

Our vision is for a happy vibrant area where people feel a sense of belonging

NEWSLETTER

Boston Big Local



May 2017

OUR SECOND PLAN HAS BEEN APPROVED!

We're pleased to report that Boston Big Local's second plan has been approved by Local Trust. The plan covers the period April 2017 to March 2019 (years 3 and 4 of our ten-year £1m project).

Boston is one of 150 areas across the UK to have received an award from the Big Lottery Fund. The project aims to make Boston an even better place to live by helping residents develop the skills and confidence they need to identify what matters to them, make decisions, and take action to change things for the better.

Boston Big Local Chair, Richard Tory, said: "In the first two years of the project we funded and supported a wide range of great activities that have helped to bring positive changes to the area. This was made possible through the strong links we have forged with local delivery partners.

"As well as supporting big public events such as the Beach event in Central Park, Boston in Bloom and helping with the launch of the Boston Marathon UK, we are proud to have helped smaller projects such as the Arts for Dementia support group, the Boston Community Transport scheme and swim sessions for young people."

The second Boston Big Local plan will continue to deliver activities under four themes: improving health and wellbeing; creating a more attractive environment; building community spirit; and encouraging enterprise.



(photo courtesy of Boston Marathon UK)

SUCCESS FOR BOSTON MARATHON UK 2017

This year's Boston Marathon UK took place on Easter Monday, 17 April, and was another runaway success. The event brought many visitors to the town, raised money for local charities and benefited local businesses. It was organised by Boston Marathon Association and supported by local sponsors and volunteer marshals. Boston Big Local was the event's main sponsor.

This year a separate 3 mile/5 kilometre fun run was also organised to cater for younger and casual runners from the area. This took place alongside the marathon but as a sub-event with separate sponsorship.

In all, 406 people completed the full marathon on the day, along with 312 who completed the half marathon. 41 people took part in the fun run. 5% of the runners came from Boston, and 20% of runners were from Lincolnshire. There were also participants from across the UK and from as far away as the USA, Canada, Germany, France, Hungary, Belarus, Jordan, and India.

Congratulations to everyone who took part as a runner, an organiser, or as a volunteer marshal. Boston Big Local was proud to have been able to support Boston Marathon UK in 2017 and we look forward to seeing the event continue to grow in future years.

Listening to local people

We consulted with local residents, groups and organisations to develop our plan for the next two years. Our continuing aim is to fund activities that meet local needs - so please keep talking to us! You can read a copy of the full plan at www.bostonbiglocal/plan-2



Lifting the lid on the Community Chest

Did you know that our Community Chest fund offers small grants of up to £1,000 to residents, community groups and charities within the Boston Big Local area? It is available to individual residents and groups who have an innovative idea which needs a cash boost to make it happen, and to charities and community groups who need some extra support to carry out their services.

Residents of any age who live within the Boston Big Local area can apply for a grant from the Community Chest as long as it meets one of our four Boston Big Local priorities, which are:

- Improving health and wellbeing
- Creating a more attractive environment
- Building community spirit
- Encouraging enterprise

How can the funding be used?

Residents, groups and charities can apply for two different funding streams:

- grants that can be used by residents and/or community groups to undertake projects, and
- funding to support running costs such as volunteer expenses for groups that meet one of our priorities.



Small grants
of up to
£1,000
available

... could you benefit?

Each Community Chest funding application must have the support of at least two people who live in the Boston Big Local area. You can check whether you are a Boston Big Local resident at bostonbiglocal.co.uk/plan-2 where you can download a map of the area and a list of street names.

On the opposite page you can read about some of the local residents,

community groups and charities that have already benefited from Community Chest funding from Boston Big Local. We hope the stories of their successful bids will inspire you to complete a Community Chest application of your own.

The deadline for applications for the next round of funding is Monday 31 July 2017 at 6pm.



How to apply

Go to bostonbiglocal.co.uk/funding/community-chest to download a Community Chest application form. Guidance notes are available to guide you through the completion of each section of the application. The notes also explain what will happen once your application has been submitted.

Residents and community groups can get support with their application by emailing bblcommunitychest@gmail.com.

Please help us to spread the word about the Community Chest scheme by telling local groups, clubs and charities about this fantastic funding opportunity.

Our latest Community Chest awards

£250 to Boston Bridge Club to help them purchase a computerised scoring system called 'Bridgemate'. The club encourages and fosters bridge playing in Boston.

£690 to Butterfly Hospice Trust for volunteer training expenses. This will enable volunteers to train in subjects such as food hygiene, customer care, health and safety and safeguarding.

£200 to The Bears Coaching for bubble football equipment.

£150 to Age UK Boston and South Holland to support their 2nd Horticultural Show, which will be held at Johnsons Garden Centre on 30 September 2017.

£1,000 to Boston in Bloom for the landscaping of the raised beds next to the Police Station, within the Boston Big Local area. The beds will be filled with plants to attract pollinating insects.

£460 to Your Day Your Say, which is a day service for adults with learning difficulties. The funding will be used to help with accessibility of a growing space within Central Park.

£250 to Kuk Sool Wan, a Martial Arts School with students aged 5 to 65. The funding will be used towards running costs, helping to keep fees to a minimum and make classes affordable to low income families.

Picture this...

We feature details of the groups and organisations that receive Community Chest funding in our newsletter or on our website.

This means that as well as providing financial support, the Community Chest can help to promote your charity, group or club by spreading the story of what you are doing and why.

We are always happy to share community stories and details of events with our followers on Twitter and Facebook, so please get in touch if you have any news or upcoming events that will be of interest to Boston residents.



Pictured above and left are just a few of the past winners of awards made in previous Community Chest funding rounds.

Could you be next?

COMMUNITY CHEST
APPLY FOR NEXT
ROUND OF FUNDING BY
31 JULY 2017

Next round of community chest funding

You have until 31 July 2017 to submit an application for the current round of Community Chest funding. You can download an application form at bostonbiglocal.co.uk/funding/community-chest

Dig out your bucket and spade!

Boston Big Local will be supporting a beach event in Central Park again this year, on Thursday 3 August and Friday 4 August.

This will be the third year for the event, which has proven to be extremely popular with families over the last couple of years. The beach will be open between 10am and 3pm on both 3 and 4 August for families to stop by and enjoy a taste of Boston Beach. There won't be any sea, but what we can promise is lots of sand and fun activities for all the family, including donkey rides, bouncy castles, and arts and crafts. The Boston Big Local team will also be there - so don't forget to say hello!



SAVE THE DATE

▼ **BOSTON BEACH 2017** ▼

3 and 4 August, 10am to 3pm at Central Park

fun activities for all the family



People of any age and from all walks of life can sometimes find themselves in financial difficulty, especially during times of recession or economic hardship. That's why Boston Big Local has chosen to support a service that provides financial advice for people who live in the area.

This advice is delivered by **Citizens Advice Mid Lincolnshire (CAML)** and offers a wide range of help with day-to-day money advice and guidance issues based on individual circumstances.

If you need information or advice about an issue affecting you, details of how to contact Citizens Advice Mid Lincolnshire are available online at citizensadvice.org.uk/local/mid-lincolnshire.

Get in touch with Boston Big Local

Email: info@bostonbiglocal.co.uk

Website: www.bostonbiglocal.co.uk



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LOTTERY FUNDED

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