WDF

The new beach wheel chairs are in use but it was felt that it could have been better publicised. The idea came from the WDF but sentinel did not mention this in the initial launch of the wheelchairs. The beach wheelchairs will be added to the wheelchair website when it is launched and will mention they are not seasonal but can be used the whole year. They are free to use but a £20 returnable deposit is required. Some felt this was a lot of money and a possible register for their use was mentioned. Vandalism has dropped since a beach (beat) officer has been in place.

The funding for the boardwalk has been granted, unlike the beach huts earlier this year they won’t float away they will be attached to 2mtr pylons sunk in the sand. The should be ready by next summer.

To try to elevate people from camping/sitting on them there will be signage to dissuade this, there is also the beach officer. There will not be a charge (at the moment) for the use of the performance decking the idea was for access to the beach and not to make money. There is also the amount of paper work involved ie insurance etc if a charge was to be made but it will be a work in progress. The beach officer is usually there 8-6 if he is not there a number with his contact details is available on the board.

There has been a task force to stop the fraudulent use of the blue badge, which you can now get for invisible disabilities. There is a new parking manager Lewis Bouderville. At the moment the enforcement officers can only patrol resident zones and council care parks unlike Norfolk who patrol on street parking.
Recently 252 excess charge notices were issued
29 expired blue badges confiscated
9 confiscated for miss use

Lowestoft Town Council (LTC) in the process of changing the signs around the public toilets informing where a radar key can be found. There was a list of all the public toilets being refurbished, which is basically all the toilets handed over to LTC by the then Waveney District council.

There will be an an information day in October, but will be held at Kessingland. It was felt a lot happens in Lowestoft so it is good to include other areas.

A talk was given by East Coast Community Healthcare (ECCH) and Gt Yarmouth and Waveney Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) on how the 4 different primary care areas networks, they are combining services within the areas to include occupational and physio therapist. The idea is to work together more and work as a community to better serve the people in the community. They also commination with hospitals and community teams is essential as they look at hospitalisation as a last resort and keeping people in their own homes if better hence the seeing a physio etc when seeing a Dr for hip or knee pain.

An occupational or physio therapy can go our with the ambos as early intervention to help redirect where people should go for the best help.

Health watch are always keen to get peoples experience and views to try to enhance the service. They will go out and ask people for their experiences in hospitals GP surgeries etc. People can either go on the website to leave their views or complete the cards available by using this information they hope to make chanbes for the better. At present they are looking at care homes and peoples experience in them or visiting relatives in them.

There is a nation shortage of GP’s both recruiting and retaining but it is being looked at locally (Norfolk and Suffolk). You may not always see a GP when you go but you could see a health practitioner, physio or nurse depending on what your symptoms.

There are a leaflets for the over 50’s to stay active and now for the over 70’s as well, some of the activities include Pickle Ball (!?) and walking football.

The next meeting will be based around volunteering and employment. Michael DEA at the Jobcentre stated he will ask an Employment Advisor to attend.

The next meeting is on 26th November at 10:30 at Riverside.