

FOR FELIXSTOWE

The newsletter of Felixstowe Town Council



TOWN TALK

- **Mayor of Felixstowe** – At this year's Annual General Meeting of the Town Council, Councillor Jon Garfield was elected Mayor for this civic year, with Councillor Jan Garfield as Mayoress. Councillors Jon and Jan Garfield are proud to serve Felixstowe for the next year, and look forward to supporting many local and community events. The Mayor's charities this year are the Felixstowe Old People's Welfare Association and the 7th Felixstowe Scout Group.
- **Town Centre Improvement Works** – The construction of the new Shared Space and traffic management scheme for the Town Centre is on schedule. It is anticipated that the Hamilton Road section will be completed towards the end of October, with an opening ceremony planned in November. Initial feedback on the scheme has been positive. The newly improved area will be an asset to the town at present and in the future, and is an attractive and welcome addition to the town centre.
- **Healthcare Services in Felixstowe** – The Town Council has become increasingly aware of concerns from local residents about the provision of out of hours healthcare in the town. Anecdotal feedback also seems to suggest some concerns about the operation of the Minor Injuries Unit, which is a valued local resource for a town of Felixstowe's size and significance. If you have any feedback you may wish to share with the Town Council, please let the Council know in writing, either by letter to the (Town Clerk) at the Town Hall, or by email to (celia.page@felixstowe.gov.uk). The Community Services Group (Health Councillors) will use this information on a confidential and anonymous basis to inform ongoing discussions with NHS Suffolk. The Town Council will continue to monitor the current situation.

TOWN TALK

- **Felixstowe in Flower 2010** – Anglia in Bloom judges once again head to Felixstowe to tour the town and to view many beautiful entries in the various sponsored Felixstowe in Flower competitions. Much hard work has gone in to ensuring Felixstowe looks at its best, to be enjoyed by everyone over the summer months. The Felixstowe in Flower Awards Ceremony will take place on Tuesday, 28th September at 7.00 p.m. at the Brackenbury Sports Centre.
- **Seafront Gardens Project** – Following a successful application for lottery funding which it is hoped will continue, Suffolk Coastal District Council is co-ordinating a partnership project which aims to restore and improve the wonderful gardens along the seafront area namely the Spa Gardens, the Cliff Gardens and the Town Hall Gardens (with the support of the Friends of the Seafront Gardens). Ideas are being developed with the benefit of many views from members of the public and local interested groups. This is a long term project to secure investment and to help protect these unique gardens for future generations.
- **Youth Forum** – Felixstowe is fortunate in having an active Youth Forum which meets every other month. This is supported by local schools, and representatives from the voluntary sector, police and local councils. A successful litterpick took place recently with volunteers from schools and several Councillors spring cleaning one of the many popular open spaces in Felixstowe.
- **Twinning Activity** – The longstanding twinning of Felixstowe and Wesel in Germany continues to strengthen. The Town Hall has hosted two visits from young people from Wesel, and a "penfriend" scheme is underway between a class in Felixstowe and a class from a school in the German town of Salzwedel with whom Felixstowe is partnered. The Felixstowe France Group has been established and continues to explore the possibility of setting up links with

TOWN TALK

- **Twinning Activity – continued** – a similar town in France. Anyone who is interested is welcome to contact the Secretary, Sue Smith: email - sues.poems@talk21.com
- **Update on Public Transport** – The local group the East Suffolk Travel Association has changed its name to Felixstowe Travel Watch. This group continues to be active in all matters relating to public transport which affect Felixstowe. Felixstowe Town Council has again agreed to give financial support to the Open Top Bus which runs in Felixstowe over the summer months. A road train is also scheduled to run along the promenade, and this is proving to be a popular feature. Further information is available from either the Town Council or the Tourist Information Centre.
- **Landguard Partnership** – A new bus route is being piloted taking passengers from the town centre to outside the Landguard Fort. A new turning circle means buses can now be accommodated near this exciting attraction of Landguard. The service is an hourly service on bus number 77. Visitors are able to enjoy the many attractions on the Landguard Peninsula, including the Landguard Fort, the Felixstowe Museum, the Nature Reserve, the Bird Observatory and the viewpoint and ferry area.
- **Felixstowe Carnival** – The Carnival Queen, Kayleigh Fielding and Princesses, Vicky Colbourn and Emily Kay were introduced at the Mayor's Reception. The Carnival will be held over the weekend of Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th August and it is hoped the event will be supported by many people and the sun will shine.

TOWN TALK

- **Staff Changes at the Town Hall** – After 26 years of service to Felixstowe Town Council Rosemary Brown has retired recently. In particular Rosemary assisted with the financial aspects of the Council, with the administration of Felixstowe Cemetery and with Felixstowe in Flower. Rosemary will be greatly missed as part of the team, and Councillors and staff wish her a long and happy retirement. We welcome Sue Faversham to the Town Hall team.