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Municipal Buildings
Boston
Lincolnshire PE21 8QR
Tel: 01205 314200

Wednesday 17 September 2025

Notice of meeting of the Boston Town Area Committee (BTAC)

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Boston Town Area Committee (BTAC)
on **Thursday 25th September 2025 at 6.30 pm**
in the Committee Room - Municipal Buildings, West Street, Boston, PE21 8QR

Rob Barlow
Chief Executive

Membership:

Chairman:	Councillor Patricia Marson
Vice-Chairman:	Councillor Paul Gleeson
Councillors:	Alison Austin, Emma Cresswell, Anton Dani, Neil Drayton, Anne Dorrian, Sandeep Ghosh, Mike Gilbert, Andy Izard, Jonathan Noble, Barrie Pierpoint, Lina Savickiene and Stephen Woodliffe

Members of the public are welcome to attend the committee meeting as observers except during the consideration of exempt or confidential items.

This meeting may be subject to being recorded.

Agenda

Part I - Preliminaries

A Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence.

B Declarations of Interest

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

C Minutes (Pages 1 - 6)

To sign and confirm the minutes of the last meeting.

D Update on Actions from the Minutes of the Last Meeting

To report progress on outstanding actions from the minutes of the last meeting, for information only.

E 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 22nd September 2025.

F Public Speaking Time

To allow members of the public to address the Committee.

Part II - Agenda Items

1 2025/26 Quarter 1 Financial Position (Pages 7 - 18)

(A report by Brendan Arnold, Interim Director of Finance (S151 Officer))

2 Work Programme (Pages 19 - 20)

(The Committee's work programme for the current year for discussion and/or updating.)

3 BTAC Small Grant Scheme (Pages 21 - 28)

(A report by Maddy Eyre, Community Leadership Officer and BTAC Grant Administrator.)

4 Exclusion of the Public and Press

To consider resolving - That under Section 100(A)(iv) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended).

Appendix 1 - BTAC Working Group recommendations

Notes:

Please contact Democratic Services (demservices@boston.gov.uk) if you have any queries about the agenda and documents for this meeting.

Council Members who are not able to attend the meeting should notify Democratic Services as soon as possible.

Alternative Versions

Should you wish to have the agenda or report in an alternative format such as larger text, Braille or a specific language, please telephone 01205 314351.

Boston Borough Council

Minutes of a meeting of the **Boston Town Area Committee (BTAC)** held in the Committee Room - Municipal Buildings, West Street, Boston, PE21 8QR on Thursday 24th July 2025 at 6.30 pm.

Present:

Councillor Patricia Marson, in the Chair.

Councillors Councillor Paul Gleeson, Alison Austin, Emma Cresswell, Anne Dorrian, Sandeep Ghosh, Mike Gilbert, Andy Izard, Jonathan Noble, Barrie Pierpoint and Stephen Woodliffe.

In attendance:

Inspector Ian Cotton (Lincolnshire Police).

Officers:

Assistant Director - Leisure and Local Services, Community Safety Manager and Democratic Services Officer.

11 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Anton Dani, Neil Drayton and Lina Savickiene.

12 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

13 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th June 2025 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following clarification being provided to Councillor Jonathan Noble:

- a) In relation to the outstanding questions raised at the last meeting (pages 3-5 within the minutes), the Assistant Director – Leisure and Local Services confirmed that responses had been provided to the members of the committee who had raised questions; and
- b) In respect of the query regarding the BTAC reserve of £70,000, it was confirmed that the matter would be revisited following further assessment by the Section 151 Officer.

14 Update on Actions from the Minutes of the Last Meeting

The following update was provided by the Lead Officer for the committee, the Assistant Director – Leisure and Local Services, in relation to issues not otherwise covered by the agenda:

- **Central Park**

It was agreed at the meeting on the 27th March that the current contract for security/gate locking at Central Park would not be renewed after 31st August. A

Working Group had been established and had met earlier in the month to explore future options. Lincolnshire Police had since raised concerns regarding the gates being left unlocked, and the matter would be considered further by the Working Group following receipt of information.

- **Highways**

Members were informed that Lincolnshire County Council representatives would attend the forthcoming Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings to discuss highways matters. The Portfolio Holder for Highways was scheduled to attend on 4th September and the Road Safety Manager was scheduled to attend on 2nd October.

All members of BTAC would receive an invitation to attend.

- **Community Governance Review (CGR)**

The Assistant Director – Leisure and Local Services reported that the CGR Working Group had met on a number of occasions since the last BTAC meeting. The first round of public consultation had launched on 14th July and would end on 26th August, ahead of recommendations being made to Full Council and the launch of the second consultation phase.

- **Green Flag**

The Working Group continued to meet regularly and had developed a vision, objectives and a SWOT analysis for Central Park. These elements were being incorporated into the Green Flag Management Plan which would be discussed at the next Working Group meeting on 28th July. Members were also compiling a detailed history of Central Park and an associated plan. It was noted that challenges remained in relation to the development of written policies and procedures. However, a new Neighbourhoods' Group Manager with Green Flag experience was due to join the Partnership in October and would support this work.

The Committee noted the updates and agreed to continue monitoring progress through the Work Programme.

15 Public Questions

No public questions were received.

16 Public Speaking Time

There were no public speakers.

17 An update on Crime and Policing in Boston

The Committee received a verbal update from Inspector Ian Cotton of Lincolnshire Police. The update provided an overview of the current policing focus in Boston, including operational priorities, staffing levels, financial challenges, and recent partnership activity.

Inspector Cotton outlined the structure of neighbourhood policing in Boston confirming that the local position was favourable compared to other areas. There were four Community Beat Managers and nine Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) posts, occupied by

ten individuals, including three beats (Town Centre, Town East and Rural West) designated as vulnerable following a previous restructure. In addition, Boston benefitted from a resilience team of three PCSOs, enabling support for non-vulnerable beats. While neighbourhood policing was fully staffed locally, it was noted that PCSO numbers had halved county-wide to fifty, with only thirty-eight positions currently filled and no immediate plans to recruit further until wider funding decisions were made.

While neighbourhood policing was fully staffed locally, other departments such as the 999-response team were under-resourced. Community Beat Managers were spending approximately 40% of their time responding to emergency calls, reducing their availability for community-based work. Recruitment was ongoing, and it was anticipated that once new officers were trained, more time could be dedicated to neighbourhood duties.

Community Engagement and Priorities

Members were encouraged to promote the newly introduced Neighbourhood Policing Survey, which aimed to capture public sentiment and inform future policing priorities. Nearly 200 responses had been received from Boston, and further participation was welcomed to ensure a representative view of community needs.

The current priorities for Boston included:

- **Street Drinking in Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) Areas:**
This remained a key issue, with approximately 900 interactions recorded, indicating the scale of the problem. The Police continued to work with licensing and other partners, and enforcement tools such as Community Protection Notices were being utilised. Additional officer training was being considered to support this work.
- **Vehicle Nuisance:**
Operation Exhaust had been launched to address issues such as noisy exhausts, speeding, and anti-social vehicle use, including motorbikes on Witham Bank. Targeted tactics were being deployed to manage these challenges.

His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) Report and Funding Challenges

Inspector Cotton addressed the findings of the recent HMIC report, which had identified concerns around underfunding, investigative capacity, and unmet demand. He acknowledged the need for improvement in investigation quality and confirmed that neighbourhood policing and youth engagement had received positive recognition, including work at the Boston Youth Hub.

Inspector Cotton spoke candidly about the impact of financial constraints on strategic planning and public perception. While the force had received limited funding from central government, this had not enabled long-term planning. Officers were being encouraged to focus on their core values and deliver the best possible service within existing limitations.

Operational Successes

Despite the challenges, positive outcomes were reported. Operation Continents, targeting shop theft, had resulted in multiple arrests and Criminal Behaviour Orders. A modest

reduction of 3.8% in shop thefts had been achieved locally, in contrast to national increases of 15-20%.

Operation Absence, aimed at tackling truancy and safeguarding, had been ongoing for several years had led to the registration of numerous children and the safeguarding of many others.

Member Questions

Inspector Cotton responded to a number of questions submitted in advance of the meeting, including:

- Speeding near St Nicholas Primary School - this had been added to patrol plans which would result in increased activity.
- Motorbike nuisance on footpaths - plain clothes officers had been deployed and operations were ongoing.
- Shop window damage - statistics were shared and discussed.
- Crime outcome rates - successful outcomes were reported at 14.76% over the last three years, 15.14% in the past twelve months and 17.7% in the last three months). The distinction between successful outcomes and prosecutions was noted.
- Staffing levels at Boston Police Station.
- PCSO powers - including the ability to detain rather than arrest.
- The role of Special Constables - three were currently active in Boston, and a recruitment review was underway.
- Public perception of policing - societal changes and the influence of social media were discussed.
- Youth engagement – including the ongoing “Mini Police” programme.
- Community cohesion and perceptions of safety in the town centre.

Inspector Cotton emphasised that all crime was solvable given sufficient resources but acknowledged that not all incidents could be investigated. He invited members and communities to share information about criminal activity for consideration.

Further questions were raised during the meeting on a range of issues including the impact of the HMIC report, funding pressures, public perceptions of safety in the Market Square, victim attrition, the role of the criminal justice system, drug use, digital crime, and the wider impact of reductions in other public services.

Full details of the responses to each of the questions were available on the livestream and were annexed to the minutes.

The Committee thanked Inspector Cotton for his comprehensive and candid update and acknowledged the continued efforts of Lincolnshire Police in serving the Boston community.

[Councillor Anne Dorrian left the meeting at 7.46 pm, during consideration of the above item.]

18 Work Programme

The Committee received an update from the Assistant Director – Leisure and Local Services on the current and forthcoming items scheduled for inclusion in the Boston Town Area Committee's Work Programme for the 2025/26 municipal year.

It was confirmed that:

- A report on BTAC events would be submitted to the Committee for consideration at its meeting in September; and
- Lincolnshire Housing Partnership had confirmed its attendance at the Committee's meeting on 27th November to provide a biennial update.

19 BTAC Small and Empowering Healthy Communities Grant Scheme

The Committee received an update from the Assistant Director – Leisure and Local Services on the status of the Empowering Healthy Communities (EHC) Grant Scheme for the 2024/25 financial year.

It was reported that a total of two eligible applications had been received during the most recent round. The recommendations were presented to the Committee in line with its delegated authority to make community development grants to town-based organisations and events.

During consideration of the item, clarification was sought regarding:

- The eligibility criteria for applicants. Officers confirmed that all applications had been assessed in accordance with the scheme's published policy;
- The scheduling of future rounds. It was confirmed that the Working Group meets four times per year and that further applications would be considered in subsequent rounds; and
- Terminology used in the climate impact infographic appended to the report. Officers undertook to provide further explanation in due course.

The Committee noted that the grant scheme supports the Council's corporate priorities, including Healthy Lives, Safer and Resilient Communities, and the Environment. The financial implications were outlined in the accompanying finance pro forma, which confirmed that the total revenue cost of the approved applications was £1,935.39, leaving a remaining balance of £15,277.20 in the Small Grants budget.

It was confirmed that:

- A grant was awarded to Tonic Health in the sum of £935.39 towards the cost of equipment for a newly established Youth Hub at Pescod Hall, Boston; and
- A grant was awarded to Boston Orchestra in the sum of £1,000 to support the group's core running costs.

The recommendation was proposed by Councillor Paul Gleeson and seconded by Councillor Emma Cresswell.

Resolved:

That the grant funding award recommendations made by the BTAC Grants Working Group in respect of eligible applications as set out in Appendix 1 be approved.

20 Exclusion of the Public and Press

Due to the Committee's approval of the previous recommendation, this item was not required.

The Meeting ended at 8.16 pm.



Report To:	Boston Town Area Committee (BTAC)
Date:	Thursday 25 th September 2025
Subject:	2025/26 Quarter 1 Financial Position
Purpose:	To present the 2025/26 Quarter 1 position for the period ending 30 June 2025.
Key Decision:	No
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Sandeep Ghosh, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Growth
Report Of:	Brendan Arnold, Interim Director of Finance (S151 Officer)
Report Author:	Nicole Hayes, Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL)
Ward(s) Affected:	All BTAC Wards
Exempt Report:	No

Summary

This report sets out a summary of the current financial position for BTAC at the end of Quarter 1 for 2025/26 forecasting to the year end for members consideration.

Recommendations

It is recommended:

- 1) That BTAC Members note the forecast position of £907 overspend for 2025/26 as detailed in Appendix A – Table 1; and
- 2) That BTAC Members note the forecast reserve balance to 31 March 2026.

Reasons for Recommendations

To ensure the BTAC forecast financial position for 2025/26 is considered and reserve sums held noted. It is intended to support Members in maintaining financial probity and making informed decisions regarding future spending within the BTAC area.

Other Options Considered

None.

1. Report

- 1.1 Appendix A sets out the income and expenditure details for Quarter 1 of 2025/26.
- 1.2 The forecast indicates an overspend of £907, which will be covered by reserves if the position remains unchanged as of 31 March 2026.

2. Reserve Position

- 2.1 The opening balance of the BTAC reserve on 1 April 2025 was £293,825. The forecast balance of reserve is £289,192, reflecting planned use throughout the financial year as detailed in Appendix A – Table 2.
- 2.2 This includes the minimum required reserve balance of £70,000.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1. To ensure the Quarter 1 position is scrutinised, and the forecast outturn is reviewed.

Implications

South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

None.

Corporate Priorities

None.

Staffing

None.

Workforce Capacity Implications

None.

Constitutional and Legal Implications

None.

Data Protection

None.

Financial

As contained in this report and the associated appendix.

Risk Management

None.

Stakeholder / Consultation / Timescales

No consultation undertaken.

Reputation

None.

Contracts

None.

Crime and Disorder

None.

Equality and Diversity / Human Rights / Safeguarding

None.

Health and Wellbeing

None.

Climate Change and Environment Impact Assessment

None.

Acronyms

BTAC – Boston Town Area Committee
EHC – Empowering Healthy Communities

Appendices

Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report:

Appendix A BTAC Q1 Finance Report 2025-26

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

None.

Report Approval

Report author: Nicole Hayes, Head of Finance Delivery – BBC (PSPSL)
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Signed off by: Brendan Arnold, Interim Director of Finance (S151 Officer)
Brendan.Arnold@sholland.gov.uk

Approved by: Councillor Sandeep Ghosh, Portfolio Holder for Finance and
Economic Growth
Sandeep.Ghosh@boston.gov.uk

BTAC – Q1 Finance Report for 2025-26

Finance Summary

- The forecast shows a deficit position of £907 as of 30 June 2025.
- The anticipated reserve balance as of 31 March 2026 is £289,192.

Table 1 details the financial summary outlining the expenditure incurred for BTAC, detailing key service areas and associated budget allocations.

Table 1 – Financial Summary					
Service	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 30/06/2025 Q1 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q1 £	Variance (under)/ over Q1 £	Comments on main variances at Q1
Open Spaces & Play Areas	111,373	28,192	123,503	12,130	Additional employee costs movement from Events.
Allotments	(580)	346	(580)	-	
Central Park	192,224	51,287	183,490	(8,734)	Gate locking service not in operation, ceased Aug 25.
Public Conveniences	168,129	49,421	179,468	11,339	Projected shortfall in income combined with higher than anticipated costs.
Events	160,128	8,046	137,452	(22,676)	Employee costs moved to Open Spaces and additional income for space hire.
Town Centre Maintenance	114,519	24,428	114,480	(39)	Forecasted expenditure below budget allocation.
Administration	58,296	1,591	32,152	(26,144)	Primarily related to the street cleaning service review.
Net Expenditure	804,089	163,311	769,965	(34,124)	
Council Tax Income	(769,058)	(192,265)	(769,058)	-	
Net Total	35,031	(28,954)	907	(34,124)	
Efficiency Savings Target	(35,031)	-	-	35,031	
(Surplus)/Deficit for the year	-	-	-	907	

Table 2 details the current and forecasted reserve levels for BTAC, with an anticipated position as of 31 March 2026.

Table 2 – Reserve Balance	
Description	£
Reserve Balance as of 1 April 2025	(293,825)
Less: Current Projected Planned Spend:	
Empowering Healthy Communities Grants remaining balance	-
Small Grants Balance from Prior Years	3,726
	(290,099)
2025/26 Forecast Deficit	907
Forecast Reserve Balance as of 31 March 2026	(289,192)

Based on the Section 151 Officer's recommendation, the minimum required reserve balance is set at £70,000.

Table 3 details the forecast outturn for maintaining and managing the Open Spaces and Play Areas within the BTAC area for the 2025/26 Financial Year Outturn as of 30 June 2025.

Table 3 – Open Spaces & Play Areas					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 30/06/2025 Q1 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q1 £	Variance (under)/ over Q1 £	Comments on main variances at Q1
Employee Costs	6,060	2,929	18,190	12,130	Movement of roles from events.
Premises					
Repairs & Maintenance	3,840	960	3,840	-	
Premises Insurance	60	15	60	-	
	3,900	975	3,900	-	
Transport					
Car Allowances	10	-	10	-	
	10	-	10	-	
Supplies & Services					
CCTV Camera Maintenance	2,060	-	2,060	-	
Maintenance of New Play Equipment	1,000	-	1,000	-	
Professional & Contractor Fees	1,190	-	1,190	-	
Insurance	40	10	40	-	
	4,290	10	4,290	-	
Third Party Payments					
Grounds Maintenance	94,770	23,693	94,770	-	
	94,770	23,693	94,770	-	
Support Services					
Property Services Support Recharge	1,673	418	1,673	-	
HR & Payroll Recharge	670	168	670	-	
	2,343	586	2,343	-	
Income					
Other Income	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Grand Total	111,373	28,192	123,503	12,130	

Table 4 details the forecast outturn for the management of Allotments located within the BTAC area for the 2025/26 Financial Year Outturn as of 30 June 2025.

Table 4 – Allotments					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 30/06/2025 Q1 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q1 £	Variance (under)/ over Q1 £	Comments on main variances at Q1
Supplies & Services					
Development	255	-	255	-	
	255	-	255	-	
Support Services					
Management & Administration Support	1,385	346	1,385	-	
	1,385	346	1,385	-	
Income					
Rental Income	(2,220)	-	(2,220)	-	
	(2,220)	-	(2,220)	-	
Grand Total	(580)	346	(580)	-	

Table 5 details the forecast outturn for the operations of Central Park for the 2025/26 Financial Year Outturn as of 30 June 2025

Table 5 – Central Park					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 30/06/2025 Q1 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q1 £	Variance (under)/ over Q1 £	Comments on main variances at Q1
Premises					
Repairs & Maintenance	3,730	933	3,730	-	
Electricity	4,500	364	4,500	-	
Water	316	18	320	4	
Premises Insurance	1,260	315	1,260	-	
	9,806	1,630	9,810	4	
Supplies & Services					
Birds	663	195	660	(3)	
Gate Locking Service	16,983	8,250	8,250	(8,733)	Gate locking service not in operation, ceased Aug 25.
	17,646	8,445	8,910	(8,736)	
Third Party Payments					
Trade Waste Contract	1,480	370	1,480	-	
Grounds Maintenance	164,100	41,025	164,100	-	
	165,580	41,395	165,580	-	
Support Services					
Communication & Marketing Recharge	341	85	340	(1)	
Property Services Support Recharge	2,676	669	2,680	4	
	3,017	754	3,020	3	
Income					
Rents – Kiosk	(3,825)	(938)	(3,830)	(5)	
	(3,825)	(938)	(3,830)	(5)	
Grand Total	192,224	51,287	183,490	(8,734)	

Table 6 details the forecast outturn for operating the Public Conveniences within the BTAC area for the 2025/26 Financial Year Outturn as of 30 June 2025.

Table 6 – Public Conveniences					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 30/06/2025 Q1 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q1 £	Variance (under)/over Q1 £	Comments on main variances at Q1
Employee Costs	122,800	39,581	125,485	2,685	Agency costs for vacant post.
Premises					
Repairs & Maintenance	7,650	1,913	7,650	-	
Electricity	4,090	648	4,090	-	
Water Rates	18,350	2,256	18,350	-	
Premises Insurance	1,540	385	1,540	-	
Depot/Office Accommodation	580	145	580	-	
	32,210	5,347	32,210	-	
Transport					
Vehicles	5,560	1,390	5,560		
Car Allowances	30	-	30	-	
	5,590	1,390	5,590	-	
Supplies & Services					
Clothing	500	-	500	-	
Materials	5,000	2,313	9,000	4,000	Increased prices for suppliers.
Mobile Phones	70	-	70	-	
Employee Insurance	900	225	900	-	
Cash Collection Service	510	661	2,642	2,132	Changes in cash collection arrangements.
	6,980	3,198	13,112	6,132	
Third Party Payments					
Grounds Maintenance	4,150	1,038	4,150	-	
	4,150	1,038	4,150	-	
Support Services					
Communication & Marketing Recharge	170	43	170	-	
Finance Recharge	7,020	1,755	7,020	-	
HR & Payroll Recharge	5,590	1,398	5,590	-	
	12,780	3,195	12,780	-	
Income					
Sale of Keys	(61)	(4)	(60)	1	
Fees & Charges	(16,320)	(3,163)	(12,640)	3,680	Underachievement in income based on Q1 actuals.
Other Income	-	(1,159)	(1,159)	(1,159)	Additional hours from Mayfair & Autumn Fair events.
	(16,381)	(4,327)	(13,859)	2,522	
Grand Total	168,129	49,421	179,468	11,339	

Table 7 details the forecast outturn relating to Events for the 2025/26 Financial Year Outturn as of 30 June 2025.

Table 7 – Events					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 30/06/2025 Q1 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q1 £	Variance (under)/ over Q1 £	Comments on main variances at Q1
Employee Costs	85,370	5,413	70,670	(14,700)	Costs reallocated to Open Spaces and Markets Officer post removed.
Supplies & Services					
Printing	255	-	260	5	
Advertising	4,000	137	4,022	22	
Postages	-	1	-	-	
Mobile Phones	50	-	50	-	
Employee Insurance	630	158	630	-	
Health & Safety Service	1,020	-	1,020	-	
Event Costs	41,500	1,601	41,500	-	
Miscellaneous Expenses	3,400	-	3,400	-	
Grants & Contributions	17,000	-	17,000	-	
	67,855	1,897	67,882	27	
Third Party Payments					
Street Cleaning	1,420	355	1,420	-	
	1,420	355	1,420	-	
Support Services					
Communication & Marketing Recharge	1,363	341	1,360	(3)	
Finance Recharge	3,410	853	3,410	-	
HR & Payroll Recharge	2,710	678	2,710	-	
	7,483	1,871	7,480	(3)	
Income					
Event Space Hire & Events Income	(2,000)	(1,490)	(2,000)	-	
Other Hire (Autumn Fair)	-	-	(8,000)	(8,000)	
	(2,000)	(1,490)	(10,000)	(8,000)	
Grand Total	160,128	8,046	137,452	(22,676)	

Table 8 details the forecast outturn for the maintenance of the Town Centre for the 2025/26 Financial Year Outturn as of 30 June 2025.

Table 8 – Town Centre Maintenance					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 30/06/2025 Q1 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q1 £	Variance (under)/ over Q1 £	Comments on main variances at Q1
Employee Costs	76,210	18,546	76,210	-	Anticipated underspend on provisions.
Premises					
Business Rates	2,470	-	2,470	-	
Electric	600	225	600	-	
Rental Fees	3,825	-	3,830	5	
Depot Recharge	480	120	480	-	
	7,375	345	7,380	5	
Transport					
Vehicles	7,270	1,818	7,270	-	
	7,270	1,818	7,270	-	
Supplies & Services					
Equipment Purchases	2,550	+-	2,550	-	
Materials	4,182	1,225	4,180	(2)	
Clothing	710	-	710	-	
Employee Insurance	560	140	560	-	
Mobile Phones	50	-	50	-	
Purchase & Provisions	6,191	-	6,150	(41)	
	14,243	1,365	14,200	(43)	
Support Services					
Finance Recharge	4,750	1,188	4,750	-	
Communication & Marketing Recharge	681	170	680	(1)	
Training Recharge	210	53	210	-	
HR & Payroll Recharge	3,780	945	3,780	-	
	9,421	2,355	9,420	(1)	
Grand Total	114,519	24,428	114,480	(39)	

Table 9 details the forecast outturn for administrative functions for the 2025/26 Financial Year Outturn as of 30 June 2025.

Table 9 – Administration					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 30/06/2025 Q1 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q1 £	Variance (under)/ over Q1 £	Comments on main variances at Q1
Employee Costs	4,900	1,187	4,900	-	
Supplies & Services					
Grants Programme	13,402	(1,000)	13,402	-	
EHC Grants	-	(487)	-	-	
London Road Running Costs	1,040	-	1,040	-	
Equipment Maintenance	1,051	-	1,050	(1)	Speed indicator device.
Footway Lighting Electricity & Maintenance	4,200	-	4,200	-	
Employee Insurance	40	10	40	-	
	19,733	(1,477)	19,732	(1)	
Third Party Payments					
Street Cleaning	26,140	-	-	(26,140)	Service review savings.
	26,140	-	-	(26,140)	
Support Services					
Finance Recharge	310	78	310	-	
Communication & Marketing Recharge	511	128	510	(1)	
HR & Payroll Recharge	250	63	250	-	
Property Services Support Recharge	640	160	640	-	
Caretaker Service Recharge	360	90	360	-	
Assistant Director Recharges	2,030	508	2,030	-	
Democratic Services Support Recharge	3,422	856	3,420	(2)	
	7,523	1,881	7,520	(3)	
Grand Total	58,296	1,591	32,152	(26,144)	

BOSTON TOWN AREA COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2025/26

MEETING	AGENDA ITEM	LEAD OFFICER / GUEST	PORTOFLIO HOLDER
5 June 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BTAC Q4 2024/25 Financial Outturn report Work Programme for forthcoming year 	Interim Finance Manager Assistant Director – Culture and Leisure	Cllr Ghosh
24 July 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BTAC Small Grants Biennial update from Lincolnshire Police (to be approved by Committee) 	BTAC Small Grants Officer Guest: Inspector Ian Cotton (Lincolnshire Police)	Cllr Broughton
25 September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BTAC Small Grants BTAC Q1 Financial Position as at 30 June 2025 	BTAC Small Grants Officer Finance Manager	Cllr Broughton Cllr Ghosh
27 November 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BTAC Small Grants BTAC 2025/6 Events BTAC Q2 Financial Position as at 30 September 2025 Biennial update from Lincolnshire Housing Partnership 	BTAC Small Grants Officer Assistant Director – Wellbeing and Community Leadership Finance Manager Guest: Anthony Read, Chair	Cllr Broughton Cllr Broughton Cllr Ghosh Cllr Baxter
22 January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed BTAC Budget 2026/27 and MTFS to 2030/31 	Finance Manager	Cllr Ghosh
26 March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BTAC Small Grants BTAC Q3 Financial Position as at 31 December 2025 	BTAC Small Grants Officer Finance Manager	Cllr Broughton Cllr Ghosh

Pending confirmation for potential addition to the Work Programme:

- Review of status of Ingelow Park, Boston
- Boston Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan 2023-2027 Annual Review 2025 (Year Two)

Additional Working Groups active as at issue of agenda:

- Green Flag Award:
Meeting dates – all as advised previously: (6pm and in the Meeting Room (adjacent to the Committee Room)): 12th November 2025
- Small Grants:
Meeting dates (all at 6pm and via Microsoft Teams): 30th October 2025 and 26th February 2026.
- Central Park security:
Meeting dates – to be confirmed following outcome of current officer deliberations.

Chairman: Councillor Patsie Marson
Vice Chairman: Councillor Paul Gleeson

Lead Officer: Phil Perry. Assistant Director, Leisure and Local Services.
Clerk: Paul Stonebridge, Democratic Services Officer.



Report To:	Boston Town Area Committee
Date:	Thursday 25 th September 2025
Subject:	BTAC Small Grant Scheme
Purpose:	To receive the recommendations of the BTAC Grants Working Group in respect of grant applications submitted in Round 2 25/26 of the BTAC Small Grant Scheme.
Key Decision:	No
Portfolio Holder:	N/A
Report Of:	Maddy Eyre, Community Leadership Officer and BTAC Grant Administrator
Report Author:	Maddy Eyre, Community Leadership Officer and BTAC Grant Administrator
Ward(s) Affected:	All BTAC Wards
Exempt Report:	Partially, Appendix 1 is exempt by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Summary

This report presents the recommendations of the BTAC Grants Working Group in respect of grant applications submitted in Round 2 of the financial year 2025/2026 for the BTAC Small Grant Scheme.

Recommendations

That the Committee approve the grant funding award recommendations made by the BTAC Grants Working Group in respect of eligible applications as set out in Appendix 1.

Reasons for Recommendations

To provide grants to local groups that undertake community work which benefits the BTAC Wards of Boston.

Other Options Considered

Do not support the BTAC Working Group recommendations – Not recommended as all applications received have been assessed against the relevant grant scheme policy and criteria.

1. Background

- 1.1 The BTAC Grants Working Group met on 28th August 2025 to review applications submitted for consideration in Round 2 25/26 to the BTAC Small Grant Scheme.

2. Report

- 2.1 4 eligible applications were received in Round 2 of the scheme.
- 2.2 Details of each applicant, project details, the amount requested, and the Working Group funding award recommendations are shown in Appendix 1.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1. In conclusion, the BTAC Grants Working Group recommendations are presented at full Committee, in line with the Committee's role to make community development grants to town-based organisations and events.

Implications

South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

None

Corporate Priorities

The BTAC Grant Scheme supports the following corporate priorities: Healthy Lives; Safer and Resilient Communities and the Environment.

Staffing

None.

Workforce Capacity Implications

None.

Constitutional and Legal Implications

The Localism Act 2011 provides the Local Authority with a general power of competence. This power can be used to undertake activity (such as the awarding of grants) which benefits the local authority area or persons resident or present in the area.

Details of grants awarded by a Local Authority to voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations are required to be published annually in accordance with the Local Transparency Code 2015.

The Council's Constitution sets out that the Committee may make community development grants to town-based organisations and events. This function is exercised under delegated authority from the Cabinet.

Data Protection

None.

Financial

The value of each grant sought is set out in Appendix 1. The Committee's current financial position in relation to the Small Grant is set out in the finance pro-forma that accompanies this report.

Risk Management

The BTAC Small Grant Scheme operates within set policies and protocols.

Stakeholder / Consultation / Timescales

The BTAC Grants Working Group is made up of up to 6 active members of the Boston Town Area Committee and they are brought together to review all eligible applications submitted to the BTAC Grants Administrator in each live round of the grant scheme.

Reputation

None

Contracts

None.

Crime and Disorder

None.

Equality and Diversity / Human Rights / Safeguarding

Priorities supported will promote fairness and inclusion while supporting Boston Town Area Committee's commitment to equal opportunities for all, including those protected characteristics identified in the Equalities Act 2010.

There are no equalities implications within this report. All equalities implications will be managed alongside each individual applicant through the monitoring process of project delivery.

There are no safeguarding implications directly arising from this report.

Health and Wellbeing

The BTAC Small and Empowering Healthy Communities Grant Schemes operate within Corporate Priority: Healthy Lives.

Climate Change and Environmental Implications

An impact assessment has been undertaken, and the assessment has been based on the experience to date and the key areas where there is likely to have been an impact however this is only indicative and can't be a comprehensive assessment. Ways to better capture the impact of individual schemes, without potentially overburdening community projects are being explored with Climate Change Group Manager.

Acronyms

BTAC – Boston Town Area Committee

Appendices

Exempt Appendix 1: BTAC Working Group recommendations

Background Papers

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
BTAC Working Group Application Pack	Application summaries are available to BTAC Members on request, from the BTAC Grant Scheme Administrator

Chronological History of this Report

Name of Body	Date
BTAC Grants Working Group	28 th August 2025

Report Approval

Report author:	Maddy Eyre, Local Communities Development Officer and Administrator of the Boston Town Area Committee Grant Scheme Maddy.eyre@boston.gov.uk
Signed off by:	Emily Spicer, Assistant Director of Well-Being and Community Leadership Emily.spicer@sholland.gov.uk
Approved for publication:	Councillor Patricia Marson – Chairman of BTAC

FINANCE PROFORMA

BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

PROFORMA FOR EXECUTIVE APPROVAL OF THE RELEASE OF RESOURCES

(CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGETS)

FROM: Caroline Thacker-Smith – Finance Business Partner, PSPSL

THIS PROFORMA PROVIDES THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
IN RESPECT OF THE ATTACHED

REPORT: Boston Town Area Committee

REPORT DATE: 25th September 2025

	£ Year 1 2025/26	£ Year 2 2026/27	£ Year 3 2027/28	£ Year 4 2028/29	£ Year 5 2029/30
Revenue					
BTAC Small Grants	15,725.62				
Communities Grants	-				
Total Revenue Cost	15,725.62*				

*The balance has decreased by £1,486.97 following the payment of the 2024/25 Round 4 awards.

Funding required:	Considered by: BTAC	Date: 25 th September 2025
Total capital cost	£0	
Revenue cost	£3,925.00	

Financial Services Comments	Balance as of 24 th July 2025 £	Applications £	Balance C/F £
BTAC Small Grants	13,790.23	3,925.00	9,865.23
Communities Grants	-	-	-
Total	13,790.23	3,925.00	9,865.23

Risk

None

Procurement

None

Value for Money Efficiency

This FP is valid for 3 months from FP date	If this FP is no longer required please advise Finance	If there are changes to the original report it may invalidate this document, it must be reviewed by Finance.
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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

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