

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN-AT-HAMPSTEAD

REGISTERS AND RECORDS



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The Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials are from 1560 to 1842. Civil Registration began in England in 1837. The Trustees Minute Books are from 1744 to 1934.

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Resolved

That the half year's Pew Rent amounting to £3.3.0 due from Miss Gabman at Michaelmas 1860 be discharged as irrecoverable the Lady's present name and residence being unknown.

The several Bills Salaries and Accounts due at Midsummer last amounting together to £159.5.9 were examined and ordered to be paid.

Resolved

That £200 part of the balance at the Bankers to the credit of the Trust be invested in the purchase of Exchequer Bills.

Recd the following Report dated 11 July 1867 of the Committee appointed at the Meeting held on the 25 July 1865 and 26 January 1867

The Committee appointed to consider the duties and salaries of the Officers of the Parish Church Report that they have considered the duties of the Officers and especially the duties of Mr George Chales who is Rector, Bell Ringer and Sexton.

The Committee subjoin to this Report the Names of the Officers with their respective Salaries and allowances, and they recommend

1. That having regard to the additional labour required by the planting of ornamental Shrubs in the old Church yard and to the falling off of the salary of Mr G. Chales as an Officer of the Church be raised from £36.2.0 per Annum (the present amount) to £40 per Annum to commence from Christmas 1866 and that he be required in addition to his present duties to undertake without any extra charge or remuneration any further duties or services connected with the Church which the Minister and Churchwardens may hereafter from time to time require.
2. That 25/- be paid to Mr G. Chales for the duties

"imposed upon him by the daily services at the Church from Lady Day to Midsummer 1864 when such services were discontinued.

3. That the Poundage of 6 in the £ be paid to Mr William Langmead the Parish Clerk for collecting Pew rents on behalf of the Trust be raised to 1/- in the £.

Officers and their Salaries		
Church. Organist - Mr W. Seymour Smith	Salary	57.15.0
Organ Tuner - Mr Henry Willis	Salary	8. -- --
Pew Openers - Martha Tucker, Nancy Wellington, Sarah Melbourne and Mary D. Collins	Salary (each)	6. 6. --
	Extra for care of Vestry Room - Allowance (once)	2. 2. --
	For cleaning the Church after confirmation	1. 3. --
	Allowance (each)	9. 11. --
Clerk to the Trustees - Thomas Toller	Salary	40. -- --
Parish Clerk - William Langmead	No Salary	
	Allowed for washing and repairing Baptisms	
	Table Linen and Towels cleaning Communion	10. -- --
	Plate and supplying Stationery and Bread for Sacraments	
	For care of Velsels and plate	1. -- --
	As Collector of Pew Rents vested in the Trustees a Poundage of 6 in the £ on the amount collected.	
	NB. Average yearly sum received for poundage during the past 5 years	12. 2. 6
		23. 2. 6
Rector, Bell Ringer and Sexton - George Chales	Salary	34. -- --
	Extra for winding Church Clock - Allowance	2. 2. --
	for Friday Evening Service (Mr. Peral's Gift (25/-) with fixed fees for burials in old ground and occasional Gravels in Marriages and Burials	
		36. 2. --

Church Clock for examining and Oiling - R. B. + J. Moore

Allowance 3. 3. -

Duties and Services of Mr George Chales
as an Officer of the Church.

Charles

Beadle

Almon

Beadle. Attends all Sunday and Week day Services, including
the Services in Advent and Lent.

Attends upon the officiating Clergyman, Lights and
Keeps up, and puts out, the Fires in Vestry Room and
outside the Church, and attends to Ventilation.

Cleans the Gas fittings, lights and extinguishes
the Gas, and sees that the Lights burn efficiently.
Keeps Order in the Church and Yard during the
Services - opens and locks up the Church and
Church Yards.

Attends the Churchwardens with and for the
Communion Plates.

Cleans and dusts twice a year the Pulpit and Matting
Winds up the Church Clock twice a week

Bell Ringer. Rings the Church Bell for all Sunday and
Week day services, and for funerals.

Sexton. Sweeps weeds and edges the paths and mows the
grass in the old Church Yards and takes charge
of the Shrubs and Trees.

Digs up and cleans occasionally the enclosed ground
in Dennis Court.

It was moved by Mr Chales

Seconded by Mr Churchwarden Leach and

Resolved

That the Report of the Committee read at the Meeting
be approved and adopted.

Resolved

That it be referred to the Churchwardens to cause the
Iron Railing outside the Church Yard to be repaired
and painted.

Also to cause the raised pavement outside the West

doors of the Church to be made secure to the congregation
on entering and leaving the Church by affixing thereto
an Iron Railing or other fence.

Cheques for the payments ordered to be made at
this Meeting were signed by the Chairman and
two other Members of the Trust.

Adjourned

(M. L. W.)

Chairman

A Meeting of the Trustees for carrying into execution the Act for providing the Inhabitants of the Parish of Saint John Campstead with increased accommodation for attending Divine Service convened by direction of the Minister and holden at the Parsonage in High Street Campstead on Tuesday the Eleventh day of February 1868 at Eight o'clock in the Evening precisely.

Present

The Reverend Charlton Lane M.A.
Rector of the Parish Church
In the Chair

The Reverend Charles M. Harvey M.A.

Assistant Licensed Curate

David Powell Esq

George Chater Esq

Dr John Howard M.D. Esq

Samuel Barber Esq

Manley Hopkins Esq

W. Charles Walker

" James Atkenden

R. H. Leach Esq

W. Henry Corrick } Churchwardens

The Reverend Charlton Lane having taken the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and signed by the Chairman.

The Bankers Pass Book was laid before the Chairman whereby it appeared that the balance in hand amounted to £476. 6. 10.

The Collector's Account of the half year's Poor rents due to the Trustees at Michaelmas last was examined whereby it appeared that the half year's rents amounted to £256. 13. 6 of which sum £247. 6. 6 had been collected

and paid to the Bankers leaving £9. 7. 0 uncollected on such half year's rents with an Arrear of £3. 3. 0 due from Mr. Harroth who had left the Parish.

The several Bills Salaries and Accounts due at Christmas last amounting together to £277. 5. 10. were examined and ordered to be paid, such sum including £12. 0. 0 payable to the Representatives of Mr. Ann Winfield deceased for one year's Interest due 5 February Instant on £40. the balance due to her for principal of Loan, with £10 being one 20th part (17th instalment) of the Loan, leaving £30. principal money remaining unpaid on the original Loan of £200.

The Chairman reported that with the concurrence of the Churchwardens an application had been made to Mr. George Gilbert Scott and Mr. Robert Keskith to survey and report on the state of the Church Tower and that those Gentlemen had forwarded to him their joint Report which he now submitted to the Trustees

Resolved

That

the Report

submitted

by

Mr. G. Scott

and

Mr. Keskith

be now read and entered on the Minutes and that the courses taken by the Chairman and the Churchwardens in obtaining the Report be approved.

Report upon the condition of the Tower of St. John's Church Campstead

5th February 1868

According to the Reports of Messrs. William Hardwick and Good, in 1829, it appears that the Tower is founded upon Fir planking, which having decayed a considerable settlement in the Tower had then taken place, and as the decay was unequal, the settlement had been greater in some parts than in others. The West and South sides were those which had sunk most. The levelling of the ringing loft floor then showed a corresponding settlement towards

the West and South sides were those which had sunk most. The levelling of the ringing loft floor then showed a corresponding settlement towards

The West and South. Mr. Hardwick reports the settlement at $2\frac{1}{2}$ " downwards.

In October 1861 Mr. Westketh reported that the Tower then leaned in a height of 78 feet $6\frac{5}{8}$ " westwards and $2\frac{1}{2}$ " Southwards.

In June 1864 he reports that the Tower had settled further and he found the leaning increased $\frac{5}{8}$ " westwards and $\frac{1}{4}$ " Southwards in the same height of 78 feet.

In January 1866 the Tower had settled further, but the leaning remained, exactly as in June 1864.

The Tower has since that time sunk a bare $\frac{1}{2}$ " and the leaning remains the same as in June 1864.

All together the Tower seems to have gone down from $2\frac{1}{2}$ " to 3" on the West side and $\frac{3}{4}$ " to $1\frac{1}{4}$ " on the East side.

Two excavations have now been made for the purpose of examining the foundations themselves, one in the West part of the South wall and one in the South part of the East wall.

In the former place only a trace of the planking is left and the Tower now rests on the natural soil which is a compact loam.

In the latter part there is still about $2\frac{1}{2}$ " of the planking left, not so much decayed.

It would appear from these places that the planking was not originally laid very regularly under the foundations. In the South west corner it could not have been ~~less~~ of the thickness reported ~~expected~~ by Mr. Bulliamy in the part where he examined it of her 3 inch planks (or 6 inches altogether) as in that case the settlement would then be about 6 inches whereas it has been only from $2\frac{1}{2}$ " to 3 inches.

The Tower is a solid and compact erection in itself and there is no risk of its falling without much greater symptoms of danger shewing themselves,

but it is possible that pieces of plaster will become fractured from time to time, and might fall and alarm the congregation, if not looked to. The fall of the plaster cornice from the ceiling of the South Staircase though the disturbing cause was no doubt the settlement, was chiefly, owing to its having been very badly executed, ~~but having been braced~~ but merely laid on some short laths insufficiently fixed. The ceiling of the North Staircase was in a very bad state, but this is owing, in addition to the disturbance caused by the settlement to the weakness and decay of the laths. Some of the loose plastering in the Church itself appears to arise from the fixing of the Christmas decorations.

The settlements in the staircase walls and particularly in the North Staircase are considerable and chiefly owing to the settlement of the Tower but partly also to the settlement of the walls themselves of the Staircases. There is however no actual danger from them, though as indicative of the effects of the continuous subsidence of the Tower, it may be well to mention that the whole of the settlements in the Eastern walls of the two staircases have taken place since 1834, when both of these walls were, as we are informed, rebuilt.

To underpin the Tower and Staircase walls, so as to prevent further settlements, would be a costly work but we could not give an estimate without going further into detail than our present instructions would warrant.

It is probable that such underpinning could not be safely effected without substantially shoring up the Tower which as well as the excavations, would extend into the interior of the Church and would also occupy for the time, the Gallery Staircases, and necessitate either the suspension of the services or the

partitioning off of the eastern parts, and the formation of temporary entrances.

Without this however there can be no doubt that the sinking process will go on as long as any timber remains on the foundations, and that the cracking and the probable falling, from time to time, of plaster mouldings &c. will go on as heretofore.

Geo. Gilbert Scott
R. Heskelth

Resolved

That Mr. Robert Heskelth be requested to examine and report on the state of the plaster and plaster cornices and Ornaments inside the Church the Trustees being apprehensive that the fall of pieces of loose or fractured plaster during divine service may cause alarm to the congregation.

Ordered

That a copy of the following Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Trustees on 30 July 1862, viz,
That Mr. Douglas be employed to examine every three months the East ends of the interior of the Church with a view to the removal or rejoining of any loose pieces of Ornament or plaster which may be caused by any further movement of the Tower be sent to Mr. Douglas with a request that he do report the result of his quarterly examinations to the Churchwardens and that his first Report be sent to the Churchwardens on the month of May next.

Cheques for the payments ordered to be made at this Meeting were signed by the Chairman and two other Members of the Trust.

Adjourned

C. Lane

Chairman

1868

June

At a Meeting of the Trustees for carrying into execution the Act for providing the Inhabitants of the Parish of Saint John Hampstead with increased accommodation for attending Divine Service convened by direction of the Ministers and holden at the Parsonage in High Street Hampstead on Tuesday the Ninth day of June 1868 at Eight o'clock in the Evening

Present

The Reverend Charlton Lane M. A.
Incumbent of the Parish Church

In the Chair

The Reverend Charles M. Harvey M. A.

Assistant Licensed Curate

~~Dr. John Storrar M. D. Vicar~~

Manley Hopkins Esq

Samuel Barber Esq

George Chater Esq

Richard Howell Leach Esq

Mr. James Costander

Mr. Charles Walker

Churchwardens

The Reverend Charlton Lane having taken the Chair
The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and signed by the Chairman

Read the following Report from Mr. Heskelth submitted pursuant to the Order made at the last Meeting

7 Royal Exchange
March 16th 1868

Dear Sir,

St. John's Church Hampstead

Pursuant to your instructions I have carefully examined "the state of the plaster and plaster cornices and ornaments inside the Church" on which I beg

Mr. Tolter
letter
1828
piece

to report as follows.

The Entablature and Pediment over the Altar Piece is formed in Plaster the crackitting for which has been badly constructed rendering too great a thickness of plaster necessary for the formation of the several mouldings and enrichments - The Cornices on either side are formed of wood and on the settlement of the Tower the plaster at the junction where the Entablature of the Cornice meets with the wood cornice has broken away and become loose.

I propose as a temporary remedy for these defects until the Church is internally redecorated when it can be treated more effectually to knock down the loose plastering to the ends of the Entablatures to remove at same parts the present crackitting and reconstruct the same and rough in the cornices mouldings &c with Portland Cement gauged with hair 3/4 thick instead of 3" the present thickness and to match in distemper color as nearly as possible the present finishings. To scize a deal fillet painted blue to the rake of pediment next the wall to hide the separation caused by settlement - also to repair the defective plastering next the bases of the Columns.

There are a few other cracks in the plastering to Wall at E and which are of no importance and show but little and would form part of the works when the walls are recolored.

The plastering to the Ceilings and walls of the N + S Staircases is much cracked and injured by the settlements of Tower - It will be necessary that the Ceilings and Cornices should be new and as the joists are somewhat wider apart than usual a stronger description of lath should be used. The cracks to the plastering of walls should also be cut out to a much greater extent than hitherto for an effectual repair and be made good with bricks in Portland Cement and the

Stairs

Ceilings and walls whitened or colored.
For the better security of the Arch over the Window of the N Staircases I propose to turn a Brick rim in cement to prevent the possibility of the cracked portion of the Arch falling out.

The repairs of the plastering will also extend to the soffits of the stairs and landings.

These works are of a nature difficult to estimate correctly but I have carefully considered the matter with Mr. Clowes and am of opinion they can be executed for about Thirty Pounds (£30)

Thomas Toller Esq
Law. Secy, 7, Queen's Quay
R. Heskelh

Resolved

That it be referred to a Committee consisting of the Chairman the Rev Charles M. Harvey and the Churchwardens to carry into execution the recommendations contained in the Report of Mr. Heskelh or such of the recommendations as the Committee at their discretion may consider necessary the total cost of the works to be determined upon not to exceed £30.

Mr. Toller gave notice of his desire to retire from the Office of Clerk to the Trustees at Midsummer next or as soon afterwards as the Trustees might determine.

Adjourned
J. P. H. Esq
Chairman
21 Feb 1828