

WORCESTER CATHEDRAL: Accounts 1611-1669

From "Worcester Cathedral Dean and Chapter Treasurer's Register, 1611-1669" edited by David J. Morrison (Worcestershire Historical Society, New Series vol.28, 2018)

Note: This is from Worcester Cathedral Muniments A26, which contains accounts for the years 1611, 1619, 1639, 1642, 1663 and 1665-9 - individual accounts sewn together in one binding. There are further accounts for 1608 (WRO 7005:240 BA 1442) and another volume of accounts after 1670 in the Cathedral Muniments containing records for 11 financial years.

Accounts for 1611

Repairs to the Church and houses of the Church

To Francis Bidle and other carpenters for five days' work about hewing the elm and about the bells 30 November 1610	10s 7d
Side Note: This Elm was given away to Mr Fleete the Church having no benefit by it. Bad	
To Francis Bedell and other carpenters for three days' work about mending the Bells on the same day	9s 3d
To the Glazier for mending of windows in the Tower at the Audit 1610 paid 31 November	5s 4d
To Chadburne the Smith for nails and stirrups and keys etc. used in repairing the frame and wheels of the bells as in the bill paid 6 December 1610.	13s 4d
To one that brought down three trees from Eymore the 18 December 1610	4s 0d
To Francis Bidle for making a new frame for the four lesser bells which he undertook to work by the great 21 December 1610	£3 0s 0d
To Henry Hornbee for three days working on the Tower Steeple and on the tower's other Gate and for nine pounds of solder as in the bill 22 December 1610	9s 8d
To Francis Bedell and others for hauling up the trees from the slip and for removing timber out of the tower steeple into the leaden steeple for use there 24 December	12d
To Robert Kettle for mending the clock and the chimes and for wire for the chimes and other work as in the bill paid 11 February 1611	21s 4d
To Walter Drew 12 February for his own work with divers other labourers for some nine days in pinning and mending the cracks upon the vaults over the Quire as in the bill	28s 11d
Paid 23 February 1611 for Robert Walker of Whittington for free stones ready hewed at the house in Battenhall Park which as it is thought will arise to twenty loads to the use of the leaden steeple and the church the sum of three pounds and two shillings	£3 2s
To Walter Drew 3 March at the same place for six days work himself and three labourers in building up the stone work of the leaden steeple and for the carriage of 4 load of stone from Battenhall and for seven barrels of lime etc as in the bill	27s 6d
To Walter Drew 9 March for a second week's work in building up the stone work of the leaden steeple with divers labourers as in the bill	26s 3d
To Bedle the carpenter for a day's work himself and his man for trussing up the timber work of a corner of the leaden steeple that they might work safely in the stone work underneath paid 11 March 1611	2s 0d
To Walter Drew 17 March 1611 for a third weeks work in building up the stone work of the leaden steeple with the labourers as in the bill	25s 4d
To Walter Drew for work done about the leaden steeple five days and a half about the 18 and 27 of March as in the bill, paid 30 March 1611	13s 5d
To Henry Hornebee for seven days' work and a half for himself and two men on the south side of the roof of the Quire and upon the leaden steeple and for one	

day's work over the cloister and for two pounds of solder as in the bill paid 5 April 1611	22s 4d
To Walter Drew 7 April 1611 for a week's work about the leaden steeple for making up breaches and forcing in of arches flown out as in the bill	17s 4d
To him on the same day for a week's work in taking down Mr Ferryman's chimney and an old house of Mr Potter's to search the fault of Severn wall as in the bill	15s 7d
To Thomas Palmer 9 April 1611 for a day's work and a half in sawing timber for the Bishop's seat	2s 9d
To one William Marsh for two new baldrics for the clappers of the 5 and the 7 bells 11 April 1611	6s 8d
To Thomas Palmer 13 April 1611 for two days' work in sawing timber for the stairs to the Bishop's stall	3s 8d
To Walter Allen 13 April for carrying remnants of timber into the store house at divers times and bringing pieces from thence for the use of new seats in the church	12d
To Walter Drew 13 April 1611 for two days' work by himself and two others on the leaden steeple as in the bill	5s 8d
To him for digging and searching the ground around Mr Ferryman's house to find out the fault of Severn Wall four days on the same day as in the bill	10s 9d
To Francis Bedell 17 April 1611 for eight days work himself and his man and some others in removing the Bishop's seat to the other side of the church and building the stairs to the seat as in the bill	18s 4d
To Walter Drew by my brother in my absence for four and a half days' work and for three workmen and for four barrels of lime on the leaden steeple as in the bill 20 April	20s 6d
To Walter Drew by my brother in my absence 27 April 1611 for five days' work for himself and five others about the stonework and the leaden steeple and for three barrels of lime as in the bill	27s 7d
To Robert Kettle for work done upon the chimes 12 February as in the bill	5s 0d
To Robert Kettle by my brother in my absence for nine yards of wainscot, for locks and keys and hinges, and for five days' work for himself and his man. As in the bill paid 30 April 1611 about my lord's seat and Mrs Parry's.	30s 0d
To the smith for making a new key to the vestry belonging to the sextons and for mending the lock and key belonging to the Bishop's seat 11 May	6d
To Walter Drew for making of a sink which was spoiled in searching Mr Feriman's house 29 April	2s 11d
To Walter Drew for helping to load stone at Battenhall and for carriage of the same stone six loads	7s 8d
To Walter Drew 15 May for taking down the stone at Battenhall and for loading them, and for the carriage of them 8 loads of stone.	12s 5d
To one William Marsh 25 May 1611 for a new baldric for the great bell	4s 6d
For mending for a key to the desk in the chorister's seats 4 June	4d
To Richard Chadbume the smith 13 July 1611 for ironwork used in the leaden steeple, and in my lord's seat and by the plumber in nine loads. As in the bill	21s 2d
To one [blank] Bedell 16 July for mending the clap[per] of the great bell which broke in two	7s 0d
To one William Marshe for mending the baldric of the great bell on the same day	20d
To one Edward Philpott for work done 2 days about setting and hanging the bells in good order 16 July	3s 10d
For mending the door that goeth up to the College Steeple 10 August	4d
To Walter Drew 31 August for mending the pavement of the church with three dozen of great quarries and sixteen dozen of small as in the bill	20s 11d
To [blank] Greene for glazing work done in the cloister windows wherein sixteen foot of new glass was set up and three panes of old glass taken down and mended and threescore holes of old glass filled as in the bill paid 31 August	14s 8d

To Henry Hornbee for 4 days' work and a half for himself and two men on the leaden steeple and for seven pounds of solder as in the bill paid 13 September 1611	17s 2d
To him for two days work himself and his man over the church porch and Cobham's Vault 22 June and for three pounds of solder, as in the bill approved by Christopher Slade	5s 7d
To him for three day's work for two men over the west end of the church and for making clean the gutters in the leads as in the bill similar to the one above 29 July	5s 4d
To him for six days' work for two men on the south side of the church and for making clean the privy in the dorter 12 August	[no sum]
To Chadburne the smith for nails used in mending the cloister windows as in the bill 17 September	3s 1d
To Robert Kettle 21 September for mending the clock and the chimes at several times as in the bil	10s 0d
To Walter Drew for taking down, and carriage of nine loads of stone from Battenhall	11s 0d

Extraordinary payments

To him [Robert Carrington] for the ringers then [at the Lent assizes]	2s 0d
To Robert Carington for the ringers on Easter Day 1611 being the King's Day	10s 0d
To Robert Kettle for the ringers at my Lord's first coming 13 April	2s 0d
To him [Robert Carrington] for the ringers then [at the Midsummer assizes]	2s 0d
To the Sexton for the ringers 5 August 1611 being the day of the king's deliverance from the Earl Gowrie	10s 0d

Stray payments

In repairs of the church [<i>deleted</i>]: lent to Frauncis Bedell 8 November 1610 toward the £3 he received for mending the frame of the bells	20s 0d
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Accounts for 1618

Repairs to the Church

To the Goodman Gosling for mending the clock April 3 as in the bill	5s 6d
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Outside payments

Paid to the Ringers when the Bishop came from Hartlebury December 1	2s 0d
Paid for two ropes one for the great bell and the other for a lesser bell which weighed forty-six pounds after 4d	15s 4d
Paid to the ringers when the Judges came	2s 0d
Paid for ringing on the King's Day	10s 0d
Paid to the Smith for mending one of the clappers of the bells and putting more iron thereto	6s 0d
Paid to the Ringers when the Bishop came from Hartlebury March 31	2s 0d
Paid for a rope for the quarter watch for the clock which weighed twenty-two pounds after 4d the pound and two staples 4d for the same: and two men who were helpers in the hanging of the same	8s 0d
Paid for mending the great bell that was loose in the stock and mending the wheel of one of the little bells as in the bill	9s 10d
Paid to the Ringers when the Bishop came from Hartlebury May 25	2s 0d
Paid for the mending of two clappers which were broken and putting more iron to them	14s 0d

Accounts for 1639

Purchases pertaining to the books, lights, and bells etc.

November 26 paid for setting the 7th bell upright as in the bill	1s 0d
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December	13 paid for a baldric	1s 6d
	22 paid Abraham for oil for clock and chimes	1s 6d
February	28 paid for a bell rope for the great bell weighing 21 pounds at four pence half penny the pound	7s 10d
April	20 Paid for altering all the hammers of the chimes and mending the quarter clock as in the bill	£1 3s 0d
May	16 Paid John Biddle for 72 pounds of wax candles at 19d the pound as in the bill of the Precentor	£5 14s 0d
	Paid Widow Hall for a dozen of tallow candles for the porter's use	£0 5s 0d
	2 Paid for new casting the least bell of the ring and for supply of metal, with other work done about that business as in the bill	£5 15s 4d
	Paid the carpenters for hanging the said bell, and fastening divers of the rest in the stock as in the bill	£0 5s 4d
June 22	Paid the Sextons for oil and wire and nails for the clock and chimes	1s 9d
August 7	Paid the Ropier for piecing six of the bell ropes	1s 6d
September 2	Paid Field for wire and nails for the chimes	1s 2d
October 4	Paid Field for oil and mending the chime ropes	1s 8d

Repairs to the Church

June 29	Paid the plumber and others for carrying many sheets of new lead to the dormitory and carrying much of the old lead from the steeple to the lead house as in the bill	£1 4s 3d
July 6	Paid for 2 Fother and 48 pounds of lead for the covering of the dormitory and steeple	£22 18s 0d
	Paid the same day for letting down the lead from the steeple roof, and mending the lathing and timber work as in the bill	18s 0d
	Paid for casting lead for the steeple as in the bill	£2 5s 0d.
July 9	Paid for carriage of 44 sheets of lead from the lead house into the church, and for drawing them up to the roof of the steeple as in the bill	18s 4d
July 13	Paid the carpenters for mending the steeple roof as in the bill	8s 9d
	Paid the plumber for laying lead on the steeple roof as in the bill	18s 3d
July 20	Paid the carpenters for work done upon the roof of the steeple as in the bill	11s 2d
	Paid to the plumber for finishing the steeple roof as in the bill	£1 8s 3d

Extraordinary payments

March 4	Paid for ringing when the Bishop came to town	2s 0d
March 14	Paid for ringing when the Judges came in	2s 0d
March 27	Paid for ringing on the day of the King's inauguration	10s 0d
April 4	Paid for ringing when the Bishop came to town	2s 0d
August 6	Paid for ringing when the Bishop came to town	2s 0d
August 7	Paid for ringing when the Judges came to town	2s 0d

Accounts for 1642

The Purchases of books, lights, and relating to the bells

December 22 1641	for bell ropes, wire for the chimes and oil Mr Tomkins	13s 0d
February 12 [1641/2]	for three new bell wheels and other work done necessarily about the bells H Wythe	£2 16s 9d
March 26 [1642]	for a rope for the least bell Mr Tomkins	5s 7d
To ringers at the Bishop's Installation	Mr Tomkins	2s 6d

A pound of wire for the clock Mr Tomkins	1s 0d
For oil for the clock and chimes Mr Tomkins	6d
March 27 For ringing on the King's Holy Day Mr Tomkins	10s 0d
These following by H. Wythe	
March 26 For new casting three brasses for the bells , at 4d per pound weight [printed edition says £19 here - but this seems unlikely (CJP)] and for five pounds of brass added, and waste in casting at 12d per pound all	11s 4d
For mending divers amiss about the bells, especially the Great bell, and third Treble, loose in their stocks	5s 6d

Repairs to the Church

January 19 [1641/2] The Smith's bill for ironwork about the bells especially	13s 5d
August 6 [1642] for carpenters and leadwork done in reparation of the leaden steeple as in the bill	£1 7s 8d
August 13 For work at the leaden steeple as in the bill	£1 8s 6d
August 20 For leadwork etc at the leaden steeple as in the bill	£2 2s 0d
August 27 For leadwork and carpentry work there more as in the bill	£1 9s 6½d
September 3 For Leaden and carpentry work etc at the said steeple	£1 14s 10d
September 10 For work at the leaden steeple as in the bill	£1 7s 9d

Extraordinary payments

November 22 [1641] For ringing at the election of the new Bishop	5s 0d
November 30 For ringing at the King's return from Scotland	2s 6d

Accounts for 1663

The Purchases of books, lights, and relating to the bells

July 8 Paid Jacob Heape for a new clapper for the second bell , and mending the baldrics of the other bells as in the bill	£1 1s 0d
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Repairs to the Church

June 6 to the smith for clappers and baldrics for the bells as in the bill	£1 1s 0d
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Extraordinary payments

March 13 Paid for ringing when the Judges came to town	5s 0d
April 20 Paid Walker for ringing when the Dean came home	5s 0d
April 23 Paid for ringing on His Majesty's Coronation Day	10s 0d
May 5 paid for ringing at the coming to town of the Lord President	5s 0d
May 13 Paid for ringing when the Lord Windsor [came], and for wine and sugar	£1 5s 0d
May 29 Paid for ringing on the day of the King's happy return	10s 0d
July 9 Given to one Simes a Leicester mason for viewing our tower	5s 0d
August 2 paid for ringing when the Judges came to town	5s 0d

Accounts for 1665

Purchases concerning books, lights, and towards the bells

December 3 Paid Henry Richards for work done about the bells	£1 13s 0d
December 7 Paid for half inch boards to repair the wheels	3s 0d
December 19 Paid the founder for brass and work done about the bells	£2 14s 3d
May 27 Paid the carpenters for work done about the bells as in the bill	7s 6d
November 23 Paid for work done about the bells as in the bill	3s 2d

Repairs to the Church - nil

Extraordinary payments

January 27 Paid for ringing when Mr Dean came from London	5s 0d
January 30 Paid for ringing on this day	10s 0d
March 17 Paid for ringing when the Judges came to town	5s 0d
23 April Paid for ringing on Coronation Day	10s 0d
10 May Paid for ringing at the first news of our success at sea	5s 0d
May 29 Paid for ringing on the day of the King's happy return	10s 0d
June 10 Given to soldiers and ringers upon the news of our victory over the Dutch by Mr Dean and Mr Thornborough's order	£1 0s 0d
August 2 Paid Robert Covington for 5 ropes for the clock weighing 56 pounds at 7d the pound	12s 4d
August 2 Paid for ringing when Mr Dean came from Gloucester	5s 0d
August 7 Paid for ringing when the judges came to town	5s 0d
September 3 Paid for ringing on this day for joy that the King was preserved	10s 0d
October 13 Paid Robert Covington for ropes for the bells weighing 43 pounds at 8d per pound and for a mat for the Dean's seat in the Quire	£1 10s 0d
November 5 Paid for ringing on this day	10s 0d
December 4 Paid for a small rope for the little bell weighing £40 [as transcribed (CJP)] at 8d per pound	13s 4d
December 4 Paid for ringing when Mr Dean came first	10s 0d

Accounts for 1666 (following 1665, but with another set of headings)

Purchases concerning books, lights, and towards the bells - nil [blank]

Repairs to the Church

To Hopkins for glazing the tower	£1 6s 0d
To Swinfield for 7 days' work and Hill for 7 days in carrying sand and helping to pave the tower and for solder 2s	16s 4d
Three labourers for one day for cleansing the tower	2s 6d
To Walker for ringing three times, Dutch victory, Thanksgiving, Judges	£ 1 8s 0d
To the sexton for ringing April 23 May 29	£1 0s 0d

Extraordinary payments

To ringing 2 several days at Mr Dean's first coming	10s 0d
To the carpenter and smith about the bells, and for 2 or 3 locks by bill	£1 10s 6d
For mending the clock	1s 6d
For glazing in the tower more than what was laid out before	4s 0d

Accounts for 1667

Purchases of books, lights, and for the bells about

December 14 Paid Robert Covington for a new bell-rope	£1 2s 6d
December 24 Paid to Sam. Cox for mending the clock	5s 0d
December 24 Paid to Richard Walker the sexton for washing the linens, oil and wire and for ringing at the Assizes and on the Coronation Day five shillings	18s 6d
September 6 Paid to Richard Walker for mending the bells and other work	13s 0d
October 5 Paid for a new wheel for the great bell	£1 0s 6d

Repairs to the Church

October 24 Paid to Joseph Heape for iron work done about the church and taking up the great bell	18s 6d
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Extraordinary payments

June 6 1667 Paid to Richard Walker for ringing May 29	5s 0d
July 20 Paid to Richard Walker for ringing July 8 by the Lord Bishop's order	5s 0d

July 29 Paid to Richard Walker for ringing at the assizes	5s 0d
November 5 Paid to Richard Walker for ringing	5s 0d
November 9 Paid to George Staunton for 2 pieces of wainscote in the Organ-Gallery and a cover for the font, and a plank for mending the frame of the great Bell	19s 6d
November 20 Paid to Richard Hopkins for fitting two casements in the tower	1s 0d

Accounts for 1668

Purchase of books, lights and pertaining to the bells

December 20 Paid to Robert Covington for a bell rope	£1 3s 6d
May 4 Paid Richard Walker for the sexton for washing the linen, wire, oil and ringing at the assizes and on the coronation day	18s 6d

Repairs to the Church - nil

Extraordinary payments

April 22 Paid Philip Perry and his man for mending the clock house	4s 8d
November Paid Richard Walker the sexton for ringing on the gunpowder treason day	7s 6d

Accounts for 1669

Purchase of books, lights and things pertinent to the bells - nil

Repairs to the Church

January 2 Paid for a logger for the great bell	2s 6d
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Extraordinary payments

February 5 paid for a rope for the great bell	19s 0d
March 22 Paid more to him [Richard Walker] for ringing for the Judges	5s 0d
Paid more for ringing of St George's Day	5s 0d
May 29 Paid more for ringing K Hall	5s 0d
Paid in part for ringing for Mr Glen's funeral	15s 0d
August 12 Paid for ringing for the Judges	5s 0d
August 25 Paid to three men for taking down the boards in the tower	3s 6d
And the carrying of them back to the owner	1s 0d
August 26 Paid John Jones for the use of the boards in the tower	5s 0d
November 7 paid to the Sextons for ringing on the 5 of November	9s 0d

Extracted by CJP (Feb 2010)