



Extracts From 17th Century Court Cases

Somerford Keynes

CASE Churchwardens of Siddington St Mary v Robert George
Church tax (church repairs) 10 January 1610/1

DEPONENTS Thomas Gegge, farmer, of Siddington St Mary. Lived there 24 years. Born Hankerton, Wilts. Aged 50. John Baydon, farmer, of Siddington St Mary. Lived there 18 years. Born Somerford Keynes, Wilts. Aged 50. On the part of the churchwardens.

DEPOSITIONS (Abstract) Thomas Gegge and Phillip Blunson als Brunson were churchwardens of Siddington St Mary in 1609. The church was in need of repair and the roof, rafters, tiling, glazing and other things were repaired. After the defects were amended Mr Spurret, the parson, warned parishioners at divine service to assemble to make a taxation. About a week later Gegge, Mr Spurret, John Baydon and Mr Richard Tomkins, now churchwarden, met and made a taxation in writing for every man that occupied land in the parish. Mr Robert George, gentleman, of Cirencester was rated to pay twenty pence towards the repairing for a close he holds worth at least £8 per annum.

John Baydon's evidence is similar. Richard Tomkin and John James are now churchwardens.

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