



# TRANSPORTED

Inspiring Creative Journeys

## CROWLAND PUBLIC ART TRAIL

### “ON YOUR DOORSTEP”

### BRIEF FOR ARTISTS 2015



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



Transported is a strategic, community-focused programme which aims to get more people in Boston Borough and South Holland enjoying and participating in arts activities. It is supported through the Creative People and Places initiative.

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### 1. Introduction

**We are inviting applications from experienced and innovative artists to undertake the first in a series of public art commissions for Crowland town centre. The theme for this project is the celebration of the town's history and heritage and the aim is to create a piece of public art which will benefit the local area, through meaningful consultation with, and/or the active, artistic participation of the local school and community.**

### 2. An Introduction to Transported

**Transported** represents the most exciting and radical initiative to develop new ways of engaging more people in great arts experiences in areas of least engagement in the county of Lincolnshire.

Transported is a strategic, community-focused programme which aims to get more people in South Holland and Boston Borough enjoying the arts and participating in arts activities. It is managed by artsNK and funded by the Creative People and Places fund from Arts Council England.

Our aim is to transport innovative and high quality art, leading artists and equipment to remote places, and also to bring people to where the arts are being made or presented.

We encourage long-term collaborations between local communities and arts organisations, museums, libraries and local authorities, with the aim of empowering people and organisations to experiment with new approaches to developing inspiring, sustainable arts programmes that will engage audiences in South Holland and Boston Borough.

**This approach has been developed to give us the best chance of bringing together the right people, knowledge and organisations to take each area of activity forward, making sure what we do is appropriate and has the best chance of being sustained.**

### Phase III Transported

Following initial consultation and the subsequent successful delivery of its broad programme, the focus of Transported is moving to sustainability, making choices and building partnerships that stand the best chance of sustaining projects, programmes and the value of our investment in the longer term. Our programme going forward will be delivered with key

strategic partners who each contribute expertise, capacity or resource and can sustain activity beyond the initial Creative People and Places programme.

Phase III also recognises that a significant route to sustainability is increased active participation, so we are exploring every opportunity for people to take part in artistic activity supporting skill development so that more people are taking part in the future.

To read the full business plan, Phase I review, Phase II delivery outline and information on the Phase III development areas, please follow the link below.

<http://www.transportedart.com/publications/>

### **3. An Introduction to Crowland and its Parish Council**

Crowland is situated in the very south of the county of Lincolnshire. A thriving market town, Crowland supports a population of approximately 4,200 with the majority of the residents living within the town itself. The town is a pleasant mix of older properties surrounding the Trinity Bridge and Crowland Abbey and several large modern housing estates on the edges which overlook the rural landscape. A feature of the town is the many greens in the centre of the streets radiating out from the Trinity Bridge.

A parish council is the lowest tier of local government, and has the power to deliver a range of services and facilities for the benefit of residents within their area. Among these can be facilities which benefit parishioners' wellbeing and enjoyment. Crowland Parish Council considers itself to be proactive and innovative, whilst responding to the expressed needs and desires of its electorate. It presides over an ancient town, very proud of its monastic origins which can still be seen in the scheduled ancient monuments comprising the remains of the abbey and surrounding monastery grounds, and the unique Trinity three ways bridge. It is the latter which has bequeathed several small greens within the main streets of the town where once flowed diverging rivers. These greens, which are themselves a feature of the town are well maintained by the Parish Council, and offer excellent sites for public art installations. The Parish Council is supporting this initiative to bring more art to the community, and considers the proposal fits well with the objective of increasing tourism.

### **4. Who is eligible to apply?**

This commission is for artists with a track record of producing work in public spaces. Applications can be from individuals or teams. The artist(s) or architect(s) selected will be expected to design, construct and install their proposal or manage that process and, if shortlisted, will need to demonstrate that capability.

For these reasons the commissions are most suitable for professional artists, architects and designers and unlikely to be suitable for students. Students, less experienced artists and architects may, however, apply as part of a team.

Selected applicants will be expected to be generous in sharing their expertise and knowledge with emerging and local artists who might shadow and be mentored, in the spirit of the Transported approach. Proposals should indicate how such a role might be delivered.

Applications will also be expected to complete a Transported Evaluation form on completion of the project as well as feeding back to the Transported Evaluation group.

Further information about Transported is available in the [Phase II Outline](#).

## 5. On Your Doorstep

Crowland Parish Council have identified an ambition for a public artwork that responds to and celebrates its heritage and the potential to link this to other existing and new features, such as the Three Ways Bridge, Crowland Abbey and Visitor Centre and future artworks or heritage trail. A preferred site has also been identified.

Transported Phase III of the Creative People and Places programme for Boston and South Holland brings together the two strands: "On Your Doorstep", through which local groups have been invited to nominate public spaces in need of (creative) enhancement or improvement, and the "Public Art" strand, through which Transported, working with strategic partners, commissions larger artworks that will contribute to the visitor offer.

Whilst the next phase of the programme requires us to allow more people to be involved in and access the arts, it also expects us to establish a legacy for the investment. Public art, with the development of the concepts, designs, and sometimes the artworks themselves, offers significant opportunity for engagement. The creation of public artworks, especially as part of a bigger, more ambitious scheme, provides very clear and tangible long lasting value.

Transported will work with Crowland Parish Council to undertake the first of a series of public art commissions, the first completed and installed during 2015, as a catalyst and inspiration for the other pieces.

This commission and the subsequent collection, will take the history and heritage of the town as its **theme**, exploring a range of techniques, materials and approaches to create high quality, innovative and stimulating artworks.

We are looking for proposals and approaches that recognise and deliver the objectives of each of the partnership organisations and funders. These might be seen as;

- Crowland Parish Council – creating a celebration of the town's history and heritage.
- Transported and artsNK - bringing about meaningful engagement and ownership of partners and local people leading to increased ambition and appetite for more art and more participation in the future.
- Arts Council of England - encouraging high quality and innovative artworks and experiences.
- Education sector - offering opportunities for young people to learn about the history of where they live, art, new practical techniques and artists' professional practice.

The **selection** process will be through open submission in response to a commission brief, leading to a shortlist of artists selected by the lead partners. The selected artists will subsequently be commissioned to create a small number of Maquettes (small scale models) of their proposals, which would form a small exhibition for display in the town (and elsewhere).

### Purpose

- To celebrate and make visible the history and heritage of the town.
- To engage local residents in a positive and inspiring arts experience.
- To use and demonstrate the arts as a way of celebrating some of the character of the area and contribute to making it special.
- To demonstrate the potential for art to bring people together and contribute to community cohesion and wellbeing.
- To offer opportunity for people to make a meaningful and valid contribution where appropriate and within the artist's preferred practice and approach.
- To increase awareness, support and potential engagement with the whole Transported programme.

- In line with the overall aim of the project - to encourage more people to engage with the arts and to develop ways in which this can be sustained, part of which is by demonstrating how they can make tangible improvements to the area as well as contribute to improving the lives of individuals and communities.

## **A Brief History of Crowland**

'In Holland in the fenny lands

Be sure you mark where Croyland stands' –Saint Guthlac of Crowland

### *Crowland Abbey*

The early history of Crowland Abbey is bedevilled by the forged chronicles fabricated by later monks in pursuit of dubious land claims. According to an unconfirmed tradition, the first monastery was founded in 716 by Guthlac's friend King Aethelbald of Mercia and re-founded c.950 after Viking destruction. Certainly, the Abbey existed well before the Norman Conquest.

In 1066 it was the only monastery in Lincolnshire, and, when the Domesday Book was written in 1086, it already owned wide estates given by pious benefactors. During the middle ages, Crowland became one of the largest and most important abbeys in Lincolnshire with an immense cathedral sized church and spacious monastic living quarters. The Abbey housed up to 40 Benedictine monks. Much of its wealth came from reclaiming and farming the Fenland.

Like all monasteries in England, Crowland Abbey was suppressed by King Henry VIII. Much of the great abbey was probably demolished soon after the suppression along with a monastery's living quarters. The name was preserved as the parish church. For more information, visit [www.crowlandabbey.org.uk](http://www.crowlandabbey.org.uk).

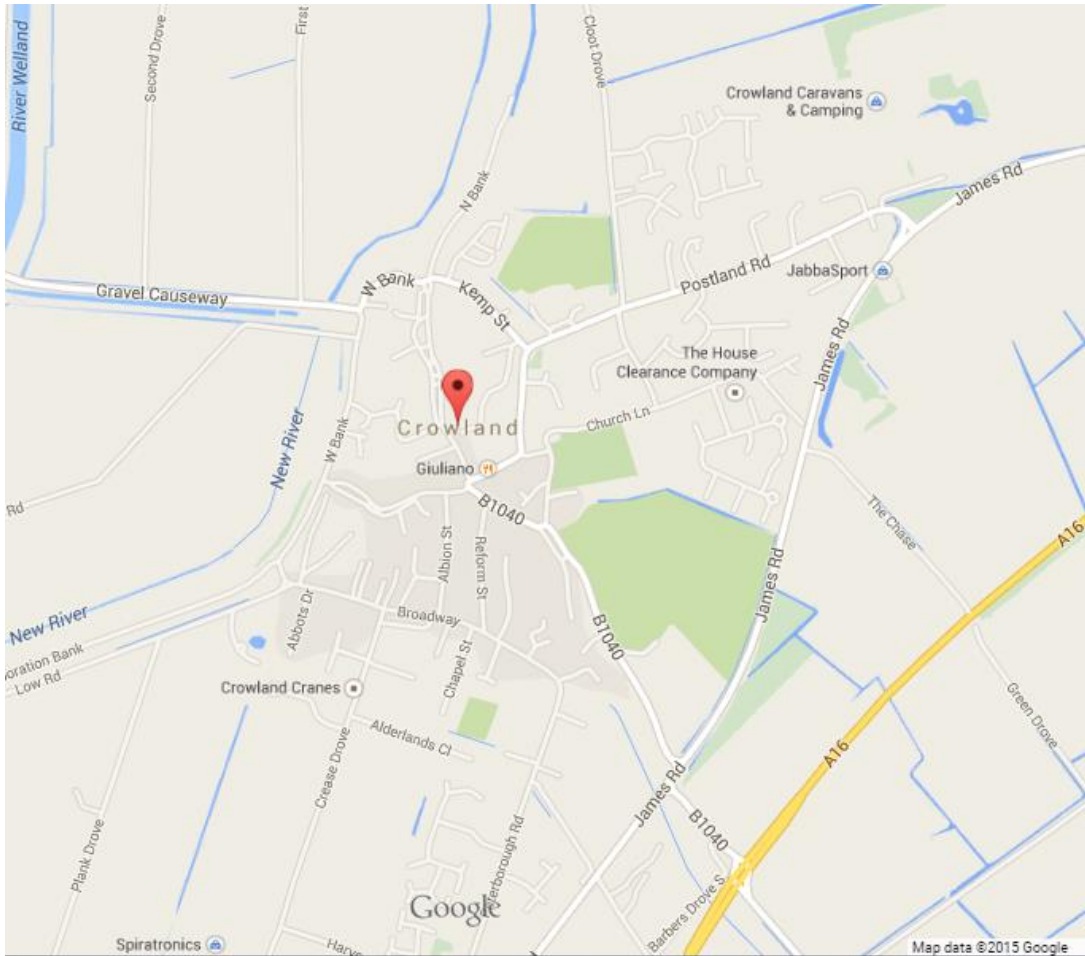
### *Trinity Bridge*

Crowland's unusual ancient monument is possibly unique. The Triangular (or Trinity) Bridge stands in the centre of the town on draw land. Built between 1360 and 1390, the bridge has three arches but one overarching structure, a three in one bridge, hence the term Trinity Bridge.

The present bridge appears to have replaced a wooden bridge referred to in earlier times by the Charter of King Aethelbald (AD716) and by King Edred's Charter (AD943) as 'the triangular bridge of Croyland'.

Prior to the draining of the Fens the main streets were waterways and it was at this point that the River Welland divided into two streams. The Antiquarian, Richard Gough, said that the bridge was 'the greatest curiosity in Britain, if not in Europe.'

## 6. Locations, Maps and General Site Descriptions



The preferred location for this first commission is the green area between Thorney Road and South Street:





## 7. How to Submit a Proposal

There is a two-part selection process that includes 'Expression of Interest' and 'Submitting a Proposal'.

### **Part 1 – Expression of Interest**

In order to be considered for shortlisting you need to complete an expression of interest that will include the following:

- Who you are and who is in your team (if relevant) along with details of relevant experience for each person in producing similar works, installations, or structures in public places.
- Your contact details, preferred method of communication – telephone, email etc. and how you wish to share your images.
- Statement explaining how your commission links with Transported's aim and objectives and why you or your team would like to be considered. Please include a brief description of potential maintenance requirements of your final piece
- Please supply a maximum of 10 images\* and videos that reflect your artistic quality and provide evidence of previous work along with short descriptions, locations and budget.
- The support material included should help us to understand your approach and have confidence in your ability to ensure a professional delivery, on time, in budget and within any relevant legal or safety regulations.

### **Submission Deadline:**

There are several options for sharing images; please send your electronic images to OneDrive\* to the email address below using the title 'On Your Doorstep: Crowland' followed by your name and date. Printed images should be no smaller than A5 and if on a CD-ROM, please supply them in Jpeg format with clear descriptions which relate to each image. This applies in all cases. If you wish to have your images returned please enclose a self-addressed envelope.

Applications can be sent electronically or by hard copy to [TransportedElizabeth@litc.org.uk](mailto:TransportedElizabeth@litc.org.uk)

Elizabeth Bergeron  
Holbeach St. Marks Community Association Building  
Sluice Road  
Holbeach St. Marks  
Lincolnshire  
PE12 8HF

\*If you're not already registered with a OneDrive account then you can set one up using your email address. The service is free of charge. Once registered, you can upload files to your account and choose to 'share' them with other email addresses. For this commission you should choose to share your documents with [TransportedElizabeth@litc.org.uk](mailto:TransportedElizabeth@litc.org.uk)

**The deadline for all Expressions of Interest is 5pm on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

Applications received after this time will not be accepted, but may be kept on file for future reference.

**Shortlisted applicants will be notified by 5pm on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015.** If you have not heard by 5pm on this date then unfortunately, on this occasion, you have not been shortlisted. If there is a large number of applicants as in previous commissions, it may not be possible to contact all unsuccessful applicants.



We are offering you the opportunity to attend one of our Open Days to visit Crowland Town Centre and to meet the Transported team and members of the Crowland Parish Council prior to the Expression of Interest Deadline above. These will take place on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March from 11 to 12pm** and **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015 from 2 to 3pm** at Crowland Abbey (46 East Street, PE6 0EN). Please note that you must arrive promptly for the start of either session.

If you would like to talk to a member of the team about the Expression of Interest process and the On Your Doorstep Programme, please contact [TransportedElizabeth@litc.org.uk](mailto:TransportedElizabeth@litc.org.uk) or call 07747271825 for more information.

To ask specific questions about Crowland, please contact either John Searle on 07761549865 or the Crowland Parish Council Clerk on [crowland.pc@btconnect.com](mailto:crowland.pc@btconnect.com).

## **Part 2 – Submitting a Proposal**

Up to 6 artists or teams will be shortlisted for each proposal.

An honorarium of £500 per shortlisted party will be available to assist with the preparation of site specific, more detailed proposals and shortlisted applicants will be **invited to present their proposals on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at:**

Parish Rooms  
Hall Street  
Crowland  
Lincolnshire  
PE6 0EW

The panel will include:

Nick Jones, Programme Director and Elizabeth Bergeron Arts Engagement Worker of Transported, David Searle, Sybil Speechley, David Kempton, Linda Boor, Margaret Beardshaw and John Parnell.

### **What do I need to submit if shortlisted?**

Before developing a proposal please re-read the brief and additional notes in this document very carefully.

Your proposal is to be presented to the panel in person and should take the form of a scale model or Maquette, but can be supported by drawings, photographic images or montages, models, digital images, computer rendering or animations etc. These can be in any format as long as they clearly communicate your proposal to the panel and you can leave a 'hard copy' version with the panel.

In addition, you must provide a 300 word description of the proposal with any explanatory notes you think necessary, which **must** state your contact details.

If you would like to talk to a member of the team about submitting a proposal and the On Your Doorstep Programme, please contact [TransportedElizabeth@litc.org.uk](mailto:TransportedElizabeth@litc.org.uk) or call 07747271825 for more information.

## 8. Timescale

March and April 2015	Artist visits
April 2015	Selection of shortlisted artists (5) to develop specific proposals designs and Maquettes
June 2015	Interview and selection of first commissioned artist Exhibition of Submissions and Maquettes
July – August – September – October 2015	Local consultation, design and engagement and Piece in production
November 2015	Installation and unveiling/celebration

## 9. Budget Guidance

We are looking for value for money at the same time as respecting artists and architects and wanting to ensure we deliver an inspirational and high quality programme. Applicants should provide a breakdown of costs and fees and an explanation of how they have been worked out.

We have allocated £5,000+VAT to the Crowland On Your Doorstep Programme.