



# Felixstowe Beach Hut & Chalet Association

Website: [www.felixstowehutschalets.co.uk](http://www.felixstowehutschalets.co.uk)

E-mail: [felixstowehutschalets@gmail.com](mailto:felixstowehutschalets@gmail.com)

Correspondence Address: Fells Cottage, 72 Ferry Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 9LU

Tel: 01394 274331 (Treasurer)

## NEWSLETTER No 14

---

### ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Association AGM will be held on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm at the Trades and Labour Club in Walton**. In addition to the usual business of an AGM, insurance companies, Love Your Hut and Ryan's, will have representatives there to allow you to discuss any insurance needs you may have in respect of your beach hut or chalet. We hope that Townergate will also attend.

You can ask any questions of your Committee and we will also update you on our finances. We hope as many members as possible will be able to attend.

You will be able to renew your membership at the AGM.

\*\*\*\*\*

### PROBLEMS WITH THE BEACH

Two storms in March – 'Storm Emma' and 'The Beast from the East' – created havoc with the state of the beach this year, particularly from the Spa Pavilion to the Pier, with much of the sand and shingle being swept out to sea. So much so that it has become impossible for the majority of huts to be returned to their usual summer positions. Owners were told by Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC) that their huts would not be allowed to remain on the promenade and would be moved to grass areas further south along the sea front, known as the 'Trim Trail' and the 'Volleyball Court'.

As a result, members contacted the Association to seek our help so we hastily arranged a meeting at the Golf Club which was attended by about 30 people. They told us of their concerns and we then arranged a meeting between three of our Committee and two officials of SCDC. Consequently they agreed to meet with the owners of the 63 affected huts at Felixstowe Town Hall. Over 40 people attended this meeting and were pleased to receive the news that SCDC had come up with a plan to leave the huts on the promenade for the summer, but they were to be turned sideways to the sea, back to back in pairs, with room to sit in front of each hut. It is, however, just a temporary solution to the problem but it gives SCDC several months to come up with a permanent solution, assuming that the beach will not recover in the near future.

What the eventual outcome will be remains to be seen. We will be keeping in touch with SCDC to ensure that our members are updated as soon as any decisions are made, and that their views are taken into consideration.

## CHEQUE PRESENTATION

You will remember that our Committee member, Joy Reeve, won the prestigious award of 'Beach Hut of the Year 2017', presented by Towergate Insurance, and as a result our Association was given £500 in addition to Joy's prize.

One of the reasons Joy won was because she and her good friend, Karen Kenny, run an 'Occasional Café' at her hut - 'Grandma's Little House' at Manor End - every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning throughout the winter when they sell teas, coffees, homemade cakes etc. and donate all the proceeds to charity. This year their charity has been 'Alzheimer's Research UK' and they raised a massive **£2178**.

Our Committee agreed that we would like to donate our £500 to a local charity and, in view of Joy's choice of charity, we decided to give the money the Felixstowe Dementia Action Alliance (FDAA), which has recently been formed.

So, in mid-May, Joy and Karen opened the café in order to present the cheques to the charities. Holly from 'Alzheimer Research UK' and David Button from FDAA came along to receive the cheques. You will see from the photo that the cheque for 'Alzheimer's Research UK' was considerably bigger than the cheque for FDAA - in more ways than one!



Pictured from left: Helen Greengrass (FDAA), Trevor Mason (FBHCA Treasurer), David Button (Chairman of FDAA), Joy Reeve, Karen Kenny and Holly (Alzheimer's Research UK) plus some passers-by who dropped in for a coffee.

## **DATA PROTECTION**

You may well have seen that new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) came into effect on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Every business and organisation has to comply with GDPR and our Association is no different. The Regulations are designed to ensure that you have control of who keeps your personal details and how you are contacted.

When we offer you the opportunity to renew your annual membership of the Association you will be asked to give your permission for us to retain the personal information you provide to us, by way of your name, address, telephone number(s) and email address (if you have one) and we will ensure that we only contact you about matters relevant to beach huts and chalets. We never pass your details to any outside organisation without your permission.

Our application forms for new members will now carry that information and, if you chose to renew your membership, by doing so you will give us the authority to hold your details.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **REFURBISHMENT OF THE TOILETS AT 'THE DIP'**

We had been hoping that the long awaited refurbishment of the toilets at 'The Dip' would have started by now. This has been promised for some time and we had hoped that it would have been carried out before the start of the season. When it eventually starts there will be 'portaloos' provided while the work is taking place.

We have also reported problems with one of the drains at a tap in 'The Dip', but we are told it is not an easy problem to solve. We eagerly await information as to how the matter will be resolved.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **DOGS**

The issue of dogs on the beach is one that polarises opinions so we decline to express an opinion on behalf of our members, but there is a matter relating to dogs which we ask members to bear in mind. We have been made aware of an accident recently when a member was injured when she tripped over a dog lead when a dog was tied up at a hut. Please bear this in mind if you take your pet to your hut and make sure both the dog and members of the public are safe.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **MORE ADVERSE EFFECTS FROM THE STORMS**

As well as the problems with the beach referred to earlier, other storms this year have caused huts to be moved from their positions on the prom. Unfortunately owners had to bear the cost putting them back. There are a few photos on the next page of what happened.



