

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

NEWSLETTER - Annual Review edition

Boston Big Local



February 2018

OUR THEMES

If you'd like to learn more about Boston Big Local's priorities and themes, you can read our full plan online at bostonbiglocal.co.uk/plan-2/.

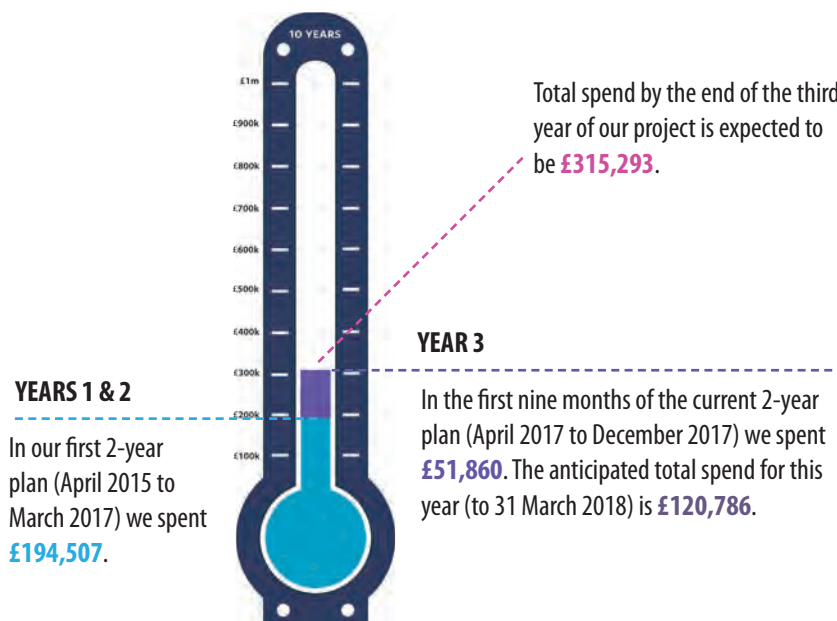
Here's a quick reminder of the four themes on which our activities are based:

- 1 Improving health and wellbeing.
- 2 Creating a more attractive environment.
- 3 Building community spirit.
- 4 Encouraging enterprise.



You can read about some of the activities linked to these themes on pages 2 and 3.

What we've spent in the first 3 years



At the beginning of each new calendar year we look back on what Boston Big Local has achieved during the previous 12 months and provide residents and delivery partners with an annual review of activities and spend. You'll find a recap of some of the activities from 2017 on pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter.

The total spend in the first two years of our first plan was **£194,507**. Our second 2-year plan began in April 2017 and, by 31 March 2018, the total of our actual and committed spend for the year is expected to be **£120,786**. This means that **£315,293** of the original £1m awarded to our area by the Big Lottery Fund will have been spent by 31 March 2018.

We regularly review and monitor the agreed activities in our plan and provide updates for residents through our quarterly newsletters, website stories and social media posts. The Boston Big Local partnership will now start to think about the process of compiling our next funding plan, which will begin in April 2019.

If you have any comments or ideas that you would like to share with us, please email info@bostonbiglocal.co.uk.

Share your views online

If you have an idea for a future activity or views on the kind of projects Boston Big Local should be funding, please email info@bostonbiglocal.co.uk or visit bostonbiglocal.co.uk/consultation to leave a comment or suggestion online.

Have your
say online

LOOKING BACK ON 2017



January 2017

In **January** Boston Down's Syndrome Family Group began to meet fortnightly at St Christopher's Children's Centre.

The group was awarded £1,000 of funding from the Boston Big Local Community Chest to buy soft play equipment and sensory toys to help create a fun environment for the children to play.

February 2017

On 27 **February** at the Boston Big Local Annual General Meeting we welcomed three new members to the Partnership Group, who were elected at the AGM.

The new members were motivated to join the Partnership Group because they wanted to help their community and get involved with the Boston Big Local project.



March 2017

In **March** we received an update from the Memory Lane group which runs creative sessions for people with dementia and their carers. The sessions are funded by Boston Big Local and made possible through a strong partnership between Lincolnshire County Council, Boston Mayflower and local artists, including Carol Parker and James Sutton. The partners work together to offer

an impressive range of activities based on different art forms, including printing, sculpting, drawing, weaving, and collage making.



April 2017



In **April** we reported on the activities of Citizen's Advice Mid Lincolnshire (CAML). As part of Theme 4 of the Boston Big Local Plan, we help to support the provision of accessible financial advice for people who live in the Boston Big Local area. CAML's financial advice service offers help with day-to-day money and guidance issues and also signposts people to alternative organisations if other life problems are identified.

We again sponsored the Boston Marathon UK, which took place on Easter Monday, 17 **April**. The event brought many visitors to Boston, raised money for local charities and benefited local businesses. It was organised by the Boston Marathon Association and supported by local sponsors and volunteer marshals. 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.

April was also the month when the Local Trust approved our second plan, covering years 3 and 4 of the ten year Boston Big Local project. The newly approved plan set out details of our priorities, the expected outcomes, budget, and action plans for each theme.





Boston Big Local will continue to fund activities that support community needs and aspirations.



May/June 2017

In **May** we presented a Community Chest cheque for £500 to Jerry Green Dog Rescue. The funding went towards a Fan Fare Big Band fundraising event organised by Jerry Green Dog Rescue and held at Blackfriars Theatre.

In **June** Boston Big Local awarded funding of £2,499 to Boston Bike Night to help support the success of its 21st anniversary event and allow the organising committee to build foundations for next year.

The volunteer-led event attracted around 5,000 visitors to Boston town centre to enjoy the spectacle of 2,000 visiting motorbikes.



The Boston Big Local grant helped to cover costs such as insurance, safety barriers and first aid support.

September/October 2017

In **September** we again congratulated **Boston in Bloom** on winning a gold award for the third consecutive year.

We also reported on some of the work being done by the Boston Hanse Group, which is supported by Boston Big Local. At their Heritage Days in **September** the group met over 200 visitors at Fydell House, giving out many of the free Boston Hanse leaflets and selling local history books.

In **October** we sponsored a **Boston Borough Council** initiative to hand out 500 poo-bag dispensers and bags to dog owners to help them avoid the risk of a £100 penalty charge for not carrying a poo-bag when walking their dog.



July 2017

As part of our commitment to improving local amenities and open spaces in the Boston Big Local area, we awarded £500 to the Croquet Club to repair the perimeter fencing at the club.

July also saw the return of the Get Cycling Roadshow in the Market Place. Sponsored by Boston Big Local and organised by Boston Borough Council, it provided a chance for families to try out a mixture of conventional and unconventional bikes, including a junior track, megabus and recumbent KMX Karts.



August 2017

In **August** the Boston Beach was back by popular demand. The event in Central Park was sponsored by Boston Big Local, delivered by Boston Borough Council, and also supported by other partner agencies.



November/December 2017

In **November** we published the results of our survey and discussed Boston Big Local's long term legacy. In the same month a new sculpture was unveiled as part of the official opening of the £15,000 Art Deco garden project in Central Park, to which Boston Big Local contributed £10,000.

In **December** a Christmas themed multi sports day for young people was delivered by Boston United in the Community.

The latest news updates...



Still time to sign up for the Boston Marathon UK

The next Boston Marathon (UK) will take place on **Sunday 15 April**. Last year over 400 people completed the full marathon. As well as local runners, the event attracted competitors from across the UK and from as far away as the USA, Canada, Germany, France, Hungary, Belarus, Jordan, and India.

The Boston Marathon (UK) offers the flattest course in the country, so it is the ideal marathon in which to improve your personal best.

If you are interested in taking part, you have until 27 March 2018 to register. You can sign up online at bostonmarathon.co.uk, where you will find full details of entry fees, the route and prizes.



Fitness opportunities for all ages

Adults and children have been taking part in Boston Big Local funded fitness opportunities.

FloatFit sessions have been running four times a week at the Geoff Moulder Leisure Centre since the end of September. Each session lasts for around 45 minutes and those taking part can also have a free swim before or after each session.

Children aged between 5 and 13 have enjoyed taking part in two recent multi sports days delivered by Boston United in the Community. The sessions were funded by Boston Big Local and ran during the October half term and Christmas school holidays. Halloween and Christmas themed games were on offer as well as sports such as dodgeball, basketball, hockey, and volleyball.



JOIN OUR PARTNERSHIP GROUP Get involved with Boston Big Local

Are you interested in getting involved with Boston Big Local to help deliver the goals we set out in our plan? There are many ways you can help us – from volunteering at one-off events, to joining the Partnership Group as a resident member. For more information, email Boston Big Local at info@bostonbiglocal.co.uk or talk to us at one of our events.

Stay in touch

Email: info@bostonbiglocal.co.uk

Website: www.bostonbiglocal.co.uk



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