

Felixstowe Lions Schools Garden Projects – Progress Report. January to March 2025

Purpose:

Three local primary schools had approached Felixstowe Lions asking for help to clear and tidy their school gardens which had become overgrown and, in some cases, unsafe.

Plan:

Discussions took place with each of the schools at the end of 2024 to determine what was needed to be done and whether the Lions could help and how any improvements could be funded.

St Felix required the existing garden to be cleared and tidied and new planters built that would enable the children to learn about plants and gardening.

Grange Primary required their garden to be cleared and tidied and their wildlife pond to be rebuilt as the existing pond had a leak.

Langer Primary required the garden to be cleared and tidied and an existing storage shed replaced. The head and governors had also prepared an outline plan to not only restore the existing planters but to make some of the garden more sensory for their children with special needs. They wished for the garden to reflect the place where the children live, with a beach and a beach hut (learning space). They also wish to open up the space to the local community.

Felixstowe Lions Activities.

The Lions applied for a grant from FTC to help fund the purchase of materials. The Lions have provided all the labour from their volunteers.

St Felix. A team of Lions cleared and tidied the gardens and built 2 new planters. The costs of timber was funded entirely by the Felixstowe Rotary Club. Discussions are ongoing with the school as they wish to have further planters built and installed.

Grange Primary. The garden was cleared and tidied and the pond rebuilt. Just under half of the FTC grant (£230) was used to purchase the material to re-build and restore the pond. Before and after photos are shown below



Langer Primary School. An overall schematic plan for the garden space had been prepared by the school. It was felt that to complete the plan the project would need to be split into several phases. Each phase would be planned and funding obtained to cover the costs of material. Phase 1 is in progress. Agreement has been reached to use charity funds from the Lions, Rotary Club and the remainder of the FTC grant to complete Phase 1. Phase 1 requires the Lions to build a beach area, provide a new garden learning space in the form of a beach hut and replace the existing storage shed. Additional help from the community helped to clear the planters.

