

Indenture of Worfield Rectory 1548

(Shropshire Archives 14163)

To all the faithful of Christ to whom this charter/indenture came Henry Williams, Dean of the Church Cathedral of Lichfield and its chapter of the same greetings. Let it be known that we the Dean and Chapter grant and confirm by this charter/indenture to Sir John Talbott senior all that manor [Note: the word mansionem is used which can mean house or manor. I assume the word refers to what was known as the Manor of Wyken but whether that term had any historical significance I don't know, or whether it was used for convenience to describe the land that was being transferred] with the houses on it built and the rectory to the parish church of Worfield appropriated by us together with all and singular the lands, tenements, meadows, rents, reversions, services, emoluments, profits, easements and and other hereditaments whatsoever in Worfeld, Wyken and elsewhere in the county aforesaid namely the said Rectory or its appurtenances and also the advowson freely disposed to present the vicar of the Church of Worfeld to have and to hold the manor, advowson, land, meadows, rent et other premises with all and singular their appurtenances to the aforesaid Sir John Talbot senior his heirs and assigns for ever giving unto us and our successors at the Cathedral Church of Lichfield £51 of legal English money in manner and form following to be paid at the Feast of St Michael the Archangel at the next date in the future £25 10s and the other at the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary in the year following £25 10s to us the Dean and Chapter and our successors for ever. And if the aforesaid annual rent of £51 is in arrears in part or in total after any Feast which ought to be paid in the space of 2 months is not paid in the manner and form aforesaid it is allowed to us the aforesaid Dean and Chapter and their successors for the said manor, advowson,land, tenements, meadows, rent and other premises the parcel is to be returned to us & our successors to retain and to discharge John Talbott and the same to be totally expelled or any of his heirs and assigns, to evict them from the whole by this charter indenture without obstruction. And the aforesaid Sir John Talbott senior came and agreed for himself, his heirs and assigns [with] the aforesaid Dean and Chaplain and his successors that himself, his heirs and assigns from time to time will repair and maintain the Chancel of Church of Worfeld and all dues charge ordinary and extraordinary to the same Church incumbrances (the tithe of the lord king) in the customary manner from time to time and in time under and supporting on condition that the aforesaid Dean and Chapter and their successors are not troubled or damaged for the premises which tithe payments are made to us the deans and chaplains and our successors. [Note: in simple terms Talbot must gather tithes and send the appropriate amount to Lichfield]

[This is the substance of the transfer of the Rectory, Manor of Wyken and advowson of Worfield]

The Dean and Chapter put in their places Thomas Fane and Thomas Bradburn attornies, jointly and separately to act on their behalf and the Dean and Chapter give their common seal and John Talbot gives his seal and arms. Date: 6 August 1548

Indenture of Worfield Rectory 1548

John Talbot puts in his place Richard Harrington, gent and Henry Southall, chaplain to act singly or together

The agreement was witnessed on the 10th October in the Parish of Worfield by Richard Broke of Roughton, Thomas Warter of Stabulford, William Billyngsley, Thomas Barbor of Chesterton, John Hychcokes of Chesterton and Humphrey Barret of Woldington, Thomas Clement, John Bradburne and Robert Barrett and many others.

John Talbot finally had seisin and possession on the 3rd November.