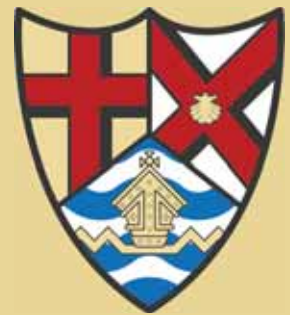


The Seasonal Magazine for Felixstowe Residents

Summer 2020

Issue 5



FELIXSTOWE
TOWN COUNCIL

Enjoy Felixstowe this Summer
Community Stories
Local Environmental Projects
Town Council News
... and Much More



NEW Mayor
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Great Outdoors
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THE ORWELL HOTEL

Reopening *4th July*



Restaurant, Bar, Lounge and Garden open Saturday 4th July

At the Orwell Hotel we are looking forward to reopening our restaurant, bar & garden from Saturday 4th July. As we prepare to welcome you back, safety of our guests & colleagues is of the highest priority. So we have put in place some important steps including social distancing & increased hygiene & cleaning measures, to make the Orwell Hotel a clean & safe place for all. Whilst we may look a little different we still offer the same service with style.

The Elizabeth Suite will be opened as our lounge & restaurant as well as our lovely beer garden & outside seating at the front of the hotel to enjoy the summer sunshine.

We will be serving a reduced menu carefully put together by our Chef that offers all our popular & classic dishes as well as new specials. Our famous traditional roast will also be available for both lunch & dinner on Sundays. Our bar, lounge & garden will be open from 10am until 11pm & our restaurant open for lunch at 12noon until 2:30pm & for dinner at 5:30pm until 9pm. We strongly recommend making a reservation.

We will be offering our famous Orwell afternoon tea, which includes scones with clotted cream & preserves & a selection of cakes, savouries & sandwiches. Afternoon tea bookings are necessary.

In the last few months we have been very busy redecorating & refurbishing the hotel & will be open for guest accommodation & taking bedroom bookings from 22nd July 2020.

Our team are looking forward to seeing you for a cup of tea, freshening drinks, lunch & dinner or perhaps an enjoyable afternoon tea treat.

For more information or to book please call 01394 285511.

reservations@theorwellhotel.co.uk



01394 285511

Hello from the Mayor



stitching, sewing, printing, donating. It has been impressive to witness and we have been proud to support them. We can expect to see more visitors over the next few weeks as people look to coastal towns for their holidays rather than taking trips abroad. This is of course welcome, but it will also bring new challenges to maintain social distancing, especially when more of our tourism and retail businesses reopen. I am confident that people will be able to safely visit our town and, in turn, support our economy.

Hello everyone and welcome to this year's Summer Magazine. And what a different one we find ourselves in since last year!

Firstly, let me thank you all for the incredible way you have responded to this crisis, supported each other, and adapted to new ways of working, socialising, shopping, trading, and living. I am incredibly proud to be the Mayor of Felixstowe this year, taking over from Cllr Nick Barber who has done such a fantastic job (twice in the past three years!). I want to thank Nick for his support and guidance while I was his Deputy. I am also delighted that Cllr Sharon Harkin was elected as Deputy Mayor, Sharon has a real sense of community and will be a great asset to me and the Town Council as we play our part in helping Felixstowe out of the lockdown.

Your Town Council, together with East Suffolk District Council and Suffolk County Council, has been working continually throughout the pandemic to address the challenges and support our community's resilience. As usual, our volunteer groups and charities have gone above and beyond; helping individuals, keeping the town clean, delivering goods and services,

I have chosen Felixstowe Citizens' Advice and the Felixstowe Carnival Association as the two local charities I will be supporting this year. I am aware how hard Graham Page and his team of volunteers at Citizens' Advice have been working to support families and individuals during this current pandemic, I know they have dealt with some fairly harrowing cases and on behalf of Felixstowe I would like to thank them for their dedication. I also appreciate that the Carnival will not be taking place in the usual way this year, but so much hard work and cost had already gone into the event. So, I hope we can support their efforts and make next year's event even better. The Carnival attracts lots of people down to the front and providing it will be safe to do so we can celebrate in style next July

I hope to meet you out and about again soon. In the meantime, enjoy reading this magazine and if you would like to contact me please feel free to drop me an email via mayor@felixstowe.gov.uk

Best wishes to you all. Stay safe,

Cllr Mark Jepson,

Mayor of Felixstowe 2020/21

Mayor's Charities

The Mayor is supporting two local charities this year:

Felixstowe Citizen's Advice



Felixstowe Citizen's Advice provides free, confidential and impartial advice and campaign on big issues affecting people's lives. Our goal is to help everyone find a way forward, whatever problem they face. Our highly trained volunteers come from all sorts of backgrounds and help with everything that we do. During pandemic we can be contacted by Email

advice@felixstowecab.org.uk or telephone 0300 330 9016 during opening hours.

Felixstowe Carnival Association



Felixstowe Carnival Association is a local charity, who with a small dedicated committee arrange and put on an annual Carnival for the benefit of the inhabitants of Felixstowe and visitors to the area. Each year we organise a procession through the town and then entertainment free to all at the current location on the seafront, ranging from live music on our main stage,

craft fair, family entertainment area and fireworks to complete the weekend. This year, although disappointed we cannot proceed as normal, are happy to announce our Virtual Carnival 2020 <https://virtual.felixstowecarnival.org/>

Show your support for the Mayor's charities by attending some of the future fundraising events currently in the planning awaiting Government advice. For further info please contact the Mayor's Secretary, Lorna Monsen on 01394 282086, or email Lorna.Monsen@felixstowe.gov.uk

Your Magazine

We would be pleased to receive relevant articles from community groups and voluntary organisations letting residents know what is happening in the Felixstowe area.

If your group would like to submit an article for consideration in the next quarterly edition (Autumn, covering September 2020 – December 2020) send it via email to enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk by Friday 14th August.

If possible, include hi-res images/photos and your group's logo. You don't have to send a fully-written article – bullet points or a few notes are fine to help point us in the right direction – but it must be no longer than 250 words.

We will aim to cover many different articles from issue to issue and will seek to offer a fair and equal representation for community groups throughout the town. Sometimes articles may have to be edited, shortened or dropped altogether.

Advertising

Limited advertising space will be available in future editions to support the cost of publication, with priority given to local, reputable businesses.

Call 01394 282086 or email enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk for prices and to book your ad.

Cover photo by Stephen Rampley

Getting in Touch

The Town Hall is currently closed to the public due to the coronavirus, please telephone during office hours (9am – 4pm Mon-Fri) or email us at any time. We'd love to hear from you.

Phone: **01394 282086**

Email: enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk

Address:

**Felixstowe Town Hall
Undercliff Road West
Felixstowe
IP11 2AG**

www.felixstowe.gov.uk



Felixstowe is a
Fairtrade
Town

Who do I talk to about.....?

With three tiers of local government in Suffolk it can be confusing knowing which authority to contact about local matters or a particular service.

This brief list outlines some of the key areas covered by each council to help untangle the web and to show who does what in your area.



Felixstowe Town Council is the council closest to its residents and is responsible for:

- The office of the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Mayoral engagements
- Awarding grants to support local community group and charities
- Remembrance events in conjunction with the Felixstowe Branch of the Royal British Legion
- The upkeep of Felixstowe's War and Flood memorials
- Felixstowe's Community Emergency Plan
- Felixstowe in Flower floral basket scheme and competitions
- Floral bedding at the Triangle and seafont
- The locally funded Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
- Supporting the provision of Community Public Access Defibrillators
- Felixstowe Town Hall – the administrative home of the Town Council, a local base for partner community services such as the Suffolk County Council Registrar, Felixstowe Forward and the Timebank, open to the public for meetings and a popular wedding venue
- Broadway House – the home of Felixstowe Old People's Welfare Association (FOPWA)
- Walton Community Hall – available for private and community hire
- Allotment sites at Cowpasture, Ferry Road, Railway Hill and Taunton Road
- Felixstowe Cemetery and its Gardens of Rest
- The Felixstowe Civic Awards scheme to recognise our local community heroes
- Supporting the town's twinning and

partnership arrangements with the German towns of Wesel and Salzwedel

- Felixstowe Youth Forum
- Funding the Christmas Lights (supported by the Lions Club of Felixstowe)
- Providing the Christmas Ice Rink (sponsored by the East of England Coop)
- Annual funding contribution to key local service providers including Felixstowe Volunteer Coast Patrol Rescue Service, Level Two Youth Project, Felixstowe Forward, Citizens' Advice and the Landguard Partnership
- Making representations on local planning applications, strategic plans and consultations
- Representing the community at around 20 outside bodies, organisations and partnerships affecting many aspects of life in Felixstowe

Call 01394 282086 or visit www.felixstowe.gov.uk



East Suffolk Council provide a range of regulatory and community services across the whole of the East Suffolk district and is responsible for:

- The collection of council tax and business rates
- Local planning and building regulations
- Kerbside waste and recycling collections, including fly tipping (in conjunction with East Suffolk Norse)
- Benefits
- Community Safety
- Elections
- Street cleaning

- Housing needs
- Maintaining the resort of Felixstowe and the provision of beach huts
- Maintenance of Felixstowe's public parks, open spaces and play areas (in conjunction with East Suffolk Norse)
- Public car parks (note: currently the police are the only on-street parking enforcement authority)
- Licensing, Environmental and Port Health
- Leisure services (in conjunction with Places Leisure)

Call 0333 016 2000 or visit www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk



Suffolk County Council is the top tier of local government,

providing services on a county-wide basis and is responsible for:

- Highways (except motorways and major A roads which are the responsibility of Highways England)
- Education and Libraries
- Social services
- Trading standards
- Public transport
- Bus passes and disabled parking permits
- Registry of births, deaths and marriages
- Most street lighting, pavements, rights of way, footpaths and cycle ways
- Adoption and fostering
- Fire and rescue services
- Waste and Recycling centres

Call 0345 606 6067 or visit www.suffolk.gov.uk

Felixstowe Fairtrade Forum



In the last edition of the Town Council magazine we reported on another successful Fairtrade Fortnight here in Felixstowe. Not long after our final event at St John's Church on 7 March came lockdown and, as with others, most of our activities ground to a halt. We managed to distribute most of the Fairtrade footballs to schools but

some remain to be presented later in the year when things (hopefully) return to normal. Some of you will remember Patrick Kaberia, a Fairtrade farmer from Kenya, who launched his promotional tour of Suffolk for Fairtrade at Felixstowe Town Hall in February 2016. He made a big impression on many throughout Suffolk and was the inspiration for the formation of the Suffolk Association of Fairtrade Towns (SAFT) to which all eight Fairtrade Towns in Suffolk belong. Patrick is our patron and we keep in regular touch with him. Each year we hold a conference at different venues in Suffolk where we meet, exchange ideas and listen to a guest speaker on aspects of Fairtrade. Sadly, this year's conference, which was to have taken place in Beccles, has had to be cancelled.

Covid 19 is, of course, affecting all corners of the globe and Kenya is no exception. Apart from the direct consequences of the virus there are worries about the economic impacts on communities, such as Patrick's, which do not have the resilience to cope with major reductions in income. For them, stopping the spread of the virus is doubly important and Patrick has a key role in educating his fellow workers about the need for good hygiene and social distancing.



When, eventually, we emerge from the current crisis there will be a lot of rebuilding to do. The Fairtrade movement will have a key role in ensuring that the needs of poorer communities in developing countries are not overlooked in this process. Meanwhile, if you are able, continue to support communities like Patrick's by buying goods with the Fairtrade logo. For more information on Fairtrade in Felixstowe visit www.felixstowe-fairtrade.org.uk - Alan Muchal

Felixstowe Helping Hands

Recent weeks have been very difficult for everyone but particularly those who were asked to shield, unable to leave their own homes. Ten days before Lockdown, local Town Councillor, Darren Aitchison set up a Facebook group anticipating that a community response would be needed across Felixstowe to help people. With the help of Debbie Bartlett and Leanne Bucknall, Felixstowe Helping Hands was formed. The aim was not to provide a 'charity' response but to offer general assistance, in whatever form, to anybody who required it.

From the start, it was important to consider the needs of the elderly and vulnerable who were unable to go out, many of whom may not have internet access. The first task was to produce a postcard with the Felixstowe Helping Hands contact details so everyone had a number to call if they needed assistance. A few days before the Government announced Lockdown, over 120 volunteers spontaneously turned up at Great Eastern Square to collect and hand-deliver over 14,000 cards throughout Felixstowe, the Trimleys, Walton and Kirton in an amazing logistics exercise.

By the third week of March, the hard work really took off – the Felixstowe Helping Hands central phone number didn't stop ringing as requests for assistance with shopping, dog walking, prescriptions etc flooded in. A small army of nearly 3000 volunteers responded offering help and were matched with people in their immediate area in line with Government guidelines. Everyone has responded with enthusiasm, energy and good humour – sometimes shopping for several people, keeping track of all the individual receipts and delivering to multiple households has been extremely challenging! The prescription service has been vital and one of those particularly grateful is Phil Wix who writes 'Suffering from COPD, I found myself unable to collect my medications but thanks to all of these brave souls, I didn't have to put myself at grave risk – I cannot thank Felixstowe Helping Hands enough for the kindness shown to vulnerable people such as myself'.

Over time, systems have been developed for remote cashless, payment through Belinda Jarvis and the central team has quickly grown to include the dedicated 'Triage' group including Kathy Lukehurst, Becky Crevald, Maryann Byrne, Amanda Harrold, Jax Blunt, Jac Cumisky, Lesley Coom, who regularly take turns to match volunteers to the needs from early morning until late into the night, 7 days a week. They have dealt with several emergencies; many difficult challenges and some very odd and unusual requests for help!

Felixstowe Helping Hands has also been particularly proud of developing the Phone Friends service by ensuring those isolating feel less alone by providing a volunteer to check on them. Great friendships have been forged remotely and many are excited about, one day, being able to meet those who have taken time to think of their neighbours by providing a friendly, reassuring voice.

The amazing team of individual volunteers has shown the best of Felixstowe and it is hoped that the care will continue long after Lockdown restrictions have eased. The service has been a lifeline to so many and letters received from the relatives of elderly and vulnerable people who live away have shown the importance of living in a town which has a strong sense of community.

Thank you to everyone who has given up their time for others and carried out so many acts of kindness.



David Button

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info@davidbuttonfunerals.co.uk

www.davidbuttonfuneraldirectors.co.uk



Felixstowe Lions



Hi all, John Gooch here from the Lions Club of Felixstowe, I was made President of the Club in July 2019 and at the time we had no idea how the following 12 months would pan out. We had some great ideas for our fund raising events which have had to go on the back burner, We did have our usual Christmas Lights light up day which was the best ever as far as I am concerned, we also managed to get in the annual Pig Race in February which was a great success raising £2,000. We had just bought all the Easter

eggs for the Easter Egg hunt and the giant eggs for the raffles when the virus turned up!

We ended up donating the 99 eggs to Basic Life Charity for the food parcels and Cuppa café managed to raffle their egg for us. Two of the eggs were donated and we still have 7 eggs awaiting a raffle!

The Club members are hoping that we will be all clear to put up the Christmas lights again this year although we are not sure if we will have a light up day! Our Model event is still booked for October and we can only hope that it also can go ahead. I step down from being President in July and my fellow Lion Richard Woolnough takes on the job.

I wish you all well and hope that you stay safe until this virus has gone or is at least not the danger it is at the moment.

All our best wishes from Felixstowe Lions

Line Dancing at Walton Community Hall In Memory of Genevieve



Nearly six years after her death, the love of line dancing that Genevieve inspired in her beginner group still lives on in the aptly named GEN'S LINE DANCERS.

The group, aged between 50 and 91, meets on Friday morning at Walton Community Hall and now there is a subsidiary group that meets on a Wednesday morning.

The group recently sponsored a leaf on the St Elizabeth Hospice Memory Tree for another two years, in memory of Genevieve. The hospice is where Gen died peacefully in 2010.

Supplied by Rosalie Thomas

Line Dancing is looking forward to restarting when Government guidelines allow. It will take place on 10.30-12.30 on Wednesday and Friday mornings at Walton Community Hall. For further details, please contact Val Clark on 01394 48119



Felixstowe Radio - Here For You

Felixstowe Radio is a community radio station for Felixstowe, Shotley, Harwich, Dovercourt and the many villages in between. We broadcast locally on 107.5fm and on line www.felixstoweradio.org.uk

The station is run completely by volunteers; both on-air, and behind the scenes in other roles including management, marketing, fundraising and technical services.

We've been Here For You for ten years now, In that time we have established strong roots right into our community. We have expanded our coverage and offering to an ever-changing radio audience.

We have built up an extremely loyal following for all of our music genres, while promoting local bands and emerging talent.

We are Here For You with many speech-based programmes covering, current events, news, sport, women's world, local business, local government, voluntary groups and education. We regularly feature representatives from local organisations and groups.

We've been solidly Here For You during the difficult shut-down period. We have kept you informed and entertained with up-to-the-minute information and government advice. It was in this period that we were proud to be awarded with Felixstowe Town Council's Community Award for 2020. This recognition was received with pride by all of our volunteers.

We will be Here For You as we enter a different sort of world. We look forward to working with you and providing a truly local radio station. We hope to continue working alongside local business, and hope you will consider us for advertising. Working together we can spread the word.

Felixstowe Area Social Club For Retired Persons

The "Felixstowe Area Social Club For Retired Persons" is always welcoming to new members. We are looking forward to being able to meet again very soon, but have been providing support between ourselves during this difficult time. Around 50+ of us meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 2-15pm, at the Old Felixstowe Community Centre, Church Road, Felixstowe, IP11 9NB. The meeting format is a guest speaker, that gives a talk for around an hour, then Tea or coffee in the lounge. We have a Strawberry Cream Tea booked in July and will be following Government guidelines in whether this can go ahead and if so in what format and a Christmas Party in December with a sing along. Around six times a year we meet at the Felixstowe Ferry Gold Club for Sunday lunch.

For further information please telephone; Carol & Stephen Cox on 01394 809794.

Felixstowe Men's Shed Coping in Lockdown



Like many organisations Felixstowe Men's Shed (FMS) has suffered as a result of lockdown. With the workshop shut as it is within the Felixstowe Museum and would be impossible to operate with the two-metre rule. How have we coped? We communicate with members by email on a regular basis and have our own Facebook page. As we move forward, we have taken up the web hosting scheme with One Suffolk and will be going live in the next few weeks with our own website as our webmaster fills the various pages including a gallery of past projects.

Our membership member Peter hosts the weekly Zoom meeting. Peter visits other shed open Zoom meetings and is able to inform us of the various news from away.

One initiative that has continued to flourish is the Sanctuary Housing Greenhouse project. Last year FMS purchased a second-hand aluminium greenhouse and donated it to Sanctuary Housing that helps young people in need of accommodation between the ages of 16 and 21. We have followed up with the supply of some plants and some residents have taken an active participation in raising tomatoes and other plants. During lockdown we have been dropping off plants to be brought on in the greenhouse. The funds to purchase the greenhouse were raised with a garage sale on Trimley High Road last year.

The biggest problem facing FMS is the lack of space, we are grateful to Felixstowe Museum for the use of their workshop but as we have grown so has the need for larger premises – so if there is anyone out there who has or knows of suitable premises please contact us on felixstowemensshed@gmail.com Thank you Tony Allen Chairman, Felixstowe Men's Shed

Shine a light on Walton



As we enter a new way of life and a normal none of us yet know, the community spirit in Walton truly has shined brightly with the exceptional work of Basic Life. As we move forward we remember the events that never happened, but learn that with a community like Walton nothing is impossible so we are on course for a much bigger and better Christmas season. During lockdown we have been busy

preparing for a big light up day and festive season on our high street that will be magical.

If you would like to be involved with the Shine a Light team, Big Switch on Day or any of our upcoming fundraisers you can contact us on 07852147440 or waltonchristmaslights@outlook.com.

We are looking for artists to perform on the day, stall holders for the Christmas market, committee members, volunteers & stewards for events. Sponsors, donations for raffles, tombolas, and yard sales will be gratefully received. We will also be hosting our Barrow of Booze raffle so welcoming donations for this.

Sat in the garden on a wall to wall sunshine day writing this piece we have to remember that 5th December will be with us before long and lots of work make the magic for our community.

Keep safe

Shine a light on Walton Team



Felixstowe & Corinthians Cricket Club

Like all sports cricket has been significantly impacted by the Covid-19 restrictions and there is no prospect of playing any cricket matches before July at the earliest, however as a club we still have plenty of news:

150th Anniversary- As you may have read in previous editions of the Town Magazine 2020 was due to be the 150th anniversary of cricket in Felixstowe and we were looking forward to holding a series of events throughout the season to celebrate this major milestone.

As might be expected going ahead with these events this year is proving difficult and therefore we have taken the decision to postpone our anniversary celebrations until 2021.

We are grateful to all the support and interest we had in preparing for this special occasion and will keep everyone informed about the activities now scheduled for 2021.

Improved facilities - Despite the current climate the club has not been prevented from improving our facilities and with financial support from both the Felixstowe Town Council and East Suffolk Council we are delighted to have replaced the old netting on one of our practice cages.

The benefits of replacing the netting will be that we can continue to offer high quality practice and coaching to our 200+ members, and in particular to our strong and vibrant junior section which in 2019 saw 10 youngsters play representative cricket for Suffolk and/or the MCC in ages groups ranging from U12 to U15 for both boys and girls.

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W: www.kw-autos.co.uk

Felixstowe Ferry Golf Club News

This spring has seen some amazing weather here in Felixstowe which has made staying at home for everyone even more difficult during the pandemic. We were given the go ahead to start playing golf again in mid- May and our members were chomping at the bit to get going again. We had to put a lot of safety measures in place but luckily golf is a sport where socially distancing can be fairly easily achieved (especially if you have a bad slice or hook shot going on!) and we introduced two ball only play at 10 minute intervals. We had to put in place an on line booking system which the club had not used before and the members settled into this routine very well. After some weeks we were allowed to introduce four ball play and could have visitors. Both of our courses have been very busy ever since.

The weather has of course played a huge part and the fact that a lot of people were furloughed from their jobs meant they had time on their hands. Our Kingsfleet pay and play course has certainly benefitted from the online booking system and our members are also able to book the driving range which regularly gets cleaned after each use. Juniors have also found something outside in the fresh air to keep them occupied. It has been lovely to see families out playing. Golf is definitely a game for all ages to share and with the handicap system, it becomes fair!

Both courses benefitted from not being used at all while were closed and our two sole greenkeepers at the time did a fantastic job keeping on top of basic maintenance and members and visitors have regularly commented on how amazing the courses look now. Of course the green keepers would now like to see some rain but we are not sure when that will arrive!

During lockdown we started a meal delivery service, originally for members but soon turned into a local community service. This was run totally by volunteers (except for our wonderful Chef Gavin!) and we are going to continue this service. Friday fish and chips and Sunday roast dinners are especially popular and very reasonably priced. We have met some lovely people, at a distance of course, and were pleased to be able to help when many other takeaways had closed their doors. We cook fish and chips everyday (they are the best in town!) and would welcome beach hut owners or any visitor to collect from us if they have phoned through their order the day before.

Businesses in all areas have had to change and diversify over the past few months and we are no different. Health should always be everyone's main priority because without that we would not be able to enjoy a game of golf or sit in the sunshine. Play Safe and Stay Safe has been our motto and will continue to be so.

Struggling with IT?

During this difficult time, Council's Civic and Community Committee are interested to hear from any community groups, clubs or organisations who are struggling with the technology which would enable their group to meet virtually, especially in the vulnerable 'sheltered' group. We would like to gauge your interest in being supported with IT/basic computer skills which would enable your groups and members to meet online; whether simply to stay in touch, hold meetings or even hold events such as quizzes. For further information please contact Debbie Frost debbie.frost@felixstowe.gov.uk or 01394 288192.

Community Grants

In these uncertain times, we know that the Council can make a difference through our grants process so we have launched a streamlined grant application process to enable community organisations and charities to get a quick decision on funding in particular for Coronavirus related emergency funding. There was a total of £25,000 available this year and Felixstowe Town Council have awarded £9,481 since the fund was launched on 1 April, with £15,518 still available to apply for.

Funds this year have helped many causes including providing materials to sew scrubs, IT equipment for remote working for organisations such as Citizen's Advice and Lighthouse Women's Aid, Good Day calls for Age UK in Felixstowe, grant to enable FACTS to pick up prescriptions and grants to provide outreach packs to families in need.

Any properly constituted group, club or organisation based in Felixstowe and/or operating for the benefit of its residents can apply. Please see our website for details <https://www.felixstowe.gov.uk/council-services/grants/>

If you need help with the application process or to submit your completed application form please contact Debbie Frost debbie.frost@felixstowe.gov.uk or 01394 288192.

Having a clear out? We can help! We specialise in collectables. We buy items, sell at auction and give advice.

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Email : nick.barber1965@btinternet.com



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Felixstowe Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (FSALG)

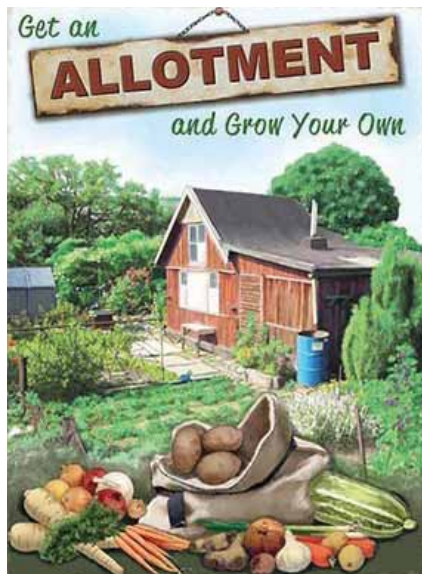
We are now some 8 weeks into our enforced isolation and so far we know of no plot holders who have been affected by Coronavirus thank goodness. Thank goodness too that the town Council have decided that allotments are a very effective way of taking our daily exercise, whilst easily maintaining our social distancing.

With all the time available to tend allotments, and the realisation that growing your own ensures that you don't have to go shopping for vegetables, most plots are being kept in a much better state than in previous years. There has also been a lot more interest in allotments too, and there are now not many vacant, so if anyone reading this fancies having a go you will need to be quick to snap up the few remaining plots.

What more could you want to add to a light lunch;- lettuces and radishes full of Vitamin C, picked and on the table within an hour or two.

It is a very busy time now for gardeners, planting out crops for harvest later in the year, keeping on top of weeds by hoeing regularly, watering young seedlings in the very dry spell we are experiencing, and keeping a weather eye open for frosts which may damage early potatoes etc. As you can see crops are already nearly ready for eating with spring cabbages looking good and early broad beans beginning to fatten up.

Let's hope that we will soon be able to invite friends and families around again so that we can share the fruits of our labours.



Felixstowe Town Council has four allotment sites, located at:

Cowpasture, Candlet Road, 306 plots

Ferry Road, 94 plots

Railway Hill, Coronation Drive, 37 plots

Taunton Road, 19 plots

Benefits of having an Allotment?

- An affordable source of fresh fruit and vegetables
- Reduces your exposure to pesticides
- Gives you fresh air and healthy exercise
- Helps reduce stress and can give you a sense of achievement
- Good for the environment, providing green spaces and wildlife habitats

- Plots which are cultivated to a high standard could even win one of the allotment prizes at the Felixstowe in Flower Awards.

Council offers a 40% discount on the basic allotment rent for Senior citizens (on evidence of being in receipt of state pension) or Long-Term Unemployed (on evidence of associated unemployment benefits) whether the allotment be let as a single or joint tenancy, provided that at least one tenant qualifies.

See our website for more details.

If you are interested, please contact our Allotment Officer Sue Faversham who will contact you with available plots.

Email: sue.faversham@felixstowe.gov.uk or call on 01394 288191

Have your say on improvements at Langer Park

East Suffolk Council is looking to make improvements to Langer Park in Felixstowe, as part of its commitment to enable communities and care for the environment. The aim is to create a welcoming, green space that be used by local people and visitors alike, whether to relax, exercise, catch up with family and friends, or enjoy the local wildlife.

In order to do this, the Council has launched a survey to hear the views on how people use the park, and what improvements they would like to see at the park. The feedback will help guide the design of the improvements.

To take part, complete the survey before 31 July 2020 at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/6Y2VTDR.

Environmental information

This magazine has been printed and produced locally using responsibly sourced stock.

The paper meets the ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ECF, FSC certifications.

Please recycle this magazine when you have finished with it.

DID you know

As with most agricultural crops, trees are planted in rotation.

Once mature – after 7 to 11 years – they are harvested. But only 9% of the total plantation area is felled annually.

New saplings are planted in the same year, at an average rate of 260,000 new trees a day. This is what makes the paper we use renewable, and good for the environment in capturing carbon.

Felixstowe Garden Club



Plants are amazing things! A tiny seed when sown, grows a root and some leaves, which begin making its own food, with the help of sunlight, that is photosynthesis. The plant grows and flowers giving us so much pleasure to see the fresh green of new leaves and the explosion of colour and form in their flowers. Spring is over, we have had the delight of the primroses, daffodils, tulips and more. But now we await the joy of Summer flowers, buttercups and daisies in the grass and the border flowers of every shape and colour. If you have a garden, a window box or a pot you can join in the pleasure of GARDENING.

Felixstowe Garden Club normally meet monthly but at the moment we cannot; no meetings; no trips; no garden visits; NO FLOWER SHOW in July. But we WILL meet again.

Meanwhile, visit our website; www.felixstowegardenclub.co.uk or visit us on our Facebook Group; The Felixstowe Garden Club. Join in and share your garden images, thoughts and gardening tips. You don't need to be a garden expert, just someone who loves the beauty of plants.

During the current inactivity of the Garden Club we are also keeping our members engaged via 'Jeremy's Garden Blog', a regular e-newsletter.

Some jobs for the June flower garden;

- Move hanging baskets out of the greenhouse into their final position
- Pinch out the tips of fuchsias to encourage more flowers
- Pick sweet peas every day to encourage more blooms
- Dead-head your roses to keep them flowering all summer
- Stake tall or floppy perennial plants to prevent wind damage Stay safe everyone and keep gardening

Leading Lives Garden Project



Leading Lives' Community Hub in Felixstowe recently had a group from Inspire Suffolk carry out a garden project as part of their Prince's Trust Award in their grounds. The group raised funds by packing shopping in a local supermarket and set to work clearing, planting and painting. They have transformed our garden into a bright, stimulating and lovely environment with lots of new plants and flowers for our customers to enjoy.



Leading Lives Community Hub in Felixstowe provides daytime opportunities for people with learning disabilities and autism. During the lockdown we have sadly had to close the hub but we are keeping in regular contact with our customers. We are sending regular activity packs home to help keep them entertained whilst staying at home and some

customers are receiving extra support in the home during this time.

We are really missing our customers during this difficult time and are looking at ways that we can begin to resume services in new and creative ways as the lockdown measures ease whilst maintaining social distancing. The new and improved garden area will certainly be a great area that our customers can enjoy safely.

Thank you to Inspire Suffolk, The Prince's Trust and everyone who worked so hard to make this such a pleasant and wonderful space for our customers to enjoy when they are able to come back to the hub.

An Invitation to Our Community - Become a Garden Seeker



Hamilton MAS, the Micro Arts Space by the sea, is delighted to welcome renowned artist Jane Frederick and her Arts Council England funded work, the Garden Seekers Project, to Felixstowe.

This wonderful project launched in May with a window exhibition here at Hamilton MAS, large scale graphite drawings and circular paintings appear like convex camera lenses pulling the viewer into a memory of the garden.

Inspired by a visit to Villa Gamberaia in Italy each one of Frederick's drawings leads our eyes and imaginations into the idea of the sanctuary of gardens.

The project also launched online with the Chelsea Fringe Festival, inviting the public to send in images of their own gardens for an online exhibition, inspiring a new body of work by the artist.

Frederick begins this nine-month artistic project by exploring the past, present and future of formal gardens. Starting in the Heritage Seafront Gardens, Jane will investigate how the gardens of Renaissance Italy inspired the creation of public pleasure gardens, democratising gardens for everyone to enjoy. Jane will explore ideas for public gardens and spaces of the future.

New work and project development will be showcased at Hamilton MAS later this year.

Art, green spaces and creative responses to living breathing plants are essential to our physical & psychological wellbeing, now more than ever.

Everyone can get involved at www.gardenseekersproject.co.uk or for more information call Hamilton MAS on 0781 8060944. Please do.



The Great Outdoors

This summer, we invite you to explore The Great Outdoors in Visit Felixstowe.

Right on your doorstep, discover beautiful beaches, award-winning gardens and rich wildlife habitats, all with plenty of space for everyone to social distance and enjoy safely.

Beaches

A beach for everyone



Felixstowe has a beach for everyone. What's your favourite? From Felixstowe Ferry to Landguard Point, four miles of sand and shingle to discover, with some of the best bathing water quality around Suffolk too.

The beach at Felixstowe South and Pier (from Arwela Road to the War Memorial) is also now the proud holder of both a prestigious Blue Flag and Seaside Award.

Gardens

Bees and butterflies



Bees and butterflies love the award-winning Seafront Gardens... and you will too by exploring the 'Heritage Trail'. A great summer spot to sit and relax is the Rose Garden, surrounded by the sweet-smelling scent of the Queen of Blooms.

On Safari

A walk on the wild side...



Get back to nature with a visit to the wildlife habitats of the Landguard Nature Reserve and Trimley Marshes Nature Reserve. Don't forget your binoculars to spot the rich fauna and flora. For a woodland walk head to The Grove, home to nesting birds and wildflowers.

Summer Essentials

Don't forget all the bits...



Don't forget all the bits for your 'beach day' by shopping locally in our town centre. Shorts, sunglasses, buckets and spades and delicious food and drink goodies for a picnic on the sands.

Active Adventures

Felixstowe offers a host of outdoor activities to enjoy this summer



Put your best foot forward on a **seaside walk**. At Felixstowe Ferry, take a stroll along the seawall beside the idyllic River Deben with its bobbing sailing boats. At Landguard, the large sand and shingle beach is great for an amble to Suffolk's most southerly point to spot the giant ships arriving and departing at the Port of Felixstowe. From Martello Park to Cobbold's Point, a walk along the Prom will allow you to explore our rich history and heritage... watch out for the key landmarks of Martello Tower 'P', Manning's Amusements, Felixstowe Pier, South Beach Mansion, Harvest House and The Bartlet.

If you fancy a **two-wheeled adventure**, then the National Cycle Network runs through Felixstowe, with a cycle along the Prom a great family-friendly ride. Download walking routes and the Felixstowe Cycle Map from the Visit Felixstowe website at www.visitfelixstowe.org.uk/visitor-information/publications

At the **Felixstowe Ferry Golf Club**, visitors can tee off on the challenging 9 hole pay and play Kingsfleet course. Book your date and time at www.felixstowegolf.co.uk The **Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club** offers lots of ways to get out on the water including dinghy sailing, yachting and a host of courses and tuition for all ages. Learn more at www.ffsc.co.uk



www.visitfelixstowe.org.uk



www.facebook.com/visitfelixstowe



www.twitter.com/visitfelixstowe



What's On... taking a break

Our Major Events are taking a break this year but will be back in 2021 bigger and better than ever. So, see you next year... Historic Vehicle Rally, Felixstowe Fun Run, Felixstowe Book Festival, Felixstowe Carnival, Art on the Prom and Heritage Open Days. In the meantime, many of these will be holding some virtual events and activities online in 2020, so make sure you check out their websites and social media pages.

One date already set for 2021 is The Women's Tour which is provisionally set to finish with a sixth and final stage in Suffolk, between Haverhill and Felixstowe on Saturday 12 June... so mark your diaries now for this exciting sporting event



Visit Felixstowe - Love Independent

We have been celebrating our wonderful Love Independents online... The retail and foodie indies of Felixstowe. Some which remained open during the main lockdown for all our 'essentials' to those High Street favourites which have now reopened. From Underwoods to the Crescent Cafe; from The Little Ice Cream Co. to The Bakery - the Mayor of Felixstowe, Councillor Mark Jepson has been chatting online (via Zoom) to many of our indies.

Watch these special videos at www.visitfelixstowe.org.uk Please remember to continue supporting our fab High Street indies by shopping locally. www.visitfelixstowe.org.uk/shopping



Felixstowe Photo Competition 2020: "Judge's Choice" Winner - Michael Ralph.

And the winner is...

Thank you to everyone who entered their pictures into the Felixstowe Photo Competition 2020. Organised and supported by Felixstowe Town Council, Visit Felixstowe and the Landguard Partnership, the competition attracted around 70 entries from all ages (12 to 81 years) and abilities over three different themes - Active, Historic and Seasons.

Following an online public vote, the top 12 photos were selected (four from each theme). A panel of judges then selected the overall "Judge's Choice" Winner which is Michael Ralph from Felixstowe with his dramatic shot of Martello Tower 'T' - pictured above. Huge congratulations to Michael.

Felixstowe Photo Competition 2021



The next Felixstowe Photo Competition is now open for entries. You could WIN a prize of £100 to put towards photographic equipment. Open to all ages and abilities with three NEW themes:

- Young Photographer. This theme is open to those aged 16 years and under only. We want to see your pictures of Felixstowe which can be on any theme - BUT must aim to promote Felixstowe as a visitor destination. Eg: the beach, family fun, big ships, Landguard Fort, etc.

- Seashore. Open to everyone over 16 years old. Eg: shells, starfish, seashore activities, etc.

- Architecture. Open to everyone over 16 years old. Eg: buildings old and new, close up (patterns, texture), etc.

Entrants may only submit ONE photograph for inclusion into ONE of the three themes.

Submit your photo by emailing visitfelixstowe@eastssuffolk.gov.uk Please include your full name, age, a telephone number and the theme you would like to enter.

Closing date for entry is 12pm on Wednesday 24 March 2021.

Terms and conditions at www.visitfelixstowe.org.uk



Felixstowe Forward

In Partnership with your local authorities

Have you heard of Civil Parking Enforcement?

Suffolk County Council has delegated 'functions' to East Suffolk Council enabling it to administer Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) on SCC's behalf in East Suffolk. The CPE service includes:

- the patrolling of on-street regulations serving Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) where necessary in order to encourage driver compliance of regulations; and
- the processing of PCNs in accordance with the statutory process which includes the consideration of 'appeals' and the collection of penalty charges and road traffic debt.

Many drivers follow the rules and highway laws set out in the Department for Transport's publications of The Highway Code; Know your traffic signs and where applicable the Blue Badge scheme: rights and responsibilities in England booklet, but those who do not, risk receiving a PCN.

Parking places

The Council provides many off-street parking places in Felixstowe so those choosing to drive may park appropriately once at their destination. The most convenient ways to find these parking places are via Find my nearest and the Council's RingGo parking service. The RingGo app allows drivers to locate a parking place before leaving, receive navigation to it, pay for their parking session and even extend it should they need to. Registering for the service is easy, but you can watch a video for 'how it works' before you register.

Many of the parking places have public conveniences in or adjacent them, and some have small glass and textile recycling points.

Please visit <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/visitors/parking-services/parking-management-and-civil-parking-enforcement/> for further information.

Opening Safely - Covid-19 Health and Safety Guidance

If you are looking to re-open, open your business safely and/or want to review what you have in place there are three key sites that can support and guide you through the latest information:

Government Guidance <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Health and Safety Executive <https://www.hse.gov.uk/>

East Suffolk Council, Environmental Health <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/business/covid-19-health-and-safety-guidance-for-businesses/>

COVID-19 Business Grants

East Suffolk Council recognises the unprecedented disruption caused by the COVID-19 outbreak and are currently processing a range of grants provided by the government for local businesses. These are:

- Small Business Grant Fund – a grant of £10,000 for all businesses in receipt of Small Business Rates Relief and Rural Rate Relief who have a rateable value of under £15,000 (subject to eligibility criteria)
- Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant - a grant of £25,000 covering businesses in receipt of the Expanded Retail Discount who have with a rateable value between £15,001 and £51,000 (subject to eligibility criteria)
- Discretionary Grant – a grant of up to £10,000 for certain small businesses previously outside the scope of the above business grant funds scheme (subject to eligibility criteria)

The online form, details about how to apply and full eligibility criteria can be found at the link: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/business/covid-19-business-grant-funding Business Support and Development

Business Development: Whatever stage in your business journey, take a look at <https://eastsuffolkmeansbusiness.co.uk> where you can find valuable support and advice

Felixstowe Seafront Gardens

Look out for new signage for the Felixstowe Seafront Gardens ponds. These provide great habitats for wildlife including established colonies of newts. Elsewhere in the Gardens take some time to sit quietly and watch the warm sunny rocks – you may catch a glimpse of the Wall Lizard. Native to the Channel Islands, the Wall Lizard gets its name from its preferred habitat of walls, rocks, and boulders. It can be found in a number of sites in Southern England where it is technically a non-native species, having been introduced or escaped into the wild.



Volunteers

Subject to ongoing government guidance we are looking forward to welcoming back the Felixstowe Seafront Garden volunteers who work alongside the Lead Hands to keep the Gardens looking their best. Along the Seafront, we will also be welcoming back the Visit Felixstowe Ambassadors who man the Visit Felixstowe Tourist Information. If you would like to volunteer for either or would like to know about other opportunities in the town please do contact us.

The 'Alleyway'

A well-used, but unadopted, alleyway in Felixstowe has been cleared to ensure it remains safe for people to use as a cut-through to the town's high street. The alleyway, which runs from Hamilton Road to the Library, has long been used as a cut-through to the town's high street but was becoming unsafe due to fly-tipped waste and weeds. As a result, East Suffolk Council and Felixstowe Town Council worked together to ensure the site was cleared of rubbish and obstructions by East Suffolk Norse, so that it remains safe to use as more shops are starting to reopen in line with the Government's guidelines.

The exact ownership of the site is unknown, so all three councils are working together to gain more information about the site before considering what options might be available to enhance the area in the future. In the meantime, the Council is keen to hear from anyone who has any information about the alleyway, such as how long it has been there and any old photographs. If you are able to help, please email felixstowe.forward@eastsoffolk.gov.uk or telephone 01394 444577

Events and activities on East Suffolk Council Land

At the time of writing the service for booking events on East Suffolk Land remains suspended. We expect to review this suspension when government guidance is clear. In the meantime please do not hesitate to contact Clare Baker on 01394 444884 (email clare.baker@eastsoffolk.gov.uk) to discuss provisional dates for 2021.

We would also like to acknowledge how hard event organisers have worked throughout COVID-19 to run online and virtual events. We look forward to working with you again very soon.

Landguard Nature Reserve

We are pleased to announce that Leonie Washington has been appointed as the new Landguard Ranger and will be taking up her new role on 29 June.

#LoveIndependent - Welcome Back

We say it in every edition, but please help support our local independents businesses by spending your pound locally. It really does make a difference. Businesses have been working hard to introduce safe measures for staff and customers. Why not get to know the businesses on your doorstep better and tune in to the informal interviews that the Mayor of Felixstowe has been doing at www.visitfelixstowe.org.uk These will continue to run as more businesses, and in particular, the cafes and restaurants re-open. We are delighted to take this opportunity to welcome a new business the Felixstowe Deli (Crescent Road) that recently opened and to wish the Wool Baa every success in their relocation in Hamilton road.

If you would like to know more or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us:

Felixstowe Forward
01394 444577

[Felixstowe.forward@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:felixstowe.forward@eastsoffolk.gov.uk)

Re-Opening Safely in Felixstowe

Felixstowe Town Council is pleased to announce plans for the re-opening of the town in the weeks and months ahead as lockdown restrictions are expected to continue to ease.

These changes will help people stay safe by following guidance on social distancing and other public safety measures.

We will be pleased to see familiar doors opening for business once again and encourage our residents to show their support by buying locally. We will be introducing several changes in the Felixstowe Town Centre. The Hamilton Road Shared Space will be made pedestrian friendly with traffic restrictions in place everyday 10am - 4pm from 4th July, to assist people to observe social distancing rules and our businesses to trade effectively. Deliveries will have access outside these times and emergency vehicles will always have access. Blue badge parking will remain available nearby on Cobbold Road and other locations.

Other plans include signage to help direct safe shopping and movement in key locations. Public conveniences will remain open with appropriate facilities, information, and government guidelines on hand washing.

Businesses will be implementing their own arrangements for protecting staff and customers. Visitors to Felixstowe are encouraged to cycle, walk, or if arriving by car visitors are encouraged to park in the nearest available car park as there will be restricted on street parking availability.

East Suffolk Council is overseeing local actions, which are being supported by Suffolk County Council Highways and East Suffolk Norse.

"We are supporting a range of measures across the district and working with partners to ensure our towns can reopen and trade safely. The most important thing is we work together to keep ourselves and each other safe while out and about enjoying our lovely towns as they re-open for business".

Other measures include a focus on litter and street cleansing with everyone being encouraged to play their part in keeping the town and beach litter-free and clean.

As cafes and restaurants open, we are looking at how we can make better use of outdoor spaces to maximise opportunities for them to trade profitably and maintain safe social distancing measures for customers.

Felixstowe Town Council will continue to work with businesses and stakeholders to review and adapt measures as appropriate.

Please note these measures are temporary and will be under constant review. We welcome your feedback

– email felixstowe.forward@eastsoffolk.gov.uk or telephone 01394 444577

(A formal survey to review how things are working will be undertaken toward the end of July).

New Café for South Seafront



Work on a new café/restaurant in the heart of Felixstowe's South Seafront is set to start later this summer – bringing a new exciting resort experience to the area.

East Suffolk Council have commissioned Barnes Construction, a local building company, to start work on the new landmark building, which will house the café/restaurant, offering indoor and outdoor dining with unspoilt views of the sea. The work is estimated to start in August and complete in summer 2021. Meanwhile, the Dedham Boathouse Group has been selected as the operator following a competitive process and will take on the running of the new eatery once it is ready to open.



Pardon the weeds, we're feeding the bees!

Non-essential grounds maintenance, including grass cutting, was temporarily suspended in April to ensure the safety of staff and the public. During this time, only grassed areas which presented a safety, visibility or access issue were cut. Some of the areas where grass was left to grow longer over the past two months have started to 're-wild', with anecdotal examples of increases in insect and pollinator levels, and an increase in the numbers of wildflowers.

Forty of these areas across East Suffolk are now being managed as 'wild spaces', where grass will be left to grow longer and wildflowers will be planted to help wildlife to thrive. A list of all the areas can be found here: www.eastsoffolk.gov.uk/news/conservation-areas-identified-across-east-suffolk/

Felixstowe Town Council will be liaising with East Suffolk Council and considering any other areas that could be similarly managed we would welcome suggestions at any time to enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk

Felixstowe Family History Society.



The Committee has had an initial and successful meeting using Zoom. It does tend to concentrate the mind, as there is a time constraint, but it worked well and we expect to use Zoom again at least once more before the current crisis has abated.

While we can't have our regular meetings, we thought that a Facebook group may enable members and, indeed, any other people interested in genealogy and especially with their roots in East Anglia, to exchange brick walls and see if other members or visitors can help.

Just type in 'Felixstowe Family History Society' in the search bar on Facebook and you will find us and you may even feel like joining us.

<http://www.felixstowefhs.onesuffolk.net/>

Level Two Youth Project



Level Two Youth Project continues to support children, young people & families in Felixstowe & surrounding villages. Regular deliveries of free lunches & schoolwork packs, as well as activities & online group chats. They are also providing useful information & resources to support the mental health of whole families.

More than 40 young people receive weekly one-to-one mentoring or counselling via Skype, WhatsApp video, or phone calls.

In addition, Youth Workers are keeping in touch with families by phone, offering a listening ear & sign-posting to other community support schemes.

Continued support from our funders, means that we can still provide a service, even though we have had to close our Youth Hub during the Lockdown. While the new ways of working are not without their challenge, our team of Youth Workers have adapted & risen to the challenges the current situation has inflicted on them & on the children, young people and families we are supporting.

New online (WhatsApp) group chats set up & overseen by staff are proving particularly popular with the youngsters. Different members of staff, set daily quizzes or activities to boost the morale, confidence & self-esteem of the youngsters who join in.

Level Two's efforts to continue supporting young people during the Lockdown have been recognised & won praise from school governors & town councillors, with one school governor saying "we really welcome the way Level Two is supporting and helping our pupils during the Lockdown".

Felixstowe Relief Charity

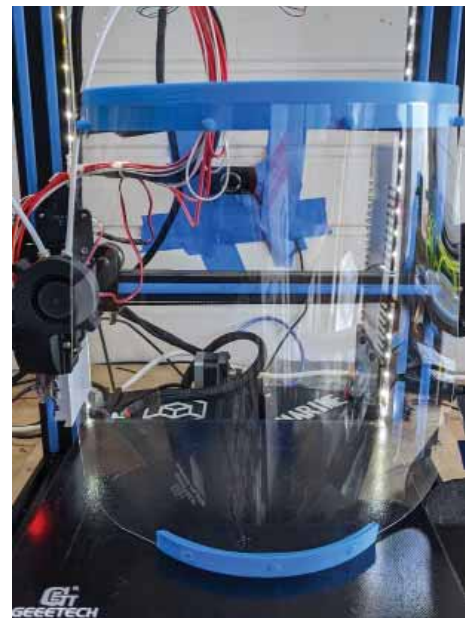


The aim of Felixstowe Relief Charity is to support people in need in Felixstowe as well as to support people who are supporting others. There are six Trustees including Councillors Darren Aitchison, Mark Jepson and Margaret Morris.

At this time our support is particularly focussed on those who are impacted by Covid-19. To this end Felixstowe Town Council agreed to donate £10,000 to the Charity. Our first grant was for purchasing 3D printers to make face masks to distribute to doctors and surgeries in Felixstowe, carers in our care homes and to Ipswich Hospital. Each visor frame takes around 1 hour 30 minutes to print. With all the problems with delivery of PPE this was particularly important. They have subsequently received a further grant.

Another grant was to provide materials for making sets of scrubs (clothing) for local practitioners.

In addition, the focus on Covid-19 supports people who are unable to get out to do shopping and also unable to get to a bank or don't have online banking. We have carried this out by supporting two Felixstowe organisations. Their volunteers do the shopping for people who are unable to get out or have no-one to do shopping for them. Felixstowe Relief Charity then reimburses the volunteer - which gives time for people who needed the shopping to make the reimbursement. Repayment of shopping received at a later date is being returned to Felixstowe Relief Charity.



More generally, the Felixstowe Relief Charity is able 'to award grants to provide relief to beneficiaries in need' (people who have been resident in Felixstowe for at least 3 years). We have developed application forms for groups and for individuals which give full information, as well as a Policy to give clarity to our decision making. For further information contact Councillor Margaret Morris, margaret.morris@felixstowe.gov.uk or telephone 01394 274345.

Spotlight on Shaun

Town Council Apprentice



After spending my childhood in the United States, it was wonderful to return to my mother's hometown of sunny Felixstowe. I had visited Felixstowe on a few occasions, but I'd never dreamed I'd one day work in The Town Hall! Throughout my two-year apprenticeship, I've learned a lot about many different aspects of local governance: financial transactions, allotment & cemetery functions, as well as assisted the general public with a wide array of enquiries. I've also helped with many important civic events. Whether it was creating and

operating a presentation celebrating Cllr Graham Newman's mayoral year, or designing certificates for excited schoolchildren to receive at the annual Felixstowe in Flower awards ceremony, this apprenticeship has provided me with many opportunities to use my technical skills in an enjoyable way.

When it comes to moments I'm proud of, I think of my participation in 2018's Remembrance Day commemoration. On that solemn evening, I and many other volunteers stood in formation with lit torches that represented the lives cut short in WWI. Extinguishing that torch definitely wasn't what I envisioned myself doing as part of an 8-4 office job, but is an example of my newfound links to the community.

This apprenticeship has been a valuable learning experience overall, attending a variety of helpful training courses, and working alongside a very supportive team of co-workers and councillors. My two-year apprenticeship will be over in just a few weeks, but I have every intention of continuing to work for the council, and serve the people of Felixstowe to the best of my ability.

Walton Parish Nursing



During this lockdown period the Walton Parish Nursing team have to work in a different way. Although this is not ideal, our main focus is to keep our clients, our volunteers and ourselves safe. In order to do this we took the decision to only have face to face contact if absolutely necessary and then to take the best precautionary measures we could to avoid spreading Covid-19.

For Lorna and John, as Parish Nurses, each day has brought its challenges and tasks including many phone calls, emails and texts. As the weeks have gone on the needs have increased, as predicted.

We give the clients time to talk to hopefully reduce their anxiety and loneliness. The importance of hearing the voice of another human being cannot be underestimated and many have told us how much they appreciate this. They have shared the struggles they are having but also the positive ways in which they are approaching this challenge.

There have been trips to the outpatient department at Ipswich hospital with clients, and several trips to the shops and GP surgeries to assist with medication and essentials. Occasionally there has been a need to talk to clients from their front gardens or assist inside using PPE.

Supporting very anxious clients with phone calls that would usually be a face to face consultation has been a privilege. For clients to give their consent and put their trust in our judgement and guidance is a humbling experience, becoming their advocate and voice to ensure their needs are met.

Suffolk Work Well adapts during the COVID-19 pandemic

Suffolk Work Well Manager, Tony Wooderson explains how the service has adapted in the current pandemic



Suffolk Mind's project, Suffolk Work Well (SWW) supports people with their mental health in the workplace.

It provides practical and emotional support to people wishing to gain, regain or retain their employment where their emotional

wellbeing was impacting adversely on them, by whatever factors. We aim to use our Emotional Needs and Resources model to uncover what emotional needs aren't being met, and work on strategies to meet them.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, we offered face-to-face, 1-2-1 support initially in Ipswich and Felixstowe. We soon expanded to the Saxmundham area, working with not only clients but medical professionals, organisations, businesses and the social prescribing teams. The current situation has however meant changes. SWW cannot presently provide that physical 1-2-1 support but our team of experienced, friendly and knowledgeable staff, adapted extremely quickly and are now delivering the service via phone, email, texts and of course – and what we are all getting used to – video chats. This support not only continues but is growing and we are now offering the service county-wide.

Support is available to those newly unemployed or furloughed through the pandemic, and those obliged to work from home and therefore are work-isolated. The support provided is free, and not time-bound. We will work with you to try to determine and address both your physical and emotional needs for your improved mental wellbeing.

The referral process is easy via the Suffolk Mind website: www.suffolkmind.org.uk/suffolkworkwell



www.bloomfieldsfurniture.co.uk

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Furniture - Beds - Carpets - Storage



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Give us a call, drop us a line, or just pop in!

Bloomfields

255-257 High Street
Felixstowe IP11 9DU

01394 282482

Bloomfields1916@gmail.com



WE CARE LIKE FAMILY



CQC Rating
Good in All 5
Areas

Inspected February

- ✓ Putting our residents at the heart of everything we do
- ✓ Hot meals cooked every day
- ✓ Respite Care Available

01394 671114

www.sunrisenursinghome.co.uk
admin@sunrisenursinghome.co.uk
 10 Cobbold Rd, Felixstowe IP11 7HQ

Overall

Good

Safe	Good
Effective	Good
Caring	Good
Responsive	Good
Well-led	Good

ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020



OUR VISION

"A well-connected, thriving and friendly seaside town where people of all ages and backgrounds aspire to live, work and visit."

 @FelixstoweTownCouncil
 @FelixstoweTC

Mayors Summary

Summing up his year in office at the Annual Council meeting on 20 May 2020, the Mayor of Felixstowe for the 2019/20 Municipal Year, Cllr Nick Barber said 'Whilst the world is markedly different now than when I put on the chain in May 2019, your Town Council's dedication in supporting the community has remained focused and steadfast throughout. Felixstowe is a beautiful place, but it is made special because at its heart beats an incredible community of caring, tenacious, generous people. We will be tested in many ways, but our community spirit and resilience will see us meet the challenges ahead and emerge thriving, confident and wiser. Thank you to everyone for pulling together at this time and please continue to look out for your neighbours and our more vulnerable residents.'

The full version of the Mayor's report and the Council's Annual Report for 2019/20 can be found on our website. www.felixstowe.gov.uk

Community Grants

Council awarded £48,599 via its Occasional and Annual Grants scheme, supporting 38 local organisations and projects during 2019/20. This year Council has made the focus on a more responsive 'Coronavirus' related grant scheme please see. www.felixstowe.gov.uk/grants for further details.

These are just a few of the organisations we were able to help this year:



Save the Children
replacing petrol battery power!



Music in Felixstowe
Proms on the Prom held inside because of the rain!



Felixstowe Coastwatch
new generator with high-powered binoculars.



Felixstowe Volunteer Coast Patrol & Rescue Service and Felixstowe Carnival



Felixstowe Musical Theatre



Memory Lane Dementia Support Group
- Craft activities

Climate Emergency

In July 2019, the Town Council declared a Climate Emergency and instigated a Working Group to consider how we can reduce, to a minimum, our carbon footprint by 2030. An Action Plan was drawn up and published on our website. Several actions are now underway including the introduction of a new 'Cycle to work' scheme, improved car-sharing, and our energy is provided from 100% renewable energy supplier.

Improving Energy Efficiency

Following the Council's Climate Emergency Declaration made in July 2019, EPCs (Energy Performance Certificates) were obtained for all Council building and a DEC (Display Energy Certificate) produced for the Town Hall. Guided by these documents, Council has began work on reducing the carbon footprint of our buildings. Since this time, Council's energy suppliers were reviewed based on the provision of 100% renewable electricity and insulation improvements are being sought for Walton Community Hall and the cemetery buildings.

Swift Boxes

Six swift boxes, which were made locally by Felixstowe Men's Shed were erected at Walton Community Hall and Broadway House.

Bees and Wildflowers

To support local wildlife and the environment, Committee has given permission to Happy Globe CIC to use some local Council-owned land for a wildflower meadow, orchard and the keeping of bees.



Community Public Access Defibrillators

There are now 12 public access defibrillators across the town, 5 of which are maintained by Felixstowe Town Council.

War Memorial

Felixstowe War Memorial has received Grade II listing and added to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest in January. The List entry for the War Memorial, is published on the National Heritage List for England.

Felixstowe in Flower

Council's Felixstowe in Flower initiative has contributed towards civic pride in the town since 1985 and has been cost neutral for the past two years thanks to the support of many local businesses and sponsors.

The East of England Co-op were our main sponsor once again in 2019, providing sunflower seeds for children to participate in our Tallest Sunflower competition and growbags for the schools' competitions. During the year, the Mayor paid a visit to each of the local schools to talk about the event and give away seeds for children to grow. Unfortunately, the public competitions and awards planned for 2020 had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. However, the floral baskets will brighten up the town. Notwithstanding this, it was agreed that all sponsorship will be rolled over until next year. We will also be trialling the use of non-drinking water stored and provided by the Felixstowe Ferry Golf Club to feed the flowers.



Remembrance

The Council and the Felixstowe Branch of the Royal British Legion supported several commemorative events in the town leading up to Armistice Day on Monday 11 November 2019. A new project was launched in partnership with Felixstowe Remembers and local businesses which saw poppies installed throughout the town and signs erected in 66 roads to recognise the 212 residents that were killed because of war.



Suffolk Day

Felixstowe was proud to play host to BBC Radio Suffolk for the official launch of Suffolk Day in June 2019. With the Suffolk flag flying high from the Town Hall, Councillors celebrated by serving tea and home-made cake to passers by in the afternoon.



Planning & Environment

During 2019/20 the Planning & Environment Committee considered a total of 212 local planning applications. Committee noted that 90.3% of the time (149 of 165 reported decisions) East Suffolk Council has concurred with the Town Council's recommendation. In many of the cases where there was contrasting view, Committee requested that those applications be referred to the District Council Planning Committee for further consideration.

Council received CIL payments from East Suffolk Council totalling £30,245.03 in 2019/20. The funds are held in a separate Earmarked Reserve and will be used to support suitable projects within the five-year timescale allowed by legislation.

Business Plan

As Council's current Business Plan entered its final year, a Business Plan Steering Group was formed to support the development of a new Council Business Plan for the period 2020-2024. Following an initial public consultation and a series of workshops, a draft plan was formed and published for public consultation in February. The final Business Plan for 2020-2024 was approved by Council on 11th March and is available to view online at www.felixstowe.gov.uk/council-documents

Allotments

The Town Council manages five allotment sites and, in conjunction with the Felixstowe Society of Allotment Leisure Gardeners (FSALG), has taken steps to improve access, security and the internal roadways of the sites. The sites are maintained to a high standard and the availability of allotments has been regularly promoted in the Council's magazine. As a result, the interest and demand for plots has increased over the past 12 months and it is expected that full occupancy may be achieved in 2020/21.

Audit and Accounts

The 2019/20 Audit will be undertaken by PKF Littlejohn LLP in July 2020, and the audited accounts for 2019/20 should be available from September 2020 to view online. Internal audits were conducted twice in 2019/20 with all procedures found to be in order and helpful recommendations made.

Budget and Precept

Budgeted income outturn for 2019/20 was 110.9% and expenditure was within the set budget at 97%. Council also holds ring-fenced funds for future projects and contingencies, known as 'Earmarked Reserves', and these are reviewed at least once annually to ensure adequate provisions are in place.

Effective management of budget and reserves enabled the Town Council to limit increases to its portion of local council tax. For the forthcoming financial year 2020/21 the increase was 2.04%, which represents less than 3p per week per band D property. The total paid by a Band D equivalent ratepayer in 2020/21 will be £70.87, or just under 4% of the total council tax bill. The other 96% is split between Suffolk County Council, East Suffolk Council and Suffolk Constabulary.

Cemetery

Committee approved a project to refurbish the toilet facilities and improve disability access. To support our environmental aims, a refillable soap dispenser is replenished from sustainable products from a local supplier, cutting down on our plastic waste. Skips are now being used to segregate green waste from non-recyclables more effectively. Two new noticeboards have been erected at both entrances with an improved map. The old cemetery allotments site has been turned over to wildflower meadow, with nesting boxes, bird bath and bird tables installed across the cemetery.

Council Communications

In addition to this quarterly magazine, delivered to all households in Felixstowe, regular updates about the Town Council, its partners and links to meetings and agendas are made via our website www.felixstowe.gov.uk Twitter @FelixstoweTC and Facebook page FelixstoweTownCouncil. Council meetings and events are displayed on the noticeboard outside the Town Hall. We welcome public participation at all Council and Committee meetings and the press regularly attend.

Financial Summary			
	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Budget (Est.)
General Fund Balance at 1 April	£356,823	£385,601	£447,003
Earmarked Reserves	£685,936	£623,466	£618,333
Total Income	£715,604	£796,261	£762,990
Total Expenditure	£749,297	£739,991	£711,963
General Fund Balance at 31 March	£385,601	£447,003	£469,670
(of which Earmarked Reserves)	£623,466	£618,333	£646,693

Caring is at the heart of everything we do...

Together we *respect*, with *compassion* we care, through *commitment* we achieve



Mill Lane offers specialised nursing care for the elderly and has an enviable reputation in the local community for its high quality care, offering a choice of welcoming reception rooms with attractive patio areas, all available for our residents and their guests to enjoy.

Offers specialised nursing care for the elderly.



Foxgrove is widely regarded as one of Felixstowe's finest care homes. The warm friendly atmosphere and the elegant lounge and dining room at this care home in Felixstowe combine to create a charming environment for our residents.

Provides a high standard of residential care.



Based in Old Felixstowe, Maynell House provides a high standard of residential care. The house is a late Victorian listed building, formerly Felixstowe College, lovingly extended and refurbished to retain its original features, creating a superb home.

Provides a high standard of residential care.



Please do call anytime for further information.



<p>Mill Lane, 79 Garrison Lane, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 7RW. Tel: 01394 279509</p>	<p>Foxgrove, High Road East, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 9PU. Tel: 01394 274037</p>	<p>Maynell House, High Road East, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 9PU. Tel: 01394 272731</p>
		<p> healthcarehomes healthcarehomes.co.uk</p>

Town Councillors 2019/2023

Mayor of Felixstowe: Cllr Mark Jepson

Deputy Mayor of Felixstowe: Cllr Sharon Harkin

Coastal Ward

Darren Aitchison
darren.aitchison@felixstowe.gov.uk
07479 556736

Nick Barber
nick.barber@felixstowe.gov.uk
07876 757268

Seamus Bennett
seamus.bennett@felixstowe.gov.uk
07818 664751

Steve Gallant *
steve.gallant@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 276336

Sharon Harkin
sharon.harkin@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 671758

Mark Jepson *
mark.jepson@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 278622

Doreen Savage
doreen.savage@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 285895

Steve Wiles * **
steve.wiles@felixstowe.gov.uk
07986 566225

Marshes Ward

Mick Richardson
mick.richardson@felixstowe.gov.uk
07946 028517

Port Ward

Stuart Bird * **
Stuart.bird@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 275128

Tracey Green *
tracey.green@felixstowe.gov.uk
07759 218476

Graham Newman **
graham.newman@felixstowe.gov.uk
07802 397905

Andy Smith
andy.smith@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 283283

Walton Ward

Mike Deacon *
mike.deacon@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 211146

Margaret Morris
margaret.morris@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 274345

Kimberley Williams
kimberley.williams@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 284180

Key

* Councillor is also a Member of East Suffolk Council

** Councillor is also a Member of Suffolk County Council

Member of Parliament for Suffolk Coastal:

Dr Therese Coffey MP
therese.coffey.mp@parliament.uk
020 7219 7164



Felixstowe Town Council Meetings

Mayor of Felixstowe: Cllr Mark Jepson

Deputy Mayor of Felixstowe: Cllr Sharon Harkin

8 July	Planning & Environment	9.15am
8 July	Full Council	7.30pm
15 July	Finance & Governance	7.30pm
22 July	Planning & Environment	9.15am
5 August	Planning & Environment	9.15am
19 August	Planning & Environment	9.15am
9 September	Planning & Environment	9.15am
9 September	Full Council	7.30pm
16 September	Civic & Community	7.30pm
23 September	Planning & Environment	9.15am
23 September	Assets & Services	7.30pm

Note: all meetings listed are currently held virtually via Zoom, and are open to the press and public to attend. The link for each meeting can be found on our website, facebook page and twitter. For further information please telephone 01394 282086.

Contacting Council Staff

Phone: 01394 282086 (all staff)

Email: enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk

Address:

Felixstowe Town Hall, Undercliff Road West, Felixstowe, IP11 2AG

Website: www.felixstowe.gov.uk

Ash Tadjrishi – Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
townclerk@felixstowe.gov.uk

Debbie Frost – Deputy Town Clerk
debbie.frost@felixstowe.gov.uk

Lorna Monsen – Mayor's Secretary
lorna.monsen@felixstowe.gov.uk

Sue Faversham – Cemetery and Allotments Officer
sue.faversham@felixstowe.gov.uk

Sarah Morrison – Planning Administration Assistant
sarah.morrison@felixstowe.gov.uk

Shaun Congi – Customer Service Apprentice
shaun.congi@felixstowe.gov.uk

Home, But Not Alone

Supporting vulnerable people in Suffolk

Coronavirus Emergency Phonenumber

0800 876 6926



The 'Home But Not Alone' service was launched at the beginning of the Covid-19 lockdown period, to help connect people who want to volunteer in their communities with neighbours who are most in need, County wide.

The telephone number for those in genuine need of help, is freephone 0800 876 6926 and is staffed from 9am to 5pm, seven days a week. The request for help is filtered down to the local communities' officer, to match the request for help with an appropriate offer of support.

The support offered includes delivering groceries, medication or essential household goods, in line with Government social distancing guidelines.

The picture across East Suffolk as of 23rd June 2020 was:



Chloe Lee (Communities Officer for this area) has been working closely with different charities and organisations throughout this time. This has been critical to ensure the community has access to the appropriate support.

Basic Life Charity has been one of those Chloe has been in close contact with. They adapted their Food Bank to adhere to social distancing guidelines and worked alongside FACTS (Community Transport) to deliver essential food supplies to residents who are

self-isolating or shielding who have been referred to the Communities team for help. In addition, FACTS have been delivering prescription medication from The Grove Pharmacy to residents aged over 70. This has been a huge help and has alleviated people's worries about being able to access the medicines they need during this time.

The entire district has seen a fantastic community response to the pandemic with groups and action being established quickly to help those most in need. In Felixstowe, Helping Hand's volunteers, led by Town Councillor Darren Aitchison, are a key example of local people going above and beyond to help a neighbour.

The Salvation Army has also provided essential support during this crisis by providing food parcels and hot meals to the most vulnerable. They have also created entertainment packs, delivered toys and outdoor games to families, and run a weekly zoom group for children full of songs, activities and competitions.

Chloe Lee is looking forward to linking back with community groups and organisations, as they prepare for post covid and the 'new normal'. She would like to hear from local groups and clubs on how they are adapting to enable people to pursue their interests and help support each other. If you are working to modify your group or club in line with government guidelines and social distancing, please share your journey to chloe.lee@eastssuffolk.gov.uk

Over the next few weeks, the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Sharon Harkin will be out and about (virtually) meeting with many Felixstowe community organisation leaders. You can watch her informal interviews on the Felixstowe Town Council social media pages and hear how organisations are adapting their activities now and in the future.



#SUFFOLKSAYSTHANKS

