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**News and Views from around the Parish**

**February 2024**

**Issue 338**

Opinions in Outlook are those of the authors of articles, not the editors.

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**Copy deadline for the March 2024 Outlook  
is Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

## **Key dates in Morval Parish**

### **February**

Tue 13: Garden Club Pancake Morning 11am–1pm, Widegates Village Hall

Fri 16: Meet our PCSO, 6–7pm, Widegates Village Hall  
(**see below**)

Fri 23: Family Games Night, 7–9pm, Widegates Village Hall

Wed 28: Garden Club Speaker Jeremy Wilson: The history of tea, 7.30pm, Widegates Village Hall

### **March**

Wed 27: Garden Club Speaker Emma Gunn: Never mind the burdocks + year end AGM, 7.30pm, Widegates Village Hall

Fri 29: Good Friday Coffee morning/Easter Egg Hunt, 47 Morview Road, 10am – 12noon

## **Any questions for our local police team?**

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February our Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Dave Billing and the neighbourhood policing team will be in Widegates Village Hall from 6 – 7pm. This is a valuable opportunity for parishioners to bring up any issues or ask any questions.

## **Can you write a quiz round?**

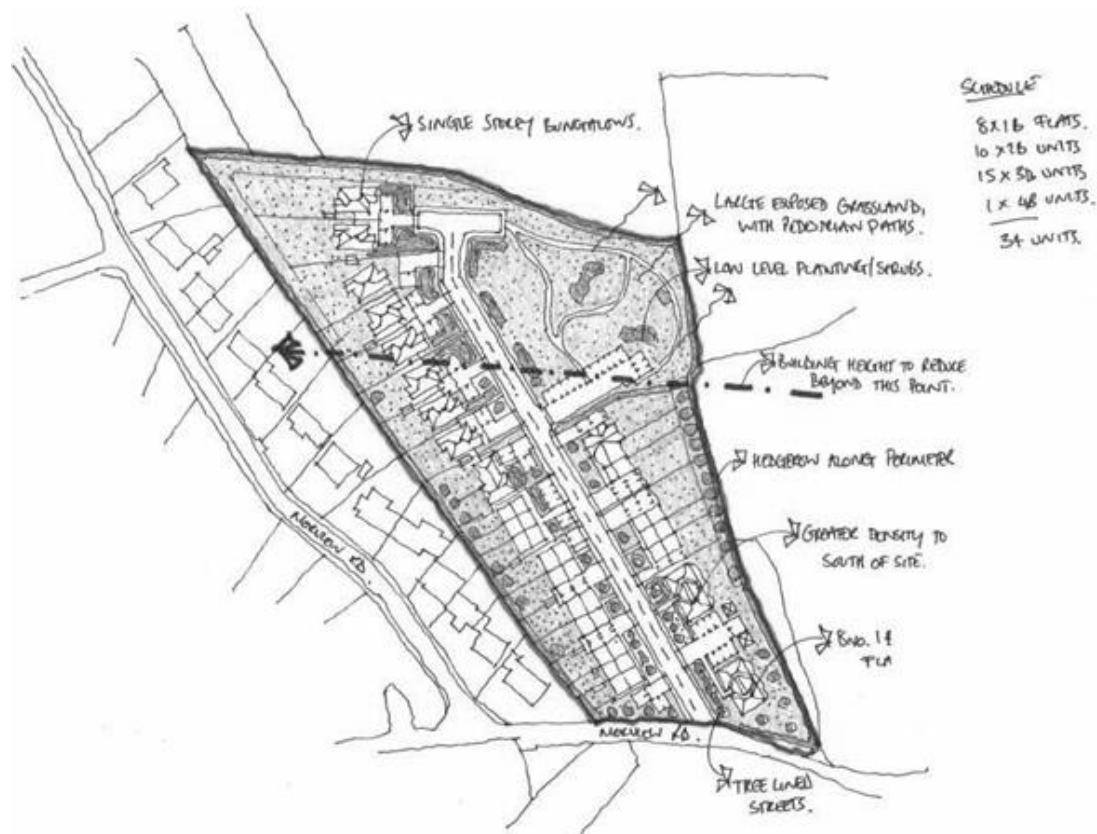
The regular quiz evenings held at Widegates Village Hall are informal, gently competitive in the friendliest way, and, above all, great fun. At the Christmas Quiz, a radical new idea was proposed! For a bit of variety, we are looking for anyone who would like to come up with ten questions (with answers) on a subject that interests them. That person's team would have to sit that particular round out of course, but, if there was a round from each team, it would all be fair. We already have a volunteer to produce a sports round! You don't need to be one of the regular quizzers or quizzees, everyone is welcome. Please get in touch with the hall committee if you would like to join in.

## New Housing Development in Widegates?

As many are already aware, a pre-application has been submitted to Cornwall Council for a development of 34 new homes in Widegates. The proposed site is behind the bungalows on the eastern side of Morview Road, with access from Lydcott Lane, close to the Shortacross junction, and the emphasis, at this stage, is on the provision of some affordable homes.

Those with access to the internet can view the pre-application, PA23/01310/PREAPP, on the Cornwall Council Planning portal: <https://planning.cornwall.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=S4290CFG0JW00>.

This weblink is also offered on the Planning page of the parish website [www.morvalwidegates.weebly.com](http://www.morvalwidegates.weebly.com), which will also provide updates on how to comment.



*The site plan as submitted at the pre-application stage*

At the pre-application stage, online comments cannot be submitted, but, if the proposal progresses to the formal application stage, there will be a 21 day window when comments can be made either for or

against the plans. This is likely to start in mid February. In the meantime, parishioners can email [planning@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:planning@cornwall.gov.uk) and also make their views known to our Parish Councillors, to support them in their deliberations in advance of the formal consultation process. Morval Parish Council is due to meet in Widegates Village Hall at 7pm on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February.



*The hatched area shows the location for the proposed development*

## **Can you help Widegates Village Hall?**

Widegates Village Hall and Reading Room is currently the only community meeting place in the parish. It is run by a small and very hard working committee of volunteers, and supported by its regular users. Hall events include coffee mornings, afternoon teas and lunches, quiz, bingo and family games evenings, and there are regular meetings of Widegates Garden Club, the Thursday afternoon Art Club, and Morval Parish Council. The hall committee has put on some big events over the past year, including the Coronation party and the Christmas lights switch on, both of which also made use of the Village Green, summer and Christmas craft fairs, and a very successful Halloween party. The hall has also been hired by individuals and groups for parties, charity events etc.

*(continued on next page)*

(*continued...*) The committee would warmly welcome new members and supporters as they plan events for 2024. If you have any suggestions for new uses of the hall, if you would like to join the committee, or if you would just like to find out more, please come along to the AGM in March (date to be publicised in next month's Outlook). For those who use Facebook, please also visit "Widegates Reading Room and village hall" where you can see all the events and get in touch.

## **The Churchyard at St Wenna's**

The lower churchyard around St Wenna's church has been closed for some time, which means that no further burials can take place there, and its maintenance is the responsibility of Cornwall Council (though in fact much of this maintenance is undertaken by brilliant and much appreciated volunteers). It is often visited by people from far and wide tracing their family trees, and, with inscriptions dating back to 1743, is a vital part of our local history.

The upper churchyard remains open for burials and interment of ashes, and is therefore a significant facility for the local community. Again, some people travel considerable distances to visit family memorials, so it is important that it is kept in good order and treated with respect. In this regard, those regular church members who deal with the rubbish bins would like to make a plea to locals who visit ~ please use the compost heap on the right hand edge of the churchyard for plant waste, please take anything recyclable home, and please just use the rubbish bins for non compostable and non recyclable waste.

One of our kind volunteers (when transferring the contents of these bins to the bags for the bin-men to collect) has even had to remove a substantial quantity of dog poo from the bins, and **this is really unacceptable and unfair**. Thank you to everyone who helps keep the churchyard beautiful for others.

The Parochial Church Council is responsible for the maintenance of the upper churchyard, and the PCC is very grateful for the continuing financial support of the Parish Council.



**WIDEGATES finally has its dragon's teeth – more than three years after Cornwall Council initially agreed to the Parish Council's request.**

The traffic calming road measures were first suggested by parish councillors in the summer of 2020.

At that time, shortly after the new flashing Vehicle Activate (speed) Sign was installed, the-then Cornwall Highways manager Paul Allen told (former) parish council clerk Rob Larter: "As you are aware the Community Network Panel scheme is to move the existing speed limit out slightly and to install new dragons teeth road markings, which will all help reduce speeds and improve driver awareness."

And, just like the old saying about buses, you wait for ages for one and then along comes another... so Widegates, in fact, now has two sets of dragon's teeth, one at either end of the village!

The January meeting of the parish council also heard about other road works affecting the parish.

The main A387 road from Sandplace to Looe will be closed to all traffic from January 30 until the end of March so that Cornwall Highways can carry out essential drainage and kerbing works.

Looe resident Peter Murnaghan suggested that the closure might be a good time for Cornwall Council to consider implementing speed limit reduction methods "so that, when the improved road re-opens,



# *The Morval Parish* **Council corner**

*Supporting the Heart of the Community*

it can benefit from the more calmed reduction."

But, although the parish council supported his concerns, Cornwall Highways Manager Will Glassup said that no speed reduction proposal had even been taken forward or funded, and he added: "With the new speed limit criteria's from the DfT (Department for Transport), I

would not expect the section mentioned from Mr Murnaghan to qualify for any reduction. The works being undertaken on Sandplace are

investigation-prompted safety works."

Highways say that the Sandplace Road works will be carried out during the day between 7.30 am and 5.30 pm, Monday to Friday. But the road closure will remain in place outside of those hours and all through traffic will need to follow the diversions in place at all times.

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## **St Wenna's church has a new pattern of services**

First Sunday 11am Family Service

Second Sunday 11am Communion

Third Sunday 11am Morning Prayer

Fourth Sunday 11am Communion

Fifth Sunday 10.30am rotating around the churches in Looe Valley Benefice (St Wenna Morval, St Martin and St Nicholas Looe, St Cuby Duloe, All Saints Herodsfoot)

On Sunday 4th February we will be celebrating Candlemas, which marks the end of the Christmas/Epiphany season



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