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Municipal Buildings
Boston
Lincolnshire PE21 8QR
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Wednesday 18 March 2026

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 26th March 2026 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, Anne Dorian, Neil Drayton,
Sandeep Ghosh, Mike Gilbert, Andy Izzard, Jonathan Noble,
Barrie Pierpoint, Lina Savickiene and Stephen Woodliffe

Quorum 6

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 - 8)

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 23rd March 2026.

Part II - Agenda Items

1 Public Speaking Time

To allow members of the public to address the Committee.

2 2025/26 Quarter 3 Financial Position (Pages 9 - 22)

(A report by Russell Stone, Director of Finance (S151 Officer))

3 Work Programme (Pages 23 - 28)

(The Committee's work programme for the current year and the draft work programme for 2026/27 for discussion and/or updating.)

4 BTAC Small Grant Scheme (Pages 29 - 36)

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

5 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.

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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 22nd January 2026 at 6.30 pm.

Present:

Councillor Patricia Marson, in the Chair.

Councillors Paul Gleeson (Vice-Chairman), Alison Austin, Emma Cresswell, Anton Dani, Anne Dorrian, Neil Drayton, Sandeep Ghosh, Mike Gilbert, Andy Iazard, Jonathan Noble, Barrie Pierpoint, Lina Savickiene and Stephen Woodliffe.

Officers:

Assistant Director - Leisure and Local Services, Democratic Services Officer, Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL), Operations Manager, Group Manager - Community Leadership, Leisure Services & Contracts Manager and Director of Finance.

42 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

43 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

44 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th November 2025 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

45 Update on Actions from the Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Assistant Director – Leisure and Local Services provided updates on matters not otherwise covered by the agenda:

Central Park security

Following the decision not to renew the security and gate locking service at Central Park, the gates had been unlocked since the 31st August 2025. Since then, Democratic Services had been liaising with the Council's Community Safety Team, CCTV Team and Environmental Health Team to monitor the situation with any reports of criminality at Central Park.

Between 1st September and the Committee meeting on 27th November 2025, eleven reports of alleged criminal behaviour had been received, ranging from anti-social behaviour to unconfirmed reports of a man with a knife. None of those reports had been during the period when the gates were previously locked.

Since the last Committee meeting on 27th November 2025, there had been no reports to the Police, the Community Safety Team, CCTV team or Environmental Health Team.

Highways

Members had expressed an interest in hearing from the County Council's Portfolio Holder for Highways. Confirmation was provided that he would attend the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 17th March 2026 and members would be invited to attend the meeting.

Community Governance Review

At the meeting of Full Council on 12th January 2026, members had noted the outcome of the Stage 1 consultation and approved the draft recommendations of the Community Governance Review Working Group as set out in the report to Full Council.

The Working Group last met on 15th January 2026 and agreed the provisional terms of the Stage 2 consultation plan and communications strategy. The consultation documentation would be presented for approval at the next meeting of the Working Group on 12th February. If approved, the consultation would be launched shortly after and remain open for a minimum period of six weeks. Members would be invited to promote the consultation in their respective wards, Parish Councils and through their community organisations.

46 Public Questions

No public questions were received.

47 Public Speaking Time

Mr Jonathan Wolf addressed the Committee. He thanked the Committee for pursuing the commitment it had previously given to him to contact Lincolnshire County Council regarding the display of flags from lampposts.

48 Review of 2025 events and funding proposal for events in 2026/27

The Committee received a report from the Assistant Director - Communities and Housing Services, which was presented by Councillor Dale Broughton, Leader of the Council, supported by the Group Manager – Community Leadership.

The report provided a comprehensive review of the 2025 events programme and two budget options for the 2026/27 programme.

The Leader of the Council highlighted that BTAC funding continued to underpin a diverse, inclusive and well-attended programme of events across the town, which in 2025 had included the Central Park beach, Skate Jam, children's activity days, Boston's Strongest and Food Fest, and the Christmas Festival, all of which had enjoyed strong public support and engagement. Those events had supported community cohesion, increased town-centre footfall, strengthened partnerships and improved perceptions of the town.

Confirmation was provided that the proposed 2026/27 programme was built on the success outlined above while responding to operational requirements, including compliance with Martyn's Law (Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025). The new

legislation required enhanced event security planning proportionate to expected attendance, and that associated costs had been factored into future budgets.

Two budget options were presented to the Committee:

- Option 1 – £41,500: to retain the established programme including the six-week summer beach, Skate Jam, community events, Boston’s Strongest and the Christmas Festival (with a £17,000 BTAC contribution).
- Option 2 – £65,500: to include all of Option 1 plus an additional £24,000 to support a large-scale music event in Central Park.

For the next year, events such as Boston Bike Night, Boston Running Festival and Mayfair would continue and those events would be funded externally.

Deliberation by members occurred in relation to the two options set out within the report and the following points were raised:

- Appreciation of the Events Team’s work throughout 2025 was expressed, including the professional delivery of events.
- The public now expected a strong annual programme and BTAC’s investment had significantly improved the town’s offer.
- There was broad support for Option 2, on the basis that the proposed music event would:
 1. attract large numbers of residents and visitors,
 2. strengthen community cohesion through music,
 3. promote local talent and broaden the town’s cultural identity,
 4. build on the success of past events and the sense of expectation that successful events had been delivered by the events team.
- Members debated the estimated £24,000 cost for the music event, including whether it could be delivered for a lesser sum. The Group Manager – Community Leadership and the Leader of the Council explained that the cost reflected essential operations including staging, PA equipment, security, first aid and logistics.
- It was confirmed that event sponsorship discussions were underway.
- A Member noted the recent publication of a “save the date” message on social media referring to an August event. A range of views were expressed about the importance of ensuring that public communications did not create assumptions about decisions that rested with the Committee. The Leader of the Council clarified that no specific content, format or location had been committed by the message, and it was intended only as a general promotional placeholder pending Committee approval of the budget.
- In relation to whether the 2025 Pride event would be repeated, it was confirmed that the music event was the focus for 2026 but, if an event organiser wanted to include a Pride event in the future, it would be considered.
- Several Members reflected on BTAC’s broader role in supporting events that enhanced Boston’s identity, community spirit and economic vitality.
- There was general consensus in favour of Option 2.

The recommendations were proposed by Councillor Paul Gleeson and seconded by Councillor Anton Dani.

Resolved:

That Budget Option 2 - £65,500 including £17,000 funding contribution for a 3-day Christmas Festival and a further £24,000 contribution towards an inclusive music event, be approved.

49 Draft Budget Setting 2026/27

The Committee received a report from the Director of Finance (S151 Officer), which was presented by the Head of Finance Delivery (PSPSL).

The report set out the Draft Budget Setting Report 2026/27 and the accompanying Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for the period 2026/27 to 2030/31. A recommendation was sought from the Committee in respect of the 2026/27 precept and Band D Council Tax level, and the report provided updated financial assumptions, service cost projections across each service area and reserve requirements.

Members noted that the report should be considered in the context of continued financial pressure on local government, incorporating national inflation assumptions, pay award expectations, revised recharge allocations and operational cost changes.

The BTAC precept funded a wide range of visible frontline services, including open spaces, Central Park, public conveniences, town centre maintenance, events and allotments. The proposed precept requirement for 2026/27 was £779,470 reflecting a Band D charge of £82.44, an increase of 1.67% (approximately 3 pence per week). Nearly 70% of BTAC households fall within council tax Bands A and B, where the weekly increase would be around 2 pence.

Members were advised that the BTAC tax base had decreased slightly for 2026/27, and that a prudent collection rate assumption of 97.82% remained in place. Inflation of 3.7% had been applied for 2026/27, reducing to 2% in later years.

A detailed review of service budgets had resulted in revised cost allocations, particularly for grounds maintenance, public conveniences and support services.

Table 4 on page 35, indicated the budget for 2026/27 by expenditure and income with the 2025/26 budget as a comparison. The total expenditure would be £708,450 and the total income was £21,130. As the net expenditure was below the budget requirement, a contribution of £92,150 was proposed to be made to reserves. Although this was the current budgeted position, during 2026/27 a wider review of recharges and BTAC expenditure would be undertaken which may result in further reductions or potential increases.

The Head of Finance Delivery summarised each of the tables appended to the report in relation to each of the Committee's service delivery areas. She also indicated that the report proposed increasing BTAC's minimum reserve level from £70,000 to £100,000,

reflecting the scale and risk profile of BTAC services and aligning with professional advice from the S151 Officer.

Deliberation by members occurred and the following points were considered:

- There was detailed discussion on the appropriate level of the precept increase. Some Members questioned whether the recommended 1.67% rise was necessary, suggesting that a 1% increase would still maintain a healthy level of reserves. It was noted that even under a reduced increase, the projected reserves for 2026/27 remained in surplus.
- Some Members cautioned against adopting a lower increase, stressing the importance of long-term stability and avoiding a scenario where minimal increases now could necessitate much larger increases in future years. Reference was made to previous periods when council tax freezes had later created financial pressures. The impact of the Community Governance Review and the difficulty with predicting unforeseen expenditure and the impact on the budget was considered.
- Members discussed the justification for increasing the minimum reserve level.
- Service delivery was considered. Members considered whether there would be an impact on services should a lower increase be chosen.
- Clarification was provided that BTAC determined its precept annually and could review its approach each year. However, adopting the recommended increase at this stage would provide a stronger financial foundation.

The recommendation was proposed by Councillor Barrie Pierpoint and seconded by Councillor Stephen Woodliffe.

Resolved:

- 1. That BTAC noted the 2026/27 budget and MTFP position and recommended to Cabinet and Full Council that it be approved for inclusion within the Council's Annual Budget Report.**
- 2. That BTAC recommended to Cabinet and Full Council the level of its Special Expense precept for 2026/27 at £779,470, together with a Council Tax Band D charge of £82.44; and**
- 3. That BTAC recommended to Cabinet and Full Council an increase in the minimum reserve balance from £70,000 to £100,000 for the period 2026/27 to 2030/31.**

[Councillors Anne Dorrian and Emma Cresswell left the meeting at 7.19pm, following consideration of the above item.]

50 Central Park Green Flag Application

The Committee received a report from the Leisure Services & Contracts Manager, supported by the Operations Manager (Neighbourhoods). The report set out a proposal to submit a Green Flag Award application for Central Park. The report explained that the Green Flag Award was the national benchmark for well-managed public parks, which

assessed criteria including safety, maintenance, biodiversity, community engagement, environmental management and long-term planning.

The Leisure Services & Contracts Manager reminded the Committee that it had first expressed an ambition to pursue Green Flag status in July 2023, followed by a detailed report in February 2024 and the creation of a Working Group, which had met regularly to develop the Central Park Management Plan, a core requirement for accreditation. The Plan had been developed with Member and public participation.

The award of a Green Flag would provide national prominence, increased community involvement and help support future investment and improvement. If the application was unsuccessful, detailed feedback would be provided by the accreditation team.

Significant improvements had been delivered in Central Park over recent years, including enhanced CCTV, Community Safety patrols, inclusive play equipment, expanded outdoor gym provision, biodiversity initiatives, community and nature garden development, public art, reduced herbicide use and installation of a Changing Places facility. Pathways and access routes had been identified for future improvement along with tree planting and increased bulb planting. Improved educational signage would be implemented to stimulate curiosity about the natural world and help to create a more engaging, attractive and meaningful environment.

Confirmation was provided that the deadline for submission of the application was 2nd February 2026, with results expected in July 2026.

Deliberation by Members occurred and the following issues were considered:

- Members expressed strong support for the application, praising the dedication and hard work of officers and the operational team. Several Members noted that the Working Group had originally expected the Management Plan to take much longer to complete and commended officers for delivering it sooner.
- A number of Members described Central Park as a “gem” and highlighted its transformation, increased community use, and importance as one of the few large central parks in the region. They discussed the benefits of the Green Flag process as a driver of continuous improvement and civic pride.
- Reference was made to increased use of the skatepark, multi-use games area, children’s activities and park-run events.
- The educational and heritage value of the park was also discussed, with suggestions to reflect the park’s history through improved signage.
- There was support for applying “lessons learned” in Central Park to other BTAC green spaces and treating the application as a template for future applications.

The recommendation was proposed by Councillor Paul Gleeson and seconded by Councillor Anton Dani.

Resolved:

That BTAC supports the submission of the Green Flag Award application for Central Park and endorses the continued implementation of the Central Park Management Plan to maintain and improve standards.

51 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.

The Assistant Director – Leisure & Local Services confirmed that the Parks and Open Spaces Review, following the tour of assets in September 2025, would be included in the next meeting.

A detailed discussion took place regarding the inclusion of Central Park security within future reporting. Several Members expressed concern that although the Central Park Security Working Group had not met recently, the ongoing monitoring of anti-social behaviour should continue during the Green Flag assessment period. It was agreed that the Working Group would be disbanded and that the Committee would continue to receive regular incident updates.

The Assistant Director – Leisure and Local Services reiterated that the reporting mechanism was already in place through standard Committee monitoring reports.

Members also highlighted the importance of aligning the Work Programme with the Green Flag Management Plan. The Green Flag Working Group would continue to meet and could consider information about ASB issues in Central Park.

Resolved:

That the Work Programme be noted, with the inclusion of the ongoing monitoring of crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in Central Park.

The Meeting ended at 7.48 pm.

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Report To:	Boston Town Area Committee (BTAC)
Date:	26 th March 2026
Subject:	2025/26 Quarter 3 Financial Position
Purpose:	To present the 2025/26 Quarter 3 position for the period ending 31 December 2025.
Key Decision:	No
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Sandeep Ghosh, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Growth
Report Of:	Russell Stone, 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 3 for 2025/26 forecasting to the year end for members consideration.

Recommendations

It is recommended:

1. That BTAC Members note the forecast position of £22,786 surplus 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 3 of 2025/26.
- 1.2 The forecast indicates an underspend of £22,786, which will be transferred to 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 the reserve is £312,885, reflecting planned contributions to and from 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 3 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 Q3 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)
Nicole.Hayes@pspsl.co.uk

Signed off by: Russell Stone, Director of Finance (S151 Officer)
Russell.Stone@sholland.gov.uk

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

BTAC – Q3 Finance Report for 2025-26

Finance Summary

- The forecast shows a surplus position of £22,785 as of 31 December 2025.
- The anticipated reserve balance as of 31 March 2026 is £312,885.

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 31/12/2025 Q3 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q3 £	Variance (under)/ over Q3 £	Comments on main variances at Q3
Open Spaces & Play Areas	111,373	95,122	126,785	15,412	Overspends relating to repairs and replacements of play equipment, together with higher employee costs that are offset within the Events service.
Allotments	(580)	(1,205)	(600)	(20)	Additional rental income offset against recharges.
Central Park	192,224	137,583	190,245	(1,979)	Savings on utility costs and gate locking service not in operation offset against resurfacing costs.
Public Conveniences	168,129	138,148	185,624	17,495	Overspend relating to door replacements and associated costs along with a reduction in income.
Events	160,128	78,461	100,138	(59,990)	Staff cost savings arising from a recent service review, alongside reductions in supplies and services expenditure relating to event costs.
Town Centre Maintenance	114,519	78,601	114,479	(40)	Savings in relation to current staffing levels offset against electricity spend.
Administration	58,296	20,090	29,601	(28,695)	Primarily related to the street cleaning service review.
Net Expenditure	804,089	546,800	746,272	(57,817)	
Council Tax Income	(769,058)	(576,794)	(769,058)	-	
Net Total	35,031	(29,994)	(22,786)	(57,817)	
Efficiency Savings Target	(35,031)	-	-	35,031	
(Surplus)/Deficit for the year	-	-	-	(22,786)	

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 Surplus	(22,786)
Forecast Reserve Balance as of 31 March 2026	(312,885)

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 31 December 2025.

Table 3 – Open Spaces & Play Areas					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 31/12/2025 Q3 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q3 £	Variance (under)/over Q3 £	Comments on main variances at Q3
Employee Costs	6,060	9,024	11,997	5,937	The transfer of roles from Events, offsetting against employee costs within the Events service (Table 7).
Premises					
Repairs & Maintenance	3,840	2,880	3,840	-	
Premises Insurance	60	45	60	-	
	3,900	2,925	3,900	-	
Transport					
Car Allowances	10	-	-	(10)	Expenditure unlikely to be incurred.
	10	-	-	(10)	
Supplies & Services					
CCTV Camera Maintenance	2,060	-	2,387	327	Spend in line with supplier contract.
Maintenance of New Play Equipment	1,000	9,033	10,000	9,000	Repairs & Replacements for play equipment.
Professional & Contractor Fees	1,190	1,152	1,152	(38)	Annual inspection costs.
Insurance	40	30	40	-	
	4,290	10,215	13,579	9,289	
Third Party Payments					
Grounds Maintenance	94,770	71,078	94,770	-	
	94,770	71,078	94,770	-	
Support Services					
Property Services Support Recharge	1,673	1,255	1,707	34	Increase resulting from the employee pay award.
Communication & Marketing Recharge	-	122	162	162	Recharge costs for services provided.
HR & Payroll Recharge	670	503	670	-	
	2,343	1,880	2,539	196	
Income					
Other Income	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Grand Total	111,373	95,122	126,785	15,412	

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 31 December 2025.

Table 4 – Allotments					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 31/12/2025 Q3 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q3 £	Variance (under)/over Q3 £	Comments on main variances at Q3
Supplies & Services					
Development	255	-	255	-	
	255	-	255	-	
Support Services					
Management & Administration Support	1,385	538	717	(668)	Costs reflective of services provided. Costs associated with invoice administration and query handling.
Property Service Recharge	-	512	683	683	
	1,385	1,050	1,400	15	
Income					
Rental Income	(2,220)	(2,255)	(2,255)	(35)	Additional rental income.
	(2,220)	(2,255)	(2,255)	(35)	
Grand Total	(580)	(1,205)	(600)	(20)	

Table 5 details the forecast outturn for the operations of Central Park for the 2025/26 Financial Year Outturn as 31 December 2025.

Table 5 – Central Park					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 31/12/2025 Q3 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q3 £	Variance (under)/over Q3 £	Comments on main variances at Q3
Premises					
Repairs & Maintenance	3,730	2,798	11,389	7,659	Includes expenditure relating to resurfacing works. New utility rates received and usage reviewed. Reduction in charges received.
Electricity	4,500	1,838	3,700	(800)	
Water	316	57	100	(216)	
Premises Insurance	1,260	945	1,260	-	
	9,806	5,638	16,449	6,643	
Supplies & Services					
Birds	663	372	660	(3)	Gate locking service not in operation, ceased Aug 25
Gate Locking Service	16,983	8,250	8,250	(8,733)	
	17,646	8,622	8,910	(8,736)	
Third Party Payments					
Trade Waste Contract	1,480	1,110	1,480	-	
Grounds Maintenance	164,100	123,075	164,100	-	
	165,580	124,185	165,580	-	
Support Services					
Communication & Marketing Recharge	341	256	325	(16)	Revised employee costs for service provided. Revised employee costs for service provided.
Property Services Support Recharge	2,676	2,007	2,731	55	
	3,017	2,263	3,056	39	
Income					
Rents – Kiosk	(3,825)	(3,125)	(3,750)	75	In line with the lease agreement.
	(3,825)	(3,125)	(3,750)	75	
Grand Total	192,224	137,583	190,245	(1,979)	

Table 6 details the forecast outturn for operating the Public Conveniences within the BTAC area for the 2025/26 Financial Year Outturn as of 31 December 2025.

Table 6 – Public Conveniences					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 31/12/2025 Q3 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q3 £	Variance (under)/over Q3 £	Comments on main variances at Q3
Employee Costs	122,800	101,334	122,166	(634)	Agency usage reduced.
Premises					
Repairs & Maintenance	7,650	5,738	19,000	11,350	Door replacements for Central Park and Wide Bargate PCs
Electricity	4,090	3,325	5,710	1,620	Usage higher than anticipated.
Water Rates	18,350	14,393	19,893	1,543	Usage higher than anticipated.
Premises Insurance	1,540	1,155	1,540	-	
Depot/Office Accommodation	580	-	-	(580)	Relocation of van storage.
	32,210	24,611	46,143	13,933	
Transport					
Vehicles	5,560	4,170	5,560	-	
Car Allowances	30	-	30	-	
	5,590	4,170	5,590	-	
Supplies & Services					
Clothing	500	407	500	-	
Materials	5,000	6,696	9,000	4,000	Forecast in line with previous year trend.
Mobile Phones	70	39	70	-	
Employee Insurance	900	675	900	-	
Cash Collection Service	510	1,713	2,642	2,132	Changes in cash collection arrangements.
	6,980	9,530	13,112	6,132	
Third Party Payments					
Grounds Maintenance	4,150	-	-	(4,150)	Service not provided.
	4,150	-	-	(4,150)	
Support Services					
Communication & Marketing Recharge	170	128	162	(8)	Revised employee costs for service provided.
Finance Recharge	7,020	5,265	7,020	-	
HR & Payroll Recharge	5,590	4,193	5,590	-	
	12,780	9,586	12,772	(8)	
Income					
Sale of Keys	(61)	(9)	(20)	41	Reflective of current sales.
Fees & Charges	(16,320)	(9,215)	(12,280)	4,040	Loss of income due to Central Park vandalism in addition to the underachievement from previous quarters.
Other Income	-	(1,859)	(1,859)	(1,859)	Income from extended opening hours for events.
	(16,381)	(11,083)	(14,159)	2,222	
Grand Total	168,129	138,148	185,624	17,495	

Table 7 details the forecast outturn for Events within the BTAC area for the 2025/26 Financial Year Outturn as of 31 December 2025.

Table 7 – Events					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 31/12/2025 Q3 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q3 £	Variance (under)/over Q3 £	Comments on main variances at Q3
Employee Costs	85,370	26,821	32,926	(52,444)	Costs reallocated to Open Spaces service and Markets Officer post removed. Additional savings as a result of the recent service reviews.
Supplies & Services					
Printing	255	43	43	(212)	Forecast in line with current year spend.
Advertising	4,000	-	-	(4,000)	Expenditure captured within event costs.
Postages	-	117	117	117	Postage for Strongest & Food Fest.
Mobile Phones	50	28	50	-	
Employee Insurance	630	473	630	-	
Health & Safety Service	1,020	-	-	(1,020)	Expenditure not required.
Event Costs	41,500	29,586	42,818	1,318	Expenditure offset against advertising and miscellaneous expenses.
Miscellaneous Expenses	3,400	-	-	(3,400)	Savings offset above.
Grants & Contributions	17,000	17,000	17,000	-	
	67,855	47,247	60,658	(7,197)	
Third Party Payments					
Street Cleaning	1,420	1,065	1,420	-	
	1,420	1,065	1,420	-	
Support Services					
Communication & Marketing Recharge	1,363	1,022	1,299	(64)	Revised employee costs for service provided.
Finance Recharge	3,410	2,558	3,410	-	
HR & Payroll Recharge	2,710	2,033	2,710	-	
	7,483	5,613	7,419	(64)	
Income					
Event Space Hire & Events Income	(2,000)	(2,285)	(2,285)	(285)	Additional income generated.
	(2,000)	(2,285)	(2,285)	(285)	
Grand Total	160,128	78,461	100,138	(59,990)	

Table 8 details the forecast outturn for the maintenance of the Town Centre for the 2025/26 Financial Year Outturn as of 31 December 2025.

Table 8 – Town Centre Maintenance					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 31/12/2025 Q3 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q3 £	Variance (under)/over Q3 £	Comments on main variances at Q3
Employee Costs	76,210	56,922	75,916	(294)	Saving as a result of current staffing levels.
Premises					
Business Rates	2,470	2,470	2,470	-	
Electric	600	722	963	363	Overspend as a result of utility rates.
Rental Fees	3,825	-	3,750	(75)	Costs in line with current agreement.
Depot Recharge	480	360	480	-	
	7,375	3,552	7,663	288	
Transport					
Vehicles	7,270	5,453	7,270	-	
	7,270	5,453	7,270	-	
Supplies & Services					
Equipment Purchases	2,550	-	2,550	-	
Materials	4,182	1,362	4,180	(2)	
Clothing	710	30	710	-	
Employee Insurance	560	420	560	-	
Mobile Phones	50	34	50	-	
Purchase & Provisions	6,191	3,761	6,190	(1)	Bin purchases
	14,243	5,607	14,240	(3)	
Support Services					
Finance Recharge	4,750	3,563	4,750	-	
Communication & Marketing Recharge	681	511	650	(31)	Revised employee costs for service provided.
Training Recharge	210	158	210	-	
HR & Payroll Recharge	3,780	2,835	3,780	-	
	9,421	7,067	9,390	(31)	
Grand Total	114,519	78,601	114,479	(40)	

Table 9 details the forecast outturn for administrative functions for the 2025/26 Financial Year Outturn as of 31 December 2025.

Table 9 – Administration					
Account	Approved Budget 2025/26 £	Spend to 31/12/2025 Q3 £	Outturn 2025/26 at Q3 £	Variance (under)/over Q3 £	Comments on main variances at Q3
Employee Costs	4,900	4,074	5,538	638	As a result of the shared pay arrangements.
Supplies & Services					
Grants Programme	13,402	9,820	12,000	(1,402)	Forecast in line with grants awarded.
London Road Running Costs	1,040	522	1,040	-	
Equipment Maintenance	1,051	-	-	(1,051)	Speed Indicator device service not carried out for 2025/26.
Footway Lighting Electricity & Maintenance	4,200	-	3,421	(779)	Forecast in line with the Council's position.
Employee Insurance	40	30	40	-	
	19,733	10,372	16,501	(3,232)	
Third Party Payments					
Street Cleaning	26,140	-	-	(26,140)	Service review savings.
	26,140	-	-	(26,140)	
Support Services					
Finance Recharge	310	233	310	-	
Communication & Marketing Recharge	511	383	487	(24)	Revised employee costs for service provided.
HR & Payroll Recharge	250	188	250	-	
Property Services Support Recharge	640	480	701	61	Revised employee costs for service provided.
Caretaker Service Recharge	360	270	360	-	
Assistant Director Recharges	2,030	1,523	2,025	(5)	Revised employee costs for service provided.
Democratic Services Support Recharge	3,422	2,567	3,429	7	Revised employee costs for service provided.
	7,523	5,644	7,562	39	
Grand Total	58,296	20,090	29,601	(28,695)	

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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 	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 Q2 Financial Position as at 30 September 2025 • Biennial update from Lincolnshire Housing Partnership 	BTAC Small Grants Officer Finance Manager Guest: Anthony Read, Chair	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 • Events 2025/6 • Central Park Green Flag Application 	Finance Manager Emily Spicer – Assistant Director, Communities and Housing Services Assistant Director Leisure & Local Services	Cllr Ghosh Cllr Broughton Cllr Rylott

MEETING	AGENDA ITEM	LEAD OFFICER / GUEST	PORTOFLIO HOLDER
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:

- Park and open spaces provision including infrastructure, maintenance and funding. (June 26 Meeting)
- Review of status of Ingelow Park, Boston
- Tour of assets, including skate park provision.
- Community Governance Review – update in mid-2026

Additional Working Groups active as at issue of agenda:

- Green Flag Award:
Meeting dates –24th March 2026 at 6pm – CANCELLED. Future dates to be confirmed shortly.
- Small Grants:
Meeting dates (at 6pm and via Microsoft Teams): to be confirmed.
- 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.

BOSTON TOWN AREA COMMITTEE – DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2026/27

MEETING	AGENDA ITEM	LEAD OFFICER / GUEST	PORTOFLIO HOLDER
June 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BTAC Q4 2025/26 Financial Outturn report • BTAC Assets (Park and open spaces provision) • Status of Ingelow Park, Boston • Work Programme 	Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) Assistant Director – Neighbourhoods Assistant Director – Neighbourhoods Assistant Director – Culture and Leisure	Cllr Ghosh Cllr Rylott Cllr Rylott
July 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Governance Review Update • BTAC Small Grants • Work Programme 	Democratic Services Team Leader & Cllr Gilbert, Chair (CGR Working Group) BTAC Small Grants Officer Assistant Director – Culture and Leisure	Cllr Broughton Cllr Broughton
September 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BTAC Q1 Financial Position as at 30 June 2026 • BTAC Small Grants • Work Programme 	Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) BTAC Small Grants Officer Assistant Director – Culture and Leisure	Cllr Ghosh Cllr Broughton

MEETING	AGENDA ITEM	LEAD OFFICER / GUEST	PORTOFLIO HOLDER
November 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BTAC Q2 Financial Position as at 30 September 2026 • BTAC Small Grants • Work Programme 	Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) BTAC Small Grants Officer Assistant Director – Culture and Leisure	Cllr Ghosh Cllr Broughton
January 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BTAC Budget 2027/28 • Events 2026/27 • Work Programme 	Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) Assistant Director – Communities and Housing Services Assistant Director – Culture and Leisure	Cllr Ghosh Cllr Broughton
March 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BTAC Q3 Financial Position as at 31 December 2026 • BTAC Small Grants • Work Programme 	Head of Finance Delivery - BBC (PSPSL) BTAC Small Grants Officer Assistant Director – Culture and Leisure	Cllr Ghosh Cllr Broughton

Pending confirmation for potential addition to the Work Programme:

- Tour of assets, including skate/bike park provision.

Additional Working Groups active as at issue of agenda:

- Green Flag Award:
Change of Working Group to support the maintenance and monitoring of the Park.
- Small Grants:
Meeting dates (at 6pm and via Microsoft Teams): to be confirmed.
- 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 – Culture and Leisure
Clerk: Paul Stonebridge, Democratic Services Officer

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Report To:	Boston Town Area Committee
Date:	26 th March 2026
Subject:	BTAC Small Grant Scheme
Purpose:	To receive the recommendations of the BTAC Grants Working Group in respect of grant applications submitted in Round 4 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 4 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 26th February 2026 to review applications submitted for consideration in Round 4 25/26 to the BTAC Small Grant Scheme.

2. Report

2.1 4 eligible applications were received in Round 4 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	26 th February 2026

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 - Communities and Housing Services
Emily.Spicer@sholland.gov.uk

Approved for publication: Councillor Patricia Marson – Chairman of BTAC
Patricia.Marson@boston.gov.uk

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: 26th March 2026

	£ 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				

Funding required:		Considered by: BTAC	Date: 26 th March 26
Total capital cost	£0		
Revenue cost	£3,980		

Financial Services Comments	Balance as of 27th November 2025	Applications	Balance C/F
	£	£	£
BTAC Small Grants	5,905.23	3,980	1,925.23
Communities Grants	-	-	-
Total	5,905.23	3,980	1,925.23

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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