

## 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.

First, it is with great sadness that young residents and their parents near Woodville Road woke on Saturday 17th September to find their pirate ship burnt down, an act of arson that has left everyone numb. Fran Taylor, from Boston Borough Council, and local people worked tirelessly with colleagues from Boston Big Local to gain and develop the ideas and plans and see their wonderful vision become reality. The police is of course involved and the council is looking at what can be done.

## The big picture

Over the summer it's been encouraging to see a burst of activity and events for groups and communities, many supported through your Big Local. But, with mounting pressure on many households, new challenges arise which need compassion and further community-led responses. Across England, Big Local continues to grow as a powerful force for good in what it invests in and how it does this through the vision and dedicated activism of resident groups working for the greater community good.

## Community Wealth Fund

There is a key opportunity for us all to influence future funding in our communities by completing the survey about dormant assets: [www.communitywealthfund.org.uk/respond](http://www.communitywealthfund.org.uk/respond).

## Make it happen

As the Big Local programme enters its final phase, with area investment completed by late 2025, Local Trust is upping support to each area to ensure maximum opportunities for maximum investment in local priorities, opportunities to find future funding and growing the number and skills of volunteers. Catch up on the offers by getting the newsletter. The sort of free expert advice available includes:

Community engagement and volunteer management | Securing a community asset | Becoming a legal body | Mastering communications and storytelling | Climate proofing the BL plan | Funding and income generation | Engaging diverse groups of people | Measuring Change

## Looking back

At the July meeting, quarterly reports were scrutinised and approved by the partnership including for the Stiches, Woodcarvers, Memory Lane, Samaritans, Boston Community transport, Restore Pantry, Boston

in Bloom, Play equipment, LCVS environmental improvements and volunteering and the 1940s event. Despite the set-back of the arson attack on the play equipment, the partnership is delighted at the success of summer events it has supported, especially the beach event and the 1940s event. The beach was larger than before, holding 52 tonnes of sand. The area was cleaned every day by Boston Borough Council Grounds team to ensure the safety of the community. The beach was open to the whole community to use whenever they wanted. Every day families flocked to play, brought their picnics and stayed as long as they wanted. In addition there was a fantastic programme of activities including the teddy bears picnic for pre-school children, golden time for the elderly population and fun in the sun for those needing additional support. There were two days of family fun with over 2000 people each day taking part, with magic shows, bouncy castles, donkey rides and face painter. Many other organisations joined ranks, giving them an opportunity to link with the community. Fran Taylor summed up: "It was proven that by working together a bigger and better event can be delivered." And was.

## Looking ahead

In reviewing progress over the first year of the current plan, the partnership has taken the opportunity to sketch a time line and emerging priorities through to the end of Big Local. A key proposal agreed in principle by the partnership is to run one final year with the remaining funds from April 2023 to April 2024, rather than shall we say spread the jam too thin. Our AGM and community event with the partnership at the Len Medlock Centre on Thursday October 13th, helped to launch the plan review and develop our final plan to be ready to submit in February 2023.

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

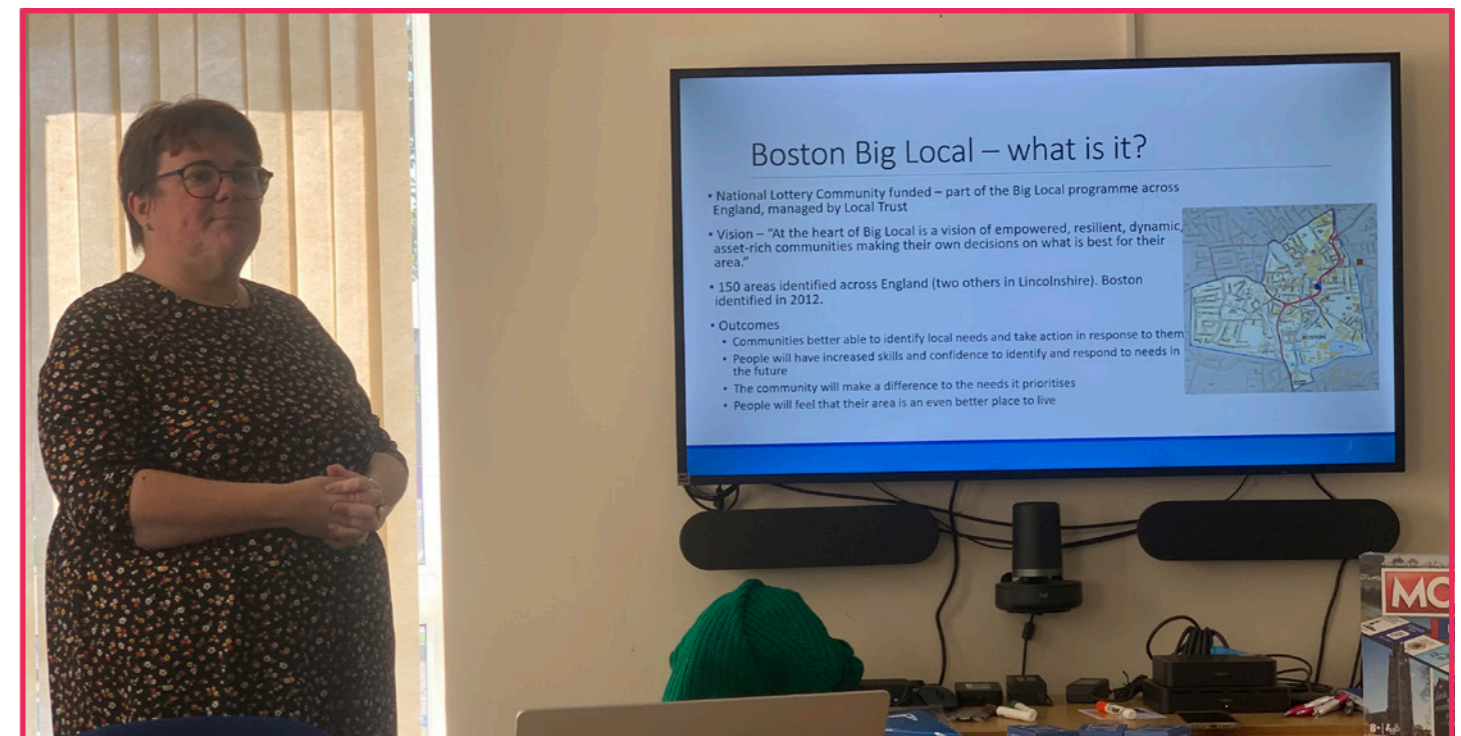


# Boston Big Local

Residents Leading Change

2022/23 Winter Edition

# Developing Our Final Plan



**After the pandemic, Our first in-person A.G.M took place at the Len Medlock Center on the 13th October at 2pm.**

The meeting was opened by our Chair Richard Tory who

welcomed everybody and introduced our guest speakers Michelle Sacks – Deputy Chief Executive (Growth) at Boston, East Lindsey and South Holland Councils and Michele Jolly –

CEO at Age UK Lincoln & South Lincolnshire.

Their talk was followed by a few words from Bill Badham

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To get updates on Boston Big Local, subscribe to our newsletter at [bostonbiglocal.co.uk](http://bostonbiglocal.co.uk), like our Facebook page or follow [@bostonbiglocal](https://twitter.com/bostonbiglocal) on Twitter



## FUNDING FOR YOUR GROUP

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

## Our Final Plan - Continues from page 1

– Boston Big Local's Rep and link to the central Local Trust organisation.

Katy Roberts our Plan coordinator then shared an overview of BBL achievements over the last 3 years since we met.

Watch what they all had to say at <https://bostonbiglocal.co.uk/a-g-m-2022/>

Prior to the conclusion of our AGM meeting we discussed the development of our final plan which will start in April 2023. Our previous 4 plans have been

over 2 years. However, the BBL panel and meeting decided that, based on how much money we have left and how much we want to continue to support the causes in our area, our final plan will be for one year.

After the completion of our final plan, Boston Big Local will be ending in April 2024, a year earlier than originally planned.

Our final year will be a fantastic opportunity for us to celebrate the differences we have made in Boston.

**Our final plan will continue to cover our four themes:**

**Theme 1**  
Health and Wellbeing

**Theme 2**  
A More Attractive Environment

**Theme 3**  
Building Community Spirit

**Theme 4**  
Encouraging Enterprise

**Learn more about how we have helped in these 4 themes in the past at:**

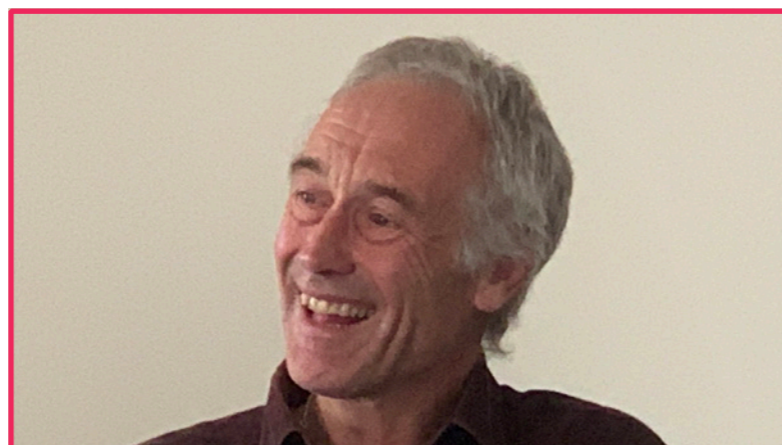
[bostonbiglocal.co.uk/what-we-do/](https://bostonbiglocal.co.uk/what-we-do/)



Michelle Sacks – Deputy Chief Executive (Growth)



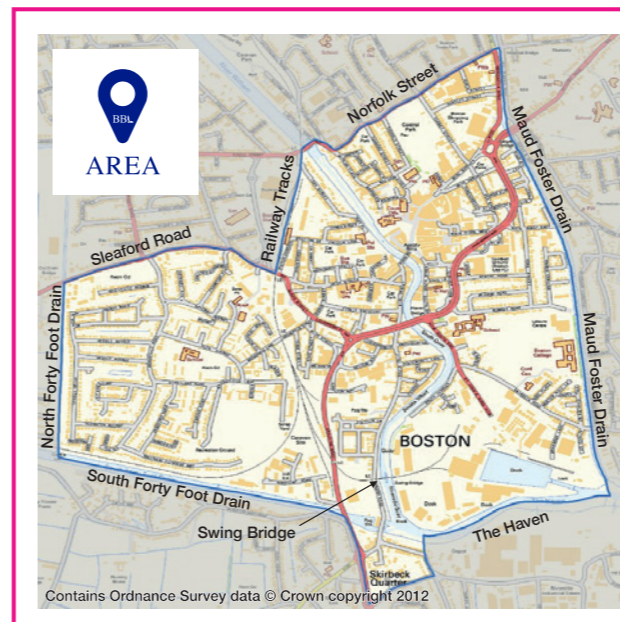
Michele Jolly – CEO at Age UK Lincoln & South Lincolnshire



Bill Badham – BBL Rep

## Community Chest/Events Funding Apply by 30th January 2023

### FIVE MINUTE FUNDING!



**If you are a group in the BBL area or can show that you will help the BBL community you can apply for BBL funding.**

**OPTION 1**

**COMMUNITY CHEST**

up to **£1,500**

**APPLY**

**OPTION 2**

**EVENTS**

up to **£1,500**

**APPLY**

**FILL IN OUR SIMPLE 5 MINUTE FUNDING FORM**  
**[WWW.BOSTONBIGLOCAL.CO.UK/FUNDING/](https://www.bostonbiglocal.co.uk/funding/)**

# DID YOU KNOW?

Since we formed in 2015 we have invested around £875k into the BBL area. We have less than 2 years left to invest the remaining £325K! Help us do this at [www.bostonbiglocal.co.uk](https://www.bostonbiglocal.co.uk)

