

From: Communications, Communications <Communications.Communications@e-lindsey.gov.uk>
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Subject: Boston Parish News - Wednesday 26 June 2024



Welcome to June's Parish News from your local Council. If you have any enquiries about any of the articles, please feel free to contact the communications team at communications.unit@boston.gov.uk

Changes to postal vote handling

If you are a postal voter, the easiest and quickest way of returning it to us is using a Royal Mail post box. By doing this, you will not need to fill in an additional form or sign a declaration. If you want to hand deliver your postal vote at East Lindsey District Council's office in Horncastle, please speak to reception and a member of the Elections team will give you a short form to fill in and a declaration to sign. Please also be aware that due to changes in election law, you can only hand in up to five postal votes for other electors, plus your own. Any more than this will mean some of the postal votes will be rejected. If you hand in your postal vote at a polling station on July 4, please be aware that you will have a short form to fill in and declaration to sign.

Polling stations

Voters can check their constituency, polling station location and other key election information by visiting <https://wheredoivote.co.uk/>

South & East Lincolnshire's Household Support Fund has now gone live and is open for applications

The council's partners at the Lincolnshire Community Foundation have reopened its Household Support Fund scheme, which can support people struggling with food costs or other forms of financial hardship. The funding is open only to residents of Boston, East Lindsey and South Holland. Households in financial hardship can apply for a grant of up to £300 for a voucher to help with food, clothes or other essentials – anyone can apply online at

<https://lincolnshirecf.co.uk/grants/hsf/> or contact the Household Support Fund team for assistance on 01529 305825 or email hsf@lincolnshirecf.co.uk.

Applications are strictly limited to one per household. Priority will be given to households in financial hardship, experiencing crisis due to a change in circumstance, and that have not previously received a household support fund grant.

If you have any questions or queries about the funding scheme, please contact Healthy Living Strategic Lead roxanne.warrick@e-lindsey.gov.uk.

Boston Town to bloom with new hanging baskets and planters

Boston's town centre is set to become a vibrant hub of colour with the addition of new hanging baskets and planters. This initiative, a collaborative effort between Boston Borough Council, Lincolnshire Police, and HMP North Sea Camp, aims to enhance public open spaces and revitalise the town's street scene.

The project involves assembling and installing 80 additional floral baskets and eight large new floor-standing planters, building on the existing number in the town. This initiative is part of a broader effort to foster civic pride and community spirit.

Since early 2024, prisoners at North Sea Camp have been designing and assembling the planters as part of a community outreach programme. This programme helps prisoners develop new skills and make positive contributions to the local community, aiding their rehabilitation and preparation for release.

Emily Spicer, Assistant Director for Wellbeing and Community Leadership at Boston Borough Council, said: "Whilst we wait patiently for the summer to appear, the team have been working hard alongside town centre businesses, community groups and a number of other borough wide organisations to bring even more colour to the town centre this year. With additional hanging baskets and planters being featured over the next few weeks, we are delighted to showcase together the commitment and pride in our town.

"We recognise the importance of ensuring our town centre is an attractive and safe place to be, whatever your reason for visiting and we will continue to prioritise activity to support this."

Funded by the Lincolnshire Serious Violence Fund under the 'Operation Plotting Environmental Changes and Offender Rehabilitation' project, this initiative seeks to address the root causes of violence and promote a culture of non-violence. It is also partially funded by the Community Alcohol Partnership.

Understanding Grass Cutting and Grounds Maintenance in Boston Borough

The maintenance of most grassed verges is the overall responsibility of Lincolnshire County Council as the authority responsible for Highways. While the County Council has this responsibility, in 2016, they passed on the maintenance of grass verges to town and parish councils. Boston Borough Council previously maintained all grass verges on behalf of Lincolnshire County Council but it recently returned the responsibility to Lincolnshire County Council, which means that it is responsible for maintaining its own assets only.

Maps showing areas of responsibility for maintenance are now available on our website at www.boston.gov.uk/grass-cutting.

Responsibilities Breakdown:

Boston Borough Council

- Maintaining parks, public gardens, and certain designated areas owed by BBC.
- Ensuring that public spaces within the borough remain clean and accessible for residents and visitors.

Lincolnshire County Council

- Responsible for the maintenance of all grass verges within the County.

Landlords and Housing Associations

- Responsible for the upkeep of grassed areas and grounds within their property boundaries.
- Ensuring that the residential spaces they manage remain tidy and safe for tenants.

A spokesperson at Boston Borough Council, said, "We understand the frustrations of our residents when it comes to the maintenance of grass verges. As a Council, we are committed to working closely with our partners, including Lincolnshire County Council and various landlords and housing associations, to address these issues promptly. However, it is important for everyone to recognise that not all areas fall under this council's responsibility. We appreciate the community's patience and co-operation as we strive to keep our borough clean and green." By working together, we can ensure that Boston Borough remains a well-maintained place for everyone to enjoy. For more information on which areas are maintained by Boston Borough Council, please visit our www.boston.gov.uk/article/20692/Grounds-Maintenance.

Council begins project to assess all tree preservation orders

As trees have naturally died or been felled for legitimate reasons over time, the council is currently undertaking a project to proactively reassess its TPOs (tree preservation orders) to ensure the details are accurate and up to date. This will take place throughout 2024, and the council is now consulting relevant owners, parish councils and local councillors on the updated TPOs. Councils makes tree preservations orders to protect individual and groups of trees that have a positive impact to their surroundings. Boston Borough Council currently has over 130 tree preservation orders, some of which span back to the 1950s and cover large areas with hundreds of trees. You can find out more about tree and hedge protection at - <https://loom.ly/1y3JGUY>.

Boston Skate Jam happening in Central Park this August

Boston Skate Jam is scheduled for Saturday 17 August, at the Skate Ramps area of Central Park. Pop along for free from 12 - 4pm and join in the fun with demonstrations, music, competitions and prizes. Come and roller skate, skateboard or BMX on the amazing skate park with Team Rubicon Action Sports School. There will be free riding sessions, as well as competitions with prizes throughout the event, and professional riders will be demonstrating their talents.

BEAM Café offering crucial mental health support in Boston

Located at Centenary Church on Red Lion Street, this café provides a safe space, peer support, and connections to essential services. The café is open on:
 Mondays, 1-3pm
 Tuesdays, 12-3pm
 Wednesdays, 4-7pm
 Fridays, 6-8pm (with Night Light Café)
 Additional wellbeing sessions on:
 Mondays, 12-1pm (arts & crafts)
 Thursdays, 11am-12pm (various activities at The Black Sluice)

Joining in for any of these sessions can help you explore techniques like mindful arts, breathwork, and more to support your mental health. Find out more online (<https://bit.ly/4caS1c0>) or call Heidi Freeman at 07833 786816.

Wrangle Show happening in July

Come along to the Wrangle Showground (PE22 9AJ) for a fun filled day with lots of stalls, entertainment, food and much more.

The show is scheduled for Sunday 7 July, starting from 10am.

Parking is free with an entrance fee payable on the day.

For more information go to www.wrangleshow.co.uk

Teddy Bear Picnic event

Children and parents are invited to a Teddy Bear Picnic event happening at Boston's Central Park from 12 - 2pm on Wednesday 17 July. Bring your favourite teddy bear and picnic for an unforgettable day of fun and excitement!

This is a free event funded by Boston Big Local.

Reggae music in Boston Market Place

Boston's 107 Endeavour FM is bringing Reggae to Boston Market Place on Sunday 25 August from 11am to 9pm. The special guest artists include Zeb Roots, Ska Train, Bridge2Ska, Soul Bouncer, and Ultimate Madness.

Entry is free and Caribbean food, a bar and children's stalls will be available.

This event is supported by Smart Move, Tayloritex CIC and Boston Borough Council.

[The Council issues a regular newsletter by email to residents. It's free and keeps you informed on the Council work and that of its partners. If you'd like to subscribe to receive this please sign up at \[www.e-lindsey.gov.uk/messenger\]\(http://www.e-lindsey.gov.uk/messenger\)](#)

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HOW WE WORK AS ONE TEAM
TO BE THE BEST FOR OUR
PLACE AND PEOPLE



Joined by One Team

South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership



WE TRUST



WE DELIVER



WE WORK
TOGETHER



WE ARE
PROUD



WE CARE
