

St Leonard's church and Parish, Hythe

PCC Meeting Minutes

Date: 21 April 2026

Time: 7.00pm

At: 101 High Street

Present: Revd Michael Darkins, Andy Yan, Alison Brett, Mary Tyler, David Owen, Gillian Jones, Brian Bishop, Carolyn Chivers, John Wren, Steve Williams, Ali Chambers, Berkeley Hill, Helen Waymouth

Apologies: Guy Sharrock, Gwyn Batchelor, Christine White, Joanne Hill,

Minutes: Imogen Taylor

The meeting opened with prayer.

#	Topic	Discussion/Action	Lead
3	PCC Minutes 17 March	Proposed: Steve Williams. Seconded: Mary Tyler. Approved: All	
4	AOB	As per agenda	
5	Actions arising	Silverware – Faculty has been granted by the Diocesan Registry. The matter is now closed.	
6	Dwelling in the Word	Luke 10: 1-12 The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few. The exhortation is to spread the Gospel acknowledging and despite rejection.	
7	Vision: Mission Action Planning	In identifying examples of living our vision, examples of the youth work and the way young people are more involved in church life, the ever more welcoming aspect was highlighted and pastoral referrals from outside the church community e.g. GP's. There is a network of people identifying those who haven't been seen in church for a while and the livestream church community and their feedback was mentioned.	
8	Finance	Berkeley stated that there was no 5-year plan as he had requested, he was informed that long-term planning was in progress.	Helen Waymouth + Finance Working Group

		Investment money had been used to support the parish share as Free Will giving only covered 60% of the required amount. The current arrears are £7,750. There was a large gas bill which had accrued due to a change in provider. The cost of Quinquennial repairs would be seen in the 2026 report. There was a discussion about stewardship; 2 Stewardship Sundays will be held each year, one of which will be an All Age service. Berkeley noted a reduction in the numbers of weddings and funerals.	Michael Darkins
9	Review of Parish Accounts & APCM Reports	The Annual Report was accepted with a minor change to page 2. Proposed Resolution: To accept the Accounts, Trustee Report and all other reports for the APCM. Proposed: Brian Bishop Seconded: Helen Waymouth All in favour. The resolution was adopted.	Imogen Taylor
10	Mission & Ministry 1. Holy Cross	The Holy Cross Working Party has met twice. Members of the group fed back the work that had been undertaken. Proposed Resolution: Holy Cross become a Festival Church, with the understanding that regular worship can return there. Proposed: Mary Tyler Seconded: Berkeley Hill All in favour. The resolution was adopted. The focus will also be on generating income through hiring out the church therefore Hire Agreements for Holy Cross: dance group, art group, The Shed are being drafted. The PCC approved.	Michael Darkins

	Mission partnership with MAF Parish, Deanery & Diocesan Updates St Michael's Methodist-Anglican Church Centre	A meeting is being arranged which will include Gilly and Guy to develop future action. St Leonard's will be hosting the next Deanery Synod at 7pm Thursday 7th May. All are invited to attend. The discussions between URC and Methodists are ongoing with the Anglican element unchanged.	Helen Waymouth .
11	Fabric	The Quinquennial work is almost complete. There was no update on the Tower lighting or Carpark cameras. There was no update from the Working Party. The Diocese is moving ahead with the carbon neutral agenda. St Leonard's is not compliant therefore is eligible for grants.	John Wren
10	Safeguarding and Health and Safety	Proposed Resolution: The PCC approve the Level 3 Safeguarding Action Plan. Proposed: Carolyn Chivers Seconded: John Wren All in favour. The resolution was adopted. Proposed Resolution: The PCC approve the parish procedure for responding to safeguarding concerns. Proposed: Carolyn Chivers Seconded: Steve Williams All in favour. The resolution was adopted.	
8	AOB Crypt cameras	Steve Williams raised the issue of the inadequacy of the surveillance in the crypt. He has been liaising with Kent PA about the installation of a further camera and equipment to remedy the situation at a cost of about £700.	

	Christmas Tree Festival	It was agreed that a better estimate was required and possibly a faculty. It is planned to hold a Christmas Tree Festival in the church on 11, 12 and 13 th December which would also link with the Trees of Love service.	Steve Williams + Michael Darkins
	Holy Water Stoop for St Leonard's	A place to erect one and a suitable vessel to be explored, a faculty might be required.	Anderson Yan + Michael Darkins
9	Prayer and Grace	The meeting closed in prayer at 21.10	

Dates of next meetings:

PCC:

7pm Tuesday 21st July 2026

7pm Tuesday 15th September 2026

7pm Tuesday 17th November 2026

7pm Tuesday 19th January 2027

7pm Tuesday 16th March 2027

7pm Tuesday 20th April 2027

APCM – Thursday 21st May 2026