

Yarkhill News



HEREFORD PROBUS 3 CLUB

This is a club providing the opportunity for retired professional and businessmen to meet on a regular basis for discussion and to hear speakers on a variety of topics. The club meets at The Bunch of Carrots at 11.00 o'clock almost every Wednesday morning and would welcome new members so please come along. For more information, please see Probus.org.uk/herford3

LEDBURY MEDICAL LOANS is a 'free' service for those in need of mobility aids. The lady who runs this charity in Ledbury is happy for her details to be shared with Yarkhill Parishioners. This service can save a fortune on either a short or long-term basis. All she asks is a small donation to her Ukraine charity. For information and to loan items such as frames, stools, toilet seat/frame, crutches and wheelchairs please call Jennifer – 01531 632745

CONTACTS

PARISH COUNCIL CLERK: Sallyanne Lees 07801 108789 email: yarkhill@live.co.uk

VILLAGE HALL: Wendy Nash 07985353025

CHURCH WARDEN: Ashley Fortey (Ashley4009@talktalk.net)

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CO-ORDINATOR: David Thomas 01531 670437

Chairman's Newsletter Message

I thought it might be useful to briefly look back on 2024, a year that has not been without its challenges!

Flooding / Maintenance

We have witnessed an increase in the frequency of flooding events across the parish over the last twelve to eighteen months, but we began the year with some uncertainty about the level of grant funding we might receive from Herefordshire Council for essential maintenance of our smaller roads and culverts.

Fortunately, as a result of Sallyanne's diligence and perseverance as our Clerk, we were able to secure more than we had expected so were able to undertake all the necessary work through the services of our Lengthsman, Terry Griffiths, who consistently does such an excellent job for us.

We have already secured an initial grant package for 2025 and Sallyanne has been putting together a one-year drainage plan to assess how we can proactively make maximum use of this to head off problems before they occur. In particular, we are looking at two specific projects, one on Watery Lane and another in Monkhide and also hope to increase the number of maintenance day visits by Terry with these being better spread out across the year. This will enable us to ensure channels and culverts are working properly and that there is no impediment to surface water flow into the drainage network on our lesser routes. Herefordshire Council remains directly responsible for the A4103 and they have recently cleared the drains as you may have noticed.

Neighbourhood Development Plan

While it had been expected that we would need to review our NDP as a direct result of Herefordshire Council's emerging Local Plan, this has been on hold due to the Labour Government's housing directive to all English Councils insisting on significant increases in the construction of new homes. While this in itself has delayed the expected 2024 draft Local Plan, the situation has become further complicated as Councils have begun making representations that the requirements are unworkable.

Until the matter is resolved there will be no clarity on the impact on local NDP's and any review is wholly dependent on the outcome. In our recent conversation with Herefordshire Council, they made the point that it would be foolhardy to begin a review until the outcome of the Local Plan is known and recommended against doing anything. Given that there are no grants available to cover the cost of a review, this is advice which we are compelled to follow in the interest of financial prudence.

It is perhaps also worth mentioning that under the originally envisaged changes to the Local Plan, Yarkhill would have been designated open countryside in its entirety. No house building would therefore be allowed unless by exception and this would essentially only entail social housing or accommodation for the Travellers community. Our updated NDP would naturally have to reflect this.

Litter Picking

I must commend the excellent job that has been done on collecting and disposing of unnecessary roadside litter which has so often been an unsightly problem for us in Yarkhill. A special thanks to Caroline Borley and her band of volunteers who have tackled this task with enthusiasm. It is not the nicest of jobs, but it has made a real difference.

Anaerobic Digester

The planning application for the digester at Whitwick Manor has recently been put out for re-consultation after the developer refuted Herefordshire Council's reasons for proposing to turn it down. We have submitted further comments objecting to the application which contains no new information or any attempt at compromise to make it more acceptable to residents. We will now have to wait for a further period before any decision is taken, but you can still write directly to the Planning Officer if you wish to make a comment.

New housing at Monksbury Court Barns

Following the purchase of the site by local company Kinspire homes, development of the 7 houses is well underway with a planned completion date of late spring next year if all goes to plan. Kinspire has been particularly keen to engage with local residents in an effort to minimise disruption and this has been helpful in sorting out a number of matters before they escalated into more contentious issues. We look forward to welcoming new residents to the Parish as occupation takes place.

Audit Objections

As a number of you will already know, a Parish Councillor, together with a member of the public, opted to submit complaints to our external auditor regarding two minor errors in our 2023/24 accounts. Both of these were immediately corrected by our Clerk in her role as Financial Officer and nothing untoward was involved. The auditor recognised that neither item was of material significance and that the mistakes were of a genuine nature and could have been made by anyone.

Sadly, the two individuals involved chose to broaden their objections beyond our year end accounts and, while some of their claims have already been dismissed as outside scope, the auditor is duty bound to look into the remainder which is an ongoing process at this time. As absurd as it may sound, the Parish Council has no power to prevent the objection process continuing once it has been initiated by a member of the public and / or a Councillor. Equally, we have no control over the auditor's costs which we will be compelled to meet in full and we will therefore need to set aside an appropriate amount. This will result in a charge to Parish funds which is disappointing as these are principally intended for initiatives and activities of benefit to the parish.

The auditor has advised us that we will have the opportunity to respond to and rebut any of the remaining objections which we will do vigorously. We are keen to bring this unfortunate matter to a close.

Seasons Wishes

On a far happier and more positive note, I would like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Jeff Hughes

Yarkhill Village Hall is now home to a defibrillator. Located in the Village Hall lobby, this lifesaving piece of equipment can be accessed by anyone by calling 999 to receive instructions to open the cabinet and use the machine. This essential piece of equipment has been installed thanks to the generosity of Yarkhill Charities and London Heart.





YARKHILL VILLAGE HALL

Christmas Party

Join us for mulled wine, mince pies and carol singing



on Wednesday 18th December, 7–8pm

**and meet Bill and Ben the
Yarkhill Christmas Donkeys**



St. John the Baptist YARKHILL
with
St. Mary the Virgin STOKE EDITH

Christmas Services

SUNDAY 22nd DECEMBER

3.00pm

CAROLS & CRIB SERVICE

With refreshments



This Christmas Season we will be holding our popular Christmas raffle with festive hamper prizes. The draw will take place following the Carol Service.



TUESDAY 25TH DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.00am

Christmas Day Eucharist



Our regular monthly services will be as usual:

Sunday 1st December - Parish Communion at 11.00am.

Sunday 15th December - Morning Worship at 11.00am.



YARKHILL VILLAGE HALL

**AVAILABLE TO HIRE AT VERY
REASONABLE RATES**

20% DISCOUNT FOR YARKHILL VILLAGE RESIDENTS

PERFECT FOR:

Parties

Meetings

Classes

Dog Training

Presentations

Events

Call Wendy on 07985 353025

YARKHILL VILLAGE HALL **RENTAL TERMS**

WELCOME

All regular users of the Village Hall will be given the code to the key safe located on the wall to the right of the main door, so that they are able to gain access to the building. Whilst you are using the Hall the key is your responsibility and must not be copied or given to another person. The key must be put back in the safe at the end of the booking. Any replacements required will be charged at £20 per key.

BUILDING SECURITY

Whilst using the Village Hall it is your responsibility to maintain site security. This means having knowledge of who is coming and going. You or a member of your organisation must always be on site.

The Village Hall must be secured on exit, this means closing all windows and doors, having previously checked that there is no one else in the building. Please also ensure that all lights and heaters are switched off on exiting.

FIRE SAFETY

Instructions for action in case of fire can be found on the noticeboard by the main entrance. Please read these instructions carefully before you use the building as these may be subject to change. If the fire alarm sounds **YOU MUST LEAVE THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY** and ensure everyone with you has safely exited, closing all doors behind you as you leave. In the unlikely event of this occurring, please immediately phone one of the emergency contacts listed below.

CAR PARKING

There is a large car park for use by anyone using the Village Hall, but people do so at their own risk.

Yarkhill Village Hall management committee **will not accept liability** for any accidents, damage or loss incurred.

LEAVE THE ROOMS AS YOU FIND THEM

The Village Hall is run by a small group of volunteers. Please make our job easier by ensuring that all lights in the Main Hall and associated rooms are turned off. Taps, lights and heaters in the toilets must be turned off, as well as the immersion heater, fridge, cooker and boiler in the kitchen. There is a penalty payment of £15 per booking if this is not adhered to.

RUBBISH

A small amount of rubbish is expected and acceptable however if you are generating large amounts of rubbish this must be taken away with you as the council does not collect although there is a recycling bin outside the kitchen door which is emptied regularly. Food waste **MUST NOT** be left in the building.

HEATING

If you require the heating on during your time in the Village Hall, please inform us on booking.

IT

If you would like access to the internet whilst at the Village Hall, please state on your booking form and you will be provided with the relevant password.

PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

If you are an organisation which is constituted or planning to take payments for attendance, you will be expected to have your own Public Liability Insurance as you are not covered by the hall's. Private individuals booking functions who would not normally be expected to have PLI are covered.

PENALTY PAYMENTS - condition of hire

£15 per hour (or part thereof) will be added to your invoice to cover extra caretaking charges when rooms are left without reasonable care (rubbish, damage etc).

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

If you have trouble accessing the building or need to report a fault or damage to the building, please contact one of the following for assistance:

Wendy Nash - 07985353025 Katie Bott - 07939261640 Sarah Daw - 07929735186

YARKHILL VILLAGE HALL BOOKING FORM

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name:	
Name of organisation:	
Current address:	
City:	Postcode:
Telephone Number/s:	
Email address:	

BOOKING INFORMATION

Planned activity:		
Room(s) required:		
Dates required:		
Start time:	End time:	(Include setting up and packing up time)
Number of attendees expected:		
Do you require access to tea/ coffee making facilities? Yes / No		
Do you require internet access? Yes / No		
Do you have public liability insurance? Yes / No		

I agree to read and apply the fire risk assessment and the rental terms before using the building. I understand that, if I cancel my booked time any less than one week, I will be subject to a cancellation charge of half the agreed charge for the room hire.

By completing this form you are agreeing to Yarkhill Village Hall keeping your contact details on file for the purposes of invoicing only. We will not send you an unsolicited mail or pass your contact details on.

Signature of applicant	Date
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Payment will be via invoice after your booking. BACS payment is preferred. Please refer to the payment information on the invoice.

END OF SESSION CHECK LIST

1. SWITCH OFF ALL HEATERS AND ALL ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES
(NOT Wi-Fi)
2. TURN OFF IMMERSION HEATER IN THE KITCHEN ABOVE COOKER
3. ENSURE ALL LIGHTS ARE TURNED OFF
4. CLOSE ALL INTERNAL DOORS
5. REMOVE ALL RUBBISH AND TAKE AWAY
6. LOCK ALL DOORS AND WINDOWS AND RETURN KEY TO SAFE

YARKHILL CHARITIES

Yarkhill Charities have funds available for the benefit of residents of Yarkhill.

We may be able to offer you some practical help.

If you need assistance with books, uniforms or even day to day expenses please get in touch as we may be able to help you.

In the first instance apply in writing to the Secretary, Helen Parker at Garford Farm, Yarkhill, Hfds HR1 3ST

Discretion is assured and your name will not be published.

CARER wanted please!

We are looking for a kind, sensible carer to help with our gentle and elderly father who has a nice sense of humour. Ideally someone flexible, who would also be happy to do some housework chores in a farmhouse near Bishops Frome.

Looking forward to hearing from you. Please call 07942 325589

Scaffold tower for hire

The organisers of the Field to Fork Festival purchased a scaffold tower from part of the income raised. It can be hired by anyone living in the village for £15 a week. Terms & Conditions apply. The details of the tower are as follows: Platform size: 1.45Mx 0.5M, Max platform height: 2.73M, Max working height: 5M (approx.) Max. load: 150kg Material: Aluminium. It weights approximately 37kg and is fitted with a pair of wheels to allow the tower to be moved around.

If you would like to hire this equipment please contact Martin Ennis on T: 01432 890486 M: 07831 424667
E: martinennis325@gmail.com

FLOODING ADVICE

Flooding can occur anywhere - you do not have to live near a river, stream or reservoir to be affected. This is because the drainage system, whether open watercourses or pipes, can become overwhelmed by the amount of water it is expected to carry. In addition, when the ground is saturated even small extra amounts of rainfall can have difficulty draining away from gardens and enclosed spaces. Owing to the nature of this type of flooding, it is very difficult to predict where it will happen.

Who should I contact to report a flood? If you or your neighbours are in immediate danger call the Emergency Services – 999. How you report a flood depends on the type of flooding it is.

Highway flooding: Balfour Beatty deal with incidents of flooding on our roads to keep them safe for the public. If you see flooding on the highway that could cause a danger to the public, or if floodwater is at risk of entering private property please call 01432 261800.

Flooding from a sewer or fresh water pipe: If you are concerned about flooding from a public sewer or fresh water pipe, please report it to the relevant water company:

- Welsh Water: 0800 085 3968 (open 24 hours)
- Severn Trent Water: 0800 783 4444 (open 24 hours)

Main River or groundwater flooding:

To report flooding from a main river or groundwater please call the Environment Agency Floodline on 0845 988 1188. To report flooding from an ordinary watercourse please call 01432 261800.

Prepare for flooding by following these simple steps to reduce the impact of flooding on your property:

- . View the latest weather forecast on the Met Office website
- . View live river level information
- . View live flood warning map
- . Sign up for Floodline Warnings Direct from the Environment Agency – a free service that provides automated flood warnings by telephone, mobile, email, SMS text message or fax
- . View the Environment Agency website for the latest flood warnings (updated every 15 minutes)
- . Call Floodline on 0845 988 1188 or Type talk 0845 602 6340

Do not underestimate the danger and damage that a flood can cause. Floodwater can be very dangerous; six inches of fast-flowing water can knock you off your feet; two feet can sweep away a car. While the council endeavours to provide assistance wherever possible, it is your responsibility to protect your person and property. There is lots of useful advice on the prepare your property for flooding page on the Environment Agency website.

TALK COMMUNITY



Newsletter

28 November 2024

WOW Grant now open (bring warmth and wellbeing to your community)

As part of the Household Support Fund, applications are now open for the WOW Grant. The aim of the WOW Grant is to enable organisations to provide a warm, welcoming space with activities, provide a meal and a drink to residents and offer signposting and information to anyone struggling with the cost of living.

The sessions should be free of charge and open to everyone, with the aim of supporting anyone feeling the pinch this winter. This could be a pensioner's lunch with board games, a family circus session followed by hot meal, whatever meets the need of your community in these difficult times.

If your organisation runs community activities, we are inviting you to extend your current offer, to bring warmth and wellbeing to your community.

Visit the [Talk Community Directory](#) for more information and details of how to apply.



Here for Herefordshire Holidays

Children and young people (school aged 5 to 16) who receive benefits-related free school meals are invited to sign up and enjoy up to 4 free activity sessions throughout the Christmas holidays. The countywide programme will offer activities between 21st December and 3rd January, with a free, healthy meal on offer at each session (so no need to bring a packed lunch).

The Here for Herefordshire Holidays programme, which is funded by the Department for Education, aims to get young people involved with new, fun activities. This Christmas, activities include inflatables, crafts, drama, football and much more!

Eligible families can book their places on [Herefordshire Council website](https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk). For more information on the programme contact HAF@herefordshire.gov.uk



Working Together community event – details of venue change

Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) is running a consultation to capture the views of parents and carers to help ensure that local families receive the 'right help at the right time'. Parents and carers are invited to join HSCP representatives at the final engagement event on **Wednesday 4th December, from 10:30am-12:30pm.**

Please note there has been a change of venue. The event will now be held in the Community Room at Riverside Primary School, Belmont Avenue, Hereford. HR2 7JF

To book a place, please email admin.sbu@herefordshire.gov.uk or call 01432 260100

Festive planning? (Tell us more)

Are you planning any festive events, or get-togethers in your local community? If so, we would love to hear from you.

You can upload your events directly, by heading over to our [what's on calendar](#) and click on the 'Add an event' button.

There's a short form to complete, where you can describe what your event/activity involves, and add contact details, venue and cost. Be sure to click on "Set date", to include the date(s) of your event/activity.

Once the Talk Community Directory team receive your form, we'll add the event to the calendar or contact you if we need any further details. Alternatively, you can email us on Talkcommunityengagement@herefordshire.gov.uk



Stay informed with Community Information Sessions for Pensioners

Age UK Wyvern, in partnership with Talk Community, invites you to Community Information Sessions to help pensioners improve and sustain their financial wellbeing. Funded through the Household Support Fund, these free sessions provide advice on local support, energy efficiency, and keeping warm this winter. Pop in for a warm welcome, a chat, and an information pack filled with helpful resources.

Upcoming sessions:

Weobley - Burton Gardens: 4th December, 11am–1pm

Hereford - First Light Trust: 5th December, 11am–1pm

Ledbury - St Katherine's Almshouses: 11th December, 11am–1pm

Burley Gate - Village Hall: 12th December, 10:30am–12pm

Leominster - Morrisons: 13th December, 9am–11am

Hereford - Revive Café: 17th December, 11am–1pm

Hereford - HSVC: 19th December, 11am–1pm

For more details, please visit the [Age UK Wyvern website](#).



Our socials are a great way to keep in touch with what's on too, whether you're

- a [Facebook](#) fan
- tuned in to [Twitter](#)
- or instantly on [Instagram](#).





Driving without insurance isn't just illegal – it has real, sometimes life-altering consequences and West Mercia Police is stepping up efforts to keep roads safer for everyone by targeting uninsured drivers in Herefordshire, Shropshire, and Worcestershire.

At least one person every day in Great Britain is so seriously injured by an uninsured or hit and run driver they require life-long care and at least one individual loses their life every week on the roads due to uninsured drivers. Throughout 2023, 1060 motorists were detected and prosecuted across Herefordshire, Shropshire & Worcestershire as not having valid insurance for the vehicle they were driving.

Uninsured drivers are:

- 4-5 times more likely to be involved in fatal crashes
- 10 times more likely to be convicted drink-drivers
- 6 times more likely to have a vehicle with defects
- 5 times more likely to activate speed cameras

Policing the roads is a 24/7 operation and takes place year-round, however, this week we are supporting Operation Drive Insured, a week-long national operation developed by MIB (Motor Insurers' Bureau), to make the counties we serve safer.

Common mistakes drivers make which results in no insurance cover include;

- The driver forgets when their insurance policy expires or assumes that it will auto renew (not all policies auto renew).
- An ongoing payment card used to pay for the cover expires.
- Driving with the wrong class-of-use. For instance, using your car for business with only domestic Insurance cover.
- A vehicle is kept off-the-road but not declared SORN (Statutory-Off-Road-Notification) to DVLA.
- It's assumed that fully-comprehensive motor insurance means the individual can drive someone else's car.
- The person puts themselves down as a named driver on a vehicle they are the main owner and user of, to save money. This is technically a fraud known as fronting and makes the cover invalid.

Take the time this week to check you have the right insurance and check this is still up to date on the following link [Check Insurance Details](#)

The Fraud & Scam Bulletin

DECEMBER 2024

Your monthly update direct from West Mercia Police on the latest
scams and frauds

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

No sooner has the threat of Black Friday passed, then we enter the full-on Christmas shopping period, and once again the criminals will want to tempt the unwary online with those “too good to be true” offers.

So, what are the options, face the crowds in the shopping malls, or relax at home and do the Christmas Shop online?

Whilst the internet is the first port of call for Christmas Gift bargains for many in terms of speed, convenience and savings, it also provides a great opportunity for Fraudsters to profit at your expense.

Even when you have been wary throughout the year with your online shopping, it can be so easy to be caught out in the heat of the moment in the rush up to Christmas when our minds are elsewhere, or just too busy to carry out a check to see if that “bargain” really is a bargain.

Also, beware of those Phishing emails claiming to be from genuine charities and playing on the season of goodwill. They may even display seemingly genuine logos for national charities, such as Red Cross or Salvation Army, but the charity will never see your money.

So always go directly to the chosen charity’s website to donate, and always beware of door to door, and street collectors if they cannot show genuine identification for the actual charity. So once again, it is safer to donate to that charity direct.

Therefore, once again, please make family members aware, particularly those in the vulnerable age groups. Especially be mindful when shopping on Social Media platforms, as this is by far the most likely medium for shopping and auction frauds to take place.

HOW TO STAY SAFE

So online shoppers are urged to protect their accounts. Do use secure payment methods to stay ahead of the threat from fraudsters who are particularly active with the build-up in Christmas shopping online.

- Protect your accounts: set up **2-step verification** and use **3 Random Word passwords** to prevent Cyber criminals gaining access to any of your accounts (see [Three random words - https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/](https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/))
- Be wary about where you shop online – check out Online Retailers, especially ones you have not used before and make sure they are legitimate
- Don't pay for goods or services by bank transfer unless you know and trust the person. Payments via bank transfer may not offer you sufficient protection if you become a victim of fraud.
- Pay Securely: use a Credit Card when shopping online as most major Credit Card companies protect online purchases. Also using a Credit Card rather than a Debit Card means your main bank account will not be affected if your details are stolen.
- Whenever you pay always look for the "Closed Padlock" symbol in the web address bar showing your connection is secure
- Finally, Do not let Christmas come early for criminals and fraudsters

Please feel free to share these messages with any vulnerable friends, relatives or neighbours

IF YOU THINK YOU ARE BEING SCAMMED

OR DO NOT RECOGNISE THE CONTACT

Take Five to Stop Fraud

- **STOP:** Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.
- **CHALLENGE:** Could it be fake? It's okay to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- **PROTECT:** Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud

If you've fallen for a scam, report it to **Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040** or via actionfraud.police.uk.

Scam Text messages can be forwarded to 7726 to help phone providers take early action and block numbers that generate spam on their networks. Scam mobile calls can also be forwarded to **7726**, followed by the word "**CALL**", then the **scam phone number**

Forward **Fake Emails** received to report@phishing.gov.uk

For further information visit:

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/> <https://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk/>



DECEMBER 2024

DAILY EVENTS

Everyone is welcome to join any of the acts of worship that take place at the cathedral. Services are normally held at the following times:

Monday – Saturday

8 am – Morning Prayer
10.30 am – Eucharist (8.30 am on a Saturday)
5.30 pm – Evening Prayer or Evensong

Sunday

8 am – Holy Communion
10 am – Cathedral Eucharist (*this service is also live streamed*)
11.30 am – Matins or Morning Prayer
3.30 pm – Evening Prayer or Evensong

TOURS

Cathedral Tours

Monday to Saturday, 11.05 am & 2.15 pm.

Explore the rich history and treasures of the cathedral from its Saxon origins to the present day with our knowledgeable guides.

Tickets cost £6 per person from the Cathedral Shop (01432 374210).

EXHIBITIONS

Seeds of Eternity

Monday 23 September 2024 – Saturday 5 April 2025.

The latest exhibition in the Mappa Mundi & Chained Library celebrates 17th century poet Thomas Traherne who is known for his extraordinary writing about nature connecting humanity to the divine.

Normal admission charges apply.

Please note that the exhibition will be closed throughout January for essential cleaning and conservation work.

EVENTS

Cathedral Seedlings – Toddlers Group

Thursdays in term time, 10 – 11.30 am

Calling all toddlers and their grown-ups - join us to play and pray in the College Hall - Hereford Cathedral. Listen to a Bible story, take part in a craft activity and have fun in our weekly drop-in. To add to the experience, refreshments, delicious cakes and healthy snacks for children will be provided by Hereford Cathedral Café.

Suitable for toddlers between the ages of 1-3 years and younger siblings are welcome.



Toddler Group is free to attend but children must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times.

Advent Carol Service

Sunday 1 December – 3.30 pm

Everyone is welcome to join us for our Advent Carol Service. Tickets not required.

Reopening The Box of Delights - online talk

Monday 2 December – 7 pm

Join Dr Philip W. Errington, widely acknowledged as the world expert on John Masefield, to discover more about the *Box of Delights* and the TV series which was partially filmed at Hereford Cathedral.

Tickets cost £5 from the cathedral website or by calling 01432 374225.

A Service for Advent in London

Tuesday 3 December – 6.30 pm

Hereford Cathedral Choir will perform in London at The Guard's Chapel, Wellington Barracks in support of Hereford Cathedral Perpetual Trust. Tickets are available to order online. For more information on this event, please contact the Perpetual Trust on 01432 374260 or email perpetual.trust@herefordcathedral.org

Ex Cathedra: Christmas Music by Candlelight

Thursday 5 December – 7.30 pm

Ex Cathedra perform a seamless sequence of Christmas favourites, little-known gems and gorgeous new music, interspersed with a selection of readings, to explore the magic, mystery - and humour - of the season.

Tickets are available from The Courtyard Box Office via courtyard.org.uk or 01432 340555.

Hereford Choral Society - Handel Messiah by Candlelight

Saturday 7 December – 7.30 pm

Much-loved since that first performance over 275 years ago at Neal's Musick-Hall in Dublin's [Fishamble Street](#), Messiah has been at the heart of the choral society tradition for over 250 years.

To book your ticket, please visit the Hereford Choral Society website:

<https://herefordchoralsociety.org/DecemberConcert.php>

Evening Hour

Sunday 8 December, 5.30 pm

All are welcome to join us for this service of Prayer for Healing and Wholeness.

Nativity Family Trail

Monday 9 December – Saturday 11 January

Discover the story of the Nativity this Christmas with our family trail! Collect your free trail from the Welcome Desk as you arrive, explore the building and collect a sticker once you've completed the worksheet.



Christmas Lego Club

Tuesday 10 December, 3.45 pm – 5 pm

Enjoy this freestyle Lego session with thousands of bricks and hundreds of mini figures, learn building techniques and make new friends. Cathedral Lego Club is suitable for children of all ages who can play with Lego safely. Supervision is required for younger children. Parents and Carers are welcome to stay, but accompaniment is not required during the session.

This after-school session is free to attend and booking is not required for this event.

ABF The Soldier's Charity Christmas Concert

Wednesday 11 December – 7 pm

ABF's annual Christmas concert returns in all its glory, with school choirs and bands. Tickets are available from The Courtyard Box Office via courtyard.org.uk or 01432 340555.

Hereford Cathedral Christmas Fair

Saturday 14 December, 9.30 am - 4 pm

Join us for our annual Christmas Fair with over forty stalls selling a range of festive gifts. Admission free, with a collection to support the work of Hereford Cathedral. Please join us in the Cathedral Close at 12 noon for carol singing.

St Michael's Hospice 'Light up a Life' Service.

Sunday 15 December – 6 pm

Everyone welcome. Please visit st-michaels-hospice.org.uk for more information.

Toddler Carol Service

Monday 16 December – 9.45 – 10.30 am

Bring your little ones to a special carol service just for toddlers in the Lady Chapel. Enjoy a delightful Nativity with storytelling, drama and beautiful Christmas songs. Dress up as your favourite Nativity character – a sheep, a star, Joseph, Mary or even a donkey!

Bereavement Café

Wednesday 18 December, 2.30 pm – 4 pm

Everyone is welcome to join us for an informal and friendly gathering for those who have been bereaved, recently or long ago. Run by volunteers, this is a welcoming environment to share experiences and support.

Festival of Lessons and Carols

Sunday 22 December & Monday 23 December – 7 pm

Everyone is welcome to join us for our festival of Lessons & Carols. Admission by ticket only: to apply for your free ticket please collect an application form from the Cathedral Office or download from the cathedral website.

Tuesday 24 December - Christmas Eve Services

Christingle Nativity Service – 2 pm

A celebration of Christmas light for children and families, with the telling of the Christmas story and the distribution of [christingles](#).

Admission is free with a retiring collection for The Children's Society.



Choral Evensong - 5.30 pm

With Blessing of the Crib. Everyone welcome.

Midnight Mass -11 pm

Wednesday 25 December - Christmas Day

Holy Communion with hymns - 8 am

Cathedral Eucharist - 10 am (Preacher: The Bishop)

Choral Matins - 11.30 am (Preacher: The Dean)

Holy Innocents' Day

Saturday 28 December - 3.30 pm

A quiet service of remembrance for parents and families who have suffered the loss of a child, whether recently or long ago. All welcome.



Yarkhill Churchyard Maintenance

The Vicar and PCC would be pleased to hear from anyone able to help with maintenance of the churchyard on the north side (i.e. to the rear of the church).

Whilst the south side, in front of the church, is regularly mowed by Church members it is policy to maintain the north side as a natural habitat as per 'Caring for God's Acre' guidelines by strimming twice per year, in spring and late summer.

If you are a Grounds' Contractor and would like to quote for the autumn strim please do get in touch.

If you feel able to volunteer to help in any way we would be delighted to hear from you also!

Contact: The Rev'd. Mandy Williams - [07780 586846](tel:07780586846) -
mandy.williams@hopchurches.org.uk
or Julia Savagar - 07890 821446 - juliasavagar@gmail.com





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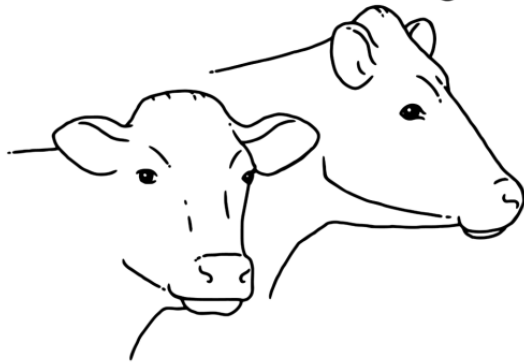
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Guidance for Complaints Procedure

It is vital that the public has confidence in the high standards of local government, and that there is transparency about the conduct of councillors and the mechanisms for dealing with alleged breaches of the Codes of Conduct. Equally, it is vital that councillors themselves have confidence in these mechanisms, and that investigations into such complaints abide by the principles of natural justice. Under the Model Code of Conduct, councillors are required to cooperate with any Code of Conduct investigation and respect the impartiality of officers. This is in recognition of the key role monitoring officers have in ensuring what might be contentious and difficult issues are handled fairly. This guidance is to support them in carrying out their duties.

More than 100,000 people give their time as councillors. The majority do so with the very best motives, and they conduct themselves in a way that is beyond reproach. However, public perception tends to focus on a minority who in some way abuse their positions or behave badly. Even where behaviour does fall short most issues are resolved easily through a simple apology or through swift action from an officer, a political group or meeting chair. Reference to the Code of Conduct and a formal complaint are very much the last resort where issues remain unresolved.

Anyone who considers that a councillor may have breached the Code of Conduct may make a complaint to that councillor's local authority, usually via the principal authority's monitoring officer. Each complaint must be assessed to see if it falls within the authority's legal jurisdiction, for example whether the subject member was acting as a councillor or representative of the authority at the time. A decision must then be made on whether or not some action should be taken, either as an investigation or some other form of action.

When a matter is referred for investigation or other action, it does not mean that a decision has been made about the validity of the allegation. It simply means that the authority believes the alleged conduct, if proven, may amount to a failure to comply with the Code of Conduct and that some action should be taken in response to the complaint.

The process for dealing with Code of Conduct complaints must be fair and be seen to be fair. The law does not specify how complaints are to be handled. However, in most authorities, initial assessment of complaints that a councillor may have breached the Code of Conduct is usually carried out by the authority's monitoring officer and one other Councillor who is not party to the complaint. Even where the matter is normally delegated to the monitoring officer, they may reserve the right to refer the matter to a committee of councillors, for example where the monitoring officer has a conflict of interest or the matter is particularly high-profile.

Local authorities, including parish and town councils, should publish information on their websites about what can and cannot be considered as a complaint, how to complain (including a standard complaints form if appropriate) and where Code of Conduct complaints should be sent to. They should also provide clear details of the procedures they will follow in relation to any written allegation received about a councillor.

Yarkhill Parish has produced a complaint form which sets out all the information they expect to receive from a complainant. This can be helpful to both the authority and the complainant. The form can be found at the end of this information. Complaints do not have to be made using the form but should include the information requested in the form.

The authority should also make it clear that only in exceptional circumstances would a complainant be granted confidentiality and that as a matter of fairness the complainant's identity would normally be disclosed to the subject member

Under the Localism Act, however, formal complaints must be submitted in writing. This includes electronic submissions, though the requirement for complaints to be submitted in writing must be read in conjunction with the Equality Act 2010 and the duty to make adjustments. For example, a complainant may have a disability that prevents them from making their complaint in writing. In such cases, authorities may need to transcribe a verbal complaint and then produce a written copy for approval by the complainant or the complainant's representative.

When a complaint is received by the local authority the relevant officer should acknowledge its receipt and set out the process to be taken to assess the complaint with an agreed timescale.

The full Guidance information can be accessed at [Guidance on Member Model Code of Conduct Complaints Handling | Local Government Association](#)

