



MINUTES OF THE FELIXSTOWE YOUTH FORUM **HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30 JANUARY 2019**

Present: Noah White, Ella Harding (Chair) and Mrs Gill Papworth (Kingsfleet School)
Denis Ciocan, Rubie Fisk, Willow Jameson and Alicia Little and Sally Long (Causton Junior School)
Bethany Crawley, Ruby Davies and Julia Steele (Colneis Junior School)
Megan Fortune, Tobi Pinner and Corinne Stockdale (Grange Community Primary)
Morgan Cameron and Sarah Gorski (Langer School)
Eva Garayalde and Shez Hopkins (Level2 Youth Project)
Maisie Calver, Eva Smith, Milly Willcox and Kate Bennett (Trimley St Mary School)
Sharon Harkin, Dementia Champion and Community Engagement Manager at East of England Co-op
Helen Greengrass (Felixstowe Forward)
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 Jonny Lowdell, Places for People Leisure and Cllr Mark Jepson (Felixstowe Town Council)

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 7 November 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 their school had been very busy. At the end of November they had their Christmas fair which had been a great success. The Salvation Army band delighted them with their carol playing at the event and then they came back to the school on the last day of term to bring some more festive cheer. To help raise funds for purchasing a St Elizabeth Hospice Elmer sculpture they held a Christmas jumper day. The Elmer sculptures will be used in a trail around Ipswich and it was hoped that the purchased Elmer by the school will be part of the display. The school have organised a art competition whereby the children have to design something to be painted on the schools Elmer. The winner will be announced shortly at the school as the deadline for getting the designs in is tomorrow.

Representatives from Causton School told the Forum that as part of their enrichment programme, they take time of their timetable for different activities etc, the Enterprise group are holding a 'Lovely pancake break' which would also raise money for the purchase of the Elmer. The Enrichment afternoons continue to be a great success, these included taking part

in the science enrichment activity where they were enjoying learning about rockets, gravity and air. There was also a sports enrichment group where pupils learnt how to play a variety of sports which included basketball, cricket and football and there is a singing group where they have been learning a variety of songs. There had been other events taking place in the school including a Bake Off for Yrs 3, 4, & 5, the school disco and today they were allowed to play in the snow which caused great excitement !

The representatives told the Forum that the next day was 'Young Carer's Awareness Day' across Suffolk and they will be learning more about what this means in their classrooms. On 5th February they will also be learning more about what it means to keep safe on the internet.

5. COLNEIS JUNIOR SCHOOL ITEMS

The Colneis School representatives told the Forum that life at their school continues to be busy. Yesterday, forty children from their school attended the 'Young Voices' singing concert at the O2 arena in London. The choir have been busy rehearsing a montage of songs since September. They had left school at 9.30am and arrived home after midnight, having enjoyed a brilliant day out. Also this year, their school play was going to be the 'Wind in the Willows' and they would be performing the play in the final school week before the Easter holidays. The cast of 30 are currently rehearsing after school on Mondays and Wednesdays. The representatives told the Forum that the school play was a big event for the school and the Year 6 children particularly looked forward to being able to take on the main roles in the play.

In the last few weeks the school had enjoyed lots of good sporting experiences, which included having the opportunity to experience Goal Ball. This is a sport played by visually impaired people, with the use of a ball with a bell in it. They learnt how it was important to listen to instructions from fellow team mates in order to know where to aim the ball. They then had the opportunity to play Kin Ball, this was the only sport to have three teams competing on the pitch at any one time. It is played with an oversized ball and the aim is for the attacking team to trick the two defending teams into where they plan to play the ball.

Colneis School representatives reported that the highlight of their learning at school this term had been in their History lesson. They had started their journey of learning about WWII by dressing up and playing the part of an evacuee. The children spent the morning experiencing the journey which evacuees faced out of London and, on arrival in the country they also went through a billeting process, where they were chosen by a range of adults to live in their houses. In the afternoon, they also experienced life in a 1939 classroom which included having to deal with dictation, arithmetic and reciting a poem by heart. The lessons were then interrupted by air-raid sirens, when they had to take shelter under the class desks until the 'all-clear' was sounded. They have also learnt about the reasons for WWII starting and they have started to understand what happened in the early months of the war. The next task was to learn about the events in Dunkirk in May 1940 and will be re-telling the story of 'The Little Ships'.

Representatives from Colneis told the Forum that they were looking forward to competing against the other Felixstowe primary schools in the swimming gala at the Leisure Centre next week.

6. GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL ITEMS

The representatives from Grange School told the Forum that they had become an Academy in November, several of their teachers had left the school so they were still struggling a bit with borrowed and supply teachers. However, they are now hopeful that things would now improve rapidly and the Grange spirit will again win through! The school had been very encouraged by the attendance at their Reading Cafés. These are held after school events where someone will read a story to parents and children and then everyone would make some sort of craft linked to the story. The school had Father Christmas doing the story before Christmas and one of the

School Governors read 'Supertato'. The children then made some really good potato models afterwards.

Grange School representatives were very pleased with the amount of Books for Schools tokens they collected from the local newspapers and they had now ordered £100 worth of books which is the prize. They would like to thank Grange Stores for saving tokens for their school as well as Causton School, this has enable their new library to fill up nicely with new books!

The school has now started using a new reward system called Class Dojo, this is where children earn dojos for demonstrating six different learning behaviours in school – perseverance, hard work, concentration, deep thinking, good choices, good listening, politeness and team work. When a child receives a Dojo it is added to their own personal monster on the computer. When they get 25 Dojos they can put a token in their team point cylinder. The team (blue, red, green or yellow) which has most tokens at the end of term gets a special treat. Last term the treat was a film and popcorn! Children can also aim towards bronze, silver, gold and platinum certificates as their personal total adds up. This new system has been a great hit with the whole school.

Grange School representatives told the Forum that at BT in Martlesham they often run workshops for primary school children and Grange School's Year 3 children went to one recently which was a 'Computational Thinking Day'. The children had a great day playing computer games, programming computers and learning about algorithms. Grange School would like to thank BT for running these interesting and very valuable days.

7. KINGSFLEET PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Kingsfleet Primary School representatives told the Forum that at the end of last term the school had been pretty busy with school performances and end of term excitement. They had ended the term with Carols round the Christmas tree, where the Key Stage 2 parents, grandparents, family and some residents of Margery Girling House joined them in the hall to join in.

Kingsfleet Primary School told the Forum that they were very proud to say that they were lucky enough to have an Elmer the elephant, but unfortunately he was looking plain and boring at the moment so it is was their job to make him look fabulous. The reason they are painting Elmer is to raise money for the East Anglian Children's Hospice. They are hoping to raise over £700 to help. The school had already had a day where they had to dress up in colourful clothes and in return they brought in a donation into the school. The finished Elmers will be put in various places around Ipswich for people to find and enjoy.

For the last couple of years M and M productions have performed at Kingsfleet School. This year they delighted the school children with the Panto Aladdin. All the children in the school were blown away by the performance. Also they are very proud to be part of the 'Let's Play' project, which is led by the National Theatre Company. The project is all about helping the school put on plays that everyone will be proud of. It also helps them gain confidence and acquire team working skills

This term Kingsfleet will launch their first newspaper. The first edition will go out from the school at the end of February. There is a team of key reporters who are working with one of their school Governors to put together a good format. Children from across the school have been asked to submit articles, stories and jokes to go in the newspaper. Other people are also writing about events and things that are going on in school. There is a plan to add an article about the Felixstowe Youth Forum.

Kingsfleet School are looking forward to competing in the swimming gala, football and netball tournaments that are taking place soon. They have also introduced Quidditch as an

afterschool club. This is still very new and they are still learning the rules, it is based on the sport in the Harry Potter books and it is similar to basketball.

8. LANGER PRIMARY ACADEMY SCHOOL ITEMS

The representative from Langer School told the Forum that although Christmas seem a long time ago they had a very successful Christmas Concert in St Edmunds church which had now become an annual event for KS2. They really enjoyed singing the Christmas songs and really helped get them all in a Christmas spirit. The school had their Christmas fair and raised over £400 for future projects in the school. Their Head teacher, Mr Moore would like to buy some virtual reality headsets so that their learning is more three dimensional. This would enable the school a different learning experience for their topic work, for eg when discussing the Rainforest it would give them a feeling of being there through the headsets.

The Langer School Flipper award scheme was still going well. The school still have the weekly Green award but now they also have Bronze, Silver and Gold badges as well. To earn a Bronze award you have to earn 20 Flipper stamps, Silver is 40 stamps, Gold is 80 stamps and there was even a special award if you earnt 160 Flipper stamps !

The Langer School representative told the Forum that their Yr5 class had been putting together a time capsule. They had visited the Town Hall last Friday and explored the gardens down the seafront to see where they were going to put the time capsule. In the afternoon a representative from the Hold Project visited the class and they made drawings of what they thought houses would look like in 100 years time. They also looked at the design that scientists were using to make new cars, these had robots in them and also wifi in the road. The school had also had a visit from a representative from Felixstowe Museum who had brought in some coins from Victorian times and different materials that would have been used during the plague. They learnt when school dinners were introduced and they tried pea soup which is what they usually had in those days as they didn't have expensive food because it was a lot of money to produce big dinners.

Langer School Council had come up with a good suggestion for improving playtime at their school. They have suggested a friendship bench, this had been put on the back burner but it was hoped that the plan can be relaunched in the near future. They are also hoping to organise some fundraising events to get some new playtime equipment and they hope to bring back Year 6 play leaders.

The new Headteacher of Langer School, Mr Moore, has started up a Pokemon Trading Club, twice a week, which was proving to be very popular. It was open to all school years across the school and the children really enjoy trading with each other. The club is the *only* place the children can trade as it is not allowed in the playground.

The representative also told the Forum that some of their Year 2 boys went with Mr Moore and Mrs Gorski to see the high tide a couple of weeks ago as they had never been to the beach when the tide was so high. Yrs 4 and Yrs 5 had gone up to the beach in the morning and the tide was right on the prom, everyone thought it was very exciting and it fitted in with their school topic of the 1953 floods. The whole school was taking part in the memorial service for the 1953 North Sea Floods where 41 Felixstowe residents lost their lives. The memorial is located at the end of Langer Primary Academy's playing fields.

9. TRIMLEY ST MARY SCHOOL ITEMS

Trimley St Mary School representatives told the Forum that since the last meeting they had visited Trimley St Martin church for Remembrance Day and paid their respects to all of the soldiers who died in the war. They laid poppies near their graves and had a 2 minutes silence for them. They also looked for the graves of the soldiers from The Trimley's who had died and put a specially decorated poppy onto the war memorial. They had received a letter of thanks from a lady who visited her grandad's grave and saw the poppies and crosses lying next to it.

In December they had a carol service around a tree in their playground, the children in Key Stage 2 sang carols to their families and the new school choir also performed. In the afternoon and then again in the evening the PTA held a Christmas craft fair on the playground. Some of the children got picked to run a gingerbread stall. The school kitchen had kindly made 400 Gingerbread men which they sold at the fair for 50p each. The children donated £50 of the profits to Fairtrade and the other £40 they put towards the fundraising for the Elmer the Elephant Hospice appeal. The craft fair had lots of different stalls selling, honey, decorations, sweets and cakes. The representatives said "It was great fun".

Representatives from Trimley St Mary School told the Forum that they now had Road Safety Officers at their school. This was to help teach the younger children how to cross the road safely and to learn about what the lines on the roads and signs outside their school mean. They also led an assembly, held a poster competition about road safety and worked with the local PCSO to help improve parking outside their school during drop off and pick up times.

The Years 3 and 4 children had a sparkling starter to their new rainforest topic which included some very special visitors! They had a visit from the Rangers at Kimmy's Zoo and some real animals that would live in the rainforest. The children got to touch a Skunk, a Sugar Glider, an Armadillo, a giant Millipede and some other interesting and exotic creatures. They all had a fantastic time and got to ask the Rangers lots of questions about each of the animals. They have followed this up by writing some shape and acrostic poems about the Skunk and Chameleon and have written some factfiles about the animals.

10. LEVEL 2 YOUTH PROJECT ITEMS

The representative from Level 2 wished Forum Members a Happy New Year to everyone at the Youth Forum from all of them at Level Two Youth Project. They introduced themselves as the Girls Group Session Reps. They explained that there were different Session Reps from various sessions who will take turns to come to attend the Youth Forum meetings and report on what was happening at Level Two Youth Project.

The representative reported that last term young people in every session at Level2 were given the opportunity to stand for election as reps. The young people who chose to do this had some time to prepare a statement, which they read to their group and were then voted for by the other young people. Reps will have the opportunity to be involved in leading activities, decision making, as well as speaking at local events such as Felixstowe Youth Forum and at their AGM.

The Level 2 Youth Hub stairwell area has recently been redecorated. Rather than paint onto the walls they explained they had put up lots of notice boards to display information, advice, posters, art work & photos. Session Reps were responsible for their own Boards, by keeping them up to date & tidy.

Last weekend Level2 hired out Felixstowe Leisure Centre for an all age Pool Party. It was well attended and really fun. Earlier in the month Reverend Andrew Dotchin had a charity shave at the Hub!! This was carried out by Level Two Young People & funds donated to Langer Primary Academy

During the February Half-term week the representative told the Forum that Level 2 were planning lots of events for young people to get involved with. They had a swim project for confidence building in the Water using Colneis School Pool; two Open Sessions at the Hub, a morning painting ceramics at Crafty Coffee & a Trip to the Press Start Gaming Lounge in Ipswich.

The representative then explained that they represented the Girls Group within Level 2 Youth Project which takes place at the Hub on Mondays after school. It is open to girls in school Yr. 6 to Yr. 11 and they enjoy it being just girls. They were able to meet new friends and just hang

out with other girls who we may not be at the same school. The representative told the Forum that Level 2 youth workers are not judgemental, really welcoming & prepare great activities, games & discussions for them on topics they really want to know more about. Topics have included keeping safe online & friendships. The Level2 representative then distributed a newsletter for you to take away.

11. PLACES FOR PEOPLE LEISURE

Lorna Monsen drew the Forums attendance to the correspondence she had received from Jonny Lowdell from Places for People Leisure which was on the table. She particularly wanted to draw attendance to the last page asking for help on ideas of what extra holiday activities young people would like to see in the town. Any suggestions, please respond direct to Jonny Lowdell, Email : jonnylowdell@pfpleisure.org by Friday 15th February 2019.

12. FELIXSTOWE FORWARD

Helen Greengrass from Felixstowe Forward reported to the Forum that there were lots of half term activities on the VisitFelixstowe website <http://www.visitfelixstowe.org.uk/> and encouraged everyone to have a look. Felixstowe Forward had been involved in talking with the local shop owners, discussing the empty shops and how they can make the High Street look smarter. There had been a lot of work done for a bid from the Coastal Community Fund, part of the Big Lottery Fund. If successful it was hoped that the money would go towards regenerating the area around the Pier down towards Mannings Amusements. The funders had visited Felixstowe yesterday to look around the area and a decision would be made in early March. Fingers crossed.

Felixstowe Forward were planning to put new information boards around the seafront which would include a heritage trail and digital app that would make the noticeboards 'active'..

A Member asked if the 2 minute Beach Clean Boards were still available at the VisitFelixstowe hut on the seafront. Helen confirmed that they were still available which included grabbers and bags to put the litter in. A Member asked if it was not defeating the problem if the litter collection bags were made of plastic when Felixstowe was hoping to be plastic free. It was confirmed that the plastic litter collection bags were donated from members of the public and once these were all gone they would look at other options.

13. DEMENTIA CHAMPION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER AT THE EAST OF ENGLAND CO-OP

Sharon Harkin, from the Dementia Champion and Community Engagement Manager at East of England Co-op introduced herself to the Forum as part of the working group, with Helen Greengrass to make Felixstowe a dementia friendly town. Sharon explained that she wanted to get more schools involved especially with Dementia Week which was between 20th May - 26th May. She explained that Dementia was a disease but it is something that doesn't improve. If you think of a brain as a computer, with dementia the wires are broken, rusty or not working this would then make the computer muddle up, a person may forget names, words, or a simple function like making a cup of tea. People with Dementia remember more about the olden days rather than what happened in the present. They can live a really good life with people helping and supporting them. There were a number of free booklets that Forum Members may find helpful which can be ordered from the Alzheimer's Society website <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/get-support/publications-factsheets>

One idea was for a local school is to adopt a care home. Ms Harkin was aware that White Gables Nursing Home was really keen to be involved with local school children. Some local schools were already involved with local Nursing Homes and they really appreciate children visiting them. Some ideas that dementia patients might really enjoy with the school children is singing (not songs from the war time), talking about what life was like for them growing up and gardening.

Helen Greengrass told the Forum about the Memory Lane Café which engages people living with dementia in the town. The group is held at the Salvation Army Hall on Fridays between 11am-2pm . If anyone was interested in visiting the Café please contact Helen, Email Helen.Greengrass@eastsoffolk.gov.uk for details.

14. FELIXSTOWE TOWN COUNCIL

Cllr Doreen Savage congratulated everyone for their excellent reports. Cllr Savage reported that at the last Youth Forum meeting in November, Members were asked to discuss the possibility of contributing their Youth Forum Budget towards new play equipment to upgrade play areas in Gosford Way, Old Felixstowe and Allenby Park for everyone to use. Cllr Savage explained that most of the funding was in place and discussions were still on going. Members all agreed to use the £2000 Youth Forum Budget for 2018-2019 for this great scheme. It was hoped that Felixstowe Town Council would soon be looking after Allenby Park and Gosford Way and these will become a great asset for the town.

Cllr Doreen Savage told the Forum that there would be a short service with the Mayor laying a wreath at the Flood Memorial. This is situated at the end of Langer School playing field and was to commemorate the 41 Felixstowe residents who lost their lives 66 years ago in the North Sea Floods. Everyone was welcome to attend.

Cllr Doreen Savage told the Forum about an initiative to address Period Poverty and it was agreed to distribute the information to Teachers and Teaching Assistants to take back to their school.

Suffolk Coastal District Council's draft Local Plan was now in the consultation period. The Local Plan is a document that looks to the future of Felixstowe and what is planned for the town and District over the next 20 years. In Felixstowe this could include a new Leisure Centre and hundreds of new houses for the town.

A Member of the Forum asked what was the Town Council doing to help towards the Climate Crisis. Cllr Savage told the Forum that the Town Council support the Felixstowe Plastic Free community group which was very prominent in the town and that it was down to all of us to do our bit to support this. Cllr Savage asked the Member to tell the Forum about Climate Change in their report for the next meeting.

Lorna Monsen told the Forum about the 2019 Town Council Civic Awards and asked if Members knew of anyone or an organisation they would like to nominate and especially for the HMS Ganges Youth Trophy. Please contact her for further information or go to the Town Council website.

15. A.O.N.B

It was agreed due to annual leave to bring the June meeting forward from 26th June to Wednesday 19 June 2019.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Youth Forum would be held on **Wednesday 27th March 2019** (Chair to be Langer Primary Academy School) at **4pm – 5pm at Felixstowe Town Hall.**