**Scaffolding at the Town Hall January – March/April 2023**

Scaffolding has been erected at Felixstowe Town Hall and will be here a couple of months while the windows at the front of the building and the Council Chamber are being refurbished, with new low-thermal conductivity glazing, sympathetic to the heritage of the building.

At times, this may impact the accessibility of the Town Hall, however, disabled access through the side-entrance will not be affected by the scaffolding.

With Council’s Climate Emergency Declaration in mind, a new, recently developed type of glass called Fineo has been chosen which has the lowest thermal transmittance of 0.7 w/m2.k. Fineo glass is a vacuum-insulated double-glazed unit. The gap between two glass panes is insulated by a vacuum which is why it offers such low thermal conductivity, and the narrowness of the glass means that it can fit into the existing windows once they have been refurbished. The new windows will have a knock-on effect for reduced energy usage and heating bills in the Town Hall, meaning that the money can therefore be better invested elsewhere across Felixstowe Town Council’s services.

Using a product that rated high for energy efficiency was very important to the Council as well as respecting the heritage of the building which is in a conservation area. The wooden frames are being refurbished depending on their existing condition, some parts of the windows which are rotten will require replacement sections due to their condition. The existing springs, some of which are failing, will be replaced with new traditional sash cords and weights.

It is hoped that the work, which should take approximately 8 weeks, will commence on 18 January 2023. All hirers and wedding couples who have booked a room for the first four months of the year have already been informed that scaffolding is likely to be in place for 8-12 weeks whilst this work is taking place. At times, this may impact the accessibility of the Town Hall, however the disabled access is being kept accessible throughout.

If you have any questions regarding the work, please email enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk