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How we are doing (part 1)

The second of a three-phase project to raise Boston's profile has been completed.

Boston Borough Council's Cabinet praised the work so far undertaken by the Prosperous Boston group and accepted its report on the second phase of the review.

This phase covers car parks, environment and transport, signage, cleanliness and anti-social behaviour, flora and art and transport links to and from town. The first phase examined the retail experience and facilities provided including a full review of shops and markets.

Some early gains have already been made, such as introduction of a community toilet scheme to provide three additional toilets the public can use in addition to existing facilities. There had also been reprioritisation and redecoration of fingerpost signage in the town centre and information and mapping boards interpreting key events from the town's history.

Prosperous Boston members called for improved public toilets signage in the town centre and on the approach roads to the town.

The third and final phase will concentrate on tourism and events including a full review of promotion of the town, all events and accommodation. The group is seeking to improve the viability and vitality of Boston.

Cabinet members supported a proposal for talks to be held with retailers with a view to them supporting a potential discount voucher for their businesses,

printed on the reverse of car parking tickets.

There has already been a Heritage Lottery Fund award to enhance 14 buildings through grants on the eastern side of the Market Place, Dolphin Lane and Pump Square.

A food festival is being planned for Sunday, September 24. Much volunteer work has improved areas of town thanks to organisations such as Big Boston Local, People's Health Trust, the Royal Horticultural Society, Western Power Distribution, North Sea Camp, Arts Council, Transported, Boston In Bloom and Boston Greenscapers.

More of this type of work is planned, to include improvements by the White Hart Hotel to an area near the Town Bridge, improvements to Central Park and a second knot garden in the Stump grounds. Boston in Bloom, twice gold award winners, will host the 2017 regional awards at the Stump. Permanent metal sheep and shepherd silhouettes are to be installed on Bargate Roundabout. And redundant navigation buoys may be used to mark the area's maritime links and mark gateways to the town.

Unightly chewing gum has been removed from footpaths and tougher new rules to encourage owners to clean up after their dogs have been introduced.

Liquorpond Roundabout may feature a sculpture relating to the Hanseatic League or Mayflower.

How we are doing (part 2)

Boston Borough Council measures its performance in all areas and publishes how it is doing every quarter. These measurements have been especially important in the recent years of austerity and the need for improved performance, economies, savings and cuts.

Read more at <http://bit.ly/2og38eN>



Boston's clean-up army

Wow! What a turnout. Some of the more than 100 volunteers are pictured just before heading off on day two of the Big Boston Clean-up.

Read more at <http://bit.ly/2nYShCu>

1,000 for Boston Marathon

Around 1,000 runners – four times as many as last year – will set off for this year's Boston Marathon. The course has been dubbed the flattest in the world and last year many runners posted their personal best times.

Read more at <http://bit.ly/2omU73r>

Easter fun for the family

Boston's big Easter chick hunt has begun, with chances to win a fantastic collection of luxury goodies.

You have until April 14 to enter.

The Easter fun continues today with free family crafts at Boston Market. From 10am to 3pm there will be crafty fun for children of all ages. It's all happening at Sam's House.

Read more at <http://bit.ly/2njzpCD>

Dance for all

Transported, in partnership with artsNK, is launching new inclusive sessions at the Geoff Moulder Leisure Centre, Rowley Road, Boston after Easter. The classes are aimed at young people aged 8 to 18 with learning and/or physical disabilities, providing a safe and fun environment for them to socialise, form friendships and be creative.

Read more at <http://bit.ly/2oTYzlf>

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Are you the first winner?

Read more at <http://bit.ly/2ngH63i>

