

# **Felixstowe Youth Forum**

**Felixstowe Town Hall, Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024 from  
4pm-5pm.**

## **Minutes**

### **1. Introductions:**

Colneis Junior School  
Grange Community Primary School  
Trimley St Mary Primary School  
Margaret Morris – Felixstowe Town Councillor  
Debbie Frost – Felixstowe Town Council, Deputy Town Clerk  
Sue Faversham – Felixstowe Town Council, Civic Events Officer

### **2. Apologies:**

Level 2  
Kingsfleet Primary School  
St Felix Primary  
Langer Primary Academy  
Felixstowe School  
Bernard Price – Felixstowe Town Councillor  
Darren Aitchison – Felixstowe Town Councillor

### **3. Fairtrade**

Alan Muchal spoke about Fairtrade and Felixstowe is a Fairtrade town and showed the Fairtrade logo that should be looked out for when shopping. He invited schools to look at the website [www.suffolkfairtrade.org.uk](http://www.suffolkfairtrade.org.uk) click the schools tab, where there are videos to watch. Fairtrade Felixstowe did a project which linked up to Patrick Kaberia, and Alan showed a poster. Patrick last visited 8 years ago. Alan shared some exciting news, that Patrick is going to visit Suffolk again in September, and will be visiting Felixstowe on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September and you can meet him at the Library between 10 – 12 noon.

A video is being produced by young people for young people, by St John Lemon School, Beccles and Trimley St Mary have agreed to act as a partner locally. The idea is that short clips are made from local schools and will put together by St John Lemon and delivered to the school's networks. Alan asked for Youth Forum support and asked for ideas of what the video should look like.

Alan asked if there were any questions.

Trimley St Mary asked “When was Fairtrade founded?” 30 years ago.

We have been a fairtrade town for 15 years.

The schools broke into groups to discuss ideas for the video

Colneis thought it would be good to have fun facts to make it intriguing. For example a banana and how many pence the grower makes. It would be fun if someone dressed up as a banana told us the fun facts.

Introducing more people like Patrick. Patrick is coming on his own but may be able to video people on the farm and how their lives have changed. Patrick has 4 children, so it would be good to find out what Fairtrade has meant to them.

Bright colours at the beginning will bring attention to the video.

Fairtrade do have an Instagram account and are on X formally known as twitter. They are not on Tick Tock yet.

Alan says that there is a meeting tomorrow and after that meeting they will let Youth Forum know what the timescale is. Preliminary talks with Trimley St Mary is that year 6 could work on it and it would be a nice activity after sats.

Lots of fun and humour would be good. Fairtrade Ted does stick in the mind.

Apart from Chocolate and tea what is fairtrade, tea, coffee, bananas, cocoa, wine there are also things like honey, olive oil. Mainly from developing countries which are hot.

The video could say how the food is produced, especially chocolate.

There is also a political thing about this ie the role of women and girls who are often overlooked in managing these things and the importance of the environment which is a big concern regarding climate change.

Trimley St Mary would be interested in a video showing of Patrick’s life and the impact of Fairtrade. They would be interested in a video of growing up getting paid a fair trade wage compared to growing up somewhere where there is no fairtrade. Also how local people feel who live near the Fairtrade farm. They would be interested in how fairtrade helps globally and around the globe. For example people playing football and how that may bring different people together.

There are fairtrade footballs made in Pakistan and there is a video about them. You should be able to find that via google.

#### **4. Reports from Schools**

## **Colneis Junior School**

Firstly we would like to say thank you for our garden grant. Mrs Churchyard, our outdoor learning teacher, is in the process of choosing some benches with big square plant pots either side. She thinks we'll be able to buy two and some bulbs to plant in them. We look forward to showing you some photos at our next meeting.

We would like to share, that the day after our last meeting, we had 6 sixth formers from Felixstowe School help out at our school for their community day. They listened to children read in Year 3; helped some of our children, with SEN, develop their communication skills by playing games; supported our sports coaches at lunchtime and worked with the eco warriors and carried out 'moving up to high School' sessions with year 6.

They supported the eco warriors by helping plant two apple trees and two pear trees in our wildlife area – the sixth form students were very kind and supportive. When they carried out the 'high School' session with the year 6 children, they were very informative. They made us all feel happy and excited about moving up to high school by answering all of our questions and giving us top tips about how to get the most out of our education.(look at Felixstowe School)We would like to say a huge thank you to Felixstowe school sixth form department.

At the beginning of this term, we had house meetings, where a new set of Year 6 children were able to stand to be house captains and represent their houses for the rest of the year. I am proud to say I gave a successful speech and was voted as Nightingales house captain. I've already carried out one of my responsibilities by announcing house points in assembly.

Last week, all of the children in Year 6 had the opportunity to audition to be in our school pantomime. We will be putting on a performance of Aladdin at the end of the school year. Madeline is a gem in the cave scene, Flo is one of the Genie's backing singer Wishes and I am very pleased to be playing the part of Abanazar.

Children from Colneis have attended many sporting events lately. Our school attended the royal Hospital School for cross country and did very well. The Colneis' girls came 8<sup>th</sup> out of 30 schools and the Colneis' boys won overall. We have attended cricket competitions and other sports. A group of girls attended a futsal tournament and we are proud to share that we came second and will be going to the county finals this Friday. We have many more competitions coming up.

We have lots of after school clubs that started again this term. I attend musical theatre and love it> We are learning a dance from Grease and two other dances to perform at the end of the term at the Felixstowe School.

We have our SATs coming up very soon. Although some e children are a little worried about them, we are trying to keep calm and see it as an opportunity to show off everything we have learnt at school. We are looking forward to Year 6 only being able to come into school for per-SATs breakfast where we will get to taste what past students have described as' the best jam on toast in the work!!! We also get to have a sweet or biscuit after each test.

### **Trimley St Mary Primary School**

We wanted to thank the Town Council again for the garden vouchers. Trimley school has started to choose plants from a local garden centre to fit with our red, white and blue theme. This links to Olympc learning in Years 3 and 4.

To go with the plant display, our Bramblewood outdoor learning group are making some Olympic rings from willow. The diversity group, which is representatives from every year group who meet each fortnight and consider how to make school activities as inclusive as possible for everyone, have planned the willow designs.

Trimley St Mary School recently re-named classes after trees. Two weeks ago, years 3 and 4 went to the Farm Fair at Suffolk Showground. They were able to take home Maple and Birch trees, the names of two of their classes, and these year groups will vote to decide where the new trees will be planted. They will also be responsible for looking after their trees.

We have had links with Fair Trade for a long time. This year we are linking up with the Sir John Lenon High school to make a video highlighting Fairtrade across Suffolk. Trimley St Mary will be presenting primary-aged children's learning and understanding of Fairtrade. This is something we look at in detail as part of our rainforest learning topic.

As the weather improves, lots more learning is happening outside the classroom. We have had guided reading sessions, angles learning where we drew with chalk and art where we worked on the outdoor benches. We have modelled rotating and orbiting planets and conducted science experiments on reversible and irreversible changes. At the end of last term Year 5 and 6 had easter gg hunts where we worked in our house teams to find all of our coloured eggs.

## **Grange Primary School**

Since the last Youth Forum meeting, our eco club has invested in some compost caddie bins. Any fruit or vegetable snack waste is put in them at playtimes and placed on our ever growing compost heap ready for spring planting next year. We can't wait to grow our own plants from our very own home grown compost!

Year 3 were invited to attend the free Suffolk Farm and Country Fair at Trinity Park. Luckily it was a dry, but cold day. They enjoyed learning about where local food comes from, seeing locally reared animals with their cute babies, checking out the latest farm machinery, watching sheep sheering and dancing as well as safety talks from emergency services. We were really grateful to the Suffolk Show team for running such an amazing free event for local children across the country.

Between 11<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March we took part in the Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel – the UK's biggest walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling event. We look forward to finding out our placement and hope beat our score next year!

From Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May parents have been invited to attend a free 5 week Science investigation course at Grange. It will help families find opportunities to investigate questions, observe Changes and record information and draw conclusion from exciting Science activities. Investigations include light and sound, floating and sinking, as well as making devices to measure or record information about the weather.

We are all looking forward to an exciting summer term at Grange with lots of school trips including trips to Landguard Fort, Colchester Castle as well as Duxford to name a few. Sport week will be taking place in the middle of June which is always a highlight of the school calendar, as well as the annual Arts festival which always results in creating a whole school piece of artwork. We will also celebrate Bastille Day in July, we started this new tradition last year. Food tasting was particularly popular last year so we can't wait to see what other French cuisine we can enjoy this time around!

## **Felixstowe School**

At Felixstowe School, we plan to use the vouchers to improve the area of planting outside our school's entrance. We have one large border which is walked past by almost 2,000 people every day.

This was planted up a few years ago, but could do with some additional planting an extra colour. We hope that this will bring a smile to people's faces as they arrive and leave our school building, and make the frontage of our school a more

cheerful entrance for all humans, bees and butterflies! Students will be involved in designing, planting and maintaining the space.

## **5. Felixstowe Town Council**

Cllr Margaret Morris spoke how pleased she was to hear all that the schools were doing it was very interesting and of great variety.

It is good to hear that the vouchers and grants are being used to improve the outdoor spaces. Debbie thanked those schools who sent in photos of their existing outside space which went on display at the launch of Love Green Felixstowe which took place on 20<sup>th</sup> April at the Triangle. It was also the launch of Edible Felixstowe. Debbie explained the concept of Edible Felixstowe was to grow fruit, vegetables and herbs in prominent places with the help of volunteers, and anyone was entitled to pick the fruit. If any children are interested in participating they should ask an adult to contact Edible Felixstowe to arrange. Edible Felixstowe are meeting regularly and will be planting up the area where the Christmas tree normally is with herbs. These will be removed in December for the planting of the Christmas tree. It is also hoped that they will be allowed to plant up the area beside the library. They meet on Thursday evenings between 5 – 7pm, a flyer will be sent out by email to schools.

Debbie Frost gave thanks to both the Trimley Parish Councils who have paid for the garden vouchers. This means that once received, Youth Forum will have £1,390 to spend for the year 2024/25. Schools should think about ideas of how to spend the money, and bring these ideas to the next meeting. Love Green Felixstowe are hoping to have a day or weekend in early September where they are promoting environmental ideas.

Sue spoke about Felixstowe in Flower, compost bags will be going to schools shortly for their environmental projects, there are painting competitions and sunflower growing competitions.

## **6. Date of next meeting - Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July, 4-5pm.**

To be chaired by Grange Primary School.