



Partnership of the Historic Bostons, Inc.  
66 Marlborough Street  
Boston, Mass. 02116

[www.historicbostons.org](http://www.historicbostons.org)

Cllr Richard Austin, BEM  
Boston Borough Council  
Boston, Lincolnshire

November 24, 2021

Dear Councillor Austin,

Boston, Lincolnshire and Boston, Massachusetts have a long, strong, reciprocal relationship. Boston, Massachusetts owes its name and founding to our parent locale in Lincolnshire. We at the Partnership of Historic Bostons (PHB) write in support of Boston, Lincolnshire's application to become a city, a place and its people which have had such a profound impact on Massachusetts and New England.

PHB was founded 21 years ago through the joint efforts of William Holton, (Professor of History at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts) and Boston, Lincolnshire Mayor, Judy Cammack, who recognized the two places' on-going relationship and the frequent history tourism between the places. We have maintained this strong, personal relationship ever since.

PHB is dedicated to exploring the 17<sup>th</sup>-century history and continuing impact today. The original Boston and Lincolnshire colonists who crossed the Atlantic in 1630 formed the Massachusetts Bay Colony, founding New England's Boston and the enduring form of government in Massachusetts. In fact, the gates of the Massachusetts State House bear the seal of Boston, Lincolnshire England in recognition of that foundational relationship.

Similarly, when St. Botolph's Church (the famous "Boston Stump" and tallest parish church in England) needed to remove a section of window tracery, perhaps to add an organ, Trinity Church in Boston, Massachusetts gladly incorporated that stonework in its own structure. St. Botolph's Church later laid markers honouring its 17<sup>th</sup>-century residents who migrated to and made a difference in its namesake across the Atlantic.

PHB members on both sides of the ocean have worked to raise awareness of Boston, Lincolnshire's role in the 17<sup>th</sup> century's "Great Migration" from England to Massachusetts. More should know the story of Boston, England and its impact. The PHB's efforts were important in publishing your book, *Boston—The Small Town with a Big History*, now the standard reference book for area schools studying local, English history. Conferring city status upon Boston, Lincolnshire will recognize what both Bostons already know — Boston, Lincolnshire is a place of importance well beyond its physical size — as the rest of Britain will appreciate.

The Partnership of Historic Bostons strongly supports the Boston Borough Council's application for city status. We look forward to our two cities together marking the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Boston, Massachusetts in 2030, as we did in 1930. It will be quite the occasion.

With best wishes,

John Morrison  
President  
Partnership of Historic Bostons, Inc.  
For the Board