



**Final report by Frances Taylor
Play and Physical Activity Officer
Boston Borough Council
September 2023**

Beach Events 2023

Theme 3 – Building Community Spirit

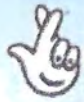
**Priority 1 – Provide new and support existing activities
drawing people from different backgrounds together**

**Activity 1 – Build a beach area for the community to use the
whole of the summer plus a 2 day Summer Beach event and
3 themed events.**



Thursday 17th and Friday 18th August - 10am to 3pm

Central Park, Boston



COMMUNITY
FUND



Responsible Spending Change

BOSTON beach event



- Magician
- Donkey Rides
- Face Painting
- Art and Craft
- Bouncy Castle
- Beach Area
- Giant Tortoises
- Reptile Life (18th only)
- Fun Games



FREE
ENTRY



www.visitbostonuk.com

events@boston.gov.uk

01205 314200

Photographs and video may be taken at this event for promotional purposes

BOSTON beach events

CENTRAL PARK



Teddy Bears Picnic

For pre-school children, nurseries, babies and toddlers

Wednesday 19th July
12 noon - 2pm

Bring your picnic and meet Big Ted for fun on the beach.

Build a sandcastle
Sing-a-long to
Teddies tunes.
Deck chairs available

FREE event

Golden Time

For those over 50, those living with dementia and their carer's

Thursday 10th August
2pm - 4pm

Come and join us for games on the beach or just sit and relax.

Sing-a-long with singing for fun to all of your favourites / song sheets provided
Deck chairs available

FREE event

Fun in the Sun

For those living with additional support needs

Thursday 24th August
1pm - 3pm

Join us on the beach for fun games
Sandcastle building
Sing and dance to the music

Deck chairs available

FREE event



Boston Big Local

Residents Leading Change



COMMUNITY
FUND



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The beach certainly brought a lot of community spirit throughout the whole of the summer.

The beach area was installed on Monday 17th July prior to the school holidays starting. This would allow a full 8 weeks of usage of the beach area.

The beach was cleansed every morning by the Groundsman in Central Park.

During the build we had a visit from BBC Radio Lincolnshire who promoted the events on their radio along with Endeavour Radio who did the same.



Teddy Bears Picnic

Our first event was the Teddy Bears Picnic on 19th July from 12 noon to 2pm. This was aimed at pre-school children, parents and carer's. Unfortunately the weather was against us and with torrential rain Botolph had to pop on his raincoat !!!!!



However we had a few families who braved the weather and stayed for story time and a sing-a-long.

Golden Time

The next event was for our elderly population held on 10th August from 2pm – 4pm when Singing for Fun joined us at the beach for an afternoon of fabulous singing. Each being given a song book over 100 people joined in and the afternoon was enjoyed by all who attended and especially those living with dementia.



Many of the public commented how lovely it was to see the elderly out in the fresh air and really enjoying the singing.

Mary who brought 3 ladies with dementia said “thank you so much we have really enjoyed this and Rita who doesn’t really communicate even sang a little which was fantastic!”

Family Fun Days

The two family fun days were held on 17th and 18th of August from 10am – 3pm each day.

With 11 local organisations joining the event and all bringing fantastic activities families had so much to choose from to take part in all of which was free.

The library joined us for story time, Geoff Moulder for fun games and held sessions on how to perform CPR should it ever be needed, Children's Centre focussed on toddler play along with a second hand children's clothes stall where over 75 bags of clothes were taken by families in need. Lincs Community Voluntary Services joined with the wildlife trust and made wild flower bombs, held a quiz and delivered several environmental activities, Lincs Housing Partnership had lots of crafts to make, The NHS maternity nurses and health visitors gave out much needed advice, BRIC had outdoor games, the Salvation Army also had fun games and painting opportunities and The Road Hog bus came with their double decker bus with electronic games, films and more including free hot or cold drinks for all.

On top of all of these exciting activities of course we also had the donkey rides, face painting, giant tortoises, reptile life, slacklining, more art and crafts, magician, bouncy castles and theatre performances and not forgetting FREE ice creams for all children.



Magic Show



Face Painting



Youth Road Hog Bus visits several villages each week



Catch the Rat



Learning CPR



Slacklining



Donkey Rides



Giant Tortoises



Wild Flower Bombs



Reptile Life



Art and crafts



NHS



C/C's bags of clothes



Flour and water play



Four generations out for the day



What a brilliant two day event!

Families came together to share the exciting activities on offer, children playing together, mum's and dad's making new friends, grandparents enjoying everything around them and great grandparents reminiscing about when they were young.

Those attending had great fun making sandcastles, playing beach games and seeing the reptiles, bouncing on the bouncy castles, trying their hand at first aid or art. There was something for everyone.

The sun shone and crowds came to stay all day.

Attendance over these two days was in excess of 4000

Comments from those that attended:

"Wonderful time in the park, well done to all involved"

"Thank you for such a great effort in bringing our community together."

"Absolutely fabulous event, this has been our summer holiday. We can't afford to go out for days or a holiday at the moment. My children have loved the events and we have been to the beach most days of the holidays. It has been a tough year for us."

"It has been a fantastic event for the children and nice to see adults catching up whilst the kids play"

"Lots of activities for children and parents to enjoy. Love the friendly vibe, chilled and lots of fun and all for FREE - WOW! Thank you!"

"Lovely to have an event like this to make up for a boring trip to town, really exciting things to do"

"Came on both days, such fun, really made Boston a fun place to be, thank you!"

"Kids love it, gets them away from electronic games. Beach area fantastic and with everything being FREE is just amazing. Thank you!"

"Great event for the community. Brilliant inclusion for our group with various disabilities"

"What a great two days, have been to the event before but this year was exceptional. I am so grateful everything is FREE as we are struggling at the moment, so to bring our kids and say they can go on everything is just brilliant. Thank you so much!"

"We've had a lovely day thank you. Such a great idea bringing the beach to Boston and so much to do and all FREE just amazing."

"I am a Nanny and it feels like such a treat to be able to spend quality time with the kids without having to spend a penny. We were also able to play and teach them different things with all the different stalls it was lovely."

Fun in the Sun

Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances and discussions with Boston Borough Council, Day Centres and Boston Big Local this event had to be cancelled.

However I have contacted all groups and invited them to attend the Christmas Event on 23rd November in Boston Stump.

We will be working together on Christmas songs and will all come together as one group to perform at that event.

Outcomes

I believe these events met all of the expected outcomes:

Fantastic partnership working over the years on this event has certainly proved that bigger and better events are delivered.

Residents from within Boston Big Local tell us there is more appreciation of the diversity of culture and backgrounds within the Boston Big Local Area

Residents from the Boston Big Local Area tell us there is greater community spirit and the community are drawn together.

It is noted that these events are inclusive to all.

Residents have seen that play opportunities have increased for the community.

Health and Wellbeing has improved in families, many have been to the beach to play most days in the summer.

Overall Attendances

The beach area was used every day by families and is it estimated that over the summer not including figures already given that 100 people used the beach a day giving a total of 5600 plus it would be more on some days as other activities were organised such as Messy hands and Feet and Pirates and Princess's plus many Nursery groups brought their children along on several occasions.

Beach Activity	Attending	
Themed beach events	110 +	Unfortunately torrential rain saw very low numbers at the Teddy Bears Picnic and due to unforeseen circumstances the Fun in the Sun was cancelled
Two day beach event	4000+	
Public beach visits throughout summer	Estimated 3100	Weather not as good as previous years
TOTAL	7210	
Other activities number not known	Unknown	Other activities were held around the beach by other organisations

All totals added together that we know = 7210 + other visits

AMAZING!!!

Cost

	BBL	BBC	In Kind BBC	In Kind Others
Beach construction	£6500			
Donkeys	£850			
Tortoises	£380			
Bouncy Inflatables	£575			
Reptile Life	£500			
Face Painter x 2	£800			
Slacklining	£400			
Biz	£180			
Sam's House	£290			
Magician	£340			
Singing For Fun Group	£150			
Ice creams	£500			
Re- installation of grass	£253		£47	
Community Groups offering activities				£2375
Promotion			£120	

Supply of extra waste bins			£75	
Use of Central Park			£140	
Cleansing of beach area each morning			£600	
Event Co-ordination and Management			£2000	
Total	£11,718		£2982	£2375

Over the last 9 years I have been working with Boston Big Local on many projects all of which has brought a huge amount to the Borough of Boston. So many new pieces of amazing play equipment which has brought exciting and challenging new play opportunities to the children and young people improving their physical activity, health and wellbeing.

Being involved in so many events over the years has also been a wonderful experience for me. I am a community person who loves to be involved in bringing exciting projects to the table, organising and delivering to what I hope has been a high standard.

I would personally like to thank Boston Big Local for trusting in me by funding all we have worked on together. These projects would not have happened without you and your support so thank you for giving me so many wonderful years!