

FOR FELIXSTOWE

The newsletter of Felixstowe Town Council



TOWN TALK

- Shared Space** – The design of the Shared Space scheme for Felixstowe between Boots and Bank Corner is now almost completed and it is hoped that work will start early in the new year. The work will be phased to involve the minimum disruption possible but inevitably there will be some restrictions during the construction phase. It is hoped that the work will be completed by the early autumn of 2010. The scheme will involve major improvements to the environment of Hamilton Road to make it a much more pleasant place for all the users of the area. There will be a 20mph speed limit and the scheme is based on respect being shown between all the users whether pedestrians, cyclists or vehicle drivers. At the end of the construction period Hamilton Road should be a safer and much more pleasant place in which to shop and to visit. Sitting out areas are planned to include some fixed seating and also the potential for cafes and other businesses to provide their own seating.
- Toilets on the Triangle** – Suffolk Coastal District Council will shortly be demolishing the toilet block on the Triangle and replacing it with a facility in the Crescent Road car park. There has been a lot of public pressure over the years to remove the toilet block from such a prominent position and also to provide an improved facility. We have received reassurances from Suffolk Coastal District Council that the new toilet block will be available before the existing block has been demolished. Discussions are currently taking place about the use of the space which will be the result of the demolition. Suffolk Coastal District Council has a small budget for landscaping the space and the Town Council will be providing about £15,000 to enhance this budget. In addition to improved planting and hard landscaping there is the potential for a performance space. In the longer term it is hoped to have a major regeneration of the Triangle area but this is dependant on major finance from external sources and it is unlikely that this will happen for several years. In the meantime there are no plans to change the taxi rank which will remain in its current position for the foreseeable future.

TOWN TALK

- Bent Hill / Undercliff Road West / Convalescent Hill** – The construction of the new traffic management scheme for Convalescent Hill and Undercliff Road West and the Shared Space scheme for Bent Hill has now started. The new junction at the top of Convalescent Hill / Wolsey Gardens has now been constructed and we have received very positive feedback about the new priorities. The planting of the beds will take place soon. The construction work at the junction of Convalescent Hill / Undercliff Road West started at the beginning of November. It is hoped that the new roundabout at this point will enable buses to use this route to improve access between the town centre and the seafront. The design of the Bent Hill scheme is now almost complete. Bent Hill will be one way from Undercliff Road West to the junction with Hamilton Gardens and there will be steps to provide a more comfortable route for pedestrians. Work on the Bent Hill area is due to start early in March.
- On Landguard Point** – In October we received the wonderful news that Robert Pacitti of the Pacitti Company who entered the “artist taking the lead competition” – part of the Cultural Olympiad in line with the 2012 Olympics is one of the winners and will be making a film for the Cultural Olympiad entitled “On Landguard Point”. Robert will be starting work next year in Felixstowe and is going to provide the town with a major national arts project and all the national publicity that will go with it.
- Langer Park Play Area** – The construction of the new Langer Park Play Area provided by Suffolk Coastal District Council has now been completed and the official opening took place on 19th November. There is equipment in the play area is for all ages from toddlers to teens and it has been lovely to see it being so well used already. This is now one of the biggest and best play areas in the town and we hope that families with children will visit the play area and enjoy what it has to offer.

- **Buttermere Green** – Local residents have been concerned for some time that there was no seat in the bus shelter at Buttermere Green. Both Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council were asked to provide a seat but neither Council could find any record that it owned the shelter. The Town Council therefore decided that it would provide a new seat and by the time this newsletter is published it should be in place. When the contractors were visiting the site they met a local resident and user of the shelter, Mrs O'Brien, and she chose the colour of the seat.

- **Grants to organisations** - Felixstowe Town Council supports many local organisations with grant aid. The Council makes regular revenue grants to a number of organisations including the Felixstowe Old People's Welfare Association, the Felixstowe Wesel Committee, the Felixstowe Council for Sport and Recreation, the Christmas lighting scheme provided by the Lions Club, the Landguard Partnership, the Felixstowe Citizens Advice Bureau, the Felixstowe Volunteer Coastal Patrol Rescue Service, the Felixstowe Carnival Association, Level2, Felixstowe Bawdsey Foot Ferry and the Landguard Fort Trust. The Town Council also makes occasional grants, often for capital projects. This year the beneficiaries have included Art on the Prom, the Boost Bus, Coastwatch, the Disability Advice Service, FACTS, the Felixstowe Sea Cadets, the St Georges Day Parade, OPTUA, the Trinity Day Care Centre, St Mary's Walton Church Hall and the St Mary's Opportunity Group.

Suffolk Coastal District Council also provides grant aid and any organisation in Felixstowe which applies to Suffolk Coastal District Council, needs the support of the Town Council for its application. If your organisation is making an application to Suffolk Coastal District Council please make your application to the Town Council as early as possible so that we can co-ordinate the two applications. The Town Council usually considers all the applications for grants that it receives during the year in January and if you want to make an application in time for that meeting you need to write to the Town Council with details of your organisation and a copy of your most

- **Grants to organisations cont'd** – up to date accounts by the end of the second week in December.
- **Felixstowe's Future** – This newsletter has highlighted several of the exciting and positive developments that are taking place in Felixstowe at present. The Shared Space scheme, the redesign of the Triangle and the new toilets in the Crescent Road car park and the Bent Hill / Undercliff Road West / Convalescent Hill scheme are all taking place as part of the Felixstowe Futures initiative to regenerate our town. These projects are currently being financed by the public sector but there are also many private sector developments contributing to the future of our town. The Port of Felixstowe's South Reconfiguration project is extending and improving the Port to keep it at the centre of the national economy. The success of the Port underpins the vibrant internal economy of our town. There have been recent openings of new shops in the town centre and we are fortunate that the big empty space left by the closure of Woolworths has now been filled. Many towns in the UK have not been so fortunate. The new Lidl opened this month bringing new variety to the area around the Ordnance Roundabout. 2009 has been a really positive year for Felixstowe and it looks like 2010 will continue this trend.
- **Christmas Greetings** – The Mayor, Angel Goodwin and her Escort John Goodwin, all the members of the Town Council and its staff send you their very best wishes for a happy Christmas and a successful and peaceful 2010.