



DEBEN ALMOST READY

Just weeks away from completion

LOOKING AT LEISURE IN LEISTON

New plans have been submitted

HAVE YOUR SAY ON FELIXSTOWE

Tell us what you want from your leisure centre

This is an exciting time for our leisure redevelopment programme as we are nearing the completion of the first centre and looking forward to starting the next.

Suffolk Coastal are committed to encourage more people to become active and fit. With the impending opening of our first redeveloped leisure centre, we are optimistic about the future wellbeing of our communities.

I am pleased to say that the work on Deben Leisure Centre is going to plan and the facility is on track to be fully open this summer.

Our focus will then shift to Leiston Leisure Centre. We have spent the first part of the year talking to the local community to find out what you want from your new leisure centre and the final plan was submitted in March.

We are currently carrying out

a consultation to find out what the local people want from their leisure centre in Felixstowe. So far, we have had an excellent response with nearly 750 people completing the online survey, so a big thank you to those who have participated.

I would like to remind you that the deadline for taking part is fast approaching, so if you haven't already, I would urge you to have your say now!

It is a busy time but we are always interested in feedback so if you have any comments or want more information about one of the projects, please email the team on leisure@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

*Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf
Cabinet Member for
Customers,
Communities &
Leisure at Suffolk
Coastal*



Deben Leisure Centre almost ready

We are now entering the final weeks of work on Deben Leisure Centre and our operators, Places for People Leisure, are ready to open the Membership Office from mid-April to start the pre-opening sales. This will be located on the site near the Community Hall.

If you want information about membership packages and more, please visit www.debenleisurecentre.co.uk

The building is currently being rendered and will become an iconic blue and terracotta shade in keeping with the buildings surrounding the site.

The new frontage is now watertight and has been fitted with underfloor heating. The pool area has also had a makeover and been retiled, and a new thermal suite has been built.

We are delighted to say that our plan to make the building more energy efficient and install solar panels on the roof has been approved.

The new leisure centre is due to employ up to 70 new staff in various roles, and our operators, Places for People Leisure, are currently recruiting for this exciting new adventure and many new employees will be residents from the Suffolk Coastal District.



SWIFT BOXES BEING INSTALLED AT DEBEN

Our swift population is in decline, so with the support of Edward Jackson, a volunteer from the Save our Swifts campaign, we are installing eight swift boxes on the side of Deben Leisure Centre, including a sound device for calling them during breeding season.

This exciting project has come to life with the support of The Pulse Group, our Leisure Development Partners, who will be championing these in all the leisure projects.

For more information, please see www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/swift

NEW TREES PLANTED IN COMMUNITY

Five new fruit trees have been planted at Peterhouse Crescent to replace the Canadian Maple lost by the Deben redevelopment. Transition Woodbridge is a community-led group who led the tree planting day in January, which was well attended by local school children and their families.

If you want to learn more about the work of Transition Woodbridge, please contact Charlie Zakks on 07834 589 543 or charlie2zakss@gmail.com



Looking at leisure in Leiston

With the publication of the new plans for Leiston Leisure Centre, the Leisure Team spent the early part of this year listening to feedback from the local community.

The overwhelming response from both the public and community/sports groups who use the centre has been positive, with some excellent suggestions and comments. These have, wherever possible, been incorporated into the final planning application, which was submitted in March.

The enhanced facility will be given a new first floor area which will feature a large gym with modern equipment, including zones for cardiovascular, strength and resistance.

Improvements will be made by bringing in high quality village changing rooms by the pool area. These will be family friendly with cubicles for parent and child, have separate changing areas for groups as well as individual changing cubicles and showers.



The reception area will be improved with a coffee shop and a soft play area for children, providing a great view of the pool.

We will also be creating a new health suite. This will be accessible from the pool area and will feature a sauna and steam room, a feature shower and a relaxation area.

The community will be able to access more fitness classes with two new dance studios and a group cycling studio, which will also serve as multi-bookable rooms.

Work is planned to start in autumn, with an initial 4 months closure needed to undertake structural work.

The leisure centre will then partially open to give access to parts of the facility during the work.

Once the business case has been agreed, we will publish further details on the work programme.

To see the plans in details, please go to www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leiston-leisure-centre

Have your say on Felixstowe

Local people are invited to take part in a survey to have their say on how they want leisure to look in Felixstowe



The final stage of the leisure redevelopment programme is to update the leisure facilities in Felixstowe, where there is an opportunity for a destination leisure centre to be built.

No decisions are being made as to the location of the leisure centre at this stage, but we are keen to hear what the community have to say.

Therefore, we are currently doing an online survey and the Leisure Team have been presenting at various places, such as Felixstowe Youth Forum, the Rotary Club and Felixstowe Sports Council AGM, to find out what people want from their local leisure centre.

The survey runs until the end of April and should only take around five minutes to complete.

If you haven't already taken part, you can find it here:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/felixstoweleisurecentre

If you have any comments or suggestions or want more information about one of the leisure redevelopment projects, please email the Leisure Team on leisure@eastsoffolk.gov.uk