



MINUTES OF THE FELIXSTOWE YOUTH FORUM **HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2 MAY 2018**

Present: Fraser Forsey, Freddie Ideheen, Aimee Lee (Chairs) and Josh Hunt (Felixstowe Academy)
Amy Lee and Aaron Read, Caspar Van Gameren and Sally Long (Causton Junior School)
Olly Martin, Martha Simmons, Merley Reye-Botchway and Julia Steele (Colneis Junior School)
Tegan Cameron, Olivia Porter, Jack O'Reilly and Corinne Stockdale (Grange Community Primary)
Tayla Deary, Rylie Kind and Sarah Gorski (Langer Primary Academy)
Elise Gorski, Charlie Webb, Kirsty Coldwell and Re Andrew Dotchin (Felixstowe Level 2 Youth Project)
Josh Dunning, Owen Young and Kate Bennett (Trimley St Mary School)
Jess Briggs (Environment & Energy Manager, Port of Felixstowe)
Rageenee Hope (Port of Felixstowe)
Helen Greengrass (Felixstowe Forward)
Cllr Mark Jepson (Felixstowe Town Council)
Cllr Doreen Savage (Felixstowe Town Council)
Lorna Monsen (Felixstowe Town Council).

1. INTRODUCTIONS

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

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Kingsfleet School and Ash Tadjrishi (Town Clerk).

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28 MARCH 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 28 March 2018, previously circulated to all members of the Forum, as a true record and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

4. CAUSTON JUNIOR SCHOOL ITEMS

Representatives from Causton School told the Forum that their Year 6 were continuing revising for SATS and in a week and five days they would be doing the SATs ! The representatives told the Forum that it felt like they had been staring and glaring at the last year's SATs, dreaming about them and the worst - taking some of the questions from them! They had even dreamt about them. This week would be more practice SATs!

Causton representatives told the Forum that on the 4th May it is Star Wars day, but today they wanted to talk about the dance club at Causton. A group of friends had started their own dance club and they are teaching 16 people from the whole school to dance. They hope to be able to perform in approximately 6 weeks. The song that they will be dancing to is "This is me" from The Greatest Showman. They then asked for a show of hands to see if anyone would be

interested in more schools doing dance clubs and some members were interested. The plan for the dance group was to put them in small groups, put on some music and they have to dance on the spot just so they can see what they can do on their own.

5. COLNEIS JUNIOR SCHOOL ITEMS

Colneis School representatives told the Forum that since the last their Year 6 children have continued to be very busy at school. Their school play, A Midsummer Night's Dream, took place the week before the Easter holidays and it had been an enormous success. They held three evening performances and two daytime performances. The play was thoroughly enjoyed by all and they received some excellent feedback from their audiences.

Representatives from Colneis Junior School told the Forum that they are currently busy revising for their SATs tests which take place during week commencing 14th May. After Sats they will be going on their Year 6 residential trip to Mersea Island in Essex at the start of June. They will be doing a wide variety of activities including, high ropes, caving, aerial runway and making kit-karts, hopefully the sun will shine.

The representatives enjoyed completing the survey for the Felixstowe Leisure redevelopment and look forward to hearing about future developments. The following were some of the most interesting suggestions for the new facility were:

- Archery
- Outdoor rapids
- Diving boards
- Athletics running lanes
- Roller skating rink
- Tunnel slide with lights
- Hot tubs
- Toboganing course
- Yoga lessons
- Skate Park
- Sportswear shop
- Bowling alley
- Foam pit

We will look forward to hearing about further developments.

6. GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL ITEMS

The representatives from Grange School told the Forum that they are still working hard preparing for their SATs so nothing very exciting was happening in Year 6. However they did have a visit to their school from Richard Buck, an Olympic 400 metre runner. He gave the whole school a wonderful talk in their school assembly and then taught PE lessons to all the classes during the rest of the day. It was fantastic to hear how much you can achieve if you put your mind to it. Also on the PE front, their Years 3 and 4 had been on a trip to Piper's Vale Gymnastic Centre when they had tried out all sorts of gym activities which they all really enjoyed.

Grange School representatives told the Forum that their new Library was now up and running. They were still waiting for some brightly coloured tables and chairs but the children all enjoyed using it. They are now able to borrow books and teachers can use the new Library for Storytime and Literacy lessons. They were also able to buy a scanning system so that they can keep track of their lovely new books that live in the Library.

The Grange school representatives told the Forum that their Year 4 children had a visit from Anglian Water staff which incorporated some work as part of their Science lessons. Apparently they had been very enthusiastic about making 'Sewage Soup' ! Their Reception class had also been lucky enough to visit Easton Farm Park on a beautiful sunny day. They were able to collect eggs have a ride on a tractor, compare the different animals and of course play on all the play equipment.

7. LANGER PRIMARY ACADEMY SCHOOL ITEMS

The representatives from Langer Primary Academy told the Forum they had an elected a new member onto their School council and she was their new secretary. Over the past few weeks Year 6 had been doing SATS prep and they have been spending a lot of time on three mark questions as some of their Year 6 were finding some of the comprehension questions tricky.

Representatives told the Forum that on the first day back after the Easter break, their Head teacher came into their class and said that the Coastguard had contacted the school because a giant crate had been washed up on the beach which was addressed to Langer Primary Academy, she said the whole school would be taking a trip down to the beach to find out what it was. They all walked to the beach and on arrival they were met with the sight of 7 bright green plush turtles trying to escape out of the crate. The teacher went over to the crate and opened it, inside there was a note saying "My name is Flipper, which stands for (FOCUS, LEARNING, INSPIRES, PROPER, PROGRESS, EVERYDAY, REGARDLESS.) I am your new school mascot and I will be keeping an eye on you all for focused learning and effort." In the past the school had a WOW assembly to celebrate good learning and achievement throughout the week, the pupils who won this would have cake with the Headteacher now they would be earning a lovely FLIPPER pin for their jumpers and an achievement award.

The Langer Primary Academy representatives told the Forum that they had a special visitor come and meet them at their school on 19th April. It was AET's CEO., Mr Drinkwell. He was shown around the school and it gave him a great insight into the daily running of the school, he was very impressed and really enjoyed his visit.

The Langer Academy Road Safety Officers have been busy with Miss Ryan, their lollypop lady. They were continuing going out and checking that the parents parking and general road safety was still going well. At the moment they have a Road Safety poster competition for best poster for KS1 and KS2 children.

At lunchtime they have a new club, where the older children (Year 5 and year 6) read books to the younger children such as Pebbles and Shells, as well as a loom band club. In a couple of weeks they will be starting a lunchtime club for those children that struggle in the lunch hall with the noise, they will be eating together in another area, they will be practicing table manners and social skills.

As a school council they have started some of their eco projects like their Eco area. Langer School's planned Litter Pick at the beach has been scheduled for after SATs week with Year 6 and Year 2.

Doreen Savage said she was delighted that the Road Safety Officers were working and parents are taking notice of them.

8. TRIMLEY ST MARY SCHOOL ITEMS

Representatives from Trimley St Mary School told the Forum the children in their Early Years have started their school campaign to be a plastic friendly school. Every week the children do some cooking and usually take what they make home in a plastic freezer bag. This term they have been asked to bring in a reusable plastic tub on their cooking day to take home

their delicious treat. At the moment about 60% of the children are joining in with this new scheme – we hope to increase this as the term goes on. Also, in Early Years the children have a new digging and growing area. Over the Easter holidays Adscape Gardening took away a horrible old border of plants and turned it into a raised bed. Half of this will be for the children to grow herbs to use in their cooking, while the other half is for digging and playing in. So far the children have used it to hunt for Minibeasts, looking for missing coins and matching up the Numicon doubles.

Last week the children in Year 3 and 4 went to the Farm Fair at Trinity Park. It had been a very hot day but they all had a great time finding out about farming and food in Suffolk. Some of the highlights of this trip included watching the Blacksmiths shoeing the horses, holding ducklings, trying out lots of different types of food, sitting in some enormous tractors and watching The Carrot Show !

This term the children in Year 5 and 6 are preparing to be time travellers. They started the Summer term by working in groups to build Anderson Shelters using cardboard boxes, tubes and real grass and mud to cover them with. Afterwards they had a talk from Sergeant Chris Anderson who is a Radar manager with the RAF. He talked about his job and what he has to do, it was a very interesting and very important job. They also had a talk from Millie's Grandad who was a child in the war and who remembers having to sleep in Kings Cross Station during the bombing raids.

In a few weeks time we will be finding out what it was like for children our age who were evacuated during the war. We will be dressing up as children from the time of World War 2 and catching the train at Trimley Station to travel to Clifford Road Primary School in Ipswich. They have a real Anderson Shelter in their school grounds, we will be finding out what it was like to have to use them during the bombing raids.

The children in Year 5 have begun their school swimming. Usually at our school it is only the Yr 6's who get to go swimming but this year due to some extra funding the Yr5's are lucky enough to get an extra term. We think this is great as swimming is a very important skill for us to learn living so close to the sea in Felixstowe.

Also, this week Bikeability has started for the Year 5's. They will spend 8 hours learning how to ride their bikes safely on the playground and then on the roads around Trimley. This year there are 4 groups taking place over 2 weeks which means that we will have lots of safe children riding their bikes in the Summer.

We have also begun looking for our successors for next year. We have been to speak to the Year 5's and told them all about the important role we have on the Youth Forum. They have been given the job advert to look at and are going to use it in their literacy lessons to start writing an application letter to us. Then after half term we will be holding interviews to make sure we pick the best candidates to take over from us in September.

9. FELIXSTOWE ACADEMY

The representatives from Felixstowe Academy told the Forum about the launch of their Peer Mentor Project. This was an extra layer of support where Mentors are trained for a whole day on different scenarios including anti-bullying and listening to students. There are all sorts of different reasons to sign up to become a Mentor but the representative said that they had experienced problems in the past and was helped and they wanted to help other people in a similar situation.

Felixstowe Academy representatives told the Forum about their first day of visiting the new Academy and how they thought it would be very scary but it wasn't and they had actually had fun ! The Form Tutor had played form games so that everyone got to know each other.

Representatives from Felixstowe Academy told the Forum about their new reward scheme. Students could earn points for character, academia and behaviour. There was even an app

to see how many points they had and a shop built into the app where you can buy different things, like books and rulers. The representatives also wanted to thank local businesses for example the Port of Felixstowe who had donated prizes for the scheme.

10. LEVEL TWO YOUTH PROJECT

Level Two representatives told the Forum that for the past few months they had been very busy with lots of activities and events going on within Level Two, Felixstowe Academy and the primary schools. They had a great trip in the Easter holidays to Bounce, where 17 young people all had a brilliant time, but also learned about how important it is for our bodies to be active and exercise. In the open sessions, young people have explored topics around healthy eating where they were able to try new foods and look at what a healthy diet means to them. They also took part in activities where we could share thoughts and feelings around subjects such as loss, bereavement and difficult times.

Representatives from Level Two told the Forum that this term they would be exploring what addiction is, what it means to have positive relationships, and if they do ever get better weather they are hoping to get to the park to do some outdoor sports. Last Saturday there had been an open session at Level Two. Twenty young people came to this and taken part in 3 activities; burger making, martial arts, slime making. As this was so successful, another Saturday activity afternoon will take place at a later date.

The representatives then told the Forum about some new things that are happening at Level Two these were:

- Starting from next week all year 6's can come along to the year 7 open sessions on Tuesdays 4-5:30pm. This is in addition to the boys and girls only sessions which year 6's are able to come to.
- From now until May half Term Level Two will be at Stennett's Field in Trimley every Wednesday 4-5:30pm with the big minibus, so you can't miss us. There have been 2 of these so far and they have been well attended by young people and even some parents.
- In May half term there is a trip to Ninja Warrior in Colchester. All our trips are open to year 6 and above.
- From Monday 30th July – Friday 3rd August Level Two are offering young people swimming lessons with a qualified swimming instructor. This will take place at Colneis School and there will be a maximum of 4yp per session. The most amazing thing about this is it is completely FREE!

If you would like more information about any of these activities please talk to Kirsty after this meeting or contact Level Two.

Finally, they wanted to pass on a huge thank you to Nick Barber, The Mayor of Felixstowe. Level Two are extremely grateful to have been chosen as one of his charities and we have enjoyed being part of lots of events. We wish him all the best for his next adventure.

11. FELIXSTOWE FORWARD

Helen Greengrass thanked some of the Members of the Forum for their contribution to the Suffolk Coastal District Council's Leisure Vision. The survey was for potentially a new sports centre for Felixstowe. She asked if any other schools were interested in contributing please could they submit their views asap.

Helen told the Forum that there were a lot of things happening in Felixstowe with the start of the Summer season. On Bank Holiday weekend there was going to be a Historic Car Rally and on Bank Holiday Monday a Rotary Fun Run, both would be along the seafront. Landguard Fort were planning a Star Wars weekend and she encouraged everyone to go onto the VisitFelixstowe website for information about this and different events during the year.

There was about 60 Beach Huts which were causing a problem due to the loss of beach from the storms over the winter period and a new location for them was needed. It was hoped that this would be sorted out very shortly.

Week commencing 21st May -27th May was Dementia Action (Awareness) Week and Helen hoped that schools would become involved even if it meant just wearing something blue. If you would like Helen to visit your school and have an information session, maybe in your school assembly, please contact her Helen.Greengrass@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

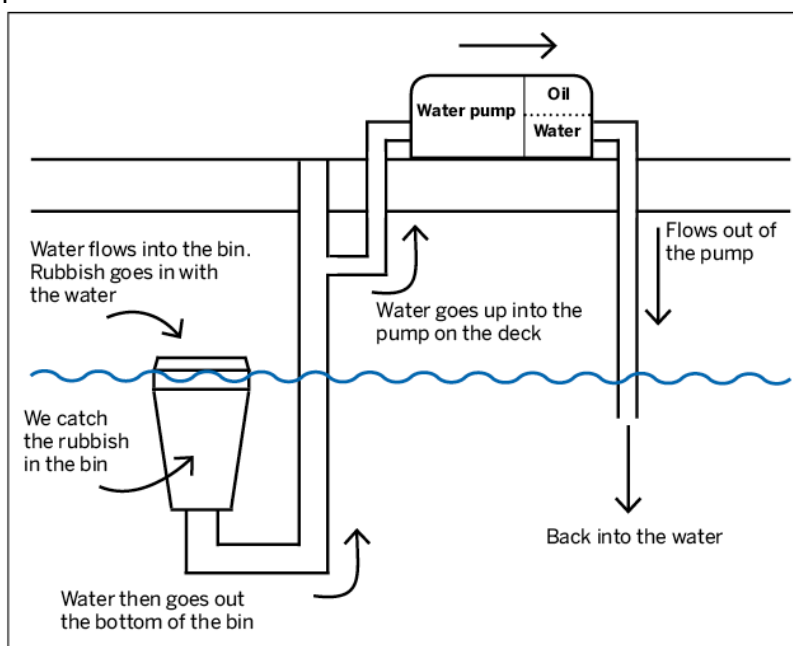
12. PORT OF FELIXSTOWE, 2018: A YEAR OF PLASTIC ACTION

Jessica Briggs, Environment & Energy Manager, Port of Felixstowe was welcomed by the Chair and she told the Forum about ways the Port of Felixstowe was trying to minimise their waste with a slide show. This could be waste from the vessels, food waste and domestic waste. There were over 3000 people bringing in packed lunches which included plastic bottles and plastic wrap. This was a big challenge especially as the Port did not employ the lorry drivers, to help the drivers with their waste recycling bins are now a lot easier to find and are also positioned at the entrances. They contact the different companies on the port and 78% of those who replied to the survey wanted to get rid of single use plastic cups. The Port had also been able to find a company called Vegware who specialise in eco-friendly packaging and disposables for their canteens.

When vessels arrive at the port they must pre-declare before their arrival details of their waste. The Maritime Coastal Agency help monitor this.

Helen Greengrass said that beach waste is usually litter from the surrounding area rather than the ships.

Jessica told the Forum that the Port had purchased a seabin. This removes marine litter from the oceans so there is less litter on local beaches and plastics can be recycled which protects wildlife. One of the slides shown how the seabin worked, see below:



Langer representatives asked Jessica if they would be able to record how much litter the seabin sucked up and she confirmed that this would be possible. Grange representatives asked how expensive this was and Jessica explained that although the bin costed £3100 they have managed to share the cost with the Harwich Haven Authority.

Doreen Savage told Jessica that Felixstowe Youth Forum had come up with the idea of Felixstowe becoming a free plastic town and Felixstowe Town Council had now adopted this. She congratulated everyone on this initiative.

Rev Andrew told the Forum that St Johns Church congregation had been making material bags for free to save on the use of plastic bags and if you wanted to borrow one, you could use it and then put it back into the church for someone else to use. There was even spare material etc in a box at the back of the church which you could use to make your own bag, which was all free.

13. FELIXSTOWE TOWN COUNCIL

Doreen Savage complimented everyone on their brilliant reports and the information they brought to the Forum.

Doreen told the Forum that Felixstowe in Flower was starting and she along with the Mayor and Sue Faversham had visited schools to promote this. She thanked everyone for making them feel so welcome. She hope that everyone would be entering the Sunflower Competition as the seeds that were given out in assembly was generously donated by the Co-op. Doreen asked Members to encourage their parents to enter the other competitions especially the front gardens. They would be visiting Grange later that week and Colneis Junior School the following week.

Doreen asked if every school had received their letter from the Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk Office and the Royal British Legion concerning participation in the Centenary of the Armistice on the Western Front WW1 which would be held this year in November. Lorna distributed copies to everyone. It stated that it was hoped that on Thursday 8th November schools across the county would lay wreaths and poppy crosses on the war graves in all their local cemeteries. Felixstowe Town Council would also be holding a service for all schools around the War Memorial on Friday 9th November. On Saturday 10th November the Royal British Legion will be having a Festival of Remembrance at St Johns Church and on Sunday 11th November there would be a church service at St Johns and a Remembrance Service around the War Memorial. There was also a possibility of a 'Battles Over' Beacon Lighting and Remembrance event to be held on the Sunday evening. Details will be advertised nearer the date.

Felixstowe Town Council will be holding their Annual Town Meeting on 9th May at Felixstowe Academy where the Mayor will be presenting the Civic Awards including the Ganges Trophy which was presented to a local young person (aged 21 or younger) or organisation supporting young people in Felixstowe. This would be a lovely occasion and everyone was invited to attend. The Mayor of Felixstowe would also be giving his report on his Mayoral year and presenting his three local charities with money that had been raised during this period. A new Mayor would be elected on 16th May for 2018-2019.

Mark Jepson thanked everyone for completing the VisitFelixstowe questionnaire on what they would like to see on the seafront in Felixstowe, particularly in the South Seafront area.

14, DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that at the last meeting of the Youth Forum for this academic year each school/youth project would be able to bring a maximum of 6 children which would include Year 5's students. The last meeting is to be held on **Wednesday 27th June 2018** (Chair to be Trimley St Mary) at **4pm – 5pm at Felixstowe Town Hall.**