

Big Local Rep's Review

With over £1 Million to spend in the Boston Big Local area it is important the people of Boston are sure it is being spent responsibly. Our Rep, Bill Badham looks back and ahead to share how we run and do things.



Every three months or so, I share my thoughts on local area progress with you as residents as your Big Local Rep and with the central team managing the national programme. Your comments and thoughts are always welcome.

The big picture

It's encouraging how residents and local organisations are responding to current reduced Covid restrictions over the summer. Autumn and winter may yet pose further challenges for us, but July to September has given a welcome breathing space and renewed energy. Boston Big Local has remained active and engaged throughout and is alert to these changes and supportive of groups and activities opening up again.

Nationally, it is exciting that the Big Local Connects event went ahead in Nottingham in late October where residents and workers from 150 areas were able to share and learn from each other.

New recent resources include this new handbook on responding to loneliness. Together we plan handbook also offers useful approaches to support the partnerships in developing work during the COVID-19 crisis.

And just a reminder that if you don't get the Local Trust monthly newsletter, it's a good source of news and updates from across Big Local: you can sign up for it here: <https://localtrust.org.uk/sign-up-to-our-newsletter/>.

Looking back Running things

Boston Big Local partnership is running very well and valued returning to monthly face to face meetings, with the option for members to join by Zoom if preferred. It remains well supported by the plan co-ordinator and the Local Trusted Organisation, Age UK Lincoln & South Lincolnshire. Finances are reviewed each month. There has been a delay in closing down the accounts from the last plan due to outstanding invoices and a banking glitch, but this is now resolved and the new plan is well underway.

Boston Big Local is also taking part in national research on what makes for good partner working with local authorities. After meeting the partnership, Graeme Fancourt thanked the group: "It was great to come to Boston to see part of the area where you live and work, and to meet with you all. I really appreciated the openness and energy in the room as we went through the mapping process, as well as the depth of the knowledge, and hope you found it helpful." The process involves the Borough Council directly and is helping review and strengthen the working relations between the two.

Doing things

A further round of Community Chest has been held and 11 quarterly reports were received, reviewed and approved in July. Stories of action and change

are celebrated online and in the latest newsletter, including the completion and official opening of the Buoys arts project. Another success has been kick starting the Boston Book Festival for one year, with the hope it will continue on. This seems very likely after a very successful event. One partnership member said: "It was good to see the place bustling. The atmosphere was great, and I am sure that everyone attending enjoyed it. The arrangements at Fydell House were excellent." Another said: "I attended a few of the events on Saturday and I felt that the event was really well run and was interesting and something different to promote Boston."

Meanwhile all the art work for the Boston Monopoly project has been approved and support for the project given by the Borough Council. In similar vein, a further order of Boston Trumps has been received and distributed to local groups for them to sell on to raise local funds.

Looking ahead

So far Boston Big Local's approach to its new plan of backing known and proven activity while keeping Covid recovery funding free as needs arise is working very well. A number of proposals have arisen which the partnership is deciding on, including Christmas lights. Another plan in development is funding £25,000 for equipment and development of Broadfield Lane Park. The proposal includes 25m Zip wire, a swing unit with a circular swing and two more traditional swings, bench and rubbish bin and associated safety flooring and landscaping.

Read our latest news:



www.bostonbiglocal.co.uk/news/

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



Boston Big Local

Residents Leading Change

2021 Autumn Edition

MONOPOLY

Before creating the Boston Historic Trump Cards, we had been hoping to have a Boston Monopoly Board.

With the success of the trump cards in raising Boston's profile and funds for good causes in Boston, it was decided we would invest in funding a Hasbro branded Boston Monopoly game. Boston Borough Council joined us with an, around, 20% investment from their Empowering Communities funds towards ensuring the creation of the game.

The Boston Monopoly Board will cost £30 each all of which will go to good causes in Boston. The game will have Boston Themed Playing Pieces, Community Chest and Chance Cards, and Locations around the outside of the board.

Delivered in the first week of December, the 1500 Monopoly Boards were launched on the 11th of December so they could be purchased before Christmas.

BOSTON, UK EDITION

View the Boston Monopoly Board.

See Page 2



In this issue:

Pg 2 Christmas in Boston

Pg 3 BBL Investments BBL Area

Pg 4 Rep's Review



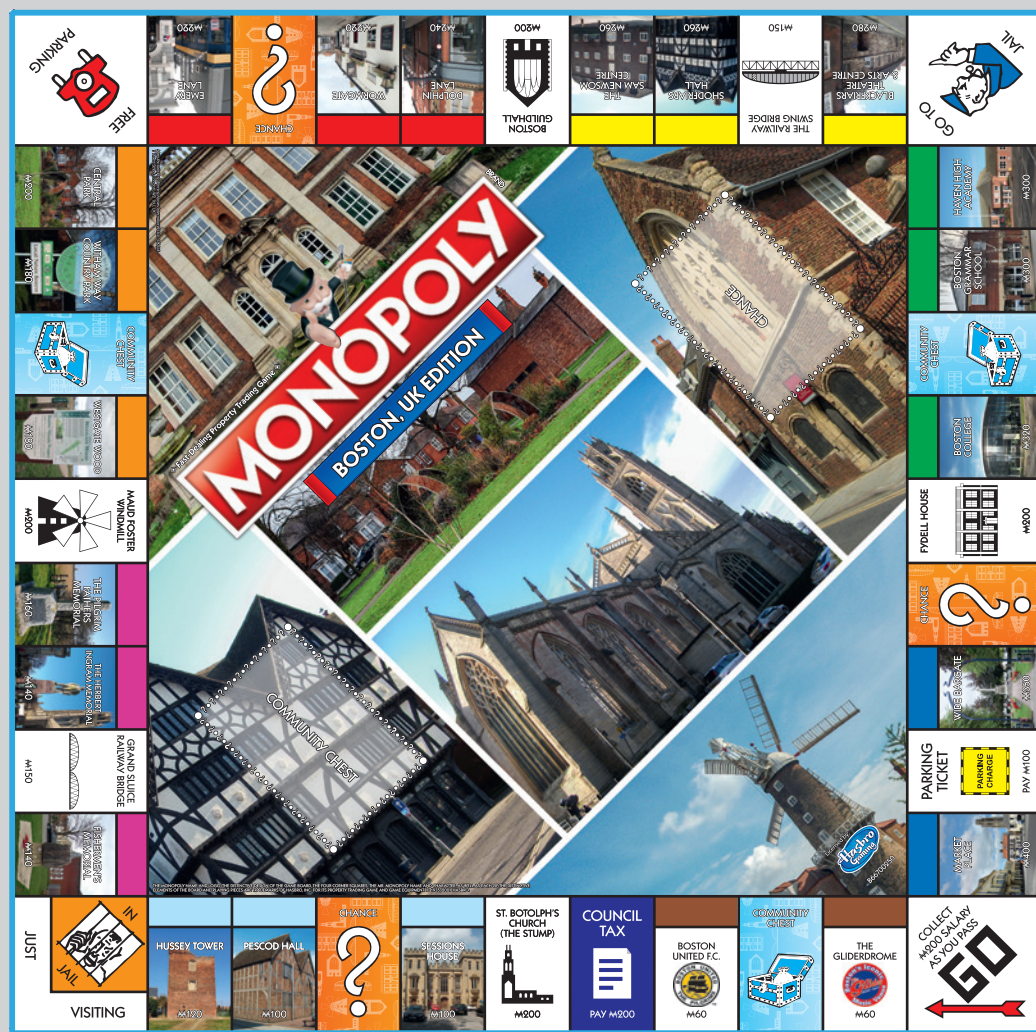
To get updates on Boston Big Local, subscribe to our newsletter at bostonbiglocal.co.uk, like our Facebook page or follow @bostonbiglocal on Twitter



FUNDING FOR YOUR GROUP

If your group supports or is in the BBL area (see page 3) we may be able to help
Learn more and apply at www.bostonbiglocal.co.uk/funding

Monopoly. Boston, UK Edition



Learn more about Boston Monopoly at:
<https://monopoly.bostonbiglocal.co.uk/>



Christmas in Boston

Boston continues to look great this year with its amazing Christmas illuminations.

For this year only we have chosen to invest £10,000 in the Christmas in Boston group.

Without this funding from us, our town would not be as bright this Christmas.

DID YOU KNOW?

BBL Investments

Every four months our community chest and events panel meets to consider all funding applications. At our last meeting on the 7th September 2021 we funded the following projects:

Railway Athletic Football Club

Having taken over Boston United's old York street ground they require a new mower after their old one packed before they could use it at their new ground.



£1500

Geoff Moulder
Leisure Centre

An application for first aid equipment for community events that can help people learn the basics of life-saving first aid.



£1250

Boston & South Holland Talking Newspaper

This wonderful service that, each week, reads and records the local newspaper and sends it to the many blind people in our area. Our funding will support the running of this fantastic service.



£750

Arranging Community Events

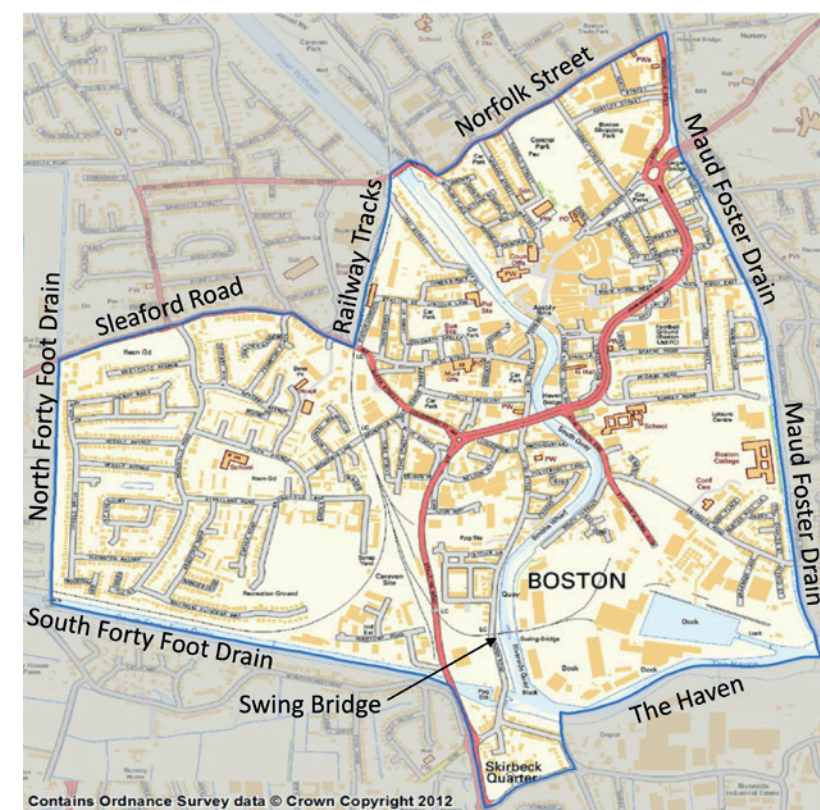
A group called Arranging Community Events requested funding for an event in the marketplace that celebrates the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Event. We agreed to ring-fence the money for this event in the hope that the team at Arranging Community Events can secure the rest of the funding they require from their other applications with other organisations. Which are pleased to say they now have.



£4500

Can we help you fund your event or project?

www.bostonbiglocal.co.uk/funding/

BB  

learn more at:
www.bostonbiglocal.co.uk/area/

Since we formed in 2015 we have invested around £700k into the BBL area. We have 4 years left to invest the remaining £500K! Help us do this at **www.bostonbiglocal.co.uk**

