



## **FELIXSTOWE TOWN COUNCIL - YOUTH FORUM**

### **Felixstowe Town Hall**

**Wednesday 1 October from 4pm-5pm**

### **MINUTES**

#### **1. Introductions**

The Mayor of Felixstowe, Cllr Corrine Franklin, welcomed all attendees and opened the meeting. Representatives from Trimley St Mary Primary School, Grange Primary School, Colneis Junior School, Felixstowe School, and Level Two Youth Project introduced themselves.

The meeting was Chaired by Felixstowe School.

#### **2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Wendy Underwood, Cllr Bernard Price, and Cllr Darren Aitchison.

#### **4. Questions for the Mayor**

The Mayor spoke about the responsibilities of the role and the importance of civic involvement in the local community.

Attendees were given the opportunity to ask the Mayor of Felixstowe questions about the role.

## **5. School Presentations**

Each attending school was given 5 minutes to present on the school year so far and the highlights of their curriculum. Ideas for the use of the Youth Forum budget were also proposed.

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

- Shared details of their school exercise fundraiser.
- Currently learning about Fairtrade and global farming.
- Supporting the upcoming Fairtrade Family Fun Day at Felixstowe Library.
- Planning to open a 'Cosy Cocoon' area for reading and lunchtime play.
- Expressed interest in park upgrades and raised concerns about littering.

### **Grange Primary School**

- Celebrated their 50th anniversary with a party featuring food stalls, cupcake making, and balloon colouring.
- Provided an overview of continuing improvements to their Memory Garden.

### **Level Two Youth Project**

- Gave an overview of the facilities and the role of Youth Ambassadors.
- Promoted Jam Sessions using the music studio, including karaoke.
- Shared details of Saturday drama sessions for young people aged 10–16.

### **Colneis Junior School**

- Introduced School Council and House Captains.
- Shared highlights from a recent residential trip to Bawdsey Manor.
- Eco Warriors produced a Fairtrade video to promote sustainability.
- Hosted a book and craft fair, raising funds for a mud kitchen and ninja course.
- Wrote and illustrated a book about protecting coastal wildlife.

### **Felixstowe School**

- Discussed recent trips and the introduction of a phone ban across the school.

- Shared volunteering experiences in Panama and ambitions to visit Thailand in future.

## **6. Youth Forum Budget – Project Ideas**

Attending schools discussed potential ideas and topics for future Youth Forum meetings. Each group took 5 minutes to feed their ideas back to the group.

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

- Suggested using part of the budget to support wildlife resources in areas affected by new housing developments.

### **Level Two Youth Project:**

- Proposed organising a 'Big Day of Events' in the events area, featuring games, races, face painting, family film screenings, and live music.

### **Colneis Junior School:**

- Suggested installing bug hotels and bird tables around Felixstowe, and creating intergenerational projects with care home residents.
- Proposed a Youth Forum carnival float for future community events.

### **Grange School:**

- Suggested increasing the number of bins in town.
- Suggested providing more benches in parks.
- Suggested creating new spaces for wildlife around Felixstowe.

## **7. Any Other Business**

It was suggested that a wildlife or environmental specialist, such as a representative from Suffolk Wildlife Trust, be invited to a future meeting to speak about how to encourage biodiversity.

Members expressed interest in using future sessions for practical projects, such as building wildlife hotels or collaborative art activities.

It was suggested that the Communications Officer investigate opportunities for the Youth Forum to discuss government funding for Western Felixstowe.

## **8. Date of Next Meeting**

The dates for the following Youth Forum Meetings were confirmed as:

- **Wednesday 19 November 2025**
- **Wednesday 21 January 2026**
- **Wednesday 18 March 2026**
- **Wednesday 20 May 2026**
- **Wednesday 8 July 2026**