

Report to Eastville, Midville and New Leake Parish Council – September 2025

By ELDC District Councillor – Friskney Ward

Postal Votes - Following changes introduced by the Elections Act 2022, postal voters are now required to reapply for their postal vote every three years. Postal voters who applied for a postal vote before 31 October 2023 are required to renew their postal vote application no later than 31 January 2026. Further details on the process can be found here: <https://www.e-lindsey.gov.uk/article/28824/Postal-Vote-Re-Application>

Local Government Reorganisation – South and East Lincolnshire Councils partnership has created a dedicated website for the reorganisation of Greater Lincolnshire, with lots of information, including their proposal to government for reorganisation and how you can get involved. Click on the link for more information and go to the events tab for information on how you can get involved and have your say. There are lots of events coming up around the district for residents and organisations both in person and virtual events. The final proposal must be submitted to government by November, therefore if you want to have a voice please see where/when the next engagement session is. <https://www.greaterlincolnshireforall.org/>

Heritage Open Day celebration - As part of the national Heritage Open Day scheme, Boston's town centre will be transformed on Saturday 13 September from 10am to 3pm as part of a vibrant and free celebration of the town and borough's rich heritage.

The event will take place across the Market Place, outside The Stump, and Boston Guildhall Museum, offering a dynamic mix of street theatre, exhibitions, creative workshops, and immersive experiences for all ages.

Throughout the day, visitors can enjoy walkabout street theatre acts, including Artizani's Lifeboat, Hilary & Edmund by Mark Mark Productions, and The Wrong Brothers by Feasible Ferret.

Inside Boston Guildhall Museum, photographer Sam Atkins will present Through the Lens of Herbert Ingram, a live portrait experience using traditional heritage cameras. The Guildhall will become a hub of image-making, celebrating the people of Boston through instant photography, vintage equipment and live film development. This also forms part of the Illustrating Boston News project, which captures and reflects the stories of the local community.

Visitors will also have the chance to experience virtual reality through MBD's VR headsets. These immersive virtual reality experiences offer a new way to explore Boston's past and present through the latest technology to bring these stories to life.

The Market Place will be full of activity including stalls alongside a wide range of creative and historical experiences. Visitors can take part in self-led trails that explore etched plaques, blue plaques and historic buildings or join an architecture scavenger hunt and a hands-on "design your own building" workshop. Cultural Quarter partners will be providing deeper insight into Boston's rich heritage and architectural landscape.

This free, family-friendly event is funded by South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership's Story Tellers NPO project through funding from Arts Council England, which looks to support arts, culture, heritage and creativity across the whole of South and East Lincolnshire, providing meaningful opportunity and programming for residents, developing the sector and helping to build our arts, culture and heritage offer.

Councillor community Grants scheme – not for profit organisations and charities can benefit from the ELDC councillor community grant scheme this year. The grant aims to provide smaller amounts for easily deliverable schemes and has already supported 4 organisations with £1700 of funding between them. Please contact me in the first instance to discuss your application. Carleen.dickinson@e-lindsey.gov.uk