

CHURCHWARDENS PRESENTMENTS 1558 TO 1771

The Presentments transcribed below are statements made on oath by the parish churchwardens at the visition of the Archbishop of Sarum [Salisbury]. These visitations were made on a three year cycle with the hearings being held twice at Chardstock and once at Lyme Regis. The bishop was resident in Chardstock at the time staying in the Bishops Palace, sited to the south of St. Andrew's Church and where The Court now stands.

Other documents concerning the relationships between the bishop, vicar and churchwardens have been included for completeness.

The source of each document is recorded. Financial amounts recorded in Latin in the original documents are shown with the sterling equivalent in brackets.

The transcriptions were made by Peter Wood, the co-author of "A History of the Parish of Chardstock and All Saints" assisted by members of CHR.G.

1558 – 1603

(Exact date unknown. Sterling equivalent given in £ s d)

Detts owinge to the pishe of Chardstocke

Item	Thomas Wodland	xxij s iiij d	[23s 4d]
Item	for his mother in lawe	vj s viij d	[6s 8d]
Item	for a legacy geven by John Bragwyn Eleanor Brangwyn	iijs iiij d	[3s 4d]
Item	William Wollmyngton for church dett	xxxiiij l iiij li vj s viij d	
Item	John Domytt for dett	xij d	[12d]
Item	John Melyge & John Plear to [bye?] chese for the church	x s	[10s]
Item	Meller Toller for a legacie	xx d	[20d]
Item	John Domytt for det	x s	[10s]
Item	John Larcombe for dett (this item deleted)	vjs viij d	[6s 8d]
Item	William Estemente for dett	xij s iiij d	[13 4d]
Item	Robert [?Pryer?] got as solm	[xx s....?]	[20s?]
Item	Wyllyam Estemente hath a crosse and a panne of brasse of the [churche ?] dehtered [?by] Wyllyam Pes and John Passe the yonger		
Item	John Coxden a panne of brasse [?lyete?] for	iis iij d	[2s 3d]
Item	John Passe a crosse and a panne of brasse [?lyete?] for	vi s viij d	[6s 8d]
Item	Water Clementte a crosse of brasse [?cr..ande?] for	vi s viij d	[6s 8d]
Item	Wyllyam Pes for sarteng stoffe of the churches		
Item	John Smethe for sarteng stoffe of the churches		
Item	Thamsend Lynes for pewter of the churches		
Item	Water Pynnye for sarteng stoffe of the churches		
Item	Rychard Denyng a crosse of brasse of the churches		
Item	Andrewe Cossengne for sarteng stoffe of the churches		

The names of them that wold notte pay to the heyght crosse lyght at ester nor at crestmasse

Item	John Melege	ij d	[12d]
------	-------------	------	-------

Item	Robert Helard	ij d	[12d]
Item	Robert Wellmentton	ij d	[12d]
Item	Roger Mychell	ij d	[12d]
Item	Thomas [<i>Spra?ke</i>]	ij d	[12d]
Item	Margatte Taylre	ij d	[12d]
Item	Rychard Rogere	ij d	[12d]
Item	Water Denman	ij d	[12d]
Item	John Rogers	ij d	[12d]
Item	Thomas Plemton	ij d	[12d]
Item	Wylyyam Toller at bodech	ij d	[12d]
Item	Wylyyam Toller in towne	ij d	[12d]
Item	Maryatte Pes a chettelle of the church		
Item	Robert Flerher doth owe	vij s	[8s]
Item	John Flereher a borde and a brondes [<i>?ra</i>] trendell		

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/3/75

1583 TO 1585

William Dyllinge; Thomas Staple gards [*Churchwardens*]
Christopher Sanford; Richard Staple; Roger Turner; John Welshe Sidesmen

To the third article we present that we have not our quarter sermons.

To the twelfth article we present that we have not had any Sunday an homily but we had them formerly and for [*the.....*]

To the [*blank*] article we present that in the absence of our vicar and his curatt our clarke Thomas Dorben did burie one Marjorie Wyatt

To the [*blank*] article we present that divers of our pishe do not receyve the Communion thrice in the yeare but we cannot gete their names

To the xii [*twelfth*] we present that Thomas Woodland the elder and William Woolmington doe not come to their pishe church nor receyve the Communion att our church

To the xiii th [*thirteenth*] article we present that Thomas Poole of Axminster did cale Christopher Sampford knave in our church also Robert Woolmington did cale Robert Trivett knave in the church

To the xiii th [*twelfth*] we present that our chancel is in decaye in leadings and glasinge to the value of 2 xls [*2 40s*] in default of our Prebendary Also our church is in decaye in the glasinge to the value of 2 vis viiid [2 x 6s 8d] in the default of the pishe

To the xvi th [*sixteenth*] article we present that the bounds of the churchyard are in decaye in the default of the pishe to the value of iiis iiid [*3s 4d*]

To the xx th [*twentieth*] article we present that our prebendary (*could be priest*) is not resident and our vicar was absent about three quarters of a yeare Dispensate

To the xxviii th [*twenty-eighth*] article we present that John Denman of our pishe did beget the servant of Margaret Tucker of Chard with child she is dwelling in Dorchester as itt is supposed he is att Exeter

Also we present that Thomas Drinckell and Agnes Michell have admitted fornicacey together as thee hath confessed

To all the rest of the articles geven us in Church we have nothing to present to our knowledge.

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/5/83

1591 TO 1593

William Vincent & Thomas Dally gards [*Churchwardens*];
William Dillinge, Thomas Vincent, Walter Denman, John Perce, John Freke gent,
Nicholas Westover, Richard Wyatt sidesmen

Item not presented that Mr Bowdadge (*could be Bondudge*) his wall is fallen into the churchyard

Imprimis we present that our vicar often leaveth out some parte of the prayers appoynted to be read in the book of common prayer

To the 3 and 4 we have not our quarter sermons nether the homelyes read accordingly

Item to the 5 one Mr Smythe did preach here.....report was not licensed

Item to the 6 we say our vicar doth expound the Scriptures but whether he be graduat we know not

To the 12 we say that Margery Bullor hath not received the communion these iii [*three*] years but she hath allways offered herself and cannot be received as she sayth

Item the 14 we say our Chancell is very ruinous and like to fall and our Channcell is in decay to the valeue of iiis (*amount crossed out*) 5 li [*£5*]

Item we do present that ther is a fame of suspition of incontineny betwixt John Pynney and Mrs Chichester more over this Pynney has a wife of his own and lives not with her

Item we present that John Parrock the elder and Robert Burrowe have stood excommunicate xii [*twelve*] monethes and upwards

Item to the 34 we say that Christopher Wylles and Nicholas Dawlinge did chide and brawle in the church whereupon the sayed Wylles did geeve Dawlinge a blowe

Item we do present that our pishe clarke doth never reade the first lesson according to the Ininuction

Item we do present that we have a schoolmaster that doth teache in our pishe But wheather he be licensed we know not named Henry Prikering

Item we do present that John Seller did use a cariadge with plowe upon the Sabboth Daye

Item we do present that William Woolmington doth not come to Church the cause is the feares Tces as we think

Item we present our vestre is fallen downe the tymber sould unto Robert Wyatt by Mr Burrage and Mr Quintyn churchwardens and Mr Quintyn did confess that he cared away a

seeme or two of the stones and sayed whearas he caryed away one seame others caryed away loades

William Vincent Signd [*by his mark*] William Dillinge, Rycharde Wyate; Thomas Dally Sig, Thomas Vincent; Walter Denman, John Perce

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/6/160

POSSIBLY 1596 (*William Carter was the Vicar from 1591 to 1597 and Nicholas Wolmington was a Churchwarden in 1596*)

Nicholas Wolmington gard [*Churchwarden*]; John Welsh gard [*Churchwarden*]; John Trevet; John Pinney; Lawrence Smith; William Vincent

Imprimis we present that our vicar Mr Carter hath ye benefice

Itm we present that we wante the paraphrases of Erasmus

Itm we present that we wante the first and last [*?tombe?*] of homelies

Itm we present that our vicar Mr Carter hath not byn resident upon his benefice these iij [*three*] weekes

Itm we present that the cealing of our Chancell is in decaye to the value of iii j s [*3s*] in the default of Mr John Every our prebendary

Itm we present that the windowes of our Chancell are in decaye likewise to the value of v s [*5s*] in the default of our prebendary aforesaid

Itm we present that the cealing of our Church is in decay to the value of xij d [*12d*] by the default of our pishe

Itm we present that the windows of our Church are in decaye to the value of xij d [*12d*]
Itm we present that the Churchyard is not sufficiently fenced in the default of Mr John Bowditch

Itm we present that John Marker doth Teach within our pishe without license of his ordinary the Dean of Sarum

Itm we present that John Cookney and his wife have separted themselves and live asunder Contrary to the laws of god

Itm we present that John Wyat and his wife have likewise separted themselves and live asunder Contrary to the laws of god

Itm we present that George Staple begatt Johan Woodyate with child as she hath confessed

Itm we present that Robert Bowditch begatt Emie Cate with child as she hath likewise confessed

Itm we present that our myller John Lange doth grinde one the Sabath Dayes but upon greate necessety

Itm we present that John Bentley and Nicholas Speede do often absent themselves

from the Church

Itm we present that John Harris and Marie Frishe were lawfully asked in our pische church for a quarter of a year past and they lyve in one house together and are not yet married

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/7/104

1600

To the Right Worshipful Mr Dr Bridges

These are that we whose names are hereunder written beinge within the Diocese of Salisbury and of the pische of Chardstocke appointed Churchwardens and Sidesmen do present unto you that one John Pynney of our said pische called John Pynney the carryer hath of late and doth live verely suspiciously and is suspected to have done a notorious cryme with one Joane Mudforde his kinswoman and now servant

Nicholas Westover Churchwarden
Humfrey Martin Churchwarden

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/7/5

1600

We present that Robert Lane doth still frequente the companye of Agnes Michell and nr Churcalle his Exhibition

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/8

JULY 1600

To the Right Worshipful Mr Dr Bridges

These are that we whose names are hereunder written beinge churchwardens and sidesmen doo present and Notifie our yor Cort that wheras one John Pynney called John Pynney the carryer was commanded at the last visitation Corte by an order of the said Cort that he should not accompany neither reteyne in his house one Joane Mudforde notwithstandinge the order of yor said Cort the said Joane Mudforde sichence the said Cort hath used and haunted the said Pynneys house wherein the said Pynney dwelleth

Signed John Turner; Thomas Dallye; Robert Atkins; Humfry Martyn; Henry Scarre

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/8/79

26th JULY 1600

John Pynney & Humphrye Martin gare [*Churchwarden*]
John Turner, Thomas Dallye, Henrye Scarr, Robert Atkins, Sidesmen

We present that we want a Commuion booke the fault is in the whole parish

We present the Chancell of our Church is in decaye in the Roof to the value of 1 [£1] the fault is in the prebend Mr Some or his farmour Mr John Everie

We present the glasse windowes of our Chancell to be in decaye to the value of xx s [20s], the fault is in Mr Some or in his farmour Mr Everie

We present the windowes of our Church to be in decaye in the glasse ijs [2s] the fault is in the parish

We present part of the Churchyard fence to be in decaye to the value of vis viij d [6s 8d] the fault is in Mr John Bowditch

We present Joane the wife of George Wolmenton for her slack and negligent Cominge to the Church Lunatice and vocale

We present Catherine Lonnge for to stand excommunicated and so she hath stode this yeare at the least

We present Bridget Staple for having a bastard child by Richard Speed as the Comon fame goeth

We present Richard Balliman for living incontinentlie with Joane Fyppen as the Comon fame goeth

We present Joane Westover to be with child as the Comon fame goeth by whom we know not but by the comon fame one Robert Warry is the father thereof

We present John Cooke for living incontynentlye with Marion the wief of Frannces Celler as the comon fame goeth

We present John Pynney the Carrier for living incontynentlie with Joane Mudforde his servant as the Comon fame goeth

We present Christian Hearne for havinge a bastard Child by a Stranger his name we know not

We present part of the Churchyard fence which doth belonge to the whole parish to be in decaye to the value of ijs [2s]

We present Robert Lane and Agnes Mitchell to be vehimentlie suspected of Incontynencie together as the Comon fame goeth

Signed: Umfrye Martin, John Pynnye, Robert Atkins, Henry Scarr, John Turner,
[blank] Dallie

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/8/146

15th September 1606

A true presentment made by the churchwardens of Chardstock the 15th of September 1606

First we present the chancell of our church to be in decaye in the Roof to the valuye of xxx s [30s] in the prebendaries default

We present thye pavement of our Chancell to be in decaye in the prebends default to the

value of iij li [£3]

We present the slacknes of the whole pish in not sending of their young children and young servants to be cathechized accoding to the law cannon in that case provided

We present Joyce Grange for her contumacy doth stand excommunicated in not doinge of her penance

We present William Parris of Tytherley and his wief for excomicated persons this tenne weeks or there abouts for their contumacy and Clandestine marriage

We present the church fence to be in decaye and broken downe to the value of v li [£5] in Mr John Bowdiches part in his default

We present Richard Whitman for living an incontynant lyfe before marriage with his now wyef

We present William Vincent the executor of the widowe Vincent his mother for not provinge of her Will

We present Alice the wife of Robert Grange deceased for not provinge of her husbands will

We present the church hatch at the west end of our churchyard to be in decay in the pishers default of wambrooke as farr as we doe knowe and have heard

We present that we doe want a fayre pewter pott for the comunion wyne at the comunion in the pishes default

We present that Martha Estmond the daughter of Thomas Estmond gent doth not come to this church to our knowledge no doth to our knowledge receive the commuion

Item we present that the church is divers places overgrown with lvye and that most pte of the seats in the Church are unpaved

Signed: Robert Atkins; [illeg] Johones, George Bowdiche, [illeg] Parris

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/9/58

May 1607

Robert Atkins and John Clode:

For not presenting one Everyn Walker for ...laying of a woman being a stranger and brought from Axminster

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/9/25

1609/10

John Freak, Henry Scarr Wardens
John Chubb, Stephen [illeg] Sydemen

Imprimis we present we have not the Kinge James in our Church

We present Thomas Parris minor for begatting Agnys Wiat with child as the fame goeth in our pish and he *[illeg]* is child

We present that we have not sufficient bible *[illeg]* Communion

We present Ellen Torry executrix of George Torry her husband for not proving his Will

We present that Elizabeth Hoop was suspected for a witch and was by the Judge committed to the Gaill there is not *[illeg]*

Robert Michell died intestate and his wief *[illeg]* his goods without any Administration unto her giv*[illeg]*rom the Deane of Sarum our ordinarie in that *[illeg]* case

Signed John Freke, Henry Scar Wardens
John Chubb Stephen Walsh Sidesmen

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/12/38

1610

George Cox and William Dalling:

We present Nicholas Eastman gent and his *[illeg]* for popish recusante. Also we present Martha Eastman daughter of the said Nicholas for popish recusant. They liveth *[illeg]* *[Wambrook?]*

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/9

10th September 1613

Nicholas Pinnye, Roger Staple gard *[Churchwarden]*
Lawrance Smith, Constantine Vincent , symen *[Sidemen]*

Imprimis wee doe present the windowes of our Chancell are in decay to the value of x ls *[£10]* at the least in the default of Mr John Sowme our Prebendarie

Item we present Nicholas Estmond gent and Marie his wife and Martha Estmond Spinster sister to the said Nicholas for obstinant Recusants

Item wee doe present Robert Freak for begetting Marie Pleyer as the fame goeth in our parish

Item wee doe present John Pinney of Chardstock towne for liveing incontinently with Cicilly Peydon as the fame goeth

Item wee doe present Agnis the daughter of Walter Towler to be with child by John Pike as the fame goeth in our pish wch Pike sometimes dwels at Chard

Signed: Roger Staple, Nicholas Pynney, Lawrance Smithe, Constantyne Vincent

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/15/85

30th July 1616

Wee the Churchwarddens and Sidemen of Chardstocke aforesaide present as followeth

1 Articles concerninge the Clergie

To the 7 article, wee annswere, that wee did not present, because wee did not knowe,whome wee had to present the pish beinge so wide, and the comunicants so manie on Easter daie : wee nowe present for not comunicatinge Elizabeth the wife of Pears, and Nicholas Westofer the younger and John Turner of Hooke who was then sicke and hath been ever since

To the 18th article wee present that our Vicar hath often given warning that Parents and Masters should send their children and servants to bee catechiseth, but wee cannot saie that they all come.

To the 22nd article wee present that our Vicar did not this yeare use the preambulcon, as hee hath formerlie used, because hee was sicke, as he hath often told us.

To the 35 article wee present that the pishioners dwelling within half a mile of the Church come sometimes of one house and sometimes of an other upon wensdaies and fridaies, but not always one of an house.

2 Articles concerninge the Church

To the 3 article wee present that wee have the book of thanfsgivinge for his maties deliverance upon the 5 of August: wee cannot yet get it, wee thinke it to bee out of printe

3 Articles concerninge Ecclesiastical Officers

To these articles wee have not to present

4 Articles concerninge Schoolmasters

To the first branche of the 6 article, wee answer in the 21 article, in the Articles concerninge pishioners and other of the Laitie.

5 Articles concerninge pishioners and other of the Laitie

To the 5 article wee annswer as before that some come to bee catechised, but wee cannot [...t..ielie] saie they come all

To the 21 article wee present that Nicholas Estmond gente with Marie his wife and Martha his sister stande excommunicate for Recusants and so have stood since Mr Deane of Sarum his last visitacion courte at Chardstock

Item wee present his two sisters Ede [*or Eve*] and Dorothee the now wife of one Mr Fursden for not comunicatinge and cominge to Church

Item wee present John Harris to stande excommunicate for a yeare and as much as since Easter for continacie in the Prerogative courte

To the 30th article wee present the death of Nicholas Speed, John Ferris, Catherine Walrond widowe, William Cookney, Joan Yeat widowe; what willes they made wee knowe not but so poore they were all, that wee thinke that they had nothinge to give by will.

To the 43 article wee annswere, that wee have not levied any money for any mane absent from Church, but that such offendders ar complained of to the Justice, and by him

punished.

Item wee present Henry Spayer and his wife both of Chardstock for being married out of the [? lurhn..] with license from the Dean of Sarum

To the 44 article wee present William Collins and likewise Joan Speed for marrying out of the Peculiar of Chardstocke without bannes of matrimonie published, and without Certificate from our vicar.

Item wee present Marie Welshman for keeping of and mainteyning of dancing and drincking upon the Sabath Dayes in her house

Signed: William Staxell, John Pavey Churchwardens
Thomas Turner, John Dabinot Sidesmen

James Larcombe the [illeg] hath caused a seate to be sett up in the Church without the Consent of the ordinary and Churchw[arden] to the [illeg] of John Thomas, John Harris and Phiar Speede inhabitants here insomuch that they cannot goe into the seates.

[Note : the answer seems to be in Latin and appears to indicate that the seat should be removed]

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/17/91

September 1617

John Bowditch Jn He was lawfully married in Bristol and sayeth that the woman never dwelt there proper [appears to be a Latin phrase – living out of wedlock] married in St Thomas Church in Bristol the 23rd September 1617 The woman's name is Avice Laver of the County of Somerset

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/18

1619

A publick fame that Robert Atkings of Chardstock did often force the wife of Richard Freke to incontinuity as Freke and his wife have both of them generally confessed before Mr Drak and divers of the parishioners.

A publick fame also that John Welsh hath lived incontinently with Joyce the wife of John Turner. Welsh acknowledging it before Divers himselfe

Also that Robert Atkings did also force Joan Mudford the servant of John Pynny, took up her clothes, and upon her crying out was so taken and found by Johanna the wyfe of John Symes and Agnes Hearn & alii.

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/20/71

13th January 1619

Thomas Harris, Thomas Guppy (Wardens)
John Welsh, George Warry

We present Thomas Chub for frequenting the company of Alice Turner widdow in very

suspicious manner of incontinancy.

We present that Mary Scriven the wife of Richard Scriven of our pish was with child before marriage has since declared and confessed on her death bedd that John Bowditch was the father thereof

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/20/75

27th August 1619

We the Churchwardens and [*Sidemen*] of Chardstock aforesaid present. [*illeg*] followeth

In the title of pishioners and laitie we present to the 17th article that Nicholas Westover neither frequenteth divine service nor receiveth the holie Communion

Item wee present to the 21st article that John Pinnie the younger of the towne, Marie Cake, Alice Edwarde, John Harris, Marie Wiat, Alice Hoop and John Verior stand excommunicate, the coztomed time howe long, wee not knowe

Item wee present to the 28th article that John Verior received and harboured Agnes his daughter begotten with child out of wedlock, and suffered her to depart without penance first inflicted uppon her by her ordinarie

Item wee present to the 30th article that the goods of Thomas Mathew dying intestate ar not yet administered. Likewise that the goods of Jone Vincent widowe dying intestate (as wee take it) ar not yet administered.

Item wee present to the 43th article that neither [*illeg*] now our predecessors have levied [*illeg*] xiid [*12d*] for such as have been absent every sondaie from his pish church, but that the Justices of peace hath caused it to bee levied as our presentment hath been made over.

Signed: John Welsh, Thomas Guppie Churchwardens
George Serrye, Thomas Parris Sidemen

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/20/94

1620

The Presentment of John Bowditch and John Gayland Churchwardens of the pysh aforesaid for the yeare of our Lord 1620

Imprimis wee present Mary Wyatt, Alice Hooper, John Veryer, Thomas Chubb and Alce Turner Widdow, for that they stande all Excommunicate.

Item wee present that ther is a fame of incontineneye between George Mychell a married man and Elizabeth the daughter of Marryan Guppey Widdow

Itm wee present that the Widdow Watte of our pish hath had a bastard Childe borne since the last Presentment, by a stranger

Itm wee present that ther are certayne of our parishioners who have not as yet Communicated by reason of their sickness

Itm wee present that Gillyan the wife of William Pitcher liveth aparte from her husband within our pish and refuseth to live with her said husbände.

Itm wee present that the walles of our Churchyard are fallen downe by the defaulte of the parishioners of Wambrooke

Itm wee also Present that ther is a fame of incontynencye between William Merymoth and the aforesaid Gillyan the wife of William Pitcher

John Bowditch, John Gayland Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/21/14

28th December 1620

To the Right Worshipfull the Deane of Sarum or his Surrogate

Wee the Vicar and Churchwardens, doe Present that the bodye of Nicholas Estmonde, gent, an Excommunicate recusant, was buryed, as is supposed, in the Church of Chardstock aforesaid, in the nyght secretlye, unknown to eyther of us, on the feast of St Thomas last past, Notwithstanding, by the advice of the Justices and Cheefest Divines of our Cuntrye neere adjoynyng, wee have removed his said Coffyne out of our said Church, and have placed it in a remote place of our Churchyard, without the bounds of our Christian buryall. In witness of the truth hereof wee doe hereunto put our hands the xxviiij th [28th] instant December 1620.

Richard White Dr of Arts and Vicar of Chardstock aforesaid
John Bowditch the younger, gent, Constable and Churchwarden
John Gailand his marke.

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/21/17

17th June 1622

Wee the Churchwardens and Sidesmen of Chardstock aforesaid present as followeth:

Title 1 Articles concerning publick praier and administration of the Services

To the 9 Article wee present Wm Wiat in the towne, Thomas Wills, Thomas Browne, Nicholas Westoffer, Widow Walron, George Bowditch Gente, Marie Timlet for not communicating this Easter to our knowledge

Title 2 Articles concerning the Church the ornaments thereof and the Churches possessions

To the 1 Article wee present that wee have not hear of Bishop Jewel Apologie neither have wee any such book.

To the 6 Article wee present that John Trivet latie deceased gave to the church fortie shillings which wee have received not yet employed but will shortlie [it ?] shall

To the 10 Article wee present that wee have not heard of any Terrier neither have wee any and for our faster presentment wee disire further instruccions and or longer time to present

Title 3 Articles concerning Minsters and Preachers of Gods holie worde

To the 7 article wee present that our vicar is Mas of Arts of the universitie of Oxford allowed a publike Preacher by the Arch B of Cantab.

To the 11 wee present that our vicar hath always heretofore gone the pambulacon but nowe by reason of his sickness he could not goe,

Title 6 Articles concerning the parishioners

To the 10 article wee present Christian Trivet deceased making her will and Walter Turner her executor

Item wee present William Parris the elder deceased making his will and Edmund his sonne his Executor

Item wee present Thomas Cooke deceased making his will as wee heard and giving his goods to Wm Scriven.

Item wee present Marie Parris widow deceased making her will and Thomas her sonne Executor.

Item wee present Margaret Strong widow deceased making her will and Jone her daughter Executrix

Item wee present George Woolmington deceased making his will and Nicholas his sonne Executor.

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/22

24th September 1622

Wee the Churchwardens and Sidemen of Chardstock aforesaid doe certifie that wee have Bishop Jewels Applogie.

Wee present Danniell Lake for disorder in casting a stone at Wm Savory the younger his head in time of Divine Service in the Chancel.

Wee present that wee have promise from two places within our parish that wee shall have sight of a Terrier verie shortelie in the meantime wee humbly crave the Courte to give us a longer time for the answering of that Article further wee humbly intreate that if there be any in the Registrars office alreadie the officers would bee pleased to search for it and wee will willinglie paie them for the writing of a Copie.

In witness whereof wee hereunto prescribe our names, September 24.1622

Abraham Edwards, Robert Martin Churchwardens
Robert Spark, Wm Dilling Sidemen

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/28/22

3rd June 1623

Wee the Churchwardens and Sidemen of Chardstock aforesaid present as followeth:

1 First wee present Mrs Marie Estmond, Marie Timlet, John Verier, Jane Watts Widow, Standing excommunicate not to have received the communion this Easter last past.

2 Item wee present Agnes Toler, Roger Staple, Nicholas Vicars, also wife of John Turner, Joice Wife Wm Wiat the younger, Nicholas Chub Not to have received the Communion this Easter last past.

In testament of the truth thereof wee hereunto subscribe our names 3.6.1623:

William Parris, John Mathew Churchwardens
Robert Martin, Abraham Edwards Sidemen

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/24

2nd July 1623

Imp wee doe informe that Cristiom Seller the daughter of John Seller of our pish of Chardstock, single woman hath confessed that she hath had a Childe in London by one William Knowles borne of her bodye

Itm wee informe that Joane Pave the wife of Henry Pave (himself longe absente) hath lately bine delivered of a Childe which as shee hath confessed before the Justices of our County was begotten by John Harris of our pish beinge thereupon by them examined

Itm wee further informe that Elizabeth the daughter of Maryan Guppye singlewoman hath also confessed herself to bee with childe by one George Mychell of our pysh who beinge thereupon examined before our said Justices, hee beinge still a married man

Robert Martyn, Abraham Edwards Churchwardens for the yeare past
William Parris, John Mathew Wardens for this yeare present but not sworne

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/23

2nd June 1624

Wee the Churchwardens of Chardstock aforesaid present Marie Estmond gentlewoman, Marie Timlet her servant, John Harris, William Woolmington, Jane Watts widow, John Verier, Nicholas Chub, Margerie Walrond widow, John Turner and Joyce his wife not communicating this last Easter because they stand excommunicate

Chardstock this present 2 daie of June 1624
William Parris, John Mathew Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/24

27th July 1624

To the Right Worshipful Mr Doctor Bowlt Deane of Sarum or to his Deputy in that behalf

Wee whose names are subscribed doe certifie in the behalf of Margery Waldron of Chardstocke in said Diosses that the said Margery (being excommunicate by order of your Court) is a very poore woman and very olde not able to travel by any meanes doe therefore

in her behalf intreate your worshipp to be pleased that shee may be restored to the Church agayne of which wee thought good to certifie your worships in the poore womans behalf.

Chardstock the xxvij th [27th] of July 1624

Your every obdiente
John Bayly als [Bron?] Richard Parris Churchwardens
Richard White Mr of Arts and Vicar

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/25

22nd January 1626

The presentmente of the Churchwardens of Chardstocke

Imprimis wee present Mistress Mary Estmond recusant and stande excommunicate and Mary Timlett her servant stande excommunicate

Itm wee present John Veryar stande excommunicate

Item wee present Margery Waldron and Thomas Parsons not cominge to the Church at all

Itm wee present Jane Watte having a base childe and names Danieel Lake to be the father

Itm wee present Mary Barlet having a base child and names Henry Gaylard to be the father

Item wee present Elizabeth Paul having base child and names one Numan of Hauchchurch

Item wee present Dorethie Pearse having a base child and will not confesse the father it shee hath bin examined

Itm wee present Magdalin Michell the wife of Salathiell Michell beinge her husband at sea and taken by the Turkes and was not in England this foure years and more to any mans knowledge but he hath written hom of e many times where he is and howe at Michaellmas last shee had a child borne

Michall Vincent, Richard Turner the elder Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/26/3

21st February 1626

Chardstock in Dorset the 21st day of February anno dom 1626 as foloeth wee present Peter Fowler of our parsh of Chardstocke for desturbinge of Thomas Soper of our parsh of Chardstock in the Church with Railinge to himm in time of saurmon saying when the mynister denounced a Judgement againste notoures Iyers [?Eoron] toke thou to that by the reporte of Thomas Soper and Christopher Cate

Mychal M Vincent, Richard Turner Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/26/1

8th May 1626

Wee Thomas Wyatt and Nathaniell Collier Churchwardens and wee John Brownseye and Richard Pearce Sidemen doe present for Chardstocke aforesaide as followeth:

Imprimis wee present Joane Searle daughter of Gavin Searle for a Bastard begotten as shee confesseth by John Martin

Itm wee present William Pitcher and his wife for incontinent lyving before Marriage

Itm wee present Elizabeth March for a bastard begotten as shee confesseth by a stranger uppon Bewlie Downe

Itm wee present Marie Bartlet the daughter of Philip Bartlet for incontinent lyving with Henry Gailard

Itm wee present Mistress Marie Estmond and Marie Timlet for recusante

Itm wee present John Verier standinge excommunicate

Itm wee present for not communicange at Easter Robert Pollard and also his wife Margerie Waldron

In testimonie of the truth of this presentment wee have here unto put our hand this present 8th daie of Maie 1626

Thomas Wyatt, his X mark, Nathaniell Collier, his X mark Churchwardens
John Brownsey, Richard Pearce his R mark Sidemen

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/26/37

27th April 1627

The presentment of the Churchwardens of Chardstocke April 27 1627

Firste we present that Nicholas Chubb did not receive the communion at Easter

And Robert Pollard and Marye Martyn and Mary Grange and alsoe we present Elizabeth Browne for being withe childe before she was maryede

Itm we present Thomas Parsons not to receive the communion at Easter

Also wee present Mistress Estmond Excommunicate and have not received the Communion att Easter not none of her household

Mychael Vincent, Richard Turner, his marke Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/27/2

7th July 1628

The Presentments of Churchwardens and Sidemen of the Pish of Chardstocke aforesaid made the 7th July Anno Dom 1628 at Lyme Rg in the County of Dorset

Imprimis wee present that the chancel of the Church of Chardstocke is very much in decay and that Mr Doctor Osbourne prebende of Chardstocke is to repayre the same.

Item wee present Elizabeth the wife of Roger Browne doth no lyve with her husband, and is vehemently suspected to lyve incontinent with George Collyns

Itm wee doe present Silvanus Way for saying he is married to Mary Tymlett servant to Mistress Mary Estmond which said Mary Tymlet standeth excommunicate and where the said Sillvanus and Marty Tymlett were or are married or in what County of where it is not to us known

Itm wee present persons exomunicate Mistress Mary Estmond Wid ,John Veryer, Thomas Parsons, Margery Waldron Wid, Mary Bartlett Jane Watte

Item wee doe present William Wiscombe and Elizabeth Collyns nowe married but the said Elizabeth had a child before they were married as the fame goeth

Itm wee present Elizabeth Harris F *[Father]* William Legg, Rebecca Sprake F *[Father]* Adam Greenfield, Petronell Merymonth F *[Father]* Thomas Watkins for that they and each of them had base children

Itm wee present the viccar of Chardstock aforesaid for not cattachyinge but the newe viccar Mr John Pitts hath not byne present with us and the minister that they was here has at this tyme gone from us.

Itm wee present these that dyed sythence the last visitation Court: John Freke gent,, George Hurcombe, Henry Scarr, Richard Parrocke, William Westover

George Bowditch, Alexander Stevens newe Churchwardens
John Chubb, Laurence Smyth olde Churchwardens
Michael Vincent, Richard Turner Sidemen

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/28/84

10th May 1629

The Presentment of John Pytt vicar and George Bowdich gent and Alexander Stevens churchwardens of Chardstock, May 10 Ano D 1629

Imprimis wee present George Michell and Elizabeth Brown and Sylvenus Way for not receiveinge the communion at Easter

Itm wee present Daniel Lake and Joan Lake his wife for incontinent livinge before they were married

Itm wee present Richard Cox and Elizabeth his wife for the like incontinency.

Itm John Chub deceased 9th 28 1628 *[In the Parish Register John Chub of Alston is recorded as being buried 28.11.1628]*

John Pytt (Vicar),
George Bowdich, Alexander Stevens Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/28/17

3rd June 1629

Mr Jonson

My lone remembered etc. Cox not cominge neer these quarters Mr Robert Freake (one of our new churchwardens) hath undertaken to convey this inclosed to you. Such as wee have presented for not receiving the communion ar persons excommunicate [*illeg*] George Michell a lewd and dissolute fellow and yf you know how to take any stricter course you might doe well to proceed against him. When hee was first excommunicate hee made show of great sorow and likewise threatened to doe great matters against Cox the Apparater for irregular proceedings alsoe that hee would presently appeal (as formly hee had done) unto the Arches pretending to mee (then a stranger) much inocencie and that hee was unjustly persecuted [*may be prosecuted*] in Mr Deanes courte, but since upon better inquiry I learne more of the man, or rather the monster; livinge in pfest habituated incontynancy nor for anything I heare doeth hee take any care to reconsider his state. Jane Lake was formerly called Jane Wats who in her widowhood has two base children at the least, and was of the number of those who were absolved at the last visitation yet (soe hath she learned [*illeg*] cauere cadendo) Saxa memor retulit rursus ad icta prdem.

Wee have presented only John Chub deceased, because hee alone was of ability to make a will. There is of Chardstock one Mr Christopher Sandfoord gent who renteth a teniment, or some grounds in the parish of North Petherton in the Dioches of Bath & Wells where (as the vicar of the sayd parish complayneth to mee) hee will bee accoumptable for noe tyethes in regard where of hee disireth to have a licence of faculty to sheow Mr Christopher Sandfoord in the Bish court of Bath and Wells. The vicars name is John Morley Bacchalar in Divinity. If you grant any lincence and send it unto mee I will see it safly conveyed to him as alsoe wilbee answerable for the fee due unto you. I shall intreat you to remember my best respect to Mr Suter and tell him if hee please to bee my advocate I shall shortly put up some grevences unto him. Soe not having else at this present I end and rest

Your loving friend,
John Pytt

If you can light on any fit messenger to send the licence or faculty for Mr Morely, there is an Oxfoord carier that returneth thereto and passeth thro your citie the next week; the Inn where hee lodgeth I am not certain of, but I think it is the Blew Bore. His name is Bartlet. Hee passeth westward thru Chard, where hee will leave it for mee.

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/28/18

4th February 1630

The presentment of us the Churchwardens and Sidemen of the pish aforesaid made the fowerth day of February 1630

First wee presente that George Collyns als Michell and Elizaebth Browne are vehemently suspected to lyve (as yet) incontynent and do yett lyve excomunicat and aggravated

Item wee presente that John Rockett als Wackley and Mary the wyfe of William Wolmyngton are and have byne vehemently suspected to lyve incontinent and soe have lyved by the space of this two or three years last past

Item wee presente that Elizabeth Harris hath a base child (as she affirmeth) by George Shindler of Chardstocke aforesaid

Item wee presente Eme Cate to have had a childe before marriage for any thing wee or either of us doe knowe by James Hobbes with whom she is sythence married (as they doe affirme) but were soe married by one French out of the Jurisdiction of this court

Item wee present that Lancellor Stoodley and Mary Randall widdowe doe lyve together in one house and as it is suspected doe lyve incontynent and lye together as man and wyfe and they have byne baned three tymes longe sythence but doe not (as wee cann understand) make any provision of marriage and further it is reported that the said Stoodley doth say he may as lawfully lye with the said Mary as any man may with his wyfe that he is lawfully married unto and that marriage is but a cerymoney before men.

John Pitt (Vicar)
John Clode, Humfrey Warren Churchwardens
Robert Freke, John Staple (Sydmen or questmen)

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/30/8

23rd April 1630

The presentment of John Pyt Viccar of Chardstocke, Robert Freke, John Staple, John Clode & Humfrey Warren, Churchwardens, there made the xxij th *[23rd]* day of April Anno Dom 1630

Imprimis they present Christopher Sandforde gent and Alice Holman his servant for not receiving the communion at Easter last nor at Easter before

Item they present that George Collyns als Michell doth stande excommunicate for his incontinent lving with one Elizabeth Browne als Guppie and the said Elizabeth stand the likewise excommunicate and did not receive the communion at Easter last.

John Pytt, Vicar
Robert Freke, John Clode, John Staple, Humfrey Warren

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/29/2

***[5th]* May 1632 CHARDSTOCKE**

The presentment of John Clode and William Dillinge Churchwardens here and Richard Lindon and Henry Knight the year past made the *[fifth?]* day of May Anno Dom 1632

First they present Lancellott Stoodly Thomas Clark James Hobbs and Eme Cate nowe James Hobbs wyfe to be excommunicate persons

Itm George Mitchell doth he stande excomunicate and soe hath byne longed

Itm they present Michael Speede and Mary his wyfe to be suspected to lyve incontinent before marriage

Itm that William Turner and Thomazine Pearce widow are suspected to have lyved incontinent

Signed: Richard Lindon, Henry Knight late Churchwardens
John Clode, William Dillinge newe Churchwardens

2nd October 1632 Letter from John Pit, Vicar

Good Mr Johnson by this inclosed you may understand that the presents injoined to Michael Speed and his wife are accordingly performed and his neighbour likes them so well that hee is come to undergoe the like taske if you please to injoin them and a third we have of the former nature tho (it may bee) not soe ready to accuse himself one William Cranden Jun married Apr 9 last past and Aug 29 hee had a younger son baptized. I would intreat you to send downe the administration of the goods of Jone Wils granted to the widow Hooper which I left with your wife at my last being in Sarum. For your Fees herein I have already intreated and yet doe, that you deal as favourable as may bee. You may remember that about whitsontyde you sent mee a comission to administer an oth to William Turner Executor of John Turner who defered his cominge until now of late, but now hath taken his oath. The commission with the will and Inventory I would have sent up by this bearer, but that William Turner tells me that Cox the Apparator hath received money already for you and himself and therefore I expect his cominge by whom I may send them. There is one Lanslet Stoodly that standeth excommunicate who, as I am certified, was ready to doe mee some good office at your being at Shurborne this Somer accusing mee for preaching false doctrine. It was somewhat strange to hear of the impudencie of the man and were hee worth the undertaking I would put him to the tryall by what prooffe hee could make him words good but I forebear to trouble the man and that it might the better appeare that such his ill usage moves mee not to deale with him in spleen, I have therefore forborne to pronounce him excommunicate, tho it bee neere three quarters of a yeare since it was first published send mee word (if you please) what you hold fit to bee done in it.

There is one Nicholas Turner Jun of my parish that hath dealt somewhat dishonestly with mee in concealinge from mee some tyeths. I shall intreat you to send a citation for him by this bearer. Soe not havinge els at this present I end and rest

Your loving friend
John Pytt
Oct 2 1632

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/32/9

3rd May 1633

The presentment of John Clode and William Dillinge Churchwardens there from Easter 1632 until Easter 1633 and Andrewe Parrocke and John Turner, Churchwardens for his nowe year 1633 made the Thirde Daye of May 1633.

Imprimis that John Mathewe hath not received the communion at Easter last nor hath byne at the pish church of Chardstocke in and upon any Sabath day sythence Easter 1632 to either of our knowledges.

Item wee present that William Turner late of Tytherleigh hath not received the Communion at Easter last nor hath byne at the pish church of Chardstocke in and uppon any Sabath day this seven or eight weekes to either our knowledges.

Item that the said William Turner is vehemently suspected to lyve incontinent with Mary the wyfe of William Wolmyngton and that very suspiciously and frequenteth or of late hath

frequented her company in divers suspicious and privat places as reported.

Item that Nicholas Chubb hath not, but doth refuse to pay the Churchrate contrary to Mr Deanes order and doth avow that he will discharge all these that will refuse and denye the payment thereof reporting that Mr Subdeane did formerly order that it should not be payed.

Item that these personnes hereunder named have not payed their said all Churchrate according to Mr Deans order made at Lyme Regis at the last visitation , viz John Mathews

Andrew Parrocke, John Turner new Churchwardens
John Clode, the X mark of William Dilling old Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/33/14

17th September 1633

This bearer Daniel Woodroofe servant to Mr John Bowdich hath had his bannes nowe honestly asked a 2nd time and intendeth to goe on in the business untill the rites of holy matrimonie bee accomplished . It hee hath begun at the wrong and hath acted the last part of the sceane first hee is therein come to actknowledge his error; hopeinge to find you as free in remission as hee is ready in confession, but wee have with us an other youngster who, me juduce, deserves not the like favor, one who, in seakings to avoyd one error is fallen into a worse for being found to forward in fallinge upon the flesh was ready to make amends by marrying her whom hee had mar'd for which end without any Bannes asked without any licence from you or elsewhere granted hee repayrd to a licentious priest one French (who assumes as much authoritie that way as the Arch Bish can grant) by whom (as the Jties give out) on Saturday the seventh of this present month the marriage knot was knit and now (as they thinke) all danger is past. Servants they ar both to one of our churchwardens and intend shortly to shift themselves into some other parish out of your jurisdiction and therefore if you purpose to call them to an accompt it must bee speedy. You may make this man become your informant if you please by questions handsomely posd to bring him into it. There is one John Mathew who was presented by the Churchwardens and hath bin lately cited by Cox the Aparator but ther is intreatie made unto mee to bee a solicator to you in his behalfe that no ex communication be granted; for the proceedings in your court already begunne, send mee your note of the charges and I will passé my word to see it payd but I pray let the fee of the Aparator bee somewhat moderated. Let mee heare from you [illeg] wee ha[illeg]st our good Deane and what good Bishoprike hath found him for the rumors herein with us run divers. I had ended but that in the instant is brought in to mee the certificate of this worthy man French which I have here sent you inclosed keepe it saff, or rather send it back in your letter for if they flie out of your power they shalbe layd hold on elsewhere. Noe more but let this supplicant find favor in some part of his intreatie who resteth wholly yours to bee commanded.

John Pytt

These are to certifie that John Matthew of Chardstocke and Marie Turner of the said parish were married in the parish church of Shildon inb the countie of Devon on Saturday being the seaventh day of the month of September Anno Dom 1633

Per me William French Vicum

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/33/2 and 3

16th July 1634

The Presentment made by Mr John Pitt vicar and the Churchwardens and Sidemen of the pish aforesaid the xvith [16th] daye of July Anno Dm 1634 as followeth

First they present that there is not in the Church of Chardstocke aforesaid a fitt booke of Comon prayer nor a fitt and decente carpett for the Communion table nor a decente cushion for the pulpit nor a fitt and convenyent seate for the minister. They doe therefore desire that convenyent tyme may be given for the provyding of the same.

Item that the register booke is not usually keepte in the Church in a cest as it ought to be and that some pte of the Churchyard wales are not sufficiently fenced.

Item that the Church and Chancell are not sufficiently repayred and maytayned in the inside in decent seate paving whitinge the kings armes not decente and other tryminge [illeg] yt the Chancell dore is unsufficente . Therefore doe praye tyme convenyente for the doinge thereof. The Chancell is to be repayred by Symon Every Esquier who hath the parsonage there.

Item that Elizabeth Walkeden, Elizabeth Browne and Marye Martyn doe lyve from their husbands theire said husbands beinge departed from them and that William Browne doth lyve from his wyfe she being gone to service and that Laurence Denman and Katherine his wyfe doe not lyve together beinge all very poore people without any offence or any [?vungent? urgent?] occasion the one against the other for any thing they knowe.

Item that William Turner the elder and Mary the wyfe of William Wolmyngton doe stande excommunicate uppon a suspicion of incontynency together and have soe stoode excommunicate by the space of three quarters of a yeare or thereabouts which said Mary Wolmygton is gone into the Kingdom of Ireland

Item that Nicholas Chubb doth also stande excommunicate for not paying of a Church rate and hath soe stoode by the space of three quarters of a yeare or thereabouts whose estate is agred for and the fees thereof payed.

Item that the said Nicholas Chubb and Thomazine Pears vide doe lyve together incontinely and the said Thomazine hath a child by the said Nicholas Chubb it is by both of them confessed and soe have lyved together by the space of almost a yeare past and soe doe lyve yet and doe not hasten to marry.

Item that there is a midwife in the said pish a poore and aged woman held to be very sufficiente in that mistery who hath and demead herself well and [illeg] it a longe tyme accompted skillfull therein.

Item that divers personnes of the pish of Chard dwelling farr from their pish Church of Chard and neare to the Church of Chardstocke doe often in the afternoone resorte to the Church of Chardstocke aforesaid.

John Pytt Vicar
Robert Cogan, William Nosciter Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/34/40

1635

Wee Richard Pynny and John Harris Churchwardens of Chardstocke in the County of Dorset and Robert Coggan and William Noscitor Sydemen having duely considered of the

Articles given us in Church doe present in manner and former following:

Imprimis wee present that wee have not as yet a Convenient Carpet for the Communion Table

Item wee present that the vicar's seat or Pew is not yet fitt but wee are now about to amend the same

Item wee present that the pavements of some part of the Church and Chancell are not yet sufficiently repaired but is now repairing

Item wee present that there is noe Terior of the Glibeland in our parish neither doe wee knowe that ever there was any

Item wee present that the seats of some parts of our Church are not as yet repaired in such comly and decent manner as wee intend speedily to doe the same

Item wee present one William Alford now liveth with one Johane Toller of our parish as a married cupple but by whome or where they were married wee knowe not.

Item wee present that oneBrownsey married one Agnes Pearse sometymes of this pish in a private house of one John Akerman of our pish as it hath been reported

Item wee present that William Serrye, John Parrock, Anthony Cakes and William Hobbs have usually sold drinks in their houses on the Sabeth daye

Item wee present that Mary the wife of William Woollmington and William Turner doe stand both excommunicated upon a fame of incontincy between them and have soe stode ever sithente the last visitation

Item wee present a fame of incontincy between Samuell Vynecombe and Mary Wills whose bands have longe since been published 3 severall tymes yet never married

Item wee present a fame of incontinancy between Robert Vyncent and Mary Mannyngge whose bands have long since been published yet not married

Item wee present John Mathewe for entertayninge a younge woman whom he named to be his sister who also dwelled out of our pish longe and had Child in his house as wee are informed being never married but wee never heard where or how or that ever the Child was Christened.

Richard Pynneye, John Harris Churchwardens
Robert Cogan , William Nositer Sidemen

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/35/75

14th November 1635

Mr Johnson

Tho Barber the Apparater was at Chardstock in my absence but I understand by Mr Pynny that hee hath delivered to him such monys for you as hee promised at Lime in the behalfe of William Turner viz 37s 6d. The proclamation with the commission to take Will Turner and his compurgators other I have here sent you inclosed what belongs on my parte I did as will appear by what is subscribed in the proclamation when I publikely appointed him a

day and place to come in with his compurgators but none appeared and to is rested until the 5th of November when hee made show of bringing in some two appearers but understanding they were to testifie upon oeth quicklie shranke backee and soe nothing was done. Wee have here sent you a church rate intreating you that it may bee confirmed for the gathering of moneys to repayer our church. I mentioned at my beinge with you at Lime that it would please Mr Deane to appoynt two discreet ministers (if you please Mr Geere and Mr Chase) and put them in authoritie to view the faults of our church, and accordingly to give information for about the placeings of seates (which now stand disorderly) there wilbee noe agreement betwene the parishioners themselves, especially for the fit placing of my seate wherein to read prayers (which in paticuler was presented at the Arch Bish : visitation as needful to bee amended) about which I know there wilbee nothings done unless it please Mr Deane to interprese his authoritie, and to prescribe the place and manor of its standinge, together with the standinge of the Pulpit nether of which (I thinke) can bee done warrantably by the Churchwardens without the authoritie of Mr Deane. Mr Pynny hath promised to send you by the Apparr. 2s 6d for the confirmation of the rate and sendinge it back as was agreed upon at Lime. Soe not haveing els at this present I comend you to the protection of the Almightye, in whom I rest.

Your assured friend
John Pytt

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/35/8

23rd May 1636

The Presentment of John Pytt Bachelor of devynytye vicar of Chardstock; Richard Pinny and John Harris, Churchwardens, and William Nossitor, one of the Sidemen

Impri wee present that Joanne the daughter of John Collyns late deceased had a base childe latlye borne of her bodye within our [*?parrish aforesd?*]

Also wee present that the aforesayde base Childe was carryd out of our sayde pish into some other pysh to bee baptysed or (to our knowledge) not yet baptysed at all

Itm wee present that all such things that were formerlye ordered and required of us for the reedyfying and adorninge our church are for the moste parte efected and fynished, and the rest now inhand doinge; which are some parte of our Seates. The rest and most undecente seates in our church wee fynde most of there challengers so obstinate that wee dare not to overmeddle with them without more spetiall authoryte from your Courte

Itm wee presente that William Turner of our pish hath not purged himselfe accordingelye as hee was enjoyned by your Courte

Itm wee presente that Henrye Crabb and Thomas Dabynott of Alson and by there occasyons some others doe obstinatlye refuse to paye there Rates towards the mayntenance and repacons of our Church whereby the sayde worke hath bine verye much hindered

John Pytt Vicar
Richard Pinney, John Harris Jun Churchwardens
William Nossiter Sideman

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/36/11

11th July 1638

The Presentment of John Pytt Bachelor of Divinity and Vicar of Chardstock aforesaid, Henry Bowditch gent and Richard Sellwood Churchwardens, Richard Pynnye, Robert Cogen and John Harris the younger Sidemen of the pish aforesayd made the xi th [11th] daye of Julye Att Lyme Regis in the sayed Countye Anno Dm 1638 as followeth:

Imprimis wee present that the Chancell of our pish Church of Chardstocke aforesaid is not repayred and amended in such and so comlye and decente manner and forme as it ought to bee by Mr Symon Everye

Item wee the sayde Vycar wardens and sydemen (Robert Cogen excepted) doe present that by the generall fame of our pish and by the confession of one Marye Marshall and others of the same house that she the said Marye was marryed to one Thomas Parris the elder, without banes asked or any lycence; A man of about 80 yeares and upwards, lyinge in his bedd, not able to stand, or goe wholye decayed in bodye and mynde, who dyed as tis reported the day following but by what mynster or by what Authoritye they were marryed,, or whether by any mynster at all, or whoe was present wee know nott, more than by common fame. The marryage, as wee are informed was at an unreasonable tyme, Secretly in a pryvate Chamber, with a companyeand unfytt and unworthye people

Item wee present that Lawrence Denman and his wyfe doe lyve aparte.

Item wee present that Elizabeth the wyfe of Steven Welsh doth professe and use the arte usage and mysterye of a mydwyfe, not sworne to our knowledge

Item wee present that Nicholas Chubb of our pish shoemaker and John Chubb his sonne doe stand excomunycated scythence the xi th [15th] day of October last paste upon certaine strife and controversyes then dependingge betwene partye and partye for neglecte (as wee hear) of payment of fees

Item wee present that John Brownseye the late hubsnad of Tamasyn Brownseye, Richard Irish the late husband of Magdalen Irish, and Thomas Parris, the elder, latelye dyed within our pish intestate as wee are informed.

Item wee present that John Clode latelye dyed within our pish his will not approved to our knowledge

I Robert Cogan doe agree with this presentment only I disclaim the fame that Thomas Parris was wholly decayed in body and mynd at the tyme of his marriage and of the rumor there of the people there present. Robert Cogan

Signed: John Pytt Vicar
Henry Bowdtich, Richard Sellwood Wardens
Richard Pynnye, John Harris jun

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/38/41

6th November 1641

The presentment of the Churchwardens and Sydemen of the parish of Charstock in comm. Dorset at Lime Regis at the Deanes visitation of Sarum November 6 1641

First we present John Mathew for wholly absenting his parish Church

Itm wee present [*John Bellet ?*] the younger that he did beget his fathers servant with child and whether he were at all married unto her we know not

Itm wee present that Dorothy Welsh [*?Widow*] lately deceased upon her last Will and Testament made one Robert Parris her Executor as wee are crediblie informed

William Turner, Silvestor Lindon Churchwardens
John Chubb, George Cookney Sidemen

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/39/29

September 1649

Note: The land measurements appear to be recorded in acres/rods and the value in s (shillings) or li (pounds).

A survey of the Prebend and Rectory of Chardstock with the right [*?members?numbers*] and appurtenances thereof lying and being within the pish of Chardstocke in the County of Dorset late part of the possessions or late belonging to the Cathedral Church of the Virgin Mary of Sarum made and taken by us whose names are hereunto subscribed in the moneth of September 1649 by virtue of a Commission to us granted grounded upon An Act of the Comons of England assembled in Parliament for the abolishing of Deans and Chapters Cannons Prebends and other offices and titles of and belonging to any Collegiate or Cathedral Church or Chappell within England and Wales under the hands and Seales of five or more of the Trustees in the sayd Act named and appointed

The Parsonage of Chardstocke consisting of a Barne a Stable a Cockloloft of five Bayes of building and a small yard 00-01 x1 s [*1 rod 11s*]

Two closes of Meadow adioyning to the said Barne called by the name of the Parsonage Meadow and cont by est ...10 ..0: xv li [*10 acres £15*]

One close being a Moory peece of ground cont by est ...07 00 v li [*7 acres £5*]

One close of Pasture woody ground called Past Croft adioyning to the Common called Millcroft woods cont by est ..05-00: iiij li [*5 acres £4*]

One close of Arr called by the name of Psons land adioyning to the highway leading to Titherley cont by est ... 09.00:: vij li [*9 acres £7*]

Two closes of Pasture and Arr called by the name of Huntley adioyning to the Ground of Alice Vincent on the west side thereof cont by est [*crossed through in document*]
04-00 : xl s [*4 acres 11s*]

Four Closes of Arrable called Parsons lande adioyning to the highway leading from Chardstock to Chard cont by est ...08-00 : v li [*8 acres £5*]

One close of Meadow and pasture called by the name of Stokestile adioyning to a Close called North Moore being the Lands of Mr Robt Henley con by Est 04-00 : iiij Li x s [*4 acres £4 10s*]

One Acre of Meadowe lying in Oxemeade which meade belonging to Mr Robert Henley 01-00 : xvi s [*1 acre 16s*]

One Acre of Land lying on the Head of Chillpitt belonging to Mr Robert Henley
01-00: iij s iij d [1 acre 3s 4d]

One plot or pcell of ground comonly reputed to go by in a Coplehold Tente called Axe but
not certainly knowne where con by est -00—02 : xs [2 rod 10s]

Total number of Acres ----49 ---03 : 45 – 19 – 4 [49 acres 3 road £45 19s 4d]

Mr Symon Every by Indenture of Lease bearing date the twentieth day of June in the 9th yeare
of the late King Charles granted by the Prebendary of Chardstocke holds all the last
mentioned premises with the appurtenances and for the lives of him the said Symon Henry
Every and John Every his sonnes under the reserved yearly rent of twenty pounds payable
at Machas and Lady day but is worth an improvement over and above the sayd rent as by
the pticulers certifyeth appeareth. Clxvj xix s iij d [£166 19s 4d]

There are two lives in being, viz Henry Every and John Every

This is certified by Order of the Comittee of Obstruccons

16 June 1649

Wilt Welt 1649

The Tythes of All sorts of Graine growne within the sayd parish (except only such bean
graine and hay as doe yearly happen to be sowen and growen on certaine pcells of ground
which have bin anciently orchard due to the Vicar) due and payable to the Rectory valete per
Anno Cxl li [£140]

There is a ceryain pension due and payable from the Rectory of Wambrooke in the said
County of Dorsett to the Rectory of Chardstock in lein (lien) of Tythe payable at Michas
onely xx s [20s]

All which premises wee are enformed are enioyed by one Mr Iverie [Every] who enioyeth the
same by verrtue of a Lease made one of the late Prebends of the Cathedrall Church of
Sarum which hath not been produced unto us.

The presentacion to the Vicaridge belongeth to the Lessee as wee are enformed.

The Vicaridge is worth per Ann xli li [£41]

The present Incumbent there is Mr Richard Morsse.

Examt R Wilt Welt Supos Genell Walt Toy Jo Squibb; Chr weare Geo Fairley

Source: A document supplied by the City of Birmingham Public Library in 1983 and now
held by Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre

1660 TO 1669 - THE CLERGY IN CHARDSTOCK

The following extracts are taken from a book titled The Church in an age of danger;
parsons and parishioners, by Donald A Spaeth:

1 - "Other gentlemen also instructed parish clergymen how to behave. **Robert Tyderleigh**,
esquire and JP, advised the vicar of Chardstock to reform before he incurred ecclesiastical
punishment." Probable date early 18th century.

2 - "**Richard Luce**, the vicar of Chardstock, expressed the boredom and frustration that
many parish clergy must have felt when he complained to a parishioner that if the

members of his congregation 'did hear him all the daies of their lives they should not be a fart the better for his preaching'. **Luce** threw a Bible on the ground, 'trampled on it & then swoare severall oathes that he would burne all the bookes he had in his study". **Richard Luce** was the Vicar of Chardstock from 1661 to 1669.

3 - "The disgusted inhabitants of Chardstock who refused to receive communion from their drunken minister also included a husbandman, a labourer and an illiterate clothworker". Dated 1667 when **Richard Luce** was the Vicar of Chardstock.

4 - Concerning representations made against the clergy. "Those of higher status were better represented among witnesses than those of lesser status.....six of eleven witnesses in Chardstock (Dorset) were drawn from the gentry and middling sort" Dated 1691 when **James Keate** was the Vicar of Chardstock.

5 - "In Chardstock [in 1668] 120 to 140 of its 500 to 600 adults received communion on occasion".

1663

Item we do present James Strong for preaching at the funerall of his father Thomas Strong on May ye 13th last past in his house in Chardstock Towne.

Item we do present that Thomas Strong dyed intestate and that he left behinde him three children, namely James Strong, Elizabeth Cox Wid, Sarah Mathew the wife of Sym Mathew of Up Ottery in Devon.

Richard Luce, vicar of Chardstocke
Richard Cate churchwarden John Denning churchwarden
Thomas Guppie, Nicholas Chubb, Henry Alford, Thomas Collens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/41/39

1663

The Presentments given at ye prebendal visitation holden at Chardstock in the County of Dorset and of the peculiar Jurisdiction of ye right worshipfull ye reverend Mr Deane of Sarum by the vicar, Churchwardens and Sidesmen of ye said pish.

Imprimis we doe present Thomas Crandon for entertaining of Benjamin Mills to preach at his house on Palm Sunday last past and we doe present ye said Benjamin Mills for preaching at and neer the said Crandons house the time aforesaid contrary to the Cannons Ecclesiasticall and contrary to ye late Act of Uniformity.

Item we doe present James Strong for preaching at the funerall of his father Thomas Strong on May ye 13th last past in his house in Chardstock Towne.

Item we doe present Richard Pearce for wearing his hat constantly in the time of sermon which he doth merely in contempt for that he hath promised amendment but still persists and we doe present him for very frequent neglecting of divine service, he very seldom or never coming to the church till ye divine service be neer ended

Item we doe present James Dawberey Gent for putting up of a board upon his seat to ye hindrance of theye that sit behinde him from the sight and convenient audience of the auditory

Item we doe present that Thomas Strong dyed intestate and that he left behinde him three children namely James Strong, Elizabeth Cox, Wid, Sarah Mathew the wife of Sym Mathew of Up Ottery in Devon

Richard Luce vic of Chardstocke

Richard Cate Churchwarden, John Denning Churchwarden

Thomas Guppie, Nicholas Chubb, Henry Alford, Thomas Collens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/52/32

1665 Letter from Richard Luce to be read with his presentation April 19 1665

John Daggles

Herewith you will receive a presentment against several persons of my pish (of whom I acquainted you last) whereof I make it my request both to yourself and Mr Johnson that they may be about ye wid Staples and Syllars business you faile not to bring downe ye presse for ye husband of Elizabeth Clothier hath written to me requiring me to present her for deserting etc. No more at present but that I am

Your loving friend,
Richard Luce

19th April 1665 Letter from Richard Luce

Mr Johnson

I desire you to hasten downe ye citacion against ye persons presented by me and to presse against ye ex officio mero Our Churchwardens should have presented but that I conceive these cases are more immediately under my cognizance. The relation between Michel and his pretended wife is this. The woman's father and ye man's grandmother were brother and sister. Minde yt when occasion serves because it was forgot in ye presentments.

Your loving friend
Richard Luce

*Notes: on the reverse of the paper a stamp/seal: To Mr John Daggles, at North Wootton, near Shireburne d d these with speed. Post payd Dorset
Leave this letter at ye posthouse in Shireburne to be speedily conveyed as above is directed*

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/43/3

19th April 1665

A presentment of some misdemeanours to be reformed within ye pish of Chardstock in Dorset and of ye peculiar Ecclesiasticall jurisdiction of Mr Deane of Sarum

Impr I present Elizabeth Clothier ye wife of John Clothier of Montague in Somersetshire and Diocese of Bath and Welles for that contrary to ye law she resides in the pish with one Elizabeth Harris widow and under pretense of religious separation refuses to dwell with her husband who hath a good report amongst his neighbors he being

generally reputed an obedient son of ye church of England a loyal subject of his Majesty and a man of unblameable conversation amongst his neighbours.

Item I present that said Elizabeth Clothier for that she hath endeavoured to seduce her said husband from ye soundness of the possession of the most holy faith taught and maintained in the church of England and hath likewise labored to entice him by books and to joyne himself to ye sect of ye Quakers as the said John Clothier did for some months since intimate to me in a letter under his owne hande and that he burnt ye books dd [?donated?] him by his said wife.

I present ye said Elizabeth to have deserted her husband and so hath resided by ye space of six months last past within ye pish of Chardstock aforesaid and during her abode here hath endeavoured to subvert others and bring them into dislike with ye Doctrine and discipline of ye Church of England.

I present the said Elizabeth to have been and is of evil name and fame and hath labored to bring her said husband into disgrace

Item I present Andrew Michell and Julian Bryant his pretended wife for that notwithstanding our Admonition given to them by myself to abstaine from joining together in marriage contrary to the lawes of God and ye wholesome lawes of ye land (they being both by their own confession within ye degrees of consanguinity by law exhibited) did yet after their bannes of Matrimony were disallowed goe to Hazzleborough Plucknet in ye county of Somerset and were there married as they pretend by one Samuel Norrington clerke of ye Diocese of Bath and Welles and since yt time have cohabited as man and wife to ye dishonour of Christs pure Religion and scandel of ye church

Item I lastly present that I doe really beleeve all and singular ye to be true in every pt and that I doe not present all or any of ye persons aforesaid out of envy or malice or any other sinister respect.

Witness my hand
Richard Luce, Vicar of Chardstock

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/43/27

.....

26th June 1665

The presentments of ye churchwardens and other sworn men of ye pish of Chardstocke etc exhibited in the ordinary visitation of Mr Deane of Sarum 26 Jun 1665.

To ye first Article we present all is well save that ye Ile over the pulpit is unrepaired which is now in controversy.

To ye 2nd Article all is well

To ye 3rd we know of none that are baptized within our pish but are baptized according to ye forme prescribed in the booke of common prayer established by law.

To ye 4th all is well

To ye 5th we answer that we have some five or six hundred communicants of which we conceive there may six or seven score which may at time receive ye communion according to ye manner and usage of the church of England. A more particular account we cannot give for ye present.

To ye 6th Article we answer that we doe referre our vicar to his letters of orders and as for his conformity to the order and direction of holy church we doe neither know neither have we heard anything to the contrary.

To ye 7th Art we can say nothing either of our owne knowledge or by heresay

To ye 8th we present all is well

To ye 9th we present all is well

To ye 10th we present Grace ye wife of Chrystopher Collins and Elizabeth Clothier for Quakers the former of these hath been excommunicated 2 yeares ye latter under pretence of Religion lives from her husband

To ye 11th we say that we know only Andrew Michell and Juliar Bryant his pretended wife to live under a vehement suspition of incest they being as is conceived married within ye degrees prohibited

To ye 12th Article all is well

To ye 13th we answer that we have no terrier etc that we know of and as for other things we only present that their is a pension of 20 shillings per annum due from the Rectour or ye Rectoury of Wambrooke to ye vicar of ye vicarage of Chardstocke which hath been of late with held as we have heard by Mr John Chase the present Rectour.

To ye 14th Article we answer that since the justices of peace have acted in that case for levying of 12d a Sondag etc we ye churchwardens have endeavoured to doe our part therein and shall doe for ye future as God shall enable us, what concernes our minister we have been advised by him to see the statute executed.

To ye 15th Article we know none that have openly defamed the booke of Common prayer, but we have some that are disaffected to ye present [*?ways?*] of God and holy Liturgy established by law as for instance Thomas Crandon John Crandon, William Crandon who forsake their owne pish church and follow conventicly as we have been credibly informed.

Richard Luce, vicar
The T make of Walther Harris
The P marke of George Pinney old churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/43/41

.....

11th June 1668

The presentment of us Churchwardens and Sidemen of Chardstock made and given up to the right worshipfull the Dean of Sarum at his visitation held at Lyme Regis on Thursday 11th of June Anno Regni Regis vicesimo Anno Dom 1668 as followeth:

To the first Article wee have nothing to the present

To the second/third/fourth wee have nothing to present

To the fiveth we present that by reason of the vicious and uncivill behaviour of our Minister Mr Richard Luce divers of our pishoners have neglected to receive the holy Sacrament this last yeare at his hands

To the sixt wee present our vicar Mr Richard Luce for that hee hath a long time neglected his cure and more esspetially for these six weekes who hath left us alltogether without makinge provision for our supply in his absence as hee ought to have done which hath caused great distractions and much disorder in our pish as I have heard on the Sundayes. And on the 29th of January last hee spent but little time in the Church, and redd but very few prayers only for hee spent the moste parte of the day in the Alehouse. And for his life and conversation it hath bynn too notorious debawcht much given to drunckennes cursing and swareing quarellinge and stirring up discord amongst his neighbors with many other vicious and rude deportments.

To the seventh wee present James Harris for defaseing of the Churchyard by cutting downe severall timber trees there, who being questioned for it, replied, that hee would cutt them downe all for that hee had bought them of the vicar Mr Luce.

To the Eighth/Ninth/Tenth/Eleventh/Twelveth Nothinge

To the thirteenth wee present our Minister Mr Luce for a common drunckerd and sower of discord and other misdemeaners as before expessed to the 6th Article. And one Stephen Pearce a loose and lewd fellow and common companion of the said Luce in druncknenes a common curser and swarer a common breaker of the Kings peace and other his Majesties lawes, one that will not follow any honest way of life, for which said crimes hee hath beene presented at our Sessions and presses thereupon ishewed forth against him, in the execution whereof our Constable beinge credibly informed yt ye said offende was in the house of our vicar Luce demanded him of our said vicar but our vicar standing out strongely in denyall of him our Constable tould him playnely that he must and would see his chambers accordingly goeing up hee found the said offende in our said vicars studdy but upon ye vicars ingagment for him he was freed againe for that time. But after upon fresh presses he was sent to Bridwell and from thence (he ye said Pearce) hath binne since delivered upon sureties but wee are credibly informed that he continues as bad as ever.

To the fourteenth/fiveteenth nothing

To the sixteenth wee knownot how to present because through the neglect of ye Minister in his dutye as before expressed many of our pishioners have not bynn at Church uppon severall Sundayes in regard sometimes there is divine service and sometimes none, in soe much that wee could not take that dew observation of the absenters as wee ought to have done further referringe to our former presentments.

Philip Palmer, John Knight Churchwardens
Richard Harris, Thomas Minson Sidesmen

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/46/39

Undated, probably 1668

To the Reverend Mr Deane of Sarum, Richard Luce vicar of Chardstocke with all humility and due obedience tending these his presentment as followeth

Imprimis I present John Knight late churchwarden of Chardstocke for procuring his childe to be baptized in his owne house without urgent necessity by a minister of another pish without asking myleave or consent

Item I present Nicholas Cate for procuring his childe to be baptized in his owne house by a

strange minister no necessity urging him so to doe

Item I present Richard Chard for procuring his childe to be baptized in his owne house ut supra

Item I present Thomas Guppy for procuring his childe to be baptized in his owne house ut supra

Item I present John Knight and Phillip Palmer churchwardens for not washing the surplice and for not seing due reverence in ye time of divine service but have suffered divers persons to stand talking in ye churchyard during ye time of divine service on ye Lords daies and other daies appointed to be kept holy be ye constitution of the church of England

Item I present John Knight aforesaid for a notorious neglecter of divine service ever since my being vicar of Chardstocke and for that he hath not received the Sacrament of ye Lords Supper this for seven yeares last past

Item I present Richard Pearse for that he hath been a constant neglecter of divine services and ye sacrament of ye Lords this last seven yeares and upwards

Item I present Nicholas Cate for that he hath entertained several persons in his house being an Alehouse on the Lords daye tipling in time of divine service

Item I present John Coombe for neglecting divine service and sacrament of ye Lords Supper this seven yeares last past and an open contemner and depraver of ye booke of common prayers

I present Henry Bowdich Gent and Bridget his wife for refusing to receive the sacrament of ye Lords Supper these last seven yeares

Item I present John Hoare and his wife John Cogan and his wife and every of them for not receiving the sacrament of ye Lords Supper these seven yeares last past

Item I present Thomas Minson for neglecting the sacrament of ye Lords Supper these two yeares last past

Item I present Phillip Palmer and John Knight the late churchwardens, Robert Tyderlegh Esq, William Warry, Henry Bowdich Gent for taking the pish stocke which should be employed in the reparation of the church and maintenance of ye poor to maintaine a lawsuite at ye instances of Nicholas Cate against myselfe which ye said Cate promoted in ye Ecclesiastical Court of ye worshipfull Deane of Sarum. And the summe so ordered by ye said Robert Tyderlegh etc was ten pounds which they by warrant under their owne handes and others to George Bowdich Gent treasurer for the said stocke ordered to be delivered to ye said Cate.

Richard Luce, Vicar of Chardstocke

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/46

20th September 1670

Presentment of the Minister and Churchwardens of Charstock made at the Prebend's Visitation 20 September 1670.

We do present Francis Sandford for refusing to come to the sacrament and for not coming

to the Church

And nothing else we find at present presentable

James Keate (Vicar)
William Nossiter, Thomas Turner

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

4th May 1671

The Presentment of the minister and Churchwardens of Chardstock, 4 May 1671

Imprimis we present John Mathew of Crawley for refusing to pay his church rate and for never coming to the church

Imp we present ElizabethTurner for having a base child name [*illeg*] Clarke of Axminster for to be the father thereof

Item we present Susanna Coombes for having a base child she refuseth to name the father thereof

Item we present John Whitman sen for not coming to church and for refusing to pay his offerings

Item we present Richard Maning for not coming to church at all

Item we present Anne Bond widdow and Caleb Westcot for refusing to pay their ministers dues

Richard Stoodley
James Keate (vicar)
William Nossiter, Thomas Turner Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/49/8

27th June 1673

A presentment made by the Churchwarden of Chardstocke to ye Right Worshipfull ye deane of Sarum by Francis Sanford and Nicholas Orchard ye 27th day of June 1673:

It wee present Richard Mieirimonth for marriing his wifes sister having Isue by his former

It wee present James Stronge for making a swine trove of ye font of Betscombe

Frances Sanford, Nicholas Orchard

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/52/32

1680

Robert Sellward Jun, bastard child of Alney wife of John Keate

John Baulch father of bastard child of Elizabeth Cox

South Ile to be repaired by the churchwardens

Alsoe we present Thomas Estmond and Elizabeth his wife and Elizabeth Estmond his daughter and Mary Estmond the wife of John Estmond and Joane Penquait the wife of Anthony Penquait and for refusing to come to their pish Church to hear devine service and for not receiving the Sacrament of the Lords Supper at Easter laster past.

Also we present Thomas Mathew and Joane Anreman for living together as man and wife but whether they are married we know not.

James Keate and Henry Raw (Churchwarden)

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1682

Imprimis we present Elizabeth Churchill a single person of this pishe to be bigg with child and that she hath accused Swithen Collens the younger to be the reputed father thereof before Mr William Ellesdon one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace.

James Daebery and Mary his wife committed crime of fornication and [*illeg*] before marriage.

William French, Thomas Keate (Churchwardens)

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

30th June 1684

Item we present the occupiers of Ax for refusing to pay the Church Rate being fifteen shillings and two pence

Item We present Nicholas Keate for refusing to pay the Church Rate being three pence farthing

Signed: John Estmond, Edward Clode

William Deane bastard child before marriage of Dorothy Miller

Edward Larcombe bastard child before marriage of Mary Combe

Daniel Welsh [*bastard child before marriage of*] Rachell Speed

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1685

Joane Maninge bastard child, father Nicholas Edwards

Dianna Freake with child

Robert Bond, Steven Michell (Churchwardens)

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

11th May 1685

The presentment of John Combe and John Hore Churchwardens of the pish of Chardstock in the County of Dorset made and exhibited to and before the worshipful Mr Richard Kent Clerke Surrogate to the Reverend Deane of Sarum at his visitation holden at Lyme Regis the eleventh day of May 1685

Imprimis Wee present Christopher Collins son of Chardstocke for not frequenting his pish Church nor receiving the Sacrament at Easter last

Item Wee present Elizabeth Churchill for having a base born Child and Swithin Collins to be the reputed father

Item Wee present Swithin Collins for not frequenting his pish church nor receiving the Sacrament at Easter last

Item Wee present Henry Pollard for not frequenting his pish Church nor receiving the Sacrament at Easter last

Item Wee present William Morris for not frequenting his pish Church nor receiving the Sacrament at Easter last

Item Wee present Stephen Mitchell and Robert Bond to be Churchwardens for the year ensuing

John Combe, John Hoare Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/63/49

5th June 1686

Imp Wee doe present Mary Cake for having a base Child born of her body the tenth day of March last past

Steven Michell, Robert Bond (Churchwardens) 1685

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

29th November 1686

Mary Cake had base child

Joane Attwell widow of Thomas Attwell had base child

Mary Phillips had base child

John Combe, Richard Tucker [*could be Harris*] (Churchwardens)

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

15th November 1687

Imprimis we present Mary Hore soe faire as we know shee is with Child unlawfull begotten

Imp We present George Pyney for Taking the said Mary Hore into his house and being a married man and the same is in the pish that he make use Carnially of her Body

Imp We present Charles Manninge and Mary his pretended wife and Married without Banns or Lycince and it is reported that she was with Child before Marriage

George Alford, William Markes

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

5th February 1690

Edward Clode and John Chubb (Churchwardens)

June 1690 Base children from Deborah Collman, Jane Pynney and Armonell Bond.

Signed Robert Tyderleigh

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

16th July 1691

Sarah Freke had base child, father Richard Oaks

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

15th July 1693

Elizabeth Staple had base born child male father Samuel Harvey a married man

George Tucker and Hanah Morris living together before marriage. Married without banns or licence

Tyderleigh Yle out of repair, Robert Tyderleigh to repair it.

Chancell out of repair, John Every to repair it

Henry Turner, John Bagwell Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

14th June 1694

Tyderleigh llye out of repair

Chancel out of repair, John Every to repair it

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

6th May 1695

A presentment made by the Churchwardens of Chardstock and exhibited at the triennial visitation of the Reverend the Dean of Sarum holden at Lyme Regis on the 6th day of May 1695

We present that Grace Harris of our pish als Button of our parish lately married to Henry Button is guilty of the sinne of antenuptiall fornication

Edward Clode, John Lombard

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/71/30

27th November 1695

The presentment of the Churchwardens of Chardstock in the County of Dorsett made and exhibited to and before Mr James Keate Clerke Surrogate to me Robert Pierce Prebendary of Chardstock aforesaid at the Prebendal Visitation held there the 27th November 1695

Wee present Susan Welsh for being delivered of a Bastard child and that William Warry the younger of this pish is the father thereof as the said Susan hath confessed and swoorne before a Justice of the Peace

William French, Robert Cook Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

14th June 1697

A presentment then made by the Churchwardens for the year 1696 at a Spiritual Court held then at ye sign of the Dolphin in Chardstock aforesaid

Imprimis we present the South Isle of the Church comenly called Mr Tyderleigh's Isle to be out of repair and Mr Tyderleigh to repair it

Item we present the Chancell to be out of repair

Item we present Robt Tyderleigh Esq for living incontinently with Gertrude Browne

Richard Cogan, John Bently (Churchwardens)

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1699

We present death of Marty Chubb widdow and Alexander Chubb her son possing her goods

We present the death of Mary Knight and Nathanel Knight possessor of her goods

We present the Church porch out of repair to be amended

We present the leeds of the Church out of repair

Hugh Crabb (Churchwarden)

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1702

Presentment: The Church is in repair except for a small leake or two and some glass wanting

Imp Robert Tyderleigh Esq for a bastard by Israel Sprake

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

17th June 1703

I present the Chancell being out of repair in the roofs thereof

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

2nd November 1705

Itm We present Burnard Welsh and Dorithy Turner for living incontently together

Itm We present several Leakes in the Leds belonging to the Church out of repair and to be repaired by the next Court

Itm We present the church windows to be out of repair

Itm We present the footing of Several Seats to be out of repair

Itm We present Elinor Bond for having a base born child

Itm We present Mary Stickland for having a base born child and John Pinney the reputed father

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

8th September 1709

Thomas Keate Son Possessor of the goods of Thomas Keate Deceased

Joane Vincent relict Possessor of the goods of Robert Vincent and Robert *[illeg]* Deceased

Elizabeth Bourage Possessor of the goods of John Bourage Deceased

Robert Cook Possessor of the goods of Margaret Cook wid Deceased

William Browne Possessor of the goods of Hannah Browne Wid Deceased

We Present Robert Tyderleigh Esq to repair the South Ile in the parish Church of Chardstock being very much defective in the rough [*illeg*] and the windows to be repaired by the Second day of November next

We Present Some paving being out of repair in the Church to be amended by the Second day of September next and some leaking in the leads to be repaired by the same tyme

John Michell, Thomas Palmer (Churchwardens)

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

2nd September 1710

The Presentation of the Churchwardens of Chardstock in the County of Dorsett made at the visitation Court held at Lyme Regis in the aforesaid County on Saturday the Second day off September Anno Dom 1710

Imprimis Wee doe present the Church Bible to be defective and doe desire the Churchwardens for the year ensuing to buy a new one between this Xmas and next

Item Wee doe present William Stoodley of our pish for practising phisick without a Licence

Item Wee doe present Omnia alia bene

Thomas Deane, Henry Bowdich

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/78

3rd July 1711

We Present that the church is out of repair in its tiling and leads to be repaired on or before Michelmas next

We Present Elizabeth Turner singlewoman for having a base born Child

Robert Cook, Robert Vincent (Churchwardens)

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1712

I Present that Leads of the Church to be out of repair

I Present John French of this parish aforesaid for living incontinently with Mary Glade of Wambrook by one she has had a child or miscarried as it reported

I Present Thomas Baulch of the parish of Chardstock for living incontinently with Joan Collier of the same place widdow

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1714

We know nothing presentable in our parish but two or three small leaks in our leads and the lower part of the church wall which belongs to the Parish of Wambrook that are out of repair and a small breach in our wall belonging to this parish which is repaired by the Churchwardens of the parish of Chardstock.

William Wills and John Chard (Churchwardens)

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

22nd July 1714

John Welsh presented : John Broome of the parish of Chardstock being reputed father of base born of [illeg] Harris of the same place spinster

Elizabeth Turner wife of Richard Turner for being delivered of a child within 6 or 8 weeks after marriage

I present the North Ile of the parish aforesaid to be out of repair in its Tyleing.

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/8/146

1717

Presentment of John Deane and John Philips

Imp We present Robert Tiddlerley Esq for not repairing the Isle in the Church belonging to him to repair the same being out of repair

We present the Vicar's House to be out of repair

We Present the Church Lands to be out of repair and we desire a time be allowed to repair the same

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1720

John Chard the possessor of ye goods of Mercy Chard deceased 9/11/1719

William Osburne wife possessor of ye goods of Joseph Osburne deceased 5th Nov.

Joice and Grace Grubham possessor of ye goods of Faith Grubham deceased 27th March.

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/8/146

1721

Presentment of Henry Crabb and John Ransome

We Present the pavement going up to the Chancel to be out of repair

We present the Leads of the Church to be out of Repair

We present the South lyle to be out of Repair and to be repaired by Henry Codrington

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

20th June 1721

Mrs Anne Burrige and Mary Parrock of Chardstock to appear at visitation.

Richard Turner deceased, Bernard Welsh possessor of goods

Mrs Coggan deceased, Mr Robert Coggan to prove a will

Margaret Guppy deceased, Henry Turner to administrate

William Warry deceased, Mr Thomas Warry to prove a Will

Item I present Mr Thomas Hoalbrook and Mr Stephen Bowditch to be Churchwardens for the year next ensuing

Stephen Bowditch

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

26th May 1722

A Presentment made by the Churchwardens of the Parish Church of Chardstocke at ye visitation held at Lyme Regis as follow:

Impris I present that the Ile of the said Church has been heretofore presented not yet repaired viz the Ile belonging to the Estate possessed by Henry Coddington Gent

Item I present that several windows of the said Church are broken and was so by young people playing at fives

Item I present that the said Church is in sufficient repair

Item I present Mr Thomas Hoalbrook and Mr Stephen Bowditch to be Churchwardens for the year next ensuing

Stephen Bowditch

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/90

1723

Presentation of Thomas Holbrook and Stephen Bowditch

We present Susannah Sheppen for having a Bastard child

We present Elizabeth Pearce for having a Bastard child

We present Elizabeth Paris for having a Bastard child

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1724

Presentments for William Liddon and Henry Turner Churchwardens

We Present Susannah Stoodly widdow for a base born child

We Present Thomas Symes for unlawfully cohabiting with her

We Present The Seats of the Church out of repair

We Present The Windows of the Ile of the Church

We Present The leads and windows of the Church

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

29th May 1725 CHARDSTOCK

The presentment of the Churchwardens made and exhibited at the Triennial Visitation of the Rev the Dean of Sarum held at Lime Regis May 29th 1725

We present the South Isle of the Church to be mended by Mr Henry Codrington

We know nothing more presentable

William Marks, William Shuger Old Churchwardens
Timothy Hoare, James Keate New Churchwardens

Henry Hawkins for an administration of John Hawkins deceased.

Elizabeth Bagwell for ye probate of a will Mary Barwell

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/28/93

1726

Presentments of Tim Hoare and James Keate

We Present Mary Whiscombe for a base born child, Edward Morley reputed father

We Present Elizabeth Speed for a base born child, John Plyer reputed father

We Present the South Ile of the Church belonging to Titherley to be out of repair to be repaired by Mr Henry Coddington

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1727

Presentments of Isaac Deane and Hezechiah Sommers

Wee Present ye Church in good repeare

Wee Present Joane Welch for having a base child Sam. Margret to be ye father of it

Wee Present Ann Pears for a base child

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

18th July 1728

A presentment made by Robert Guppy and John Searle

Imprimis We present the church and all other things belonging to be in good repair as far as we know

Itm we present Raymundo Putt esq and Mr John Mitchell to do the office of Churchwarden for the ensuing year

Itm we present Susannah Stoodly Singlewoman having two children at a birth

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/96

10th June 1729

Presentments of John Mitchell and Thomas Blampin

We present several of the Seats in our parish Church to be out of repair but also present we cannot say who ought to repair the same

We present the Isle formerly Mrs Tytherlys to be out of repair and to be repaired by Thomas Pitts Esq

We present Susannah Gams for having a Base Born Child and we present John Pooke for lying under the common fame or vehement suspicion of being the reputed father of such base born child

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1730

Presentments of Thomas Keate and Thomas Palmer

We present Sarah Keate daughter of Thomas Keate subscribing Churchwarden for having a base born child of her body and begotten on her by William Marks whom we present as the father of the base born child and we know no other person or thing within our parish presentable.

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

18th June 1731

A presentment then made by Robert Gray Churchwarding of the parish of Chardstock as follows:

First I present the Church and pulpett and books and serpulies and bells are all in good order to the best of my knowledge

Secondly I present Susannah Gams for having one bas child and John Pooke for keeping her company

Thirdly I present Mr Sammuel Bowdich and Mr John Bragge Churchwardens for the year following

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/99

10th June 1732

Presentment of Samuel Bowditch and John Bragge

Wee In...tly Present the Church Pullpitt Books Serplus and Bells with other things belonging in the Church to be in good order according to the best of our knowledge

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1733

Presentment of Samuel Pinney and Thomas Apsey

We present Hannah Savory for having base born Child reputed father Harvey

We present Rose Parris for having base born child

We present Elizabeth Speed for having base born Child reputed father Samuel Wyatt

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

17th June 1734

A presentment then made by William Pryer and William Wyatt Churchwardens for the Parish of Chardstock as follows:

First we present all things belonging to the Church to be in good Repaire to the best of our knowledge

Secondly we present Thomas Drayton and Richard Gillett to serve the office of Churchwardens for the year ensuing

Thirdly we present Elizabeth Cake for having a base child and likewise Mary Knight for having a base child and John Silwood the reputed father. Sarah Horne for having a base born child

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/102

1735

Presentment of Thomas Drayton and Richard Gillett

Itm we present the chansell not finished

Itm we present Jane Deem for having Base Born Child and John Dinning reputed father

Itm we present Mary Harvey for having Base Born Child

Itm we present Elizabeth Chubb for Doing the office of midwife without a licence

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1736

Presentment of John Rounseville

I present the floors of some seats in our Church to be out of repair but at present we know not who are to repair the same

I present the floor of the Chancel to be out of repair and to be repaired by the Impropiator

I present Elizabeth Seaward for having a base born child and William Hulteny of Ilminster to be the reputed father

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

5th July 1736

A presentment made by William Wills and Thomas Welch Churchwardens as follows:

In Primiss we present the pulpett the books the surpulis the bells the Church Clock and all other things belonging to the Church to be in good Repare to the best of our knowledge

2nd we present madam Pitts for a Ile which now very soon will be repard which now is not in good Repare

3rd we present Mr John Chard and Mr John Marks to serve the office of Churchwardens for the year ensuing. A true presentment to the best of our knowledge as witness our hands

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/105

1738

Presentments of John Chard and John Marks

We present the leeds of the tower are out of repair

We present the sealing of the Chansell out of repair

We present Madam Pitt's Ile to be out of repair

I present the Surplices as worn out and the floor of the Church to be out of repair

I present Part of the Church and Chancel to be overrun with Ivy.

Richard Hele (Vicar)

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1739

Presentments of Thomas Deane and John Wills

We present the Lids of the tower to be out of repair

We present some of the seats to be out of repair

We present Mrs Pitts Ile to be out of repair

Account of those to prove wills:

John Palmer, son of Thomas Palmer, died

Sarah widow of John Deane died

John son of Thomas Staple died

Sarah daughter of William Gillet died

Oshe widow of Luke Woodland died

Mary widow of Richard French died

Jane widow of Charles Fallatt died

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1740

The Presentment of the Minister and Churchwardens of the Parish of Chardstock, viz

We present the South Side of the Tower to be out of Repair and want rough-casting

We present the seats of the Church to be out of Repair, and a Want of Tutts at the Font

We present the Church Windows to want mending and the Church to want Ceiling

We present the Church-Yard Gates to be in Want of Repair

We present the lower end of the Churchyard Wall to be broke down and to be repaired by the Parish of Wambrook

We present a Want of Wicketts to the Church Porches

Lastly We present Mr Thomas Drayton and Mr John Palmer to serve the Office of Churchwardens for the Year ensuing, and every Thing else to be in Repair according to the best of our knowledge

Richard Hele (Vicar)

Hugh Welsh, Will Amor Churchwardens

Orded to rep by Easter and testify next visitation

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/108

1742

Presentment of William Marks and Henry Hawkins

We present the Tower to be out of repair also the seats and floor of the Church

Administration Mary Cooke of the effects of Joseph Cooke

Letters of Administration by Agnes Gillett of the effects of Richard Gillett

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1744

Richard Hele, Vicar
Jonathan Wyatt, Churchwarden

Joan Crabb deceased. Thomas Dunning and Bridgett Administrators.

John Bragg deceased, Susanna his widow Administrator

8th July 1743

A presentment then made by William Pryor and Benjamin Parris Churchwardens of the parish of Chardstock as follows:

Imprimis we present the Church the pulpet the Books the bells and all things belonging to the Church to be in as good Repair as Every Vsseall to the best of our knowledge

Secondly we present William Pryer and John Symes to serve the office of Churchwarden for the year ensuing as witness our hands

We present the tower to be out of repair

We present a cover for ye Voant to be repaired by us

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/111

1745

Presentments of William Pryor and John Symes

We present the Chansell and North Ile to be out of repair

We present ye Tower out of repair and two belropes and ye Churchyard wall out of repair

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

28th June 1746

A presentment for ye Parish Church of Chardstock

I present the tops of the tower being out of Repair the lids being Decaid lets in the wet

And also I present Mr Pitts Ile

And also the Chancel belonging to Mr Every

And also the Churchwardens for the year ensuing being Mr James Welch and the Occupier of Milwill

And all belonging also to the Church and Churchyard being in Repair as Usual.

James Wyatt (Churchwarden)

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/113

1747

Presentments of James Welsh and John Turner

We present Chancel out of repair the Cealing the floor and the door of the Chancel

We present Mrs Pittses Isle out of repair

We present the body of the Church and the Tower in good repair

We present the Churchyard wall out of repair Especially that part that belongs to Wambrook

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

19th June 1749

The presentment of the Churchwardens of Chardstock made and exhibited at ye Visitation held at Lyme Regis the nineteenth day of June 1749

First we present ye Books Bells and Supleiss in good repair as also the Body of ye Church in good repair but the flat lead of the Tower out of Repair and flat lead of the Church out of Repair as also ye windows and the Churchyard wall

And we present Mr Richard Chard and John Stevens Churchwardens for ye year ensuing.

Richard Hele Vicar

John Wills, William Pryer Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/116

1751

We present the Leads over the South Porch out of repair

We present the seats of the church out of repair

John Deane and John Culverwell Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

1752

William Amor and John Bishop Churchwardens

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2

30th June 1752

A presentment of the Churchwardens made and exhibited at the Triennial Visitation of the Rev Worshipful the Dean of Sarum held at the Parish Church of Lime in the County of Dorset the 30th June 1752

We present Mr Pitt's Isle out of Repair but Repairing and also the Tower Wee Present That part of the Church wall belonging to Wambrook to Repair at present in a Ruinous Condition

Wee present the want of a cover for the Baptismal Font we present the Chancel Floor out of order and floor of the Church

Also Wee present William Amor the Elder and John Bishop Churchwardens for this year.

W Amor Churchwarden

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/119

17th June 1755

The Presentment then made by John Palmer and John Wills Churchwardens of Chardstock

We present the North Porch the Doors of ye seats the Belfry Door the steeps of the Tower out of Repair and all other things that are presentable to be in good repair

Except the Bounds or fences of the Churchyard which are out of repair and ought to be repaired by the pishioners of Chardstock and Wambrook

and We present John Dallibar and John Bently to be Churchwardens for the year ensuing

John Wills, John Palmer

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D5/28/122

**ARTICLES OF VISITATION AND ENQUIRY
EXHIBITED BY THE REVD AND WORSHIPFUL THOMAS GREENE, D.D.
DEAN OF THE CATHEDRAL-CHURCH OF SARUM**

To the Church-Wardens of every Parish within his peculiar Jurisdiction at his Primary Visitation

In the Year of our Lord 1758

The Tenour of the Oath to be administer'd to the Church-Wardens

You shall swear that you will diligently enquire, and true Presentment make of all Defaults and Offences committed in your Parish against the Ecclesiastical Laws of this Realm, to the best of your Skill and Knowledge

So help you God

ARTICLES OF VISITATION AND ENQUIRY

Note: Below is the submission for Chardstock for 1758 using the standardised printed form.

- 1 Is your Minister a Person of a sober, peaceable and exemplary Life?
Yes
- 2 Is he resident in your Parish, or if not, hath he a Curate who resides there?
No, but has a resident Curate
- 3 Doth your Minister constantly read Prayers and preach every Sunday?
Yes, once a Day
- 4 Doth he read the whole Service of the Church, as prescribed by the Book of Common Prayer? And doth he read the Service in a distinct, decent and devout Manner?
Yes
- 5 Doth he administer the Holy Sacrament at least three Times in the Year?
Yes, four times
- 6 Doth he diligently catechise the Youth in your Parish?
Yes
- 7 Is he ready and careful, as Occasion requires, to visit the Sick, and to prepare them for their Departure out of this Life?
Yes
- 8 Is the House of your Minister, with the Barns, Stables and Outhouses, kept in good Repair? Have any part of them been pulled down without Licence from the Ordinary? Have any Encroachments been made upon them, and by whom?
In as good Repair as since our Knowledge
- 9 Is your Church or Chapel, with the Chancel and Tower or Steeple, in good Repair, and decently kept within and without?
The South Isle belonging to John Pitts Esq out of repair, as also the Stairs of the Tower, the rest as decent as for Times past
- 10 Is your Church-yard sufficiently fenced? Have any Encroachments been made upon it, or any Trees cut down, and for what Use?
A small Part of the Wall belonging to Wambroke out of Repair, no Encroachment or Trees cut down.
- 11 Have any Bells, Lead, Timber or other Materials of the Church or Chapel been embezled, and by whom?

No

12 Have you a large Bible of the last Translation, together with a Common Prayer-Book, both of them fair and whole?

The Bible wants binding

13 Have you a decent Table for the Celebration of the Holy Communion, with a decent Carpet over it in Time of divine Service, and a fair Linen-Cloth to cover it when there is a Communion?

Yes

14 Have you a fair Communion Cup, with Paten and Flaggon, and are they kept only for this Use, and not employed to any other?

Yes

15 Have you a Register-Book wherein to enter the Day and Year of every Christening and Burial, with the Names and Surnames of all who are Christen'd and Buried within your Parish? And is the same duly and regularly kept?

Yes

16 Have you a Register-Book in Vellum or Paper, where in to enter all Marriages within your Parish, according to the Form prescribed by an Act of Parliament, intituled, *An Act to prevent Clandestine Marriages*? And is the said Form punctually and regularly observ'd?

Yes

17 Are there any in your Parish, who lie under a common Fame, or violent Suspicion of Adultery, Fornication or Incest?

No more than usual

18 Are there any in your Parish notorious for profane Swearing or common Drunkenness?

No more than usual

19 Are there any in your Parish who commonly absent themselves from the publick Worship of God on the Lord's Day; or any who behave disorderly in the Church?

No more than usual

20 Are there any who follow their Callings or ordinary Labour on the Lord's Day, or who compel or permit their Children or Servants so to do? Are there any who keep open Shop, or suffer Persons to tittle in their Houses on the Lord's Day?

No Tipling in Time of Divine Service

21 Is any Part of the Stock of the Church, or any Legacy bequeath'd to pious and charitable Uses conceal'd, imbezled, or otherwise employed, than was intended by the Donor?

No

22 What Number of Families have you in your Parish? Of these, how many are Protestant Dissenters?

About 140 Families and about three of which are Dissenters

23 Have you any licensed Meeting House in your Parish? And who is the Teacher?

No

24 Are there any Popish Families in your Parish?

No

25 Do you know, or have you heard, of any Attempts made by Popish Priests in your

Parish, to seduce any Person or Persons from the Protestant Religion?

No

26 Does any Man keep a Public School in your Parish? Is he licenc'd by the Ordinary? Does he teach the Youth the Church Catechism, and bring them to Church at proper times? No

27 Have the Apparitors, or any other Ecclesiastical Officer in this Jurisdiction, taken any Bribe for Concealment or Impunity of Delinquents? Or have they any otherwise misbehav'd themselves in their Offices?

No

T GREENE
Dean of Sarum

NB The Church-Wardens are to bring their Presentments sign'd, to the respectivde Places of Visitation, and likewise Answers in Writing to each of these Articles

FINIS

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre

7th October 1771 Notice of Prebendal Visitation

The Prebendal Visitation of the Reverend and Worshipful John Huish Clerk Master of Arts Prebendary of the prebend of Chardstock antiently founded in the Cathedral Church of Sarum held in the Parish Church of Chardstock on Monday the Seventh day of October 1771 between the hours of Nine and Twelve of the Clock in the Forenoon of the same day, Before The Reverend William Palmer Clerk and lawful surrogate of the Prebenday aforesaid

Chardstock

The Revd Mr Robert Stevens
The Revd Mr William Palmer

Vicar
Curate

Thomas Drayton and Joseph Dalliber
John Culverwell and Timothy Hoar

Old Churchwardens
New Churchwardens

Wambrook

The Revd Mr Edward Cecil Acton
The Revd Mr James Nott

Rector
Curate

John Bevis
John Palmer

Old Churchwarden
New Churchwarden

Source: Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre reference D14/2
