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Chief Executive
Phil Drury
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24 February 2020

TO MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

**NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY - ENVIRONMENT & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE**

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the
Overview & Scrutiny - Environment & Performance Committee on
Tuesday, 3rd March, 2020 at 6.30 pm
at Boston Guildhall

PHIL DRURY
Chief Executive

Membership:

Chairman: Councillor Judith Skinner
Vice Chairman: Councillor Tracey Abbott
Councillors Peter Bedford, George Cornah, Anton Dani, Deborah Evans,
Paul Goodale, Neill Hastie, Peter Watson and Judith Welbourn

A G E N D A

PART 1 - PRELIMINARIES

A. APOLOGIES

To receive apologies for absence.

B. MINUTES

(Pages 1 - 10)

To sign and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting.

C. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

To receive declarations of interests in respect of any item on the agenda.

D. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

To answer any written questions received from members of the public no later than 5 p.m. two clear working days prior to the meeting – for this meeting the deadline is 5 p.m. on Thursday 27 February 2020

PART II - AGENDA ITEMS

1 THE PILGRIMS 2020 AND ALLIED OPPORTUNITIES (UPDATE) (Pages 11 - 26)

A report by the Head of Place and Space

2 WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 27 - 34)

Standing Item

Notes:

The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Karen Rist, Democratic Services Officer, Municipal Buildings, Boston, Telephone Number 01205 314226. email: karen.rist@boston.gov.uk

Council Members who are not able to attend the meeting should notify as soon as possible giving the name of the Council Member (if any) who will be attending the meeting as their substitute.

Alternative Versions

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OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY - ENVIRONMENT & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

7 January 2020

Present: Councillor Judith Skinner (Chairman), Councillor Tracey Abbott (Vice-Chairman), Councillors Richard Austin BEM, George Cornah, Anton Dani, Deborah Evans, Paul Goodale, Neill Hastie, Peter Watson and Judith Welbourn

Portfolio Holders: Councillor Paul Skinner and Councillor Yvonne Stevens.

Councillor Anne Dorrian Chairman of Climate Changer Member Working Group.

Officers: Chief Executive, Head of Environmental Operations, Head of Place and Space, Environmental Health Officer, Transformation & Governance Manager, Democratic Services Officer

Observing: Councillor Stephen Woodliffe and the Head of Regulatory Services

36 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were tabled by Councillor Peter Bedford with Councillor Richard Austin BEM substituting.

37 MINUTES OF MEETING 5TH NOVEMBER 2019

With the agreement of the committee, the Chairman signed the minutes of the last committee meeting held on the 5 November 2019.

38 MINUTES OF THE CALL-IN MEETING 14 NOVEMBER 2019

With the agreement of the committee, the Chairman signed the minutes of the Call-In meeting held on the 14 November 2019.

39 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Neill Hastie declared a conflict of interest in agenda item no. 3 in his role as a market trader.

40 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No public questions were tabled.

41 CLIMATE CHANGE

Councillor Anne Dorrian, the Chairman of the Member Working Group tabled the final report of the review, seeking committee's agreement to refer the recommendations on to Full Council. Recognising that the committee had been well represented by its own members on the working group, Councillor Dorrian further tabled her thanks to the 8 members of staff who had been co-opted to the group along with the two members of the public, with Mrs Victoria Haw's exceptional knowledge of Climate change having proved invaluable throughout the review.

Councillor Dorrian further tabled her gratitude to the Chief Executive for all of his work in supporting the review along with the Portfolio Holder Councillor Paul Skinner for his knowledge of the industry.

Councillor Dorrian explained the 9 recommendations proposed by the working group as being ambitious, pragmatic and deliverable.

Committee acknowledged the positive outcomes of the review and the time line in which it had been completed. No committee questions were tabled.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Environment and Performance Committee, having considered the draft report, agree referral of the recommendations contained therein to Full Council at the next scheduled meeting on the 20th January 2020.

The recommendation was carried unanimously.

42 AIR QUALITY POLICY

Presenting the report the Principal Environmental Health Officer supported by the Portfolio Holder advised that Boston had declared two Air Quality Management Areas due to air quality failing to meet nitrogen dioxide health based air quality standards.

Having declared an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) the Council had a statutory obligation to produce an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) and the draft plan proposed expanded on the previous plan published in 2006 which was then updated in 2010.

The actions within the plan were not all within the power of the Council alone with a number of actions relying on engaging with partners, in particular Lincolnshire County Council Highways, Public Health and the local community. The Council has been working with LCC and Public Health, both of whom were members of the officer steering group developing the AQAP. Full consultation was required with a wide range of organisations and the wider community under schedule 11 of the Environment Act 1995 and the report tabled simply sought committees' agreement to move forward with the consultation process.

Generally members fully agreed the need for the AQAP but concerns and comments in respect of air quality within the town were noted as follows:

The distributor road was referenced as high in the plan but members were wary of its actual implementation with delays and expectations over a number of years being fruitless to date. Concerns were voiced in respect of planning matters both in respect of increased vehicles alongside flooding issues with new builds being subject to significant high floor levels. Members voiced strong concerns on the number of new housing developments across the borough which resulted in increases in the number of car movements through the town. A lack of public transport and dangers of cycling due to the volume of vehicles on the roads had led to school children being taken to school. Members noted the ease that vehicles travelled through the town when the schools were closed and the roads were not congested which supported the increases in traffic due to the need to transport students to schools by car. A further suggestion noted using subways or bridges at the two AQMA's which were used in other areas

Further suggestions in respect of reducing congestion included liaising with the local bus operators to change the existing bus routes both within the town and out into the rural areas, whilst also requesting operators change to electric buses with notable agreement by members that the fumes from the current buses were extremely damaging. A member suggested car free days in the town centre with Bank Street being closed on market days which would provide a traffic free zone area in the middle of the town. Consultation should also be undertaken with British Rail in respect of the re-timing of large freight train traffic which always resulted in blocking rail crossings for approximately 12/15 minutes during its shunting into the freight yards. The impact of this resulted in significant numbers of cars queueing at various crossings with engines running, impacting on the surrounding air quality.

Comments noted concern that by closing Bank Street it would simply disperse the traffic back onto John Adams Way. Until such time that Boston had a Distributor Road nothing would change and the Plan was highly dependent on the provision of the distributor road: there was a serious geographical problem in that the town had one road through it and the back-up road was unable to cope when John Adams Way was closed. There was too much traffic with vehicle numbers continuing to increase due to the high number of new homes being built. Re-opening of the turn right onto John Adams Way from South End would ease congestion at the Haven Bridge (AQMA 2001). Referencing the two (AQMA sites) a member suggested using either subways or footbridges to allow improved traffic flows and take pedestrians away from the high level pollution. Further comment noted changes in lifestyle including laziness by parents and time pressures had led to parents driving their children to school instead of walking them. This point was countermanded by another member who disagreed it was working parents who dropped their children off on their own way to work and it proved very stressful to parents in both dropping off their children and then collecting them.

Responding to the suggestions and comments made the Principal Environmental Health Officer advised that spatial planning was taken into account with new developments and whilst all development could not be prevented that measures to reduce their impacts such as travel plans, electronic hook-up points and cycle routes were commonly imposed through the planning process to try to mitigate some of the impacts. He agreed that traffic free zones did work particularly in city environments, however he advised that Boston did not lend itself to this due to the lack of routes across the town and choice of alternative transport option being limited. Our AQMA's also lay on the principle routes across the town.

The Principal Environmental Health Officer advised the right turn from South End to John Adams way had only been closed after extensive study and trial by LCC. The reason it had been done was to allow traffic phasing to be altered at this junction to allow better flow cross Haven Bridge/John Adams way.

Members' were advised that Lincolnshire County Council Highways were currently reviewing Bank Street and its potential daytime closure and he stressed that this was not being looked into in isolation, as other roads across the town were also being reviewed with a view to aid traffic flows overall.

Referencing table 3.1 of the report a member questioned the increase in emissions at that site and asked if the area identified as adjacent to 18 Queen Street, was the roundabout across from McDonalds and if so, were they responsible for the increased traffic and could they be held accountable.

The Principal Environmental Health Officer stated it was difficult to attribute such volumes of traffic as there were other businesses on the same site and advised that nitrogen dioxide levels were equally high at other locations along this road and beyond. Whilst there had been a small increase at this location there is some natural variance on monitored levels year on year as a result of other factors particularly atmospheric ones ie rainfall, wind direction and atmospheric pressure.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Environment and Performance Committee agree consultation on the draft Air Quality Action Plan in accordance with the consultation plan in Appendix B of the report

43 MARKETS REVIEW - UPDATE ON RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recorded that having declared himself conflicted on this item, Councillor Neill Hastie took no part in any of the deliberation except to offer technically correct information at one point.

The Head of Place and Space presented the report providing a brief update on the recommendations from the Task and Finish Group review.

The Policy had been adopted by Cabinet subject to two amendments to the report tabled: firstly an amendment to point 17.1 of the policy with the deletion of the proposed sentence which read “but shall determine the application having due regard to the currently adopted tenant mix, and secondly the deletion of paragraph 9.5 relating to traders not smoking.

The provision of a Welcome Archway. This was now being progressed following it being held in abeyance due to the focus being on Mayflower 400 celebrations. The Public Realm Group was now scoping future prospective projects with the concept of the archway having been submitted to the group at its meeting in December 2019.

Zoning of the Market Place had been considered but was being held as a longer-term opportunity as many established traders had noted their preference from having their own stall in the same location as customers could easily find them.

The cultural offer had been agreed by Cabinet to support the markets and town centre services through BTAC and other partners, with the offer having been delivered via a number of events including the 1940’s campaign; the Hansa event and various special markets.

Stalls for students had been agreed by Cabinet with a teenage market having been confirmed for July 4th 2020 supported by a partnership with Bishop Grosseteste University and funded through the BTAC events programme.

New larger scale signage had been agreed by Cabinet but this work was ongoing as finances still needed to be secured to undertake the work. The markets however have been rebranded with a new logo developed to help them stand out and provide a sense of their heritage and range of products in marketing media

The final recommendation had been agreed by Cabinet who also recognised the contribution made by the four schools both in the initial consultation process and in the quality of their own individual final reporting back to the committee.

Committee comments / questioning and suggestions followed which included:

Referencing the various types of markets members asked if the Continental Market would return which had historically been held in Wide Bargate and proved to be very popular. Noting the Farmers Market a further query asked why it had not been incorporated to within the main Wednesday market instead of being a stand-alone market: the same question was tabled for the Craft Markets in respect of it standing alone on a Thursday. There was praise for the introduction of the Teenage Market which members noted they felt should be promoted with the schools well in advance of the event to allow the students plenty of time to arrange and book their stalls.

Suggestions for improving the existing offer included providing incentives such as one free Saturday trading per month giving all traders the opportunity to stand all day without having to pay rent and also advertising the offer to encourage new traders: opening the markets up to families to sell things they did not need to use the empty stalls and also to address issues in respect of homelessness with people living in doorways in the town centre which put shoppers off using the market place. The Council need to be far more pro-active and flexible in its promotion and use of the market place: it was too rigid in its stance and needed to change its' approach considerably in considering suggestions and options for increasing trade.

Voicing concerns at the lack of toilets available for market traders within the vicinity of the market place a member questioned if it would be possible to re-open / rent the Assembly rooms toilets on market days for traders and if failing that then have Portaloo's installed for the traders to use.

Addressing the support of coach companies in bringing tourists into the markets members asked what was being done to increase the day trips, particularly over the summer months. It was noted that most drivers / coach operators need an enticement to come, such as free refreshments. Members asked if there was personal contact with the coach companies and not just advertising on relevant web sites / in editorials.

Councillor Neill Hastie addressed the meeting at this point in the proceedings to advise that there had been an increase in Traders on Bargate Green.

The Head of Place and Space addressed each area of concern as follows:

The Continental Market ceased being due to it not being viable and the organisation responsible for scheduling the events, cancelled them. New organisations had approached the Council to schedule similar events but there were logistics problems in accommodating them and the Council was looking to provide opportunities where feasible. The Farmers Market equally failed to make money although they have since been invited to join the Craft market on a Thursday and the Craft Market preferred to stand on a Thursday as they did not want to stand on the Wednesday market.

Referencing the suggestions of 'free standing' / reductions in rates and opening up to 'car boots' the Head of Place and Space reminded members that the Council had to work in line with the current Markets Policy: incentives had been trialled previously with reductions in rent and reviewing of options was ongoing, however Boston held an actual Market and it was not a car boot nor used for such, subject to a change in Policy. The situation in respect of homelessness people was continually monitored by partner organisations and unless any actual crime was committed there was nothing that could be done to remove the culprits. More and more empty shops had taken to boarding their doorways in full to deter rough sleepers.

The toilets at the Assembly Rooms were no longer owned by the Council: they were in a state of disrepair and estimates to refurbish them would be very high. The stall holders had additional free access to toilets at Boston Stump and at Oldrids and visitors also had access to toilets at the bus station when they arrived into the town.

The Council actively advertised in publications and on websites regularly used by the Coach companies and a member stated that the café on site at the bus station did provide clean toilets for the drivers along with a free drink and a snack. Direct contact had not been undertaken in recent years and was subject to resources and time, but last year there were increasing coaches to the town, all of which were met and welcomed by a volunteer giving information and handing out leaflets.

The suggestion in respect of Portaloo's for market traders and of direct calling of Coach Operators would be noted and taken forward resources permitting.

Committee noted the report.

44 REVIEW OF PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER

The Head of Environmental Operations presented the report supported by the Portfolio Holder and advised members that the Public Space Protection Order had originally been implemented in February 2017 to address issues of anti-social behaviour caused by irresponsible dog owners. Since implementation of that order there had been a 70% reduction in complaints of such anti-social behaviour.

The order lapsed at 3 years and following on from consultations with residents, visitors, veterinary surgeries, dog owners and dog related charities there had been overwhelming support for the three year extension of the order. Clear outcomes from the consultation had noted 75% of those who responded felt Boston still had a problem with dog fouling; 96% agreed it should still be an offence if walkers/owners did not carry a bag at all times to clear up; 99.5% agreed it should still be an offence to refuse to put dangerous dogs on a lead when requested to do so and 93% agreed it should still be an offence to allow dogs into an enclosed play area.

Members were advised that in the event that committee do not agree the extension then the Council would have no statutory power to address any anti-social dog related issues, except for dog fouling.

Committee comment / observation followed which included:

There was agreement that tremendous progress had been made in respect of dog fouling and that this was reflected in the public amenity around the town. Questioning the level of fixed penalty notices, members were advised it was £100.00 which was a statutory charge and the Council was not at liberty to change it.

In response to a question in respect of exemptions, the Head of Environmental Operations confirmed that statutory exemptions were in place in certain circumstances, for example for those with visual impairment or have mobility issues which prevented them from removing dog fouling.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Environment and Performance committee having considered the report, recommends to Cabinet that a three year extension to the dog controls be agreed.

45 WORK PROGRAMME INCLUDING QUARTER 2 PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND INTERNAL AUDIT SCRUTINY REPORT

Introducing the work programme the Chairman initially provided committee with an update on the Regulating and Safeguarding Task and Finish Group advising that the initial meeting had taken place to allow scoping to take place: the first meeting proper was being held on the 21st January at which a number of support services would be giving evidence including the Street Pastors; Boston Stump and the Centenary Methodist Church and neighbourhood action groups. Consultation in respect of other work-streams were also underway and further meetings would be scheduled with a wide range of partners.

The Head of Environmental Operations addressed the work programme updating committee on three issues:

1. Committee were reminded that the next meeting scheduled for the 3 March 2020 would be held at Boston Guildhall.
2. The quarter 2 Performance information was within the report for reference
3. The final appendix was the Internal Audit Report on Scrutiny which had concluded that Boston had been awarded a High Assurance rating which is the highest possible under the internal audit regime. Three recommendations had been identified but only two applied to this committee: review of the annual report and that the Council provide a schedule of all policies with a review date to assist in the forward planning Scrutiny agendas.

Addressing the Quarter 2 Performance information the Head of Environmental Operations welcomed the Transformation & Governance Manager and invited questions and suggestions for future Scrutiny.

Member comments and suggestions followed which included:

Concern was raised in respect of a request for attendance by the Environment Agency to a member briefing to discuss issues in respect of flooding / planning conditions and what would happen once the barrier was installed. Committee were advised that a date for the meeting would be agreed pending confirmation by the Environment Agency.

Noting variants in car parking income with some significant increases at certain sites, members agreed it would be good to have more information to understand the reasons for the variances. Transformation and Governance Manager confirmed that the information in Q2 was in isolation and that supporting information could be analysed and presented to Members. It was agreed that an Inquiry Evening be scheduled to allow members to receive the supporting information and deliberate the findings.

Member comments on car parking included that it was similar to a tax on the residents and should be free to encourage people into the town: people no longer shopped in Boston and drove to other towns where parking was free and that the 2 hours parking was restrictive in people spending a full day due to the need to get back to the car before the ticket elapsed. It was pointed out that there was an app which allowed you to top up your parking free from your phone so you did not need to return to your vehicle and also the cost of fuel to travel to other towns was probably more than the cost of parking in Boston.

A further suggestion noted that sign posting to car parking in the town should be improved, for example the car park at Maud Street was not advertised to road users entering the town from either Sibsey Road or Skegness Road and was usually empty. The site should be signposted with directions coming down Spilsby Road at a charge of £2 per day. It would gain a reputation as being good value for money and would be a good trial test for all-day parking.

Incidents of fly tipping of black bags had increased significantly and was a cause for concern to Members. The Transformation and Governance Manager confirmed that information was available to underpin the data and committee agreed that an Inquiry Evening on the subject would be very beneficial.

A member questioned the difference between gross and nett income rates relating to business rates as he had concerns at the income appeared to already be adrift by £6k in Q1 and £6k in Q2. The Transformation and Governance Manager confirmed she would seek clarification and notify members following the meeting.

Questioning the decrease across all CCTV provision members were advised that crime was decreasing across the Borough and the figures were representative. The Council was responsible for producing evidence packages when requested by the Police, but improved CCTV clarity had reduced the need for so many packages. The number of anti-social behaviour orders had decreased and the number of Civil Injunctions secured had risen.

A member questioned criminal activity within the Fenside Ward stating it was due to the Council taking away the CCTV cameras: confirmation was provided that the CCTV cameras that had been in operation within the Fenside ward had been the property of Mayflower / LHP and it had been their decision to stop using the cameras and had nothing whatsoever to do with the Council.

To Do:

1. The Transformation and Business Manager to provide clarification of the Gross and Nett rates under the business rates in Q2
2. The clerk to schedule two Inquiry Evenings: one for Car Parking and one for Fly Tipping.

The Meeting Closed at 9.10 pm

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B O S T O N B O R O U G H C O U N C I L

REPORT TO:	ENVIRONMENT & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE
DATE:	3 MARCH 2020
SUBJECT:	THE PILGRIMS 2020 & ALLIED OPPORTUNITIES (UPDATE)
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	TOURISM, ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE
REPORT AUTHOR:	HEAD OF SPACE AND PLACE
EXEMPT REPORT?	NO

SUMMARY

This report is an update on the Local level activity in regards the 2020 Pilgrims anniversary initiatives and also includes updates on National and Regional activities.

An initial report was presented to the Environment & Performance Committee at its 10th January 2018 meeting where members debated and commented on the prospective programme. In conclusion, the Chairman agreed that it was a programme which needed to be supported and promoted as much as possible and that the committee would welcome follow up reporting on the various projects to monitor outcomes of the funding applications.

This report was presented to Cabinet on 21st February 2018 detailing project and programme ambitions alongside a request to support specific elements of funding to enable the projects to be progressed. The report and requests for funding were approved at that meeting and it was recognised that the suggested programme fulfilled the Corporate Objectives of:

1. Prosperity – Attracting people and businesses to the area by raising the profile of Boston supporting the promotion of inward investment and developing our tourism, heritage and cultural opportunities.
2. People – supporting our role in meeting wider health & wellbeing needs of our community by continuing to work closely with our partners, &
3. Place – supporting Boston as a place which offers a quality way of life for residents.

An update on plans and projects for the 2020 anniversary was presented to the Environment and Performance at its 5th March 2019 meeting where progress was noted and the activities supported.

This was followed by an update report to the Environment and Performance Committee at its 5th September 2019 meeting where again both progress and planned activities were noted and supported.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Environment & Performance Committee notes the progress of the various projects as detailed within the report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The aim of the projects detailed within the report is to directly enhance and build on the placemaking and placebranding of Boston.

The management and presentation of the town's identity and improvement of its public realm enhances its character and helps communicate its strengths, which will reinforce the placebranding of Boston and help shape the regeneration of the town. The projects are intended to help increase the discovery and engagement with the historic offer and wider retail & business environment and compliment other initiatives improving Boston as a visitor destination such as the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) funded Townscape Heritage project and the Historic England Shop front scheme.

The projects, activities and events will enable Boston to demonstrate its key part in this story and benefit from developing and sharing its wider offer through its promotion on a national and international level.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

None

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report is an update on the Local level activity as regards the 2020 Pilgrim anniversary and the Mayflower 400 National level activity of the Mayflower 400 group, led by Plymouth City Council. Additionally a consortium of local authorities from Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire working towards developing and promoting the 'Pilgrims Roots', which represents the areas where the Separatists, later to be known as the Pilgrims originated from and who travelled to Boston to escape religious persecution.

- 1.2 A report was presented on proposed activity to the Environment and Performance Committee in regards the proposed activities and requests for funding on 10th of January 2018. A further was presented to Cabinet on 21st February 2018 detailing project and programme ambitions alongside a request to support specific elements of funding to enable the projects to be progressed. The report and requests for funding were approved at that meeting and a summary of monies committed to support at this time are appended to this report (Appendix 1). An update report showing progress in these schemes was provided to the Environment and Performance Committee on 5th March 2019 and subsequently a further update report was provided to the Environment and Performance Committee on 5th September 2019.
- 1.3 Nationally, in May 2016, Plymouth secured a £500K grant from Visit England to promote the national Mayflower Pilgrims story overseas, and during 2018 the Department for Culture, Media and Sport agreed a similar amount to continue this activity into 2019.
- Boston has directly benefitted from many national and international coach group travel operators being brought to Boston many of which have built itineraries that include Boston for 2020.
 - Travel journalists and bloggers have also been brought to Boston as part of the initiative and produced positive copy recognising the strong historic offer as a destination.
 - Boston is being promoted as a destination to world travel fairs by the Mayflower project which has developed a visitor offer 'prospectus', which promotes those destinations involved in the story, and Boston features well in the both narrative and visually throughout.
 - Boston is featured in physical literature, online blogs and in short promotional films promoting the 2020 offer of the Pilgrim destinations. These include travel articles in the American 'Christian Post' and coverage in the influential travel blog 'London Unattached'. Boston has been included in travel itineraries of a number of national and international group travel operators including Kuoni travel and Reformation Tours. A promotional film of the local 'Pilgrim Roots' region, including Retford, Scrooby and Gainsborough, features Boston and helps share our offer as a heritage destination.
 - As a result of interest the Guildhall has developed more bookable tour products.
 - Boston Guildhall, as the main Pilgrim site and attraction in Boston, received a grant from this project of £5K to investigate development of online bookable products such as group visits and talks as well enabling delivery of a promotional video of Boston and the Guildhall for use on site and online.

- Boston now features prominently on a nationally and internationally available App for both Apple and Android devices where users can find out about those select towns and sites associated with the Pilgrim Story. A half day walking and driving tour of Boston specifically featuring historic sites has been developed and shows off the town in images and information worked up and supplied by us for the project.
<https://www.mayflower400uk.org/app>

The Mayflower Self-Guided Tours app turns mobile devices into a personal GPS tour guide of the UK towns, cities and villages connected to the Mayflower. You can follow in the footsteps of the Pilgrims and explore all the stops on the Mayflower trail at your own pace, learning about the history of the Mayflower and the journey through England and Holland.

The Boston Heritage Trail is a half-day walking and driving trail and points of interest are the Ingram Memorial, Pescod Hall, Pump Square, Custom House Quay, the Guildhall and Fydell House, the Town Bridge, Church Street, St Botolph's Church and the Pilgrim Fathers Memorial.

Highlights of the app include:

Learning the stories behind the places the Pilgrims were from and where they travelled to;

Discovering iconic places on the Mayflower trail - including the Pilgrim Fathers Memorial at Fishtoft;

Detailed maps of the walking tours and routes through the Mayflower destinations;

Alerts when you approach historical point of interests, landmarks, museums, and attractions;

Information about Pilgrim leaders, the Separatists and Mayflower crew;

Pictures of landmarks and attractions on the walking routes.

Mayflower Walking Tours has been released to help mark the Mayflower 400 anniversary year next year and is a must-have for anyone going on a Mayflower tour holiday in the UK or Holland in 2020.

Whilst offering visit support, liaison and post visit enquiry and information services to the groups and individuals delivering these initiatives, amounting to £2K of 'benefit in kind' contributions, all of these works have been paid for on behalf of the main project and required no financial resourcing.

- 1.4 Nationally, Plymouth led the development of a bid to secure Arts Council England (ACE) funding to support artistic development of an 'Illuminate' event in their region that also incorporates resource and capacity to develop a national 'moment' at other Pilgrim destinations. This bid has been successful and though details are currently not known it is thought that it will bring additional resource to help reinforce our own 'Illuminate' event in 2020 that the council and partners have been successfully delivering alongside our Christmas events launches in November of each year.

It is anticipated that the outcome will include resource to deliver a complimentary event alongside our own planned and resourced activity at no additional cost.

2. Boston – Projects designed to incorporate the Pilgrim 2020 anniversary

2.1 HLF ‘Experience Boston: Travel, Trade and Influence’

A bid was submitted to build on the foundation of the HLF funded Explore and Discover project that delivered new mapping, pedestrian wayfinding improvements, trails and town guides, interpretation monoliths and importantly provided the design toolkit that now brands much of Boston.

The project was proposed to be delivered in two stages. The first prioritising activities and development of Pilgrim specific resources and interpretation ready for early 2020. The second was a continuing phase of engagement that develops our wider American, maritime histories and helps interpret and commemorate these connections for both our local and visiting audiences.

Unfortunately the bid was unsuccessful, feedback was that the project was a good quality one, that the partnership working was strong and that the application was good and that it was simply the weight of applications into the fund which meant that some very hard decisions had to be made.

Due to the timescales involved officers propose to deliver a reduced scheme focussing only on the interpretation of the Pilgrim story. This will be focussed at the Guildhall and Pilgrim related sites such as the memorial site and Customs House Quay

Boston Borough Council made a commitment of £10K match funding to support the project and through negotiation with Lincolnshire County Council an additional £10K of match funding was secured, on the basis that the monies were only available should the bid be successful.

Officers have spoken to LCC and secured a reduced contribution of £5K and it has been agreed through the Corporate Management Team (CMT) and the support of our Portfolio Holder for Tourism, Arts, Culture and Heritage to utilise the £10K of Boston Borough Council (BBC) match funding to directly deliver these works.

The council, as a separate project from the above, will also be applying for in the region of £5K to Arts Council England to support development of interpretation within the Guildhall to support our exhibitions, this is as they are the governing body for museums and as an accredited museum we are eligible to apply for funding.

It is also of note that through discussion with the Environment Agency (E.A.) officers have managed to advocate that they incorporate the same street furniture and our design toolkit to provide interpretation in the area adjacent to

the new barrier site. This will add to our existing and proposed schemes, in the absence of the HLF funding, and help make interpretation through the town and surrounds more seamless.

2.2 Development of 'Illuminate'

Each year the council and its partners have continued to work with the ACE funded Transported arts programme to progressively commission more ambitious and engaging arts activity in the Illuminate event. Illuminate is a light themed event that all destinations in the Pilgrim story can electively participate in and this event is built into our annual planning of our Christmas launch event. The lantern parades, delivered in partnership with artists and schools, have become a key part of each year's events and other elements such as contemporary choral works and aerial dance have brought added vitality.

The council is currently planning the Illuminate artistic content with Transported and have submitted a bid to ACE to enable some larger scale commissioning to create a greater spectacle with more impact in 2020.

Monies to support the current development and delivery of Illuminate have been made available from the Controlling Migration fund and £10K match funding for the 2020 Illuminate event has been agreed by Boston Borough Council (BBC) that supports the bid for £100K to ACE.

2.3 Pilgrim and American connections: Exhibitions and Events

The council will use events to help reinforce the Pilgrim associations in 2020.

The existing events programme is well developed and dynamic and like many destination partners the council will promote events during 2020 in the Mayflower 400 programme of activities. We are trying to maximise opportunity for making these American links and will work with the existing events programme and celebrate these links wherever possible.

The council will commemorate the Pilgrim story in events by developing our wider American connections, incorporating contemporary American culture among the main themes and introduce the Pilgrims where appropriate to provide a more engaging experience.

The Guildhall will have a specific events programme in place that looks to keep Pilgrim and Boston's American associations at the forefront during 2020. Officers are finalising dates around existing activities, bookings and commitments on site as well as exploring working with partner sites to offer a more dynamic experience. Dates for Guildhall events for 2020 include 10-12 April, 28-31 August and 9-13 September (dates are expressed as ranges though some may be single day events).

- 1) April 11 – Boston Guildhall Pilgrim Family Day 10:30am – 3:30pm, last admission 3pm. Free event with a £5 per person fee to attend the Neil

Wright Talk at 1pm Face painting, crafts, 11am and 2pm Promenade performance, 1pm Neil Wright Pilgrim and American Talk. Access to Fydell House gardens and a pop up café on site here. Tours of the new exhibition available at points during the day.

- 2) August 29th – Boston Guildhall Pilgrims, America and Joseph Banks. 10:30am – 3:30pm, last admission 3pm Free event. Face painting, crafts, 11am and 2:30pm promenade performance, Banks exhibition and Pilgrim and American Connections to view. Tours of both exhibitions available throughout the day. Investigating an afternoon talk from Adrian Gray – awaiting confirmation on availability. If this is confirmed there will be a £5 per
- 3) September 12th and 13th – Central Park, Americano Day Free two day event Details to be firmed up but will include exhibitors, stands, music, displays and face painting and crafts with café/refreshments all in the theme of Americano.
- 4) November 21st – Thanks Giving Dinner Evening event with a meal and talk More details to be released in due course.
- 5) November 26th – Illuminate Event organised with Transported Art and BBC

The Guildhall also completely re developed its internal exhibitions to incorporate either American themed content from its collections or content from the time of the Pilgrims and Cotton Congregation. The Guildhall museum had an event on site in late September 2019 that opened the fascinating Guildhall American Exhibition and marked the opening of the main commemorative period of Pilgrim activity.

September also benefited from an independently arranged conference that specifically explored Boston's historic American connections and which took place at Blackfriars Theatre with refreshments being taken at Boston Guildhall during the event. The event was very well attended and the Guildhall worked excellently as a unique 'breakout' space from the conference with its unique American connections being highlighted.

A specific Americana event incorporating the Pilgrims is planned for September 12th and 13th 2020 it is intended to commemorate the Pilgrim anniversary and the John Cotton story but with plans for it to focus towards a wealth of American influence to encourage wider inclusivity for the event and reinforce the links between Boston Lincolnshire, Boston Massachusetts and America.

Guildhall exhibition development and programme of events has and will continue to be delivered in house within existing budgets, and supported by agreed administrative costs and project expenses. The event in September 2020 will be funded by an agreed contribution by BBC of £5K with potential additional monies being sought to support.

A programme of Pilgrim specific events is appended (Appendix 2)

2.3.1 Guildhall Exhibition and Boston's relationship with the Pilgrims

During development of the exhibition in 2019 new information and research was pieced together which changed how we can look at the Pilgrim story in Boston and how the town's connections had a profound influence on the foundation of the United States of America.

Boston has traditionally been associated with the Pilgrims but has been thought of as the port and market town where, in 1607, a group of separatists with no connections to the town and area dramatically tried to escape only to be betrayed and arrested.

We now present a different story and tell a complex and compelling tale of intrigue and influence which enhances Boston's importance from the wider beginnings of the Pilgrims through to the foundation and administration of Boston Massachusetts in 1630.

This is a great year in 2020 to be able to present this newly changed understanding of the story. It is continuing to be explored and interpretation of it will continue to develop and hopefully lead to further knowledge to be able to share. This presents a great dynamic to seize upon during the forthcoming year and our bid to the Arts Council England (ACE) for exhibition development, which is intended to enhance displays, may now have a different focus and may increase in scope. Officers are currently discussing how best to proceed with ACE.

2.4 Structures on the Edge: ACE sculpture project, Havenside, near the Pilgrim memorial

A successful bid to ACE has enabled us to progress a project to develop a sculpture project looking to install a large scale contemporary installation was initiated during 2018. This is to be funded by Lincolnshire County Council and BBC match and support from ACE, with Lincolnshire County Council being the lead applicant and manager of delivery, the project being part of the Structures on the Edge commissions along the Lincolnshire Coast.

Artists' briefs were developed and issued during spring and responses from national and internationally known artists were shortlisted and then interviews took place. Through this a favoured 'in principle' design, which would evolve and be developed, was chosen which reflected not just the Pilgrims in isolation but navigation, travel and much wider themes. This design was shared and endorsed by the Chief Executive Officer and Portfolio Holder as well as with Fishtoft Parish Council.

Due to its location on and adjacent to the sea banks which will be being re-profiled due to engineering requirements as part of the barrier project the project submission has not been able completed as the design and construction cannot be developed at this point in time. Thus an application to ACE has been unable to be completed. Meetings on site with the E.A. have indicated that a potential more suitable location seaward of the sea bank and further from the memorial site may be more appropriate.

Whilst reflecting elements of the Pilgrim story the structure and the themes and stories it develops is considered as more widely encompassing but due to the physical constraints of the bank engineering if the bid is successful installation is likely to be completed post 2020. The proposal of the installation as part of the Sculptures on the Edge series of artworks in coastal locations makes it non dependent upon a direct relationship with the anniversary year and the brief and artist responses all look to create a legacy commemorating wider themes of exploration, maritime history and location. The council, Lincolnshire County Council and partners were required to wait until August 2019 after the E.A. had appointed a contractor, later than anticipated, to develop discussions to see when works can be progressed to develop and submit the bid. With works to the sea bank anticipated to commence by the end of 2019 and hopefully be finalised in this area by July 2020.

Lincolnshire County Council are the lead applicant and project manager and are providing circa £22K of match funding, Boston Borough Council have committed £5K match funding and ACE supporting with circa £100K.

2.5 Boston Buoys: Sculpture Project

Allied to the Structures on the Edge project a scheme proposing a set of artistic interventions to six large scale redundant maritime buoys was developed during spring 2018. Artist briefs were worked up and circulated and again a high level of response from nationally and internationally known artists was received. Through short listing and subsequent interview three artists were selected to 'curate' the project, each having two buoys to work with. The design proposals were used to support an application to ACE with match funding made available from Boston Big Local (BBL), the E.A. and Boston Borough Council.

This bid has been successful and the Arts Council England have committed £100K to make the project possible. The University of Lincoln, Transported, BBC and partners were able to have an initial meeting with the three artists of national and international status on the 15th May, they are Bex Simon (an artist blacksmith and who has appeared on the up cycling TV programme 'Money for Nothing'), Carrie Reichart (an internationally known mosaic artist) and Jo

Chapman a specialist in outdoor sculpture and who has delivered contemporary buoys projects in Shetland amongst her works.

The bid was submitted on behalf of Transported through their accountable body, the University of Lincoln, Transported will manage the project with the close cooperation of Boston Borough Council.

The buoys are intended to be placed in key locations in and around the town centre and represent and reflect elements of the town's historic and contemporary stories as well as presenting a 'trail' for people to be able to follow.

Planning application submissions for the five buoys requiring planning were worked up on behalf of the artists and submitted for consideration by the July meeting of the Planning Committee and were unanimously passed.

Whilst not specific to the Pilgrims the programme design and commissioning has always been intended to maximise its impact from a 2020 unveiling. Adding to the cultural offer of the town and being an impactful intervention in the public realm during a time of heightened interest locally, nationally and internationally.

The Boston Buoys project was initially scoped to be 5 buoys in total being match funded by £14K by Boston Big Local (BBL) through a service level agreement with Boston in Bloom (BiB) Boston Borough Council had through existing budgets agreed to support with a contribution of £1K. During May and June of 2018 officers took the opportunity to advocate investment in this arts project with the E.A. who are working on the barrier scheme to enable another buoy to be added to the scheme close to the barrier installation. In September of last year they confirmed that they would contribute an additional £14K to the scheme enabling all three selected artists to work on 2 buoys each. The bid to ACE was for £100K.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 The projects, activities & events programme will enable Boston to usefully contribute to other existing and proposed schemes based around the heritage and historic offer of Boston, improving the town as a destination and place to live, work and culturally engage with. These include the Townscape Heritage Initiative, public realm interventions and improvements in the presentation of the streetscene all of which influence the experience of Boston and underpin its ability to attract interest and investment.
- 3.2 The list of activity is not exhaustive and during 2020 it is likely that it will be possible to incorporate more activity and help stakeholders and partners develop plans to deliver additional programmes and events.

3.3 The recommendations of this report are therefore that:

- The Environment & Performance Committee notes the progress of the various projects as detailed within the report

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no new financial implications arising as a result of this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications specific to this report.

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

None

EQUALITY AND SAFEGUARDING IMPLICATIONS

None

ANY OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None specific to this report.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Summary of funding and costs

Appendix 2. Pilgrim Events Update

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT

A report on this item has previously considered by this committee on 10 January 2018, 5th March 2019 and 5th September 2019.

Appendix 1 - Summary Table of Projects and Costs

Detailed below is the Summary Table of agreed Projects and Costs as at June 2019

Project	Funding Bodies	Project Cost	Secured	BBC benefit in Kind	Further Staffing	BBC cash contribution
International and national promotion of destinations	Discover England Fund	£500K	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
Haven Commissions Project	ACE / LCC / BBC BID SUCESSFUL c. £100K Secured from ACE	£130K approx	No	Yes	Yes	£5K
Boston Buoys project	ACE/BBL/BiB/E.A./BBC BID SUCESSFUL c. £100K Secured from ACE	£130K	Yes	Yes	Yes	£1K
Experience Boston incorporating Pilgrims 2020	HLF / BBC/LCC BID UNSUCCESSFUL	£80K	No	Yes	Yes	£10K Monies redeployed to revised scheme below
Revised Pilgrim Scheme	LCC/BBC	£15K	Yes			£10K
Illuminate Festivals 2020	ACE/BBC Awaiting BID outcome	£110K	No	Yes	Yes	£10K
American and Pilgrim Event September 2020	BBC	£5K	Yes	Yes	Yes	£5K
Administrative Expenses (Annually £3K)	BBC	£9K (Over 3 years)	Yes	N/A	N/A	£9K
Staffing Costs for project Delivery	BBC	£7.5K (Over 3 years)	Yes	N/A	N/A	£22.5K

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APPENDIX 2

PILGRIM AND AMERICAN EVENTS 2019 AND 2020

SEPTEMBER 7 2019:

AMERICAN CONFERENCE 'FROM STUMP TO STATUE'

VENUE BLACKFRIARS THEATRE & BOSTON GUILDHALL

SEPTEMBER 28 2019:

GUILDHALL EXHIBITION OPENING AND PILGRIM YEAR LAUNCH

VENUE GUILDHALL

NOVEMBER 21 2019:

ILLUMINATE EVENT AND CHRISTMAS EVENT

TOWN CENTRE AND GUILDHALL

APRIL 2020

EASTER PILGRIM & AMERICAN HISTORY ACTIVITIES

VENUE GUILDHALL

AUGUST 2020

BANK HOLIDAY PILGRIM AND AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

VENUE GUILDHALL

SEPTEMBER 2020

AMERICANA AND PILGRIM EVENT

VENUE CENTRAL PARK AND GUILDHALL

NOVEMBER 2020

ILLUMINATE EVENT AND CHRISTMAS EVENT

TOWN CENTRE AND GUILDHALL

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BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

1 FEBRUARY to 31 MAY 2020

During the period 1 February to 31 May 2020 Boston Borough Council intends to take 'Key Decisions' on the issues set out in the following pages. Key decisions relate to those decisions which are likely to:

- Result in the authority incurring expenditure which is, or involves the making of savings which are significant having regard to the authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- Be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards of the Borough.

The Forward Plan is an outline of the proposed decisions and it will be updated on a monthly basis. Those items identified for decision more than one month in advance will be carried over to the following months plan. Each new plan supersedes the previous plan.

The Council invites members of the public to attend any of the meetings at which decisions will be discussed and the papers listed on the Plan can be viewed free of charge at the Customer Services Desk, Municipal Building, West Street, Boston, or on the Council's website, www.boston.gov.uk

If you wish to make comments or representations regarding the 'key decisions' outlined in the Plan, please submit them in writing to the contact officer identified against each key decision in the Plan, at least 2 working days before the date of the meeting at which the decision is to be taken.

Boston Borough council Forward Plan
1 February to 31 May 2020

Subject	Decision Maker	Date Decision to be taken	Comments to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name • Telephone • E-mail 	Documents submitted to decision maker and where they are available from	Portfolio Holder(s)	Is decision to be taken in private meeting (exempt information)?
Budget Setting Report and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020/21-2024/25	Cabinet Full Council	19 Feb 2020 2 Mar 2020	Paul Julian Chief Finance Officer and S151 Officer Tel: 01205 314487 paul.julian@boston.gov.uk	Report to Full Council. Public report will be available five clear working days before the meeting from Democratic Services and on the website www.bosotn.gov.uk	Councillor Martin Howard MSc. PCGM, Cert Ed	Open
Air Quality Action Plan- Draft Consultation	Cabinet	19 Feb 2020	Nick Davis Environmental Health Officer nick.davis@boston.gov.uk	Report to Cabinet. Public report will be available five clear working days before the meeting from Democratic Services and on the website www.bosotn.gov.uk	Cllr Yvonne Stevens,	Open
Keeping People Safe- Policy and Procedures	Cabinet	19 Feb 2020	Andy Fisher Head of Regulatory Services Tel: 01205 314554 andy.fisher@boston.gov.uk	Report to Cabinet. Public report will be available five clear working days before the meeting from Democratic Services and on the website www.bosotn.gov.uk	Councillor Paul Skinner	Open

Boston Borough council Forward Plan
1 February to 31 May 2020

Subject	Decision Maker	Date Decision to be taken	Comments to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name • Telephone • E-mail 	Documents submitted to decision maker and where they are available from	Portfolio Holder(s)	Is decision to be taken in private meeting (exempt information)?
Draft Corporate Plan - For Consultation	Cabinet	1 Apr 2020	Katharine Nundy Head of Corporate Services Tel: 01205 314274 katharine.nundy@boston.gov.uk	Report to Cabinet. Public report will be available five clear days before the meeting from Democratic Services and on the website www.boston.gov.uk	Cllr Spencer, Leader	Open
Quarter 3 - Performance, Finance and Risk	Cabinet	1 Apr 2020	Suzanne Rolfe, Transformation & Governance Manager Tel: 01205 314265 suzanne.rolfe@boston.gov.uk, Paul Julian, Chief Finance Officer and S151 Officer Tel: 01205 314487 paul.julian@boston.gov.uk	Report to Cabinet. Public report will be available five clear working days before the meeting from Democratic Services and on the website www.bosotn.gov.uk	Councillor Martin Howard MSc. PCGM, Cert Ed	Open
Corporate Plan	Cabinet	13 May 2020	Katharine Nundy Head of Corporate Services Tel: 01205 314274 katharine.nundy@boston.gov.uk	Report to Cabinet. Public report will be available five clear working days before the meeting from Democratic Services and on the website www.bosotn.gov.uk	Councillor Nigel Welton	Open

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Environment and Performance Committee Work Programme 2019–20

THIS COMMITTEE'S REMIT IS ALIGNED TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CP1 PROSPERITY and CP3 PLACE

DATE	REPORT	REPORTING	PORTFOLIO HOLDER	CABINET
18.06.19	1. Introduction to committee / Work Programme / Annual Scrutiny Report	Chairman and Lead Officer	-	17.07.19
30.07.19	1. Climate Change 2. CCTV Policy Review and Annual Performance Update 3. Crime & Disorder Annual Review /ASB/PSPO) 4. Boston Alternative Energy Facility (BAEF) Consultation Phase 3	Chief Executive CCTV Manager Anti-Social Behaviour Officer Deputy Chief Executive	Councillor P Skinner " " Councillor Welton	11.09.19
24.09.19	1. BAEF – Update by Representatives 2. Pilgrims 2020 – Update 3. Climate Change Working Group - Update 4. Replacement Bin Charges 5. Night time Economy	Deputy Chief Executive Head of Place and Space Working Group Head of Env. Operations	Councillor Welton Councillor P Skinner Councillor Arundell " Councillor Stevens	23.10.19
05.11.19	1. Climate Change Working Group - Update 2. Night-Time Economy Inquiry Evening - Update 3. New Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Combined Authorities 4. Work Programme	Chairman Councillor Dorrian Head of Environmental Ops. Head of Environmental Ops. Standing Item	Councillor P Skinner Councillor P Skinner	04.12.19
07.01.20	1. Climate Change Working Group – Update 2. Air Quality Plan 3. T&F Review Markets – update on recommendations. 4. PSPO Dog Fouling 5. Work Programme - Q2 Performance and Internal Audit Scrutiny Report.	Chairman Councillor Dorrian Head of Regulatory Services Head of Place and Space Head of Environmental Ops. Standing Item.	Councillor P Skinner Councillor Y Stevens Councillor C Sharman Councillor Y Stevens	22.01.20

03.03.20	1. The Pilgrims 2020 & Allied Opportunities (update) 2. Work Programme <i>(Note: This meeting will be held at Boston's Guildhall to accommodate an on-site tour supporting the 2020 report.)</i>	Head of Place and Space Standing Item	Cllr D Brown	19.02.19
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28.04.20	1. Corporate Plan 2. Work Programme including Q3 performance	Associate Head of Service Standing Item	Cllr P Skinner	01.04.20
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Environment and Performance Committee Work Programme 2019–20

08.06.20	1. Annual CCTV and ASB update <i>Task and finish Group Final report Regulating and Safeguarding.</i>	Head of Regulatory Services	Cllr P Skinner	
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21.07.20	<i>Task and finish Group Final report Regulating and Safeguarding.</i>			
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08.09.20				
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03.11.20	<i>Update on Events</i>			
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05.01.21	<i>Update on Market Policy.</i>			
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23.02.21				
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27.04.21				
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OPTIONS FOR SCRUTINY WORKING - current at issue of agenda.

Task and Finish Group Review	<p>Regulating and Safeguarding our Day Time and Night Time Economy. Commenced 2 December 2019. 1st meeting 21st January 2020 Received representation from the Street Pastors; St. Botolph's and Centenary Churches, Salvation Army, Neighbourhood Action Groups and the Hackney Carriage Association. Public consultation closed February. Next scheduled meeting 26 February 2020 – subject Licensing.</p>
Member Working Group	<p><i>Audit and Governance Committee convened own MWG in respect of 'Code of Conduct' 17 February 2020</i></p>
Inquiry Session	<p>Car Parking. 9 March 2020. Head of Place and Space Fly Tipping. 16 March 2020. Head of Environmental Operations</p>
Member Briefing	<p>Update report on Boston Barrier Project. 24 February 2020. Boston Barrier representatives.</p>

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