in Boston centre (eg Waitrose or Sainsbury)

Employment

Provide more jobs (2)

Dock, rivers and drains

Clear decaying boats at the Haven and install a floating pontoon; improve riverbanks, install fishing platforms. Push for a tidy riverside/waterfront (3)

Improve Flood defence

Support a Water Taxi at Black Sluice Lock Cottages, on the South 40 foot Drain (1)

River taxi (location unspecified) (2)

Utilise the River Witham for tourism, eg rowing and motor boats

Clean up the banks along the lower end of Maud Foster Drain

Develop Boston Docks as a tourist attraction or workshop

Other

Celebrate our English culture

Invest in sustainable energy to provide income for more projects

Provide a by-pass