

## BOULTHAM PARK, LINCOLN.



**Boultham** Park was originally the park for Boultham Hall. It was purchased by the City of Lincoln Council in 1929 and opened as a public park for the people of Lincoln. Unfortunately, the house was demolished in 1959. Included in the park is a 13th century church dedicated to St Helen.

If you have visited Boultham Park in Lincoln recently, you will have noticed that a huge amount of restoration work has taken place in this Grade 2-listed, 50-acre public park. There have been two parts to the restoration. The first part included the building of a new cafe, restoration of the bandstand, conversion of the old stable block into an education centre and improvements



to the lighting, pathways and seating. The total cost was £4.1 million with £2.7 million coming from the National Lottery Fund and the National Lottery Community Fund's Parks for the People programme. The second part was to improve the water quality in the lake and bring back activities like fishing and boating and make it more attractive to wildlife. This included bank restoration work, aerating the lake, woodland planting, footpath improvements and provision of fishing pegs and a public art trail. The total cost was £1.17 million which included £658,700 funding from the National Lottery. It was supported by the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and the Boultham Park Advisory Group.





All in all then, a massive amount of money and effort has been expended to make the park attractive to visitors. It is well used and, for the more energetic, a 'parkrun' takes place there every Saturday morning. Parkruns are free, weekly, community events that are five kilometres long and take place all around the world in parks and open spaces. All are welcome. You can run, walk, jog, volunteer or spectate. There is no time limit and no one finishes last. If you are interested please see the website [parkrun.org.uk](http://parkrun.org.uk).

I have taken some photos which I hope you will enjoy. It is nice to have these open places on our doorstep and good that money, albeit over budget, has been spent to keep them attractive.

**Jim Blainey**

