



#### **482. CIVIC & COMMUNITY BUDGET REPORT**

The Committee considered a summary and detailed report showing income and expenditure against the budget as at 31 March 2026. It was noted that these were not final figures for the year as they were subject to adjustments at year-end.

**It was RESOLVED that the Budget Report to 31 March 2026 be received and noted with no further action required at this time.**

#### **483. ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AND CIVIC AWARDS 2026**

Committee noted that the Annual Town Meeting will be hosted on Thursday 14 May, though the meeting is usually hosted on a Wednesday, this is due to the unavailability of the venue.

Committee noted that the winners of the 2026 Mayor's Civic Awards had been chosen and that the Awards are to be presented at the Annual Town Meeting.

Committee noted plans for Felixstowe Harmonies to sing 'A Song for Felixstowe' at the Annual Town Meeting.

At this meeting members of the public are able to ask questions and these questions will be minuted.

**It was RESOLVED that the report on the Annual Town Meeting and Civic Awards 2026 be noted.**

**At this point, Cllr Bennett joined the meeting.**

#### **484. FELIXSTOWE IN FLOWER 2026**

The Committee noted that the baskets had been delivered to Katie's Garden to be planted up for Felixstowe in Flower 2026 and that the Launch Event had been scheduled for Felixstowe Triangle for 6 June 2026.

Committee noted potential venues for the Awards Ceremony, including Sea You, Felixstowe Fery Golf Club, Felixstowe Fery Sailing Club, and the Felixstowe Lawn Tennis Club as potential future venues to host the event.

Cllr Candy raised reports of dissatisfaction with the plot at the Felixstowe Triangle cared for by Edible Felixstowe. It was suggested that some more aesthetically pleasing edible produce or longer lasting produce may be planted there in the future.

**It was RESOLVED that the report on Felixstowe in Flower be noted.**

#### **485. ANNUAL GRANTS AND OTHER PAYMENTS**

It was RESOLVED that payment of the following Annual Grants and other payments for the year 2025/26 be approved:

i. £8,000 towards the provision of the 2025 Christmas lights to the Lions Club of Felixstowe.

ii. Annual Grants:

Art on the Prom	£3,000
Citizen's Advice	£3,000
FACTS	£2,500
Fairtrade Forum	£45
Felixstowe Book Festival	£2,000
Felixstowe Carnival	£7,000
Felixstowe Council for Sport and Recreation	£300
Felixstowe Coast Patrol	£2,000
Landguard Fort Trust	£1,000
Royal British Legion	£300
Salzwedel Twinning Association	£200
WAMFest	£3,000
Wesel Twinning Assoc.	£200
<b>Total</b>	<b>£24,545</b>

iii. As Partnership Projects:

Level Two	£10,000
Harwich Harbour Ferry Services Partnership	£1,000

**Total** **£11,000**

#### **486. MAYOR'S CADET POLICY**

The Committee reviewed the Mayor's Cadet Policy.

Cllr Franklin reported positive feedback from several organisations that the Mayor's Cadet being a good addition to civic life with youth representation.

The following amendments were agreed as follows:

- Remove: beginning with the Royal Air Force Air Cadets (RAFAC) – 356 (Felixstowe) Squadron.
  - Other cadet forces wishing to participate in future years may apply for consideration.

- Top of Page 2 Reword: The Town Council will liaise with the Commanding Officer or other relevant representatives to arrange the Mayor's Cadet's attendance at civic events.

It was suggested that a meeting be held with the outgoing Mayor's Cadet, the Commander and the Sea Cadets to give them an opportunity to review the policy.

**RESOLVED that the Mayor's Cadet Policy for 2026/27 be adopted.**

**487. VE DAY 2026**

Committee noted the report on VE Day 2026.

It was noted that the count for the SCC Elections may mean some Councillors will not be able to attend the events to mark VE Day.

**It was RESOLVED that the report on VE Day 2026 be noted.**

**488. FELIXSTOWE BID – BALLOT OUTCOME**

Committee noted that the Felixstowe BID was not successful at the ballot. Members raised concerns about the future of the gazebos, the Love Felixstowe and Visit Felixstowe brands and the maintenance of the associated social media pages.

This was noted alongside concerns about the new unitary authority structure, which will mean Felixstowe is the only coastal town within the designated Greater Ipswich region.

It was noted that concerns had been raised with East Suffolk Council as a matter of priority. The Clerk will report back to Council on the future concerning the Felixstowe BID and any successor organisations.

**It was RESOLVED that the report on the Felixstowe BID – Ballot Outcome be noted.**

**489. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY 2026-27**

Committee reviewed the Council's Community Engagement Strategy, as presented, for the year 2026/27.

**RESOLVED that the Community Engagement Strategy be recommended to Council for adoption for 2026/27.**

**490. UK TOWN OF CULTURE 2028: SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

Members thanked the Officers involved and the Steering Group for writing and submitting the Expression of Interest. It was noted that the legacy of the UK Town of Culture competition would be more than the submission itself.

Members expressed a desire to publish the Expression of Interest so that the work may be used by other community groups and organisations and used to apply for future funding when available.

**It was RESOLVED that :**

- i. the successful submission of the Town of Culture Expression of Interest to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) by the deadline of 31 March 2026 be noted;**
- ii. thanks be recorded to the cross-sector Steering Group for its role in narrative validation and quality assurance; and,**
- iii. the ongoing role of the Town Council as the Accountable Body for the bid be endorsed.**

#### **491. CCTV UPDATE**

Members were very pleased to note the increased number of CCTV Cameras, now totalling 39 units. Members noted that the units should be installed by the end of June.

Members gave thanks to the longstanding efforts of the Felixstowe Town Council CCTV Working Group in achieving this outcome.

Members suggested that a collaborative, positive communications strategy between East Suffolk Council and the Town Council be adopted to introduce the new CCTV provision, including social media and the Town Council's magazine.

**It was RESOLVED that :**

- i. the update report on East Suffolk Council's Cabinet approval of the CCTV upgrade project be noted; and,**
- ii. acknowledgement be made of the Town Council's CCTV Working Group, Civic and Community Committee and Full Council in supporting this outcome.**

#### **492. CLOSURE**

The meeting was closed at 20.57. It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 10 June 2026 at 7.30pm.

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_