



PLASTIC-FREE FELIXSTOWE



Annual Report

Community Action

Litter-Free Felixstowe was formed in November to encourage more people to get involved in litter-picking. A group litter-pick now takes place every month attracting up to 80 people with 'mini-picks in between



Award finalist

In November, Plastic-Free Felixstowe was a finalist in the national Groundworks environmental awards. The ceremony took place at the House of Commons.



Working together to tackle plastic waste

Plastic-Free Felixstowe was formed in response to the media coverage of the global crisis in the ocean. As a seaside town with the UK's premier port on our doorstep, Felixstowe's relationship with the sea is obvious. Now a Community interest Company (CIC), Plastic-Free Felixstowe aims to raise awareness, eliminate single-use plastic across the town and promote beach cleans and litter-picking in public spaces. Over the past year we have worked across the community, engaging with businesses to encourage best practice, giving talks to schools and other charities/community groups and organising events to inspire people to get involved.

Thanks to the generous support of the Town Council we were able to purchase stickers & sail banners for events/exhibitions and create a professional website to guide residents, giving tips and advice as well as publicising community events. Thank you.





Aims & Objectives

- To work to eliminate single-use plastics across the town and ensure no plastic waste goes into the sea
- To raise awareness of the global issues being caused by plastic entering the Eco-system
- To inspire residents, businesses and visitors to use alternatives to plastics wherever possible and recycle as much as possible
- To encourage involvement in beach cleans and litter-picks in all public spaces
- To promote Felixstowe as a leader in positive, pro-active environmental action

Highlights of the Year

*. Plastic-Free Felixstowe was originally created as a Facebook group in early 2018 - membership quickly grew as people shared tips to reduce plastic waste. Within months, the CIC is formed with its own constitution and business plan

*Creating community events: organising a successful awareness day in August which provided a fun way to spread the environmental message to children; currently planning a major event on 20 April, collaborating with shops, cafes and businesses in the Town Centre

Engaging with businesses: encouraging companies to eliminate single-use plastics; presenting certificates to recognise good practice; organising a large scale corporate litter-pick; liaising with hauliers and major shipping lines to gain practical support; promoting companies offering plastic-free alternative products

Media work: publicising the activities of the group with articles in various newspapers and magazines; TV and radio interviews with BBC, ITV and independent stations

Exhibitions: attending numerous exhibitions from the Port of Felixstowe's 'World Environment Day' to various business exhibitions and 'Felixstowe in Bloom'

Litter-picking: Formed Litter-free Felixstowe to organise beach cleans and litter picks in various locations. Creating a fun and friendly atmosphere to encourage involvement and working with other charities and community groups

Marketing: currently creating a professional website to provide information, tips and advice; producing leaflets and regular newsletters for members

Inspiring children: working in schools, giving talks at assemblies, writing a children's book to explain how individual action can make a difference; working with youth groups

