



The Lions Club of Felixstowe are pleased to report on its activities resulting from the Town Council grant received in 2023/24.

The routine work for the Lions Club during the year is to improve the efficiency and reliability of the existing light displays and this season £1600 was spent on materials and, as ever, all the labour was voluntary.

This year a big effort was made to provide additional seasonal decorations and attractions. We looked into the use of laser projectors, but the display possibilities were not a good return on the expense involved. The Town Clerk and BID manager encouraged us to come up with an attraction that would result in photo opportunities, the posting of which would result in good promotion of the town. The club acquired a used circular stage, made a stage, lighting rig and worked with BID to produce a seasonal backdrop. Members of the public could walk on the stage and be lit up ready for their photos, the stage was also used for musical performances including Christina Johnston.



The lighting of the Christmas Tree also had an uplift. Industrial grade LED lights using nearly a kilometre of wire were purchased and installed. The effect was widely appreciated as the Mayor pressed the button on Light Up day.



The trees on the Triangle were decorated with flashing mistletoe balls.



This year the club had to move premises from the Deben school sports hall to a new facility next to FACTS in the Garrison Lane car park . The supply of materials for the Garrison Lane project was separately funded through East Suffolk Council, supported by Felixstowe Town Council. The management and labour involved was provided by the club.

This facility is now up and running and the Deben school sports hall has been vacated. The grant increase for 2024/25 helps with the cost of maintaining and running this facility.

Lions would like to acknowledge BID and many retail and industrial sponsors whose additional financial input is a vital boost to the core grant provided by the Town Council. A copy of Lions Lights Accounts for 2023/24 is attached. The power cost is notable in two ways,

- The consumption is notably larger than previous years due to
 - a) enhancements in the displays,
 - b) more accurate measurement of power consumption and
 - c) a forty percent increase in unit cost.
- Despite persistent efforts, the power provider EDF has not responded to our requests for an invoice.