

## What's wildlife ever done for us?

Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 9.30am – 13.00pm

Old Felixstowe Community Centre



### Key messages to share with your community

- We have a fabulous diverse natural heritage which includes: wet meadows, marsh, heaths, mature woodland, shingle beaches, open grassland and hedgerows. This supports wonderful, diverse, eye catching species such as the iconic Avocet, Short Eared Owls, Bearded Tits, Brimstone Butterflies, Gaekeeper's, Marsh Harriers, Bittern, Hobby, Water Vole, Chinese Water Deer, Sheep's sorrel and Yellow-Horned poppy.
- Besides being important in its own right wildlife and the habitats it thrives in are increasingly being recognised as vital for:
  - Food production (e.g. pollinators, soil and water quality).
  - Climate adaptation (e.g. reducing flooding of property)
  - Our mental and physical health and well being.
  - Our economy (£1.75billion a year into Suffolk County's economy. Suffolk's two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) alone accounted for £260million a year, £200m of which was generated in the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB).
  - Inspiring creative endeavours, sculpture, painting, architecture
- The key challenges to our wildlife and the habitats it thrives on are:
  - Shifting baseline syndrome: biodiversity losses become generationally accepted as biodiversity's annually reducing baseline becomes the norm
  - Viewing efforts to protect nature and wildlife as barriers to growth rather than recognising the value of that nature and wildlife as part of our prosperity which growth needs to accommodate.

- Increasing demands on resources (e.g. water, land)
  - Increasing coastal erosion and flood risk
  - Increasing severity of non coastal floods
- Felixstowe is a key location for migrating birds, wall lizards and rare plants such as the Sea Kale and Yellow Horned Poppy.

## **We all have a role to play in helping**

1. Taking time to enjoy it ourselves

RSPB Reserves -

<http://www.rspb.org.uk/discoverandenjoynature/seenature/collections/suffolkcoast.aspx>

Suffolk Wildlife Reserves -

<http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/nature-reserves>

English Nature National Nature Reserves-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/suffolks-national-nature-reserves/suffolks-national-nature-reserves>

The Estuaries –

<http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/our-landscape/estuaries/>

Stepping out in Suffolk <https://www.walkingforhealth.org.uk/walkfinder/east-england/suffolk-stepping-out-suffolk>

2. Developing our own understanding and sharing what we learn with others

<http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourdistrict/greenissues/greenprint/>

<http://felixstowedistricts.onesuffolk.net/>

<http://waldringfield.onesuffolk.net/assets/Our-Village/Clubs-and-Societies/Waldringfield-Wildlife-Group/WWG-programme-2016-1.pdf>

[Felixstowe Wildlife Trust](#)

Local Birding Tours: <https://sites.google.com/site/lxndrbass81/homepafge>

Landguard Bird Observatory: <http://www.lbo.org.uk/>

3. Ensuring our own homes, gardens, private and public spaces are as wildlife friendly as possible (please note advice is generic and exact plant species and approaches will depend on your own circumstances)

[www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/gardens](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/gardens)

[www.rspb.org.uk/makeahomeforwildlife/wildlifegarden/](http://www.rspb.org.uk/makeahomeforwildlife/wildlifegarden/)

[www.felixstowecommunitynaturereserve.webs.com](http://www.felixstowecommunitynaturereserve.webs.com)

<http://www.plantlife.org.uk/>

4. Volunteering to help existing organisations/groups

- Felixstowe Seafront Gardens  
<http://www.felixstoweseafrontgardens.org.uk/friends-of-the-gardens>
- Landguard  
<http://www.discoverlandguard.org.uk/volunteering-at-landguard/>
- Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Volunteering  
<http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/volunteering/>
- The Grove and other locations  
<http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourdistrict/countryside/volunteers/>
- Suffolk Wildlife Trust  
<http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/whats-on>

5. Inspiring and challenging others to action through creative pursuits

6. Sharing and responding to surveys, calls for action and support pleas when made.

e.g. Big Garden Bird Watch

<https://ww2.rspb.org.uk/discoverandenjoynature/discoverandlearn/birdwatch>

7. If this is our specialism producing guidance like:

[http://www.essexfieldclub.org.uk/resource/Sea\\_Wall\\_Biodiversity\\_Handbook.pdf](http://www.essexfieldclub.org.uk/resource/Sea_Wall_Biodiversity_Handbook.pdf) – if it is not then sharing the guidance of others.

### **Key outcomes of the event**

- 39 Landguard Partnership Survey Forms returned, which will form a valuable part of a grant bid.
- 17 People expressed interest in being part of a site specific Community Nature Reserve in Felixstowe.

- 9 new members of the East Suffolk Greenprint Forum.

The 20 evaluation responses received show increased awareness of all organisations present/promoted.

	More aware of	Joined/Volunteering/ likely to use
East Suffolk Greenprint Forum	18	1
Landguard Nature Reserve	18	6
Felixstowe Community Nature Reserve – development of a site specific project	17	6
Suffolk Coast and Heaths	17	3
Felixstowe Community Nature Reserve – wildlife gardening	16	5
Felixstowe Seafront Gardens	15	9
Local Birding Tours	15	
Suffolk Coast Greeters	15	2
Felixstowe and District Horticultural Society	14	5
Suffolk Wildlife Trust	13	6
Suffolk Coastal Footprints	12	2
Suffolk Quiet Lanes	12	3
Felixstowe Bird Observatory	11	3
Suffolk Biological Records Centre	11	3
RSPB	4	5

Increased awareness of Waldringfield’s achievements was also captured under other.

To follow up:

- Query on roadside verge spraying in Felixstowe with herbicides – why is it done? Can it be stopped? **Helen**
- Query on community building – recycling of old diffusers and tubes **Daniel**
- Suggestion that OFCH is approached when new funding obtained for thriving community building programme. **Debbie**

## Additional feedback on the event

How did you hear about this event?

- 5 x Felixstowe Forward mail out
- 4 x Greenprint Forum mail out
- 4 x Local media inc Streetlife
- 3 x Felixstowe Community Nature Reserve Facebook/Twitter
- 3 x Direct invitation
- 2 x A friend
- 2 x Suffolk Wildlife Trust mail out
- 1 x Poster
- 0 x Flyer
- 2 x Other (please specify) can't recall, hall administrator.

Please rate the following between 1 to 5 (1 being poor – 5 being excellent)

	5	4	3	2	1
Venue – Audibility	18	7		1	
Venue – Access and Parking	14	5	6	1	
Venue – Layout	17	7	1		
Quality of the talk of the key speaker Alexander	18	6			
Audibility of the talk of the key speaker Alexander	21	5			
Pace of the programme	15	8	3		
Content of the programme	18	6	1		
Content of the stalls	14	11			
Food - quality	21	2	2		

## Other comments

It would have been good to have an agenda

It would have been good to have group discussions i.e. Felixstowe before the end

## Attendees

Number	First name	Surname	Role
1	Adrian	Cooper	Speaker/Stall
2	Alan	Fountain	
3	Alan	Tinline	
4	Alexander	Bass	
6	Andrew	Cassy	Chair
7	Ann	Healey	
8	Betsy	Reid	Speaker
10	Caroll	Wallace	Stallholder
11	Cathy	Smith	Speaker/Stall
13	Chris	Ryde	Speaker/Stall
14	Clive	Axford	
15	Daniel	Wareing	Stallholder
17	Dave	Norman	
18	David	Healey	
19	Debbie	Wargate	Hosting
20	Debbie	Harrold	
21	Doreen	Savage	
23	Gary	Lowe	
24	Graham	Newam	
25	Helen	Greengrass	Hosting
26	Jane	Bolton	
27	Jenny	Carter	
28	Joanna	Southall	
29	John	Grant	
30	Jon	Wilkins	Speaker
32	Linda	Wilkins	Speaker
33	Liz	Mark	
34	Lois	William	
35	Lynda	Skelton	
36	Marian	Stephens	
37	Mary	Swainro	
38	Mary	Halliwell	
39	Marylin	Abdulla	
40	Michael	Friend	
41	Neil	Winship	
42	Patricia	Todd	
43	Paul	Grant	
44	Rachel	Bischoff	
45	Sandra	Smith	
46	Sarah	Hollingham	
47	Tim	Gardiner	
48	Vivien	Thomson	

Apologies from

<b>Number</b>	<b>First name</b>	<b>Surname</b>
1	Carol	Poulter
2	Guy	Ackers
3	Luke	Bennett
4	Nick	Collinson
5	Peter	Ross
6	Phil	Gore
7	Rosalind	Page