# **Felixstowe Forward.**







# Engagement with businesses

Ongoing liaison with approx. 160 Felixstowe businesses by email and/or phone:

#### **High Streets Task Force**

- In response to a call for case studies a submission has been made to High Streets Task Force featuring the successful interventions around re-opening safely.

#### **Felixstowe BID**

- Ongoing liaison with businesses for the Felixstowe BID.
- Felixstowe BID Ballot is now live. Declaration 11<sup>th</sup> November at 4pm.

#### **COVID19 Lockdown**

- Working on an updated list of businesses and logging who is open, who is providing delivery services, take away services etc.
- Working with wider ED&R team on the anticipated roll out of additional business grants and ensuring local businesses are aware.
- Responding to specific enquiries
- Visit Felixstowe will work on supporting the businesses that can still trade.

# **Felixstowe Seafront Spill Out**

Businesses along the Seafront have welcomed the opportunity to 'spill out' and report that weather permitting, service orders and covers have been good and visitors have enjoyed the new vistas. A Seafront questionnaire has been completed by over 1,000 respondents and the results can be viewed at: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-YQW7Z56P7/">https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-YQW7Z56P7/</a>. Businesses (The Alex, 129 Bar, Little Ice Cream Co, Steak and Lobster) have stated they would like to discuss options and ideas for enabling a permanent continuation of the spill out and have requested Felixstowe Forward formally raises the matter for discussion.

#### **Positive News**

- New businesses opened Hungarian Deli, S Betts Mortgages, Felixstowe Mobile Phone and Computer Repairs
- Business relocations: Financial Wealth Management (Orwell Road)
- New businesses planned: Seaview Deli and Cafe expected on the corner of Hamilton road/Wolsey gardens in Hamilton Road
- Nearly all the units at Beach Street have tenants, mostly small local Independents and start-up businesses.

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### **Negative news**

- 5 retail businesses and 1 barber have confirmed closure. A further 4 National businesses have confirmed closure.
- Clearly high anxiety in light of second lockdown.

#### **East Suffolk means Business**

For further information: This page is kept up to date with the latest COVID19 information, advice, and guidance.

https://eastsuffolkmeansbusiness.co.uk/

# Capitalise on existing strengths and present a strong and diverse, year-round programme of events

Events Up and Coming 2021		
2021 Provisional Dates		
02 May	Vehicle Rally	
03 May	Rotary Fun Run	
12 June	Women's Tour	Various locations.
21 June	Suffolk Remembers	
25-27 June	Felixstowe Book Festival	Various location
10 July	Trimley Carnival	
	Felixstowe Carnival – Heroes and	
23-25 July	Villains	Various location
5 Sept	Art on the Prom	Seafront
12 Sept	Felixstowe Coastal 10k	Seafront
07 Nov	Felixstowe Fireworks	Football club

# Build on the momentum of promoting Felixstowe as a destination, and cross-promotion of visitor related activity.

#### Visit Felixstowe Beach Hut Tourist Information Hut

East Suffolk Council are planning to locate a permanent Visitor Information Point on the seafront by the Town Hall on the site previously occupied by a concession.

# Visit Felixstowe website:

### You Tube channel

All the Mayor interview videos are now available on the Visit Felixstowe You Tube channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1YUOTIUBYRz29VZXYsDf0Q

#### Social Media:

October 2020 10,062 Followers Facebook October 2020 5,189 Followers Twitter Regular #TownTalk #LoveIndependent campaign.

# VF Reach and Engagement figures 25 Sept - 22 October

People Reached 36,800 Post Engagements 20,854

# Green Flag and Green Heritage Award.

- Awarded for the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.

# Work with partners to exploit the full potential of Felixstowe through collaborations and projects as they arise.

Ongoing officer involvement with:

#### **Felixstowe Support Hub**

Ongoing exploration of a pilot project to meet the need for workspace in Felixstowe where service providers can meet with the unemployed to provide face to face support. 'Covid-secure' work practices mean that many organisations are running out of space and unable to meet the demand for face to face activity. Potential partners include DWP, Inspire Suffolk, Menta, Felixstowe Chamber of Trade and Commerce, Suffolk Chamber and Felixstowe Port Users Group. The intention is to use an empty town centre premises and to be visible in the local community to support the growing number of unemployed, support start-up businesses with information, advice and guidance and to support families in debt crisis. Further information to be circulated when options have been fully explored.

#### **Felixstowe Vision**

Consultation with Felixstowe Town Council on the Felixstowe Vision document pulling together various strands of work planned in the town.

# North Felixstowe Development - ongoing

# South Seafront Development: The Kitchen @ Martello Park and The Sweetworks @ Martello Park

Early discussions ongoing to open Martello P tower on a regular basis next year.

# **SMART Towns Project**

Attended further presentation on the SMART Towns project. More information to follow as the project gains momentum and the outcome of the Felixstowe BID is confirmed.

Oversee Landguard Partnership and governance review	which will work on the strategic busines planning and the constitution of the new Landguard Charitable Trust.
	Leonie Washington, Landguard Ranger is working on a new educational garden which is due to open in Spring 2021. Follow her blog on <a href="http://www.discoverlandguard.org.uk/attractions/landguard-nature-reserve/rangers-blog/hi-i-am-leonie-the-new-landguard-ranger/">http://www.discoverlandguard.org.uk/attractions/landguard-nature-reserve/rangers-blog/hi-i-am-leonie-the-new-landguard-ranger/</a>
	Felixstowe Museum is progressing plans to recruit a Museum Manager for a fixed one year term
	The Harbour Ferry is confident that they will be re-opening the service in the Spring 2021.
Community Engagement	'Community Conversations' informal interviews continue with the Deputy Mayor.