

Bailiff's Accounts of Willington and other Manors 1457 to 1458¹

Wyllington

Account of John Gostewik Bailiff and Reeve there of John Viscount Beaumont and lord of Folkyngham from the feast of Saint Michael in the xxxvj^o [36th] year of the reign of Henry VI [1457] to the same feast thereafter, next following in the xxxvij^o [37th] year of the same King [1458].

Arrears

The same answers for xxxiiij^s iiij [34s 4d] for arrears of his last account in the preceding year

Sum total xxxiiij^s iiij [34s 4d]

Rents of Assize

And for vjs xd halfpenny [6s 10¹/₂d] for the rents of free tenants of the aforesaid lord this year paid at the terms of Easter and at Saint Michael the Archangel, that is to say from John Norman, John Abel, Robert Partriche, Robert Miton, Robert Warner, John Cawde, John Miton, Thomas Stoughton, the prior of Newnham, John Gostewik the elder,

So afterwards the details in a certain rent book of the new renewals by the steward and all the homage of the aforesaid Lord on the account of the twenty-fifth Year of the said King Henry vj [6th] as regards the examination by the said steward and the said accountant remains in the bag of rolls of the Court of the aforesaid Lord.

Sum total vjs xd ob [6s 10¹/₂d]

Rents in kind

And for xvd [15d], being the value of two capons as rent from the tenants there this year as in the preceding account, and for the value of one pound of pepper from Robert Warner this year nothing, because this is the annual payment [illegible²] to the lord for their fees by ancient custom

sum total xvd [15d]

Rents of half virgates of land

And for xxij li xiijs iiijd [£22 13s 4d] as rent for half virgates of land in Wyllington as charged in the preceding accounts

Sum total xxij li xiijs iiijd [£22 13s 4d]

Rent from acremen

And for lxjs iiijd halfpenny [61s 4¹/₂d] as rent from the Acremen there as charged in preceding years.

Sum total lxjs iiijd ob [61s 4¹/₂d]

Rents from various lands

And for xvij li [£18] as rent of various lands of Wilyngton so handed over to tenants of the same vill by the steward this year as appears through the roll [torn edge illegible³] paid xxvij li [£17] and lately xx li [£20]

Sum total xvij li [£18]

Rent of the mill

And for lxxiij^s iiijd [73s 4d] as rent of the water mill in Wilyngton so let to ~~tenent eiusdem vill~~ Thomas Milner

¹ British Library reference Add. Ch. 657

² The original document appears to read *libt Aud'*, but this has not been translated

³ The original document appears to read *cum ro* but some text is missing. It may be interpreted as 'formerly.'

Sum total lxxiijs iiijd [73s 4d]

Income from the manor

And for xxvjs viijd [26s 8d] as rent of the several waters of the fisheries and the rabbit warren and the game within the the demesne there so demised to Walter Launcelyn esquire from the feast of Saint Michael in the twenty-fourth year [1445] of the said King Henry vj [6th] until the end of the term of ten years next following and fully complete as appears by the roll of court of the twentyfifth year [1446] of the same King Henry which was found to be the rate paid from ancient time Lx s [60s]

And for pasturing pigs or sheep within Shirehatch and elsewhere within the demesne there by Adam Fesant aforesaid nor for other game birds within the lord's warren neither is payment charged for the rent for the rabbits because the wood [was] blown over by the violent wind.⁴ [following passage not translated but it seems to say that a former charge of 2s was unjust and was put right] so that nothing was profitable within the same time or falls due by the oath of the accountant.

But lxvs viijd [65s 8d] is the rate [due] from the aforesaid viij [8] acres xxvj [26] perches of underwood sold in Shirehatch this year at viijs [8s] an acre.

And for ijs iiijd [3s 4d] as the price, ijs vd [2s 5d] for cutting up and carrying xjd [10d], of timber from John Morbourne's holding this year

Sum total iiij li xvs viijd [£4 15s 8d]

Perquisites of court

And for xijs xjd [12s 11d] from pleas and perquisites of one lete and one court there held this year as appears in the rolls of the same Court of this account and examination.

And for xxjs iiijd [21s 3d] as Sherrif's Aid there this year, taken annually from the lord's tenants following ancient custom.

And from the Warder for marriage, from the relief of vagabonds, the chattels of strays, felons, fugitives and [those] born within the aforesaid demesne without extra herriot, merchet, payment for incontinence or other accident of fortune which occur within the Demesne, no charges so that nothing was profitable there this year on the oath of the accountant.

Sum total xxxiijs ijd [34s 2d]

Sum of ^{rio} Re^{te} with arrears lvj li iiijd half penny [£56 0s 4¹/₂d]⁵

Money paid out

The same accountant paid in money to the Sheriff of the County of Bedford a certain customary payment called Shirefeshotte for a year as allocated in previous accounts xjxs [19s]. and he paid to the same Sherriff for the assize of bread sold in the Hundred of Wykestmerstre [Wixamtree] for a year as in previous years xiijs iiijd [13s 4d]

Sum total xxxijs iiijd [32s 4d]⁶

Tithes paid

⁴ The document seems to read *haijs tortice melle cera fuit examinibus apum ibidem*.

⁵ The total of the underlined figures is almost right, just a few pence difference.

⁶ This total should be 33s 4d.

And in tithes paid from the lord's land and tenants in Wilyngton previously charged from antiquity, that is to say xxvj li ijs xd [£26 2s 10d] for the church, that is to say that xx li iijs iiid..[£20 4s 3d] raised from the fixed rents, the chicken rents, payments from the acremen [underlined in the document] and which were wrongly ~~xix li xiijs xj~~, not put in certain rolls of paper from William Jordan and made by the homage there on the xvj [16th] day of January in the xvij [17th] of the said king Henry vj [6th] as regards his payments by all heads in the ten years before were deducted, and so in tithe this year⁷...

Sum total cxvijs vjd [118s 7d]

Necessary expenses

And in the expenses of the lord's Steward holding the lord's court there this year as appears by roll for the same abovementioned account and examination [torn edge]

And in parchment bought for the court rolls written above this year iiijd [4d]

Sum total xiijs ix d [13s 9d]

Repairs

And in various costs and expenses made by the same and allowed on repairs to the mill vijs vjd [7s 6d]) there

For making one xlvjs iiijd [47s 4d] bakehouse on the holding that belongs to John Morbourne

For making lxxiiij [73] perches vijs vjd [7s 7d] of hedges round The Shirehatche

and for making one gate xijd [12d] at Bedford Castle as appears by the above-mentioned vill' paid out and examined and mentioned within this year there remains lxiijs vd and a farthing [63s 5¹/₄d]

Sum total lxiijs vd farthing [63s 5¹/₄d]

The wages of the accountant

And in wages for the accounts of the Bailiff and Reeve there at jd [1d] a day as part of his office as was allowed above in previous accounts

Sum total xxxs iiijd [30s 4d⁸]

Money payments

And in money paid to John Rammesbury, the lord's Receiver as the profits of his office this year for ij [2] views within the time of the account, that is to say one view on vj [6th] July the said xxxvj [36th] year xvij li [£17] and another View as recognized in the accounts outside the vill' lxs [60s or £3]

To the receiver sum total xx li [£20]

Sum total of all the aforesaid allowances and payments of money xxxij li xviijs vd [£32 18s 5d⁹]

And is owing xxij li xxijd and a halfpenny and a quarter [£23 22³/₄d¹⁰]. And afterwards he was answerable for jx li xjs vd £9 11s 5d] to the Receiver in a separate account [illegible] cvijs iiijd [107s 4d] Court of Bedford and [illegible] iiij li iijs [£4 4s] (torn edge)

The lord's rent from Bromham this year as appears in the foot outside their accounts

and so is owing xxxij li xiijs iijd halfpenny and quarter [£32 13s 3³/₄d]

And these payments to the above Receiver, without the recognition of his accounts without indenture xxxli vjs xjd halfpenny and farthing [£30 6s 11³/₄d]

⁷ Translation of this paragraph has proved difficult. £26 2s 10d less £10 4s 2d comes to £5 17s 7d or 117s 7d.

⁸ That is 364 days, so he did not get paid on Christmas Day perhaps?

⁹ This figure is correct apart from the omission of ¹/₄d

¹⁰ This figure would have been carried over to the next year's accounts as arrears, an significant increase.

And viijs [8s] for the same was allowed, paid for rent of land there as for the total money granted by him for ploughbote for a year from his concession by an indenture this year.

And by the same, iijd [3d] for one bag bought for the court roll for this lord for putting and keeping safe this year by the Steward's mandate

And xxxviijs jd [38s 1d] is owed

Respite

And xxxijs jd [32s 1d] above was previously charged, now in the Church Arrears which is in the Church perquisites of the Court of the Annunciation in the future the Abbot of Warden for suit of Court there, and that the said Abbot claims to be quit of land services of tenancy by his charter which until the [illegible] from the lord and his Council which [illegible] and [blank].

And the same vjs [6s] previously charged in Church Arrears as [illegible] payable to the Bailiff of the Duke of Buckingham which [illegible] at his Court of Bodyngham¹¹ for a year ijs [2s] as he claims, that is to say for the iij [3] years preceding the Feast of Saint Michael in the xxviiij [28th] year of King Henry vj [6th] as long as etc

Bedford Castle

In the Account of John Gostwyk .at the Court Baron of John Viscount Beaumont and Lord of Folkyngham at the aforesaid time

Arrears none

Sum total none

For liijs iiijd [53s 4d] as income and profits raised from the ditch and garden, the mount, the Castle of Bedford so this year from Richard Pestell

Sum total liiijs iiijd [54s 4d]

And for xxvj s viij d [26s 8d] from the rent of the lord's fisheries in the water next to Bedford so demised to the Prior of Newham [torn edge]

Sum total xxvjs viiid [26s 8d]

And for xxxiijs ix d [33s 9d] as perquisites of xv [15] Courts Baron at Bedford held this yeas as appears by their rolls, this account was paid and examined and no more Courts so that no courts were held there [at] the Feast of Saint Peter in Chains within the time of the account and the Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel at the end of this account in the as was customary.

And from the chattels of Felons, fugitives, the poor and the strays none, so that nothing falls due this year by the oath of the auditor

Sum totals xxxiijs ix d [33s 9d]

Headings on the other side:

¹¹ This place is not recognised, but might be either Bromham or Biddenham

Sum total cxiiijs ixd [114s 9d¹²] which [were]

Expenses of the Steward

Therefrom in the expenses of the steward holding courts there this year as appears by the roll of the same above this account, vjs ijd [6s 2d]

And in parchment bought for the court roll and copies of the same written above this year iiijd

Sum total vjs vjd [6s 6d]

Sum of all the aforesaid expenses vjs vjd [6s 6d]

And is owed cvijs iiid [107s 3d¹³] charged in the account [torn edge] of the said accountant and Reeve of Wilyngton this year as appears at the foot of the same

And so this is received

Pepper – j [1] pound of pepper raised from the rent of Richard Warner for his land and tenement at the Feast of the Nativity should be calculated within

Sum total j [1] pound of pepper which was raised by the Auditor on account by their fees¹⁴

Bromham Account of John Gostwik Bailiff and [illegible] rendered there from time

Arrears

The same reckons vjs xd [6s 10d] as arrears of the account of the preceding year

Sum total vjs xd [6s 10d]

Fixed rents

So for vjs halfpenny, farthing [7s 0³/₄d] as fixed rents of the free tenants there for a year at the term of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Michael the Archangel as appears in the rental of Bromham following the xvij [18th] year [1395] in the time of King Richard the second for the xxiiij [24] years following, and for xxxjs iiid [31s 4d] as rent from the tenants of bond holdings there, paid at the same terms as appears in the aforesaid Rental

Sum total xxxix s iiid halfpenny and a quarter [38s 4³/₄d]

Fixed rents in Cople and Cardington

And for vjs halfpenny fathing [7s 0³/₄d] as rents from the free tenants in Cople for a year paid at the aforesaid terms and for vs jd halfpenny [5s 1¹/₂d] rendered by the free tenants of Cardington for a year paid at the aforesaid terms. And for xvijs ijd [17s 2d] from cottagers in Cardington, paid at the aforesaid terms

Sum total xxixs iiid farthing [29s 4¹/₄d]

Poultry rents in Cople and Cardington

And for xijd [12d] the value of iiij [4] capons paid by William Harpere in Cople and by William Clerc in Cardington for a year ordered to be paid at iiid [3d¹⁵] at the feast of the Lord's nativity

Sum total xijd [12d]

¹² This agrees with the figures for Bedford Castle above.

¹³ It is not clear whether the difference of 1s is an arithmetical or a scribal error.

¹⁴ The meaning of this phrase is not clear.

¹⁵ That is 3d each.

Rendered from Barford

And for ix s [9s] rendered by Thomas Fuller in Barforde for j [1] messuage and jx [9] acres of land there so demised by roll of Court Baron for a year that is to say for the xj [11th] year of the aforesaid King Richard [1388, pencil crossing out and written in] to be held by himself and his following at the lord's will paying at the aforesaid terms

Sum total ix s [9s]

Rents of land and meadow

For the rent of iij [3] acres iij [3] roods of land and pasture which rendered payment a year of xxijd [22d], formerly in the holding of John Personall, afterwards in the holding of Thomas Barford, now in the holding of John Teret with all the lands and the rent of Copysyard' which rendered payment a year xs [10s] without the rent of a certain parcel of land in Bromham which paid vs [5s] a year, lately in the holding of the same John Personall, meaning the rent of xxiiij [24] acres of land with divers parcels of meadow in Bromham which paid xjs [11s] a year, lately in the holding of John Aspelloy and afterwards in the holding of John Paton, so that all the said parcels were together demised to the said John Terette with all the lands, meadows and pastures and the office of Hayward each third year at a value of ijs [2s] a year for xx [20] years [phrase not translated¹⁶] all his said lands meadows and pastures. And collecting payment to the lord for residing [there] during the said terms and paying as a premium the costs and expenses of the lord's steward once a year and paying as a premium the above costs and expenses of the steward for the accommodation and fees of the lord twice a year at his own expense during the aforesaid term. and for iiijd [4d] from the rent of one acre of land called Pater Noster Acre so granted to John Personall paying a year at the aforesaid terms. And for iiij s [4s] from the rent of certain parcels of meadow in parts of Bedyngham so demised to John Lane the elder paying at the aforesaid terms. And for iiij s [4s] from the same John for other divers parcels of meadow in the aforesaid parts so demised to him for a year at the aforesaid terms

And for ijs viijd [2s 8d] from John Sutliff for certain lands and tenements lately [word not translated¹⁷] paying at the aforesaid terms

And for ijs viijd [2s 8d] ~~from John Sutliff for certain lands and tenements~~ from Richard Cowpere for certain lands and meadows in le Chirchfeld paying a year at the aforesaid terms

And for xxijs [22s] from John Terette for the rent of xl [40] acres of land, meadow and pasture with the office of Hayward each third years so [torn edge] for the term of xx [20] years paid at the aforesaid terms [legal phrase not translated¹⁸] previously received.

Sum total xxxvs viijd [35s 8d]

Sheriif's Aid

And for jx s ijd farthing [9s 2¹/₄d] as Sherriif's Aid called Shirifeshott received from the tenants there paid at the terms

Rents from Ickwell

And for xxiijd halfpenny [23¹/₂d] rendered from Ickwell for a year paid at the aforesaid terms

And for ijs [2s] rendered in holme a year at the aforesaid terms

And for iijs [3s] from Southyenell a year, paid at the aforesaid terms

And for vs ijd halfpenny farthing [5s 2³/₄d] as rent in money a year paid at the aforesaid terms with payment rendered per annum xs id [10s 1d]

And for xijd [12d] as rent from Castle Meron for certain lands in C[illegible] a year paying at the aforesaid terms

¹⁶ The document seems to say *suppertando annuatim*

¹⁷ *helethyng*

¹⁸ *supportando ... onera*

And for viij^d [8d] rent for ij [2] acres of land in Salfe, lately of Agnes for certain
Sum total xvs xd farthing [15s 10^l/₄d]

Perquisites of court of Bromeham and Kerdyngton [blank]