



MINUTES OF THE FELIXSTOWE YOUTH FORUM
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25th JANUARY 2017

Present:

Ellie Southgate, Grace Wells (Chair) and Kate Bennett (Trimley St Mary School)
Cole Collins, Georgia-Ruby Diaper, Logan Hollis-Roberts, Alicia Little and Sally Long (Causton Junior School)
Bethany Huggins, Francesca Lynch, Teddy Smith and Julia Steele (Colneis Junior School)
Kai Hoang, Erika Lempek and Corinne Stockdale (Grange Community Primary)
Chloe Barker and Kyrsty Beattie (Kingsfleet Primary School)
Abigail Dunnett, Natahlia Hillier, Marta Michalak (Langer Primary Academy)
Elise Gorski and Shez Southernwood (Level2)
Martin Andrew (Suffolk County Council Road Safety)
Zoe Botten ASB Officer, Suffolk Family Focus Lead (Suffolk Coastal District Council)
Vicky May and Simon Lant (Suffolk Police)
Paul Grant (Felixstowe Forward)
Councillor Doreen Savage (Felixstowe Town Council)
Lorna Monsen (Felixstowe Town Council).

1. INTRODUCTION

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Jonny Lowdell (Places for People Leisure) and Ash Tadjrishi (Town Clerk)

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 9th NOVEMBER 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 9th November 2016, previously circulated to all members of the Forum, were agreed as a true record and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

4. COLNEIS JUNIOR SCHOOL ITEMS

Representatives from Colneis School told the Forum that they had all enjoyed the school Christmas events. This had included their Christmas fayre which raised £1370.55 for the school. They had also performed 6 Christmas concerts which raised money for local charities. The school play this year in March would be Jungle Book and over 50 children from their school are involved learning lines, songs and dances.

Colneis representatives told the Forum that they were looking forward to competing against other local primary schools in the swimming gala at Felixstowe Leisure centre.

The representatives told the Forum that their school council representatives will be conducting research with their classmates about what they can do to ensure that everybody in their school feels safe. Colneis school believes this is the single most important part of school life and leads to better outcomes for learning. They hope to share the research at the next meeting.

Colneis Year 6 students have been learning about WWII and as part of this have been visited by a real life evacuee. The lady described her experiences of being evacuated and about living and surviving during the war. They would be visiting Duxford Air Museum to see the aircraft that was used during WWII. On 6th February they will be dressing up as evacuated children and spending two days in the role of WWII children.

5. GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL ITEMS

The Grange School representatives told the Youth Forum that Christmas had been a very busy time at their school with two different nativity plays, the Everlasting Light concert and their Christmas Fayre. Each class had a stall and they managed to raise £418. They also visited The Firs care home to do some Christmas crafts and their Year 5 students entertained shoppers and staff at Morrisons with singing and clarinet playing.

The representatives from Grange told the Forum that they were now settling down to a good routine and the SATs tests will soon become their priority. In the meantime they were planning the forthcoming Fabulous Fairtrade Fun Fiesta on 6th March at Level2. Grange and Trimley St Mary School will be taking part and they will be performing a short play and helping to run a quiz.

After much consultation and discussion Grange School has decided on a new motto which is 'Love Learning, Aiming High'. Although the School Governors and staff came up with the suggestions it was the students who had the final say and they really enjoyed the process. The school are now making a big display for their hall which will show a selection of the best work from all the classes. They would be arranged in golden picture frames to show case their new motto. The school had also introduced the Thematic learning system, this is where the same topic or theme is covered in many different subjects.

6. CAUSTON JUNIOR SCHOOL

The representatives from Causton Junior School told the Forum about their Christmas activities at school and at St Mary's Church, Walton. They had had a Christmas jumper day this was where families were invited into school to enjoy a bacon or sausage roll and compete for their Best Christmas Jumper Competition. After Christmas a company called 'SPLATS' went into their school and talked to the students about staying safe online. Part of the day included learning a short scene for a play all about E-Safety and then the parents were invited into the school to watch each year group perform their scene and therefore saw the play in full.

The Causton representatives told the Forum that they had just held their annual Bake Off competition with many of their teachers enjoyed sampling savouries and cakes which the Year 5 students had baked. In the final the bakers had to complete a technical challenge and a showstopper.

Each month the Causton representatives told the Forum that they have a school theme, this month it was 'Healthy Eating and Living' they had been thinking more about this as a school and how they can maintain a healthy lifestyle. One Life Suffolk

had visited the school and led an assembly about the amount of sugar in some common soft drinks. Everyone was very shocked with the results.

Recently they told the Forum the Herts and Essex Air Ambulance landed on their school field. They were very lucky to have the opportunity to go and have a look at the helicopter and were told about the amazing things it had done and can do for people in need, like the person who was sadly injured in Felixstowe on that occasion.

7. KINGSFLEET PRIMARY SCHOOL ITEMS

Representatives from Kingsfleet Primary School told the Forum that since their last meeting in November they had had the excitement of Christmas. The School had been busy with Christmas plays and concerts and they were very grateful for the generosity of all those who came and supported the school. There was a collection at the end of each performance for the East Anglian Air Ambulance and in total they had collected £365.00. They also held a Christmas craft evening which was organised by the Schools parent-teacher association.

Kingsfleet Primary School representatives told the Forum that some of their classes had braved the cold weather and used the local environment to help them with their learning. This included visiting the local graveyard to do some maths and using the beach for inspiration for some art work. They also hoped to take part in the RSBP Bird Watch again this year. This term the school council would be focusing on: Internet Safety and Promoting Awareness of their Digital Footprint and Planning for World Book Day which takes place on 2nd March.

8. LANGER PRIMARY ACADEMY

The representatives from Langer Primary Academy told the Forum that their Year 6 were preparing for SATs. They had been divided into three groups of different strengths for Maths, English and Science which is to help make it easier for the children to learn. They have had the opportunity recently to learn fencing and archery which they had really enjoyed. The school had raised £864 at their Book Fair which they were able to spend on new books, these had now been ordered and they were excited to see what arrives. The school council had been in negotiations with the Head teacher and Bursar to use some of the funds for a new water fountain in the playground which they had wanted for a while.

9. TRIMLEY ST MARY PRIMARY SCHOOL ITEMS

Trimley St Mary representatives told the Forum that they are enjoying being back at school after the Christmas break. On the first day of school their Year 5 & 6 classes were told they would be taking part in the very first Trimley Time Team. They were given spades and paint brushes and taken out into the school grounds. Their teachers then told them that Anglo Saxons used to live on the school grounds and that they had to find any evidence of this. They used trowels and if they found any objects they had to use their paint brushes carefully to sweep away the earth. The objects they found were broken pottery, pieces of bracelets and necklaces, rings, bones and parts of house signs. Following the discoveries they wrote a newspaper article about the dig.

Representatives from Trimley St Mary told the Forum that they were currently promoting the 'Fabulous Fairtrade Fun Fiesta' which is taking place on Monday 6th March at Level 2 from 4pm until 5.30pm. All school children from Felixstowe are invited to the event but they must bring a grown up with them. At 4.30pm there would be a presentation starting with a 'Bananas or Bonkers Quiz followed by a talk by themselves explaining the difference between a day in the life of a Felixstowe child and a Kenyan tea plantation worker and a play by Grange School about Fairtrade. There would also be a poster competition running over the next few weeks

to promote Fairtrade, the closing date for this was Wednesday 22nd February and details should be coming to your school very shortly.

They had been very busy in their wildlife garden and had cleared the pond of the dead vegetation ready for the frogs to arrive in the Spring. They had also had a donation of a large amount of wood chips so they were able to lay a new path all around the pond so that the whole class can use the garden at the same time.

The representatives told the Forum that over the next few weeks there was a lot of exciting projects taking place at their school. These included Years 3 and 4 Rainforest experience , where the children get to see and touch creatures from the Rainforest Year 5 and 6 are going back in time to West Stow Anglo-Saxon village and Year 6 are also getting really excited about their trip to Thorpe Woodlands in March, while Year 1 were preparing for their visit to Felixstowe Docks to find out about how the dock works.

10. LEVEL2 ITEMS

Level2 representatives told the Youth Forum about their Business Breakfast they held at their Youth Hub where lots of local businessmen and Councillors went. Everyone had a full English breakfast and enjoyed the presentation of their trip to Felixstowe's German twin town of Wesel which they had visited last year. This year they would be going to Salzwedel Felixstowe's other twin town.

In November they had a Year 6 taster session where parents, carers and young people in Year 6 could come up to their youth hub, meet staff and look at their facilities. They are having another taster session on Wednesday 8th February 4pm-6pm and Level 2 then distributed flyer invites to take back to schools. At these sessions you could use all the cool games and activities as well as just chill out with friends and make new friends. You would also be able to go into their Topic Room which looks at a new topics every 2-3 weeks on a wide variety of issues

11. SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL – JUNIOR ROAD SAFETY OFFICER PROJECT

Martin Andrew, Road Safety Scheme Officer, Suffolk County Council came to talk to the Youth Forum about Suffolk County Council's Junior Road Safety Officer Project. The scheme had been running for 12 years now but hasn't started in Felixstowe yet although Colneis Junior School would be starting shortly. Students from Year 4 to 6 are chosen by the individual schools and it would be their responsibility to promote Road Safety within their school. This could be through school assemblies, school newsletter, school noticeboards or even competitions within the school. There are lots of ideas on the following website <http://www.suffolkroadsafe.net/children-and-young-people/junior-road-safety-officer/> To join, an adult would need to be nominated as point of contact and support the children, this could be either a teacher, teaching assistant or school governor. If you needed more information please contact Martin using the following email: Martin.Andrew@suffolk.gov.uk

Doreen Savage thanked Martin for his informative talk and hoped that schools would look at the website and contact him.

12. FELIXSTOWE FORWARD

Paul Grant, Landguard Partnership Project Officer told the Forum about the big event being held in Felixstowe in 2017. It was 350 years ago that over 2000 Dutch soldiers tried to twice invade Landguard Fort but the marine regiment based at the fort managed to fight them off. King Charles II and Duke of York came to Felixstowe to congratulate Captain Darrell and his men for holding off the Dutch soldiers. Paul invited all local Primary Schools to visit Landguard Fort in May and to see the displays.

At the end of June and to recognise the huge contribution made by our servicemen and women from the past until the present day, Felixstowe had been chosen as the venue for **Suffolk Armed Forces Day**. This will be a weekend of action packed entertainment which is planned for Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 June. Paul told the Forum that on Sunday 25 June there would be a battle re-enactment with some guests from Holland joining in. The idea was to meet at the pier and march to the fort. This will be a one off free event for all age groups with a unique package of entertainment including music from choirs and military bands to an evening of pop and rock, military displays, food stalls, kids activities and fireworks. The event was being organised in partnership by organisations including the Suffolk Armed Forces Covenant Group, the Landguard Fort Trust, Royal Marines Association and Royal British Legion, with assistance from local authorities and military units.

13. FELIXSTOWE TOWN COUNCIL

Doreen Savage told the Forum that the Town Council would again be Flying the Flag for the Commonwealth on Monday 13th March. Last year the flag was raised on Arwela Road but this year the flag will be raised in the Town Hall Gardens. Doreen invited everyone to attend the very small ceremony and Lorna Monsen was asked to email everyone with the date and requesting confirmation of attendance.

Doreen told the Forum that the free Ice Skating Rink in Gt Eastern Square in December 2016 had been very popular. This was now the second year the Town Council had funded this and it was hoped that in December 2017 it would be for a longer period and continue to include when schools had broken up for Christmas.

Doreen Savage explained to the Forum about Felixstowe Town Council HMS Ganges Youth Trophy: This award was presented to a local young person aged 21 or younger who had contributed to the community in some way. There would be a presentation at the Civic Awards Evening in early May. If anyone would like a nomination form please contact Lorna at the Town Hall.

Felixstowe Youth Forum had been nominated by Felixstowe Fairtrade for a High Sheriffs Award. Felixstowe Youth Forum won in 2006 the High Sheriff's Community Safety Award. The prize then was a trophy and £750 which was spent on locks and lights for people caught riding bicycles without lights and had received a warning letter from the Police. The closing date this year for entry was the end January and it was hoped to have some news about whether our entry had been successful at the next meeting. The Award Ceremony was to be held on Thursday 23rd March at Snape Maltings.

14. YOUTH FORUM BUDGET

Members were asked to consider the following list of prospective ideas for use of the Youth Forum Budget and asked to contact Lorna with their top five favourite things by the 1st February. They were as follows:

- Outdoor Cinema
- Graffiti Wall
- Outdoor Football/Table Tennis Table
- Outdoor Nature Trail
- Theatre on the Beach
- Outdoor Library
- Outdoor Gymnastics Area
- Seasonal Activity Tent
- Hire of Ice Skating Rink in Winter and Roller Skating in Summer
- Christmas Disco at the Leisure Centre
- Craft Fair or Bake Sale for Young People at the Leisure Centre
- A Pond/Wildlife area in Langer Park
- Seasonal Activity Tent

- A small boating lake for toy boats perhaps in the new Landguard area.
- Hire of inflatable slide, bungee or trampoline at a Summer Event
- Swap Shop
- Den building Area

15. FELIXSTOWE POLICE

Vicky May from Suffolk Police told the Forum that the Road Safety Officer Project which Martin Andrew spoke about was a very good scheme especially for monitoring outside schools which some local schools had been having issues with.

16. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Members discussed the dates for the last two Youth Forum meetings in this school academic year. It was agreed that the meeting in May will be held on Wednesday 17th May after SATs week at Felixstowe Town Hall. Lorna was asked if she could contact the Spa Pavilion to see if they would be happy to host the last Youth Forum meeting in June/July. It was suggested that as per the previous year, schools could bring two children from their Yr 6 and two children from their Yr 5 to the Spa Pavilion venue.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Youth Forum would be held on **Wednesday 22nd March 2017** (to be Chaired by Colneis Junior School) at **4pm** at Felixstowe Town Hall.