



MINUTES OF THE FELIXSTOWE YOUTH FORUM **HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27 JUNE 2018**

Present: Paige Cannell, Josh Dunning, Owen Young (Chairs), Maisie Calver, Eva Smith, Milly Willcox and Kate Bennett (Trimley St Mary School)
Denis Cioxcan, Rubie Fisk, Willow James, Amy Lee and Aaron Read, Caspar Van Gameraen and Alicia Little (Causton Junior School)
Martha Simmons, Merley Teye-Botchway and Julia Steele (Colneis Junior School)
Ruby Ambrose, Jack O'Reilly, Toki Pinner, Olivia Porter and Corinne Stockdale (Grange Community Primary)
Melissa Bennis, Ellen Harding, Caiden Smith-Howell, Noah White and Kyrsty Beattie Dawson Coldwell, Elise Gorski, Charlie Webb and Kirsty Coldwell (Felixstowe Level 2 Youth Project)
Chloe Winlow, Communities Support Officer, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Council
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 Felixstowe Academy, Rev'd Andrew Dotchin, Helen Greengrass.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2 MAY 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 2 May 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

Causton School representatives told the Forum that they had been holding auditions for their new Youth Forum members. They did this by asking potential candidates to fill out a form which contained the following question: Can you give up your lunch time to write reports? Most of them wrote the same thing such as "I'm not confident but if I do it, I might be more confident." Another important question on the application form was: What is your favourite flavour of Pringles? They found out that 50% preferred Sour Cream and 50% said other flavours of crisps. After doing serious job interviews, they finally chose 3 pupils, 2 girls and a boy. The representative's then introduced: Ruby, Willow and Denis as the new Youth Forum Members.

In July, the representatives told the Forum they will be going to the beach as a reward for doing so well during their SATs, which they were really looking forward to. The plan was to

relax before going to high school by eating lots of ice cream, build sand castles and paddling their feet in the water.

Representatives from Causton told the Forum that for the past week, they have been rehearsing for their leavers play. It had been very exciting, yet painful, to stand on stage for too long! The play was going to be about World War 2 and what happens when all the children go to the country side. The background story of the play was that all the evacuees go to Devon and enter a place called Traitors Quay. Near the end of the play, all the children find out there is a spy among them... The representatives then sang a snippet of a song from the play and Members were able to join in the second verse.

Last Monday, 6 pupils from Causton participated in their Year 6 Bake Off final. The theme had been 'Out of this World', see some photographs below.



5. COLNEIS JUNIOR SCHOOL ITEMS

Colneis School representatives told the Forum that as usual, the summer term at Colneis was extremely busy, particularly in Year 6 as they prepare for their transition to secondary school. Over the past three weeks, they had been fortunate to participate in a STEM activity led by representatives from Woodbridge School and EDF energy at Sizewell B power station. STEM stands for Science, Technology Engineering and Maths and they spent an afternoon designing and building a 'smart gadget' using various pieces of electrical equipment. They applied their learning of electrical circuits in order to make a gadget which would set off an alarm if somebody entered their room and tried to remove one of their possessions. The representatives told the Forum that they then had to think about how they would market their product in order to attract people to buy it. It had been a good opportunity to apply their science learning to a real life situation.

It had been Sports Day at Colneis the day before the forum. . In the morning, all of the children worked in their house groups to try and collect as many points as possible at various sporting events. In the afternoon, they were joined by parents as they competed in traditional running, skipping and obstacle races. A good day was enjoyed by all and the winning house was Edison.

The highlight for the representatives in Year 6 had been their residential trip to Mersea Island in the first week of June. A total of 87 children and 10 adults descended on the Mersea activity

centre where they participated in a range of outdoor activities. They had completed 16 different activities over the five days. Their favourite activities included the Team Swing. Thankfully, they had enjoyed warm sunshine and had no rain all week.

As they only had just 19 more days left at school, as well as completing transition days at their new secondary schools, they have also be preparing for their Year 6 Leavers' Assembly, the theme was is going to be 'The Greatest Showman'.

6. GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL ITEMS

The representatives from Grange told the Forum that even though they were still working hard at Grange, lots of classes have had (or will have) trips to enjoy. They would be having a residential trip to Belchamps Scout Activity Centre in Essex shortly. Year 4 visited Tunstall Forest and learned things about Anglo-Saxon times such as making fire, carving with a knife and weaving bracelets. Years 1 & 2 will be going to Foxburrow Farm very soon and several classes will be going on local trips – to the library or the beach. They were also looking forward to Sports Day and were hoping the good weather continues! Grange was very proud when they won the Rounders tournament against other Felixstowe Schools as they are a small school. This was a great achievement for them. Grange School had their official opening of the new library, where they had invited people who had helped them out with their time or money to come and have a look. The children from Years 2 and 3 told the visitors what they enjoyed about reading and they also recited a poem. It had been a lovely event.

Grange School representatives had a great time on their residential trip, although a lot of them came back extremely tired. Some of the activities had been a bit scary like the aerial course but they learned to have confidence in themselves and managed to complete them. They also got very muddy on the assault course and found some of the teambuilding exercises quite tricky – especially the one where they had to walk along with a very large ball over their heads and not drop it! They had particularly loved the singing round the camp fire in the evenings and the food hadn't been too bad, so overall they had a fantastic time.

They are now working hard on their play "Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits" at the moment so they have not yet thought about their time at Grange coming to an end, but they are sure once they do some tears will be shed!

The Youth Forum representatives wanted to say how much they have enjoyed coming to the Youth Forum and hope that Ruby and Tobi who will be their replacements will find it as informative and entertaining as they have.

7. KINGSFLEET PRIMARY SCHOOL ITEMS

The representatives of Kingsfleet School introduced themselves including their Year 5 representatives of the School Council.

In their last report the Kingsfleet representatives had talked about reducing plastic in their school. Their school council were planning to lead a project to raise more awareness on non-recyclable plastic. There was going to be a four day festival over the August Bank Holiday down at Felixstowe Ferry, and one of the teachers thought that it would be a great opportunity to get children from Kingsfleet engaged with a fun recycling project. They are going to be working to create a pirate made from non-recyclable plastic; the idea is that people will be able to add to the pirate over the weekend by adding their own non-recyclable plastic. Non-recyclable plastics are plastics that don't melt when heated, but burn instead. Some non-recyclable plastics included crisp packets and fruit nets that you sometimes buy oranges and lemons in. The Year 5 children are going to be working with an artist to make fish made out of willow covered in tissue paper. The finished pieces will be on display as part of Art on the Prom event in September.

Representatives from Kingsfleet Primary School told the Forum that every two years they have enterprise activities across the school. The classes were given a small pot of money to buy resources for whatever they have chosen to do. They then had to try and make a profit. The money they made was then given to a charity chosen by each class.

As part of their enterprise activities, Year 5 and 6 are putting on a performance of Wind in the Willows. Practice is going well, the costumes are all sorted and the stage is up. Year 3 and 4 are creating art work to sell and Key Stage 1 and Early Years are making cakes and biscuits to sell.

As part of the Felixstowe in Flower grow bag competition, children in Year 3, have created a fantastic display at the front of the school. It has a seaside theme and includes an old wooden pallet painted to look like a beach hut and colourful buckets planted with flowers. If you want to take a look, there is a picture on our website <http://kingsfleetps.onesuffolk.net/blog/view/570>

The representatives told the Forum that Level 2 have been coming into school to work with their Year 6. So far they have talked to them about stress, how they get stressed and where they feel it in their body. They are going to see them at Level 2 this week to talk to us about the importance of sleep. This is to help them with their transition to High School.

Kingsfleet Book Club have been reading Coghart by Peter Bunzel. This Saturday as part of the Felixstowe Book Festival, they are going to the Library to meet the author, Peter Bunzel.

8. LANGER PRIMARY ACADEMY SCHOOL ITEMS

The representatives from Langer Primary Academy told the Forum that they were really pleased to be involved today as this was the final Youth Forum of the school academic year and was their last one as Year 6's and school council reps. They had enjoyed their time representing the school.

The representatives told the Forum that they felt that the SATS had been pretty much just like any other test, and they were not just saying that to encourage the Year 5s that are here today, but it literally was just another test but they were really glad they were over !

They had recently visited African Adventure which had been a great experience, as it had been very funny and they took part in a lot of activities. One of their favourite parts had been the campfire, where they played a couple of games like Chinese Whispers and Wink Murder and then they told jokes. When they had finished that they went to their rooms to get some rest, their rooms had been really nice and they had a lot fun in them, also the beds were comfortable ! Some other favourite moments had been learning about the customs in Uganda. People from Uganda do not use knives and forks when they eat but use with fingers and burp after their meal because it is a sign of satisfaction and appreciation of the food. Uganda men are more important in Ugandan custom than women and the boys really enjoyed bossing the girls around which included having to get their drink and food and clear it away for them and even they were not allowed to speak until they were spoken to first !.

The representatives told the Forum that their school caretaker was preparing an area where their old school trim trail used to be for future Eco projects. They hadn't been able to access it in the past due to Health and Safety reasons. The caretaker was in the process of using old pallets to make a fence and clear off the old timber. The soil in the ground will be really rich for planting as it had been covered with bark chipping for a number of years.

They had been a number of FLIPPER award assemblies. A child from each class, every Monday was presented with a FLIPPER badge for achieving an element of FLIPPER (focus, learning, inspires, proper, progress, every day, regardless). One of the Youth Forum representatives were lucky enough to receive theirs for focussing well in class and always having a great attitude towards learning .

On the 25th May 2018 they had held a non-uniform to raise money for Alzheimer's Society and raised £89.59 which they had donated to the charity as they had received a visit from two ladies from the Dementia awareness group who had visited the school and spoke to the Year 5 and 6 classes. It had been very interesting. An example was shown of two shelves, one of them represented Feeling and the other Memories. When Dementia had been diagnosed this changed the two shelves the Memory shelf was jumbled up and that showed how you lose some of your memories because it affects the recent memories ie: what you have had for breakfast.

They had held their sports day last week which was a really hot day. All the school took part and they were split into their house colours. Orwell house won the shield.

Year 6 have taken part in Bikeability recently. They had to master the ability of the road, but first they practiced on the school playground, manoeuvring around cones and practicing a normal stop and an emergency stop..

Year 5 took part in their first beach litter pick, they had spent 45 minutes walking between Charlie Mannings amusements and the Pier. Some of the pictures of the trip and the litter they collected are shown below. The school have now decided that two classes a week will try and do this every week.



The Port of Felixstowe kindly visited Langer and showed the whole school the presentation that the representatives were lucky enough to see earlier at the Youth Forum. Although, it is a lot for the little children to understand, everyone loved the idea of the Sea Bin.

The representatives told the Forum that they had enjoyed coming to the Youth Forum. They said it had been great listening to all the other schools news, meeting other people and getting a chance to sit in the Town Hall council chamber andeating the Pringles (of course). They wished everyone good luck as they start their journey to High School.

9. **TRIMLEY ST MARY SCHOOL ITEMS**

Trimley St Mary representatives told the Forum that over the last few weeks the children in Year 6 have been helping to leave their legacy at school by creating some small world bases for the younger children in the school. In the afternoons after their SATs they all got busy with paint, brushes and saws to make a variety of small worlds including a farm, pirate world, an army base and even a model of Felixstowe ! Some of them even donated their old toys to

go in each of the play bases. These are going to be fixed onto tyres and then put out into special areas of the playground to make playtime more interesting for the other children. They also helped to make a new mud kitchen for the KS2 playground and decorated the Fairy tree with glitter paint and props.

Representatives from Trimley St Mary School told the Forum that on the 11th July they will be having a big launch afternoon of their brand new outdoor library and sensory garden. Teachers, pupils and families are being asked to donate books to put into their new library. This will be filled with comfy cushions, beanbags and chairs and open all day including lunchtime so that they can read all day! They are planning a big book themed party on the opening afternoon and have a VERY VERY special guest coming but this is being kept a BIG secret by the teachers organising the day. The school is I very excited about this event.

Since the last Youth Forum meeting the representatives told the Forum there had been lots of school trips which had taken place at the school. Their Year 5 and 6 had visited the Anderson Shelter at Clifford Road in Ipswich, where they all dressed up and went to Ipswich on the train. The children in Reception had spent the day at the beach with Beach Bonkers, who organised beachcombing in Suffolk. They had found out lots of information about animals that might found on the beach as well as making a giant collage out of the rubbish they found on the beach. Years 3 and 4 have been to Ipswich museum to look at the Ancient Egyptian display and work with the curators on lots of different activities. Year 2 have been to Foxburrow Farm to spend the day learning about minibeasts and next week Year 1 were off to Landguard Fort and beach to finish their topic on the history of the seaside.

Rehearsals for the end of term play Matilda the Musical were in full swing and should be another fabulous end to the academic year.

They then introduced their new representatives to the Youth Forum, Milly, Eva and Maisie. It was hoped they would enjoy the experience as much as this years representatives and they wished them all the best for next year. All 3 of the representatives thanked the Youth Forum for having them for this year and they had really enjoyed coming to the meetings and being part of this fantastic group.

10. LEVEL TWO YOUTH PROJECT

Level Two representatives told the Forum that it didn't seem possible that they were coming to the end of another school year. But Summer has begun and they told the Forum that Level Two never shuts down, which means a fun packed programme of activities and events.

Rather than be stuck indoors after a day at school, they have had their open sessions at the parks and the beach, playing football, man hunt and obstacles courses. Whilst having all this fun, they are still always learning at Level Two. The recent topics included mental health awareness and how they can look after themselves and others. This was really good because young people were helping others with ideas of how they can calm down when they feel angry or sad. They also explored the subject of addiction and what this means for young people. Young people knew a lot about drugs and harmful substances, but they found that the biggest addiction amongst young people is gaming and being online. They told the Forum that everyone is aware that technology is a big part of our lives today and we probably couldn't live easily without it. However, more and more young people are now becoming addicted to gaming or social media and it is having a negative effect on everyone's life. They would really like to get the Forums feedback on addiction, so they have a short activity to take part in, so they encouraged everyone to come over and see them at the end of the meeting if you want to find out more.

Representatives from Level Two told the Forum that their Summer Programme was now available: They have arranged trips to Southend Adventure park, London Zoo, Corby skate Park, Paintballing, Open Access Sessions, Martial Art Taster Sessions, art activities, and

mindfulness courses. If you wanted any information about any of these, there were some forms that could be taken away.

They are currently in the process of updating their website and it was hoped that the holiday form will be on the website shortly, so they encouraged everyone to keep checking it the website for new pictures and information.

The representatives told the Forum that some of them may know Wendy O'Connor. Wendy has been the Level Two administrator for over 15 years. Wendy never just did admin. She was involved in as many things at Level Two as possible, including holiday activities, open sessions activities and fundraising events. They wanted to thank Wendy for everything she has done for Level Two and they wished her well on her next adventure.

As the end of term draws near many schools will be enjoying their school fetes. You may have seen Level 2 at some already. They will be at Kingsfleet School on Friday afternoon so they asked everyone to look out for them and say hello. They told the Forum that it was a short report from them this time, but they wanted to say Thank you for another great year of youth forums and allowing them to share their news. They hoped everyone have a brilliant summer !

11. **YOUTH VOICE**

Chloe Winlow, Communities Support Officer, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Council thanked the Youth Forum for the invitation to come and talk to them. She wanted to explain 'Youth Voice' which was to be rolled out in September. This was a scheme for young people to voice their local issues and concerns which are relevant to the District Council. A suggestion box could be placed in every School and this took the pressure off young people attending meetings from all over the district to discuss these issues. Every term the box would be picked up and returned with feedback on what the District Council had said about the issues raised in the previous box.

Chloe also spoke about other projects she was involved in including a project to integrate primary schools and the older generation in their area to help break down barriers. This could involve visiting local old people's homes and performing and singing to them.

Members asked Chloe, if possible, to attend future meetings of the Youth Forum to report back about the feedback on the issues raised. If you wanted to contact Chloe direct her email address is : Chloe.Winlow@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

12. **FELIXSTOWE TOWN COUNCIL**

Cllr Doreen Savage thanked everyone for attending the Youth Forum this year, they had been delightful. Everyone had thanked the Council which was very much appreciated.

Felixstowe Town Council had the launch of this year's Felixstowe in Flower at the Triangle in the town centre last week. There were a few stalls and some of the sponsors attended. It was a great morning. There had been a Cllr competition where each Cllr had a flower pot to plant and this was judged by members of the public.

Cllr Doreen Savage told the Forum that the Youth Forum Budget had paid for a trampoline for Carnival Weekend in July. This will be in the Events Area.

Cllr Savage asked if anyone knew it had been Suffolk Day ? Felixstowe Town Cllrs had held a tea party to celebrate Suffolk Day on the pavement, outside the Town Hall, for everyone. even the bin men stopped for a free cup of tea and cake !

Information on an event by Music in Felixstowe was distributed which was to be held on 11th August on the green next to The Hut at the bottom of Bath Hill. The event included music performances and workshops and was aimed particularly at young people. Causton School representatives told the Forum that they were performing Felix the Cat on 9th & 10th July which was another event run by Music in Felixstowe.

Cllr Mark Jepson told the Forum that he had been lucky enough to be a judge along with Cllr Savage at the Causton School Bake Off. He had really enjoyed judging the cakes which was he had enjoyed tasting very much !

13. AOB

Lorna Monsen told the Forum that she had been approached by Volker Fitzpatrick as they would like to have contact with local schools for the purposes of engaging with them. They are currently on a project in Trimley St Martin and carrying out works which is the Felixstowe Branch Line Enhancement Scheme. They believe they can add value to local schools through a number of initiatives. They have very kindly sent some Newsletters which Lorna gave to the Teachers/Teaching Assistants who attended the Youth Forum and it was agreed to invite Maxine Stephens, Project Skills Co-ordinator from Volker Fitzpatrick to attend the next meeting in November.

14. PROSPECTIVE DATES AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members agreed the future dates for the new academic school year as follows:

7th November 2018 (Chair: Colneis Junior School).

30th January 2019 (Chair: Kingsfleet Primary School).

27th March 2019 (Chair: Langer Primary Academy School).

1st May 2019 (Chair: Level 2 Youth Project).

26th June 2019 (Chair: Causton Junior School)

These would all be held at **4pm – 5pm at Felixstowe Town Hall.**