

# CROFT YARPOLE & LUCTON PCC MEETING Minutes

## 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.15 pm: St Leonards

1	<p><b>Welcome &amp; Opening Prayer</b> Chair: Rev. Matthew Burns          Apologies: Miriam Graham &amp; Val Ainsworth          Present: MB, SS, DN, JH, RF, GE, AM &amp; CS</p>
2	<p><b>Discussion</b></p>
3	<p><b>Minutes of previous meeting</b> Amended to “SLM don’t feel that there needs to be a permanent representative on the PCC, however GE will represent them and has been co-opted onto the PCC”. Also, under “New items”, point 5: should read St Leonard’s church path (not St. Laurence).</p> <p><b>Matters Arising:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organ repair: quote will be sought through Gary Owen (GO Organ Builders). SR, VA &amp; MB to attend.</li> <li>2. PCC/SLM Insurance: The PCC needs to have a list of approved volunteers. SLM, PCC and Cafe/shop to produce their lists.</li> <li>3. Blue chairs; needed for additional seating, at times, and are now stored in the new shed</li> <li>4. Internment of ashes in the Memorial Garden only (no headstone).</li> <li>5. New Shed installed and will be painted by <b>GE &amp; SE</b>. <b>RF</b> offered his help too.</li> <li>6. Rolling Calendar – from January onwards a list is required so that nothing gets missed –          RF reminded us that there is a list in The Book of Common Prayer</li> <li>7. Lent course to begin on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026, 7:30 – 8:30pm, for 5 weeks. A poster has been sent to the Team Office, to be distributed to other parishes and to advertise it on the church path</li> </ol>
<p><b>Decisions</b></p>	
4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>PCC</b> to create a list of approved volunteers</li> <li>2. <b>GE</b> to convey information on internment of ashes decision to Sue Perry.</li> <li>3. <b>“Be Still”</b> – to remain on Wednesdays</li> <li>4. <b>MB &amp; AM</b> to create a rolling calendar of services and events</li> <li>5. <b>RJ</b> to co-ordinate numbers for the Lent course (and order books accordingly)</li> </ol>
<p><b>Discussions</b></p>	
5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conflict of Interest (&amp; Safeguarding) to appear on every Agenda. CS read from the Memorandum of Understanding 2023 with signatories from SLM, PCC and YCSA 1.v.b. “To work in the best interests of the enterprise in all aspects of their participation in St. Leonard’s Community Partnership”.</li> <li>2. Sandra Ewing’s resignation email read &amp; thanks expressed on behalf of the PCC, for her service.</li> <li>3. Croft Church: presently closed for safety reasons. Discussions around best ways forward. AM said that David Arnold’s (of Arnold Bartosch Ltd, Chartered Surveyors) report says that cordoning off the area around the tower will allow safe access and the church can be reopened. Diocesan Solicitor, Jeremy Wilding, will write to the builder. The render has fallen off within 3 years and this is surely poor workmanship. Bits of the render are being stored in Croft Church, for safety and inspection. <b>SS</b> provided schedule of works documents and <b>RF</b> suggested we add loss of earnings, from Croft visitors, to the list of expenses. David Arnold will compile photos and a list of jobs. <b>GE</b> suggested an independent review should be commissioned to make redress against the builder. Expenditure records need to be kept (<b>SS</b>) in case of a claim against the builder</li> <li>4. Croft Tomb; wall around it is gypsum plaster which is non-breathable. A conservator is needed to look at this work and suggest ways forward. Grants available? <b>SS</b> confirmed that there is £15K in a deposit a/c for Croft Church, to be able to match-fund.</li> <li>5. Should a “Friends of Croft” appeal be set up?</li> <li>6. Deanery Synod; <b>RF</b> has volunteered as our representative</li> <li>7. St Leonard’s church path: thanks to the Parish Council (YGPC) for making the path safe again, as it is habitually used by many in the Parish.</li> <li>8. <b>CS</b> asked if the PCC would be happy for me to record meetings on “Notes”, to speed up minutes. All agreed.</li> <li>9. Updating websites/Whatsapp; <b>CS</b> to confirm with RJ that she is happy to continue organising the bells, Be Still, Cafe Church, A Church Near Me &amp; the Whatsapp group. <b>JH</b> will do The Parishoner, <b>AM</b> - Yarpole.org</li> <li>10. Accounts; straight forward. <b>SS</b> to pay florists, organist &amp; shop honorariums. <b>DN</b> to record that Gareth Poole has agreed to the increase, now £200, on land rental. Maintenance of churchyard fees have increased to £355/mth + a rebate from the PC. Discussion around whether we should</li> </ol>

- launch an annual appeal for maintenance of the churchyard.
11. **RJ** email read out re. reduction of the Yew trees on the church path; work has been approved by Hereford Council.

### Updates

- 6
1. SLM has only 3 Trustees: Gordon Ewing, Sebastian Bowen and William Talbot-Ponsonby. GE is happy to represent the PCC on SLM
  2. **RF** to do Safeguarding training
  3. **AM & JH** to contact Barrie Morgan for advice on Croft Church. Other names put forward were Mike Gammon (builder) to put right any defects and Koda Architects of Hereford (Fred Hamer); specialist conservation architects.
  4. **MB, JH & AM** to ask Morwenna Lloyd and seek Diocesan permission and set up a separate small group meeting
  5. **JH & AM** to complete "Statistics for Mission" **by 31.1.26.**
  6. **JH** to confirm 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday contributors (as below)
  7. **CS** to email thanks to Maggie Brown (Clerk to YGPC) re. footpath

- 7 **Any Other Business Correspondence & Forthcoming Events**  
**SS** to run a craft "drop-in" on Maundy Thursday, for children  
**JH** to lead Good Friday meditation service  
 Palm Sunday service to begin at The Bell (we need a donkey!)  
 Easter Saturday Vigil at Croft  
 Easter Sunday; 9:30 am at St. Leonard's

- 8 **Notification of Forthcoming meetings**  
**PCC Meetings:** Mar 5<sup>th</sup> **APCM:** Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May - 3pm (service then meeting), June 11<sup>th</sup> Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Jan 7<sup>th</sup> Mar 4<sup>th</sup>

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays

January	Jane Higgins
Feb	John Vaux & Sue Russell
Mar	James Forrester
Apl	Marion Forrester
May	Bring & Share service
June	Jed Dunn

#### "Be Still" (1st Weds in the month 5.30-6pm)

- Jan: Rose Jenkins,  
 Feb: Sandy and Gordon Ewing  
 Mar: Matthew Burns,  
 Apl: Val Ainsworth  
 May: Sue Smith & Rose Jenkins