



Hilperton

Parish Council Meeting Records

In 1867 all but six of the original trustees had passed away and a new trust deed was completed. The six surviving were Joseph Gordon Jones, then of Cardiff, John Stevens and Robert Matthews of Hilperton, Henry Dyer and Abraham Bowyer of Hilperton and William Hart, then of Freshford. Joseph Gordon Jones retired from the Trust and the following new Trustees were elected to serve with the remaining 5:~ James Wild Gabriel of Trowbridge clothier, Edwin Blake gentleman, William Clement grocer, Aaron Silcocks builder, John Richman weaver, John Clement grocer and Thomas Hudd, gardener, all of Hilperton, Charles Atkins Collins gentleman and Jacob Usher weaver both of Trowbridge, Joseph Gardener gentleman and Robert Jones both of Bradford, making sixteen.

The work of the church became cramped for want of room and the trustees bought from Messrs. Ephraim Usher, Jacob Usher and James Usher two cottages adjoining the church for £130 which Messrs. Usher had bought only two years previously for £200. This property was duly conveyed to the following trustees:~ Robert Mathews, John Stevens, William Clements, Aaron Silcocks, John Richman, Thomas Hudd, Charles Atkins Collins, Jacob Usher, Robert Birdgett Jones as before mentioned. John Brown the younger of Hilperton a builder, James Hudd of Trowbridge a gardener, Walter Hiscocks a wheelwright, James Silcocks of Trowbridge an accountant, Ebenezer Chettle of Trowbridge draper and Frederick William.

In 1880 Edwin Blake who had served the trustees for forty years as treasurer resigned. At the trustees meeting on August the 18th 1880, it was resolved that some announcement of the long talked school rooms be made. On September the 9th 1882 specifications were ordered to be obtained. And in the meantime Mr J Brown was to take down the two old cottages. Although there are no particulars of the specifications and tenders it is apparent that in two months the building had commenced. As the trustees had met in November 1882 to consider a complaint for the highways authorities that the building line should be set back. After a sub-committee had been met it was decided to build on the foundations as laid so the building had been started. The memorial stone of the new school room was laid by Mr Edward Dyer on April the 4th 1883 at 3.30pm. At 5.00pm a public tea was held in the Chapel, tickets were 9d. each all in aid of the Building Fund.