



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

### **Felixstowe Town Hall**

**Wednesday 20 May 2026 from 4pm-5pm**

### **MINUTES**

#### **1. Introductions**

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

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

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Darren Aitchison, Cllr Bernard Price, Cllr Wendy Underwood, and representatives from Felixstowe International College and Colneis Junior School.

#### **3. The Future of Martello Tower P**

The Youth Forum welcomed Sarah Court, who is working on behalf of East Suffolk Council to support engagement on the future of Martello Tower P.

Attendees were invited to consider the following questions:

- What would make you care about Martello Tower P?
- What do you think is missing for children and young people in Felixstowe, and could Martello Tower P help to fill that gap?

Members discussed what would encourage young people and families to engage with Martello Tower P and explored a range of facilities, activities and opportunities that could increase its relevance to the local community.

Suggestions included:

- A museum showcasing the history of the site and the local area.
- A light show projected onto the exterior of the building.
- A treasure hunt or trail linked to the Martello Tower.
- Activities focused on wildlife, the natural environment and the coastal area between Landguard Fort and Martello Tower P.



Sarah thanked members for their contributions and advised that the feedback would help inform the ongoing development of proposals for the site.

#### **4. Report on Species and Habitats in Schools**

Representatives from each school provided updates on the species and habitats identified within their school grounds.

Schools reported on observations recorded within their notebooks, including written entries, sketches and photographs. Members shared examples of wildlife sightings and reflected on the biodiversity present within their school environments.

#### **5. Reflection and Mapping Exercise**

Students participated in a discussion comparing findings from their respective schools.

The group considered similarities and differences between habitats across school grounds and explored how their observations could contribute to a wider mapping exercise. Members reflected on the value of recording species data and increasing awareness of local biodiversity.

#### **6. Any Other Business**

The Forum discussed arrangements for the final meeting of the academic year and considered how the project should be concluded.

Attendees reiterated their wish for the Youth Forum to conclude with a creative session and expressed an interest in presenting the findings from the year's work to the incoming Mayor of Felixstowe for the 2026/27 municipal year.

It was agreed that the final session would provide an opportunity to reflect on the achievements of the project and celebrate the contributions made by participants throughout the year.

#### **7. Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting of the Youth Forum will take place on:

- Wednesday 8 July 2026

The meeting closed at 5.00pm.