



# Felixstowe Beach Hut & Chalet Association

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## NEWSLETTER No 2

October 2013

Dear Members,

Two members of our Committee have recently had a meeting with members of staff of Suffolk Coastal District Council (not Councillors) and the Director of Suffolk Coastal Services who are the company contracted to the District Council to carry out maintenance work etc. It was a productive meeting and the notes we made are enclosed.

Hut owners at Brackenbury Cliffs will be pleased to see that there is an undertaking to keep the Clifftop Car Park open until dusk. A letter has been sent to Suffolk Coastal to ask that immediate action is taken to provide funds to repair the soak away at the tap close to the chalets at Bath Hill and also to deal with the steep slope that has appeared in front of the huts at the Spa since the sea defence work was carried out. They have been asked to consider a reduction in licence fee and a rebate on this year's fee for these hut owners as the state of the beach has had a detrimental effect of the enjoyment of their huts and a reduction in the saleable value. We can but ask - but don't hold your breath!

We will be meeting with them again early next year and we are also urgently seeking a meeting with Councillors Herring and Holdcroft to discuss, in particular, the fees that will be charged next year as Suffolk Coastal will soon be setting their budget. We will also be asking for some information about the debacle of the sea front gardens where work has completely stopped due to a 'contractual dispute'.

Some of our members appeared on the BBC 1 programme 'Rip Off Britain' which was transmitted on 20<sup>th</sup> September when they were interviewed about the unacceptable increase in rents this year. It was good to get national publicity for our Association. It may even have embarrassed Suffolk Coastal!

On 21st September several members of the Association assisted the Felixstowe Society in a 'Beach Clean' on a section of beach between the Fludyers Arms and the Spa Pavilion, a county-wide day organised by Suffolk Coasts and Heaths on behalf of the Marine Conservation Society. It is hoped that a section of the beach might be allocated to our Association in due course.

A date for your diary - on 2nd December at 7pm will be holding a meeting at the Trades and Labour Club to update members and to answer any questions you may have. There will be refreshments provided and we will have a raffle to raise some funds for the Volunteer Coastal Patrol. We will also be having a Quiz Night in March. We hope to see many of you there.

FBHCA Committee