



FELIXSTOWE TOWN COUNCIL - YOUTH FORUM

Felixstowe Town Hall

Wednesday 18 March 2026 from 4pm-5pm

MINUTES

1. Introductions

All attendees introduced themselves, stating their name and the school they represented.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Bernard Price, Cllr Wendy Underwood, Cllr Darren Aitchison and representatives from Trimley St Mary Primary School.

3. UK Town of Culture Competition 2028

The Youth Forum considered Felixstowe Town Council's proposed Expression of Interest for the UK Town of Culture Competition 2028.

Representatives shared feedback gathered from their respective school communities in response to a series of questions relating to the bid.

With regard to what an ideal day or weekend in Felixstowe would look like for young people, attendees indicated that they particularly valued spending time at the beach, visiting the arcades and making use of Felixstowe's parks and green spaces.

When considering additional activities and attractions that could encourage more young people to socialise in Felixstowe, attendees noted that they often travelled outside the town to access a wider range of shops and leisure activities. Teenagers highlighted the limited retail offer available locally, whilst younger children referred to activities such as Clip 'n Climb as examples of attractions they currently travel elsewhere to access. It was suggested that additional facilities and opportunities reflecting these interests would be welcomed.

In discussing challenges that make spending time in Felixstowe less appealing, attendees commented that there were limited opportunities for young people to spend time together without needing to spend money. The availability of more free and accessible spaces and activities was identified as an area for improvement.

When asked to suggest a flagship activity, installation or event that could attract young people to Felixstowe as part of a successful Town of Culture 2028 programme, attendees proposed a food festival celebrating a variety of cultures and cuisines. Members felt that such an event would be inclusive, engaging and provide opportunities for young people to become actively involved. Attendees also expressed support for an increased programme of free, family-friendly activities across the town.

4. Youth Forum Project

Each school provided an update on the items requested through the project, their proposed locations and the anticipated benefits for pupils and the wider school community.

Attendees received the requested items and assembled them in preparation for installation within their school grounds. Members discussed how the items would be used and the positive impact they were expected to have on outdoor spaces and pupil engagement.

5. Any Other Business

The Forum discussed the future development of the Youth Forum project and considered priorities for the next meeting.

Attendees suggested that they would enjoy participating in a creative session, potentially involving art or a similar activity. Members also expressed a desire to review and consolidate the work undertaken through the Youth Forum Project, including sharing the actions taken within their schools and reflecting on the outcomes achieved.

6. Next Meeting Dates

The following meeting dates were noted:

- Wednesday 20 May 2026
- Wednesday 8 July 2026

The meeting closed at 5.00pm.