ANNO DECIMO SEXTO & DECIMO SEPTIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

****

Cap. lxxii.

An Act for enlarging and improving the Shire Hall of the County of *Stafford*, removing the Markets at the Back of the Hall and providing other Market Accommodation in lieu thereof, erecting Rooms and Offices for the Town Council of *Stafford*, and for other Purposes.

[28th *June* 1853.]

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Thirty-fourth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for building a new Shire Hall for the County of* Stafford: And whereas the Commissioners for executing such Act did, under the Powers thereby vested in them, build a new Shire Hall for the County of *Stafford*, and the same has been used for the public Purposes of the County of *Stafford* and of the Borough of *Stafford*, but the same is found to be, in its present State, small and inconvenient, and it is expedient and necessary for the Convenience of the Public that further Powers should be granted for enlarging and improving the same: And whereas the Mayor and Burgesses of the Borough of *Stafford* are Lords of the Manor of the said Borough, 34 G. 3. c. 97.

and are Owners or Proprietors of the Markets and Fairs of the said Town of *Stafford*: And whereas it was by the recited Act enacted, after reciting that the Mayor and Burgesses of the Borough of *Stafford* had agreed to contribute the Sum of One thousand Pounds towards the Expenses of building the intended Shire Hall, and that they were willing to give up their Right to such Part of the then existing Shire Hall as they then claimed, and to such Part of the Ground and Soil of a certain Street and the Market Place in the said Town as might be necessary for the Purposes of the said Act, reserving to themselves and their Successors the Right of holding and keeping the Markets and Fairs in or near the Place accustomed, and having some convenient Building or Market House erected for the Accommodation of Persons resorting to the Markets in the Town of *Stafford*, and Rooms, Offices, and Accommodation for transacting the Business of the Borough and the safe keeping of the Records belonging to the Corporation, that it should be lawful for the Commissioners and they were thereby required, amongst other things, to cause to be built and constructed within or contiguous or near to the intended Shire Hall a convenient Room, with an Antechamber, for the Use of the Mayor and Burgesses of the said Borough of *Stafford*, and also to cause to be built and constructed, on certain Premises therein described, a Market House or Market Place and Buildings for the Accommodation of Persons resorting to the Markets in the said Town: And whereas a Room and Antechamber and other Conveniences have been provided within the said Shire Hall for the Use of the Town Council of the said Borough, and the same have been used exclusively by the said Town Council and Justices of the said Borough, but no Market House or Market Place has been built or provided, as directed by the said Act: And whereas a Market for the Sale of Cheese, Butter, Poultry, Vegetables, and other Articles has been and now is held upon a certain Piece of Land or Ground, by the said Act vested in the Trustees thereby appointed, which said Land or Ground is situated at the Back of the said Hall, whereon it is expedient and desirable that the Enlargement and Extension of the said Shire Hall should be made: And whereas it is expedient that Powers should be granted for enabling Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Stafford* to enlarge, extend, and improve the present Shire Hall, by the Erection of Buildings upon the said Piece of Ground now used as a Market as aforesaid, and by taking and using the said Rooms and Conveniences heretofore exclusively used by the said Town Council and Justices of the said Borough, and for enabling the Justices of the said County to provide other Market Places, Houses, and Accommodation in lieu thereof, as directed by the said recited Act, and also to provide other Rooms and Offices for the Use of the Town and of the Town Council of the said Borough, in lieu of the Room, Antechamber, and Conveniences now exclusively used as aforesaid

aforesaid by the Town Council and Justices of the said Borough; but such Purposes cannot be effected without the Aid and Authority of Parliament: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same:

Recited Act repealed.

I. That upon and from the passing of this Act the said recited Act passed in the Thirty-fourth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Third shall be and the same is hereby repealed; and the Trust thereby established and the Commission thereby appointed shall be and the same are hereby declared to be dissolved.

Appointment of Commissioners.

II. That all Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace acting in and for the County of *Stafford* for the Time being shall be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners for putting this Act into execution.

Property of former Trustees, &c. vested in Commissioners under this Act.

III. That all Lands, Buildings, and Property, and all Monies due to, and all Choses in Action, Judgments, Rights, Privileges, Claims, and Demands whatsoever, which at the Time of the passing of this Act were vested in or belonged to the Trustees and Commissioners under the recited Act, shall, upon and from the passing of this Act, be vested in and become the Property of the Commissioners hereby appointed and their Successors, upon the Trusts and for the Uses and Purposes herein-after mentioned.

Contracts to remain in force.

IV. That all Contracts, Agreements, Bonds, Covenants, Securities, and Engagements entered into or made before the passing of this Act to, with, or by the Trustees and Commissioners under the recited Act or on their Behalf shall, notwithstanding anything herein contained, be, remain, and continue of the same Validity, Force, and Effect in Law and Equity, to all Intents and Purposes, and shall be as available for the Purposes for which the same respectively had been entered into or made, and for the Purposes of this Act, as if the same respectively had been entered into or made for the same Purpose to, with, or by the Commissioners for carrying this Act into execution, and may be enforced by such Commissioners, and by the other Party or Parties thereto accordingly; and the Liability of the Trustees and Commissioners under the recited Act, and of any Person acting on their Behalf, in respect of any such Contract, Agreement, Bond, Covenant, Security, or Engagement shall, upon and from the passing of this Act, cease and determine, and be transferred to the Commissioners for carrying this Act into execution.

V. That

Actions, &c. not to abate.

V. That no Action, Suit, or other Proceeding, commenced either by or against the Trustees or Commissioners under the recited Act, shall abate, cease, or be discontinued, or be prejudicially affected by the Repeal thereof, but the same shall continue and take effect, both in favour of and against the Commissioners for carrying this Act into execution, in the same Manner in all respects as the same would have continued and taken effect for or against the Trustees or Commissioners under the recited Act if this Act had not been passed; and all Penalties and Offences which before the passing of this Act may have been incurred under or committed against the Provisions of the recited Act may be sued for and prosecuted by the Commissioners for carrying this Act into execution, in such and the like Manner in all respects as the same might have been sued for and prosecuted by the Trustees or Commissioners under the recited Act if this Act had not been passed.

Penalties to be recoverable.

Present Officers to continue until removed.

VI. That every Person appointed to an Office or Employment under the recited Act shall hold and enjoy his Office and Employment, together with the Salaries and Allowances thereto annexed, until he shall be removed therefrom by the Commissioners for carrying this Act into execution: Provided always, that every Person holding any such Office or Employment shall be subject to the Provisions of this Act, and to the like Penalties and Powers of Removal, and to the like Rules, Regulations, and Proceedings, as if he had been appointed by virtue of this Act.

Officers under recited Act to account.

VII. That every Officer and Person who shall have in his Custody or under his Control any Money collected or received by virtue of the recited Act, or any Books, Deeds, Papers, Writings, or Effects belonging to the Trustees or Commissioners under the recited Act, or relating to the Execution thereof, or to which they would be entitled in case this Act had not passed, shall be liable to account for such Monies and to deliver up all such Books, Deeds, Papers, Writings, and Effects to the Commissioners for carrying this Act into execution, or to such Person as they shall appoint to receive the same, in the same Manner, and subject to the same Process, Pains, and Penalties for Refusal or Neglect, as if such Officer and Person had been appointed by the Commissioners for carrying this Act into execution, and shall be liable to the Payment of and shall pay all such Monies to the Commissioners for carrying this Act into execution, and shall be subject to the Provisions of this Act for the Recovery thereof in case of Refusal or Neglect.

Old Books to be Evidence.

VIII. That all Registers and Books of Proceedings and other Books and Papers whatsoever of the Trustees and Commissioners under the recited Act, kept according to the Directions of the recited Act

Act and made Evidence thereby, or which might have been received as Evidence at the Time of the passing of this Act, shall, notwithstanding the Repeal of the recited Act, be admitted in Evidence in all Courts, and by all Judges, Justices, and others.

First Meeting of Commissioners.

IX. That the Commissioners shall hold their First Meeting at *Stafford* on the Third *Wednesday* next after the passing of this Act, or as soon after such Day as conveniently may be, at the Hour of Twelve at Noon, and shall proceed to put this Act in execution.

Special Meetings of Commissioners may be held.

X. That any Three of the Commissioners may at any Time require the Clerk to call a Special Meeting of the Commissioners for any of the Purposes of this Act or connected therewith.

Quorum.

XI. That at all Ordinary and Special Meetings of the Commissioners for the Purposes of this Act Five shall be a Quorum, and no Business shall be transacted at any such Meeting unless Five Commissioners be present thereat.

Meetings may be adjourned from Time to Time.

XII. That the Commissioners present at such First Meeting, or at any Ordinary or Special Meeting, or at any adjourned Meeting, may from Time to Time adjourn such Meeting to the same or any other Place within the said Borough of *Stafford*; and if at any Meeting of the Commissioners there be not Five Commissioners present within One Hour after the Time appointed for such Meeting, the Commissioners present, or the major Part of them, or any One Commissioner if only One be present, or their Clerk if no Commissioner be present, may adjourn such Meeting to another Day, at the same or any other Place within the said Borough.

Notices of Meetings, how to be given.

XIII. That the Notice of the First Meeting of the Commissioners for executing this Act and the Notice of every Special Meeting of the Commissioners shall be given by Advertisement in any One Newspaper published in the County of *Stafford*, at least Seven clear Days before the Day appointed for holding such Meeting, and such Notice shall specify the Time and Place of meeting and the Object thereof, and no Business shall be transacted at any Special Meeting except such as is stated in the Notice thereof.

Power to appoint Committees.

XIV. That the Commissioners may from Time to Time, if they think fit, at any of their Meetings, appoint a Committee or Committees to carry into effect all or any of the Purposes of this Act which, in the Opinion of the Commissioners, would be better regulated and managed by means of such Committee; and they may fix the Quorum of any such Committee, and may continue, alter, or discontinue such Committee, and may delegate to such Committee

all or such of the Powers hereby granted to the Commissioners as the Commissioners may think proper and direct to be exercised by them.

Proceedings of Committees.

XV. That every Committee so appointed may meet from Time to Time, and may adjourn from Place to Place, as they may think proper for carrying into effect the Purposes of their Appointment, and may exercise such of the Powers by this Act granted as the Commissioners shall have delegated to them.

Order of Business at Meetings of Commissioners and Committees.

XVI. That at every Meeting of the Commissioners, and at every Meeting of a Committee, One of the Commissioners present shall be elected Chairman by the Majority of the Votes of the Commissioners present at such Meeting; and all Questions considered at any such Meeting shall be decided by the Votes of the Majority present; and if there be an equal Division of Votes, the Chairman, in addition to his own Vote as a Commissioner or Member of the Committee, shall have a Casting Vote: Provided always, that if at any such Meeting there shall be an Equality of Votes in the Election of the Chairman, that One of the Commissioners having equal Numbers of Votes, whose Name would stand first if the Names of the Commissioners present were alphabetically arranged, shall be Chairman of such Meeting.

Proceedings of Commissioners, &c. to be valid notwithstanding Disqualification, &c.

XVII. That all Proceedings of the Commissioners, or of a Committee of Commissioners, or of any Person acting as a Commissioner, shall, notwithstanding it be afterwards discovered that any Person who had acted as a Commissioner was not qualified so to act, or was not duly appointed a Member of a Committee, be as valid as if every such Person had been qualified to be a Commissioner, or had been duly appointed a Member of a Committee.

Proceedings, &c. to be entered.

XVIII. That the Commissioners shall cause Entries of all their Proceedings under the Powers of this Act, and of every Committee appointed by them, with the Names of the Commissioners who shall attend each Meeting, to be duly made from Time to Time, in Books to be provided for that Purpose, which shall be kept by the Clerk, under the Superintendence of the Commissioners; and every such Entry shall be signed by the Chairman of the Meeting at which the Proceeding took place, and such Entry so signed shall be admitted as Evidence in all Courts, and before all Judges, Justices, and others, without Proof of such Meeting having been duly convened or held, or of the Persons attending such Meeting having been or being Commissioners or Members of Committees respectively, or of the Signature of the Chairman, or of the Fact of his having been Chairman, all of which last-mentioned Matters shall be presumed until the

the contrary be proved; and such Books shall at all reasonable Times be open to the Inspection of any of the Commissioners, and of any Mortgagee of the Rates authorized by this Act.

Certain Provisions of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 16. incorporated with this Act.

XIX. That all the Clauses and Provisions of "The Commissioners Clauses Act, 1847," with respect to the following Matters; that is to say,

With respect to the Construction of the Act and any Act incorporated therewith,

With respect to the Contracts to be entered into, and the Deeds to be executed by the Commissioners,

With respect to the Liabilities of the Commissioners, and to legal Proceedings by or against the Commissioners,

With respect to the Appointment and Accountability of the Officers of the Commissioners,

With respect to the Mortgages to be executed by the Commissioners, except the Sections numbered LXXXVI. and LXXXVII. respecting the Appointment of a Receiver,

With respect to the Accounts to be kept by the Commissioners, except the Section numbered XCII. respecting the Appointment of Auditors,

With respect to giving Notices and Orders,

With respect to the Recovery of Damages not specially provided for, and of Penalties, and to the Determination of any other Matter referred to Justices, or to the Sheriff, and

With respect to Access to the Special Act,

shall be incorporated with and form Part of this Act.

Appointment of Auditors.

XX. That the Commissioners shall, at their First Meeting in each Year, until the Powers by this Act granted shall have been performed and executed, and the Money hereby authorized to be borrowed shall have been paid off and discharged, appoint One or more Person or Persons, not being Commissioners, to be Auditor or Auditors of the Accounts of the Commissioners for the ensuing Year; and the Auditor or Auditors so appointed shall receive such reasonable Remuneration for their Time and Trouble for every Day they shall be employed on such Audit, and such Expenses as they shall be put unto attending the auditing of the said Accounts, as the Commissioners shall direct.

8 & 9 Vict. c. 18. incorporated.

XXI. That "The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," shall be incorporated with and form Part of this Act.

Commissioners may purchase Lands described in Schedule.

XXII. That, subject to the Provisions in this and in "The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," contained, it shall be lawful for the Commissioners to enter upon, take, and use all or any Part of the Houses

Houses and Lands and other Hereditaments described in the Schedule to this Act annexed, and all Estates and Interests of what Kind soever therein, or any Part thereof.

Errors and Omissions may be corrected by Justices, who shall certify the same.

XXIII. That if any Omission, Mis-statement, or wrong Description shall have been made of any Lands, or of the Owners, Lessees, or Occupiers of any Lands described in the Schedule to this Act annexed, the Commissioners, after giving Ten Days Notice to the Owners, Lessees, and Occupiers of the Lands affected by any proposed Correction of such Omission, Mis-statement, or wrong Description, may apply to Two Justices for the Correction thereof; and if it shall appear to such Justices that such Omission, Mis-statement, or wrong Description arose from Mistake, they shall certify the same accordingly, and shall in such Certificate state the Particulars of any such Omission, Mis-statement, or wrong Description; and such Certificate shall be deposited with the Clerk of the Peace of the County of *Stafford*, and such Certificate shall be kept by such Clerk of the Peace with the other Documents to which it relates; and thereupon the said Schedule shall be deemed to be corrected according to such Certificate, as if such Omission, Mis-statement, or wrong Description had not been made.

Certificate to be deposited.

Commissioners may purchase other Lands by Agreement, &c.

XXIV. That it shall be lawful for the Commissioners at any Time after the passing of this Act to agree with the Owners of any other Houses or Lands which the Commissioners may think it desirable to purchase for better effecting the Objects and Purposes of this Act, or for further enlarging the said Shire Hall, for the absolute Purchase of any such Houses or Lands and of all subsisting or other Interests therein, and of all Charges thereon and Incumbrances affecting any such Houses or Lands, and all Rights to which such Houses or Lands may be subject, and all other Estates and Interests in such Houses or Lands, of what Kind soever, and may apply any Funds in their Hands or which may be raised under the Powers of this Act in such Purchase.

Power to enlarge and improve the Shire Hall.

XXV. That it shall be lawful for the Commissioners to alter, enlarge, improve, and extend the existing Shire Hall of the County of *Stafford*, and for that Purpose to erect and build upon any Land or Ground by this Act vested in them, or to be purchased by them under the Powers of this Act, such Buildings, Erections, Rooms, Offices, and Conveniences of such Dimensions, and according to such Plans and Elevations, as the Commissioners shall from Time to Time think necessary and suitable for affording Accommodation for the Transaction of the public Business of the County of *Stafford*.

Shire Hall, &c. vested in Commis-

XXVI. That all Houses and Lands which shall be purchased by the Commissioners for the Purpose of enlarging, improving, and extending

extending the said Shire Hall as aforesaid, and all other Property which they may acquire under the Provisions of this Act, except as herein otherwise provided, shall be and the same is hereby from the Time of such Purchase or Acquisition vested in the Commissioners for executing this Act, upon special Trust and Confidence, and to the End, Intent, and Purpose, that the said Commissioners shall and will, from Time to Time and at all Times thereafter, peaceably, quietly, and freely permit and suffer all the Courts of the Justices of Assize and Nisi Prius, Oyer and Terminer, and General Gaol Delivery for the said County of *Stafford*, and also the Courts of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, and all other Courts of the Justices of the Peace, and all the Courts and public Meetings of all other Justices and Commissioners of Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, for the said County, and the County Court for the said County, to be holden in the said Shire Hall and the Appurtenances thereunto belonging; and also peaceably and quietly permit and suffer the said Shire Hall to be had, used, and enjoyed for such other public Uses and Purposes as the Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Stafford* for the Time being or the major Part of them, at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, shall from Time to Time direct, order, and appoint, with free Liberty for all Persons whom it shall concern to act and officiate in and to resort to and attend upon the said Courts and Meetings as they shall have Occasion; and also peaceably, quietly, and freely permit and suffer the Sheriff and Freeholders of the said County of *Stafford* for the Time being, when and as often as there shall be Occasion, in the said Shire Hall to make Elections of a Knight or Knights to serve in Parliament, and of a Coroner or Coroners for the same County, and to hold all other Public Meetings for the said County; and also peaceably, quietly, and freely permit and suffer the Mayor, Aldermen, Councillors, and Assistants of the said Borough of *Stafford* to assemble, meet, and continue there as often as there shall be Occasion; and also the Mayor, Aldermen, Burgesses, and Electors of the same Borough to assemble, meet, and continue there to make Elections of Burgesses to serve in Parliament for the said Borough, as often as there shall be Occasion; and also peaceably, quietly, and freely permit the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, the Court of Record for Pleas, and the Court Leet and Court Baron for the said Borough and the Liberties thereof, and all other Assemblies for the good Rule and Government of the said Borough, to be there held in manner as the same have usually been in the former Shire Halls; and that when the said Shire Hall shall not be used or employed for any of the Purposes aforesaid, the said Commissioners may and are hereby empowered, from Time to Time and at all Times, to permit and suffer the said Shire Hall and Appurtenances to be used and

sioners for certain Uses.

employed in and for such public Uses and Purposes, and in such Manner, as the said Justices of the Peace at their General Quarter Sessions shall think proper and direct; but the said Commissioners or any of them shall not demand or take, or allow to be demanded by any Person whatsoever, any Rent, Allowance, or valuable Consideration whatsoever for the Use of such Shire Hall; and such Commissioners shall and may, in the Name of the Clerk of the Peace for the said County of *Stafford* for the Time being, bring Actions or prefer Bills of Indictment against any Person or Persons who shall damage or prejudice the said Shire Hall, or damage, prejudice, purloin, steal, or take away any Matter or Thing appertaining thereto: Provided always, that such Use of the said Shire Hall by the Town Council of the said Borough of *Stafford* shall not interfere with, nor extend nor be construed to extend to sanction any Interference with the public Business of the said County of *Stafford* to be transacted at the said Shire Hall.

Providing for the Maintenance, &c. of the Shire Hall.

XXVII. That the Commissioners shall and they are hereby authorized to cause the said Shire Hall to be supported, repaired, maintained, and furnished as and when they shall consider it necessary to do so, and shall insure the same from Loss or Damage by Fire or otherwise, and the Expense of such Support, Repair, Maintenance, and furnishing, and of such Insurance, shall be borne and defrayed by the said County of *Stafford* at large out of the County Rates of the said County, in the same Manner as other Public Works or Buildings of and belonging to the said County now are or hereafter may be supported and maintained, and such County Rates are hereby made applicable to the Payment of such Expense accordingly.

Power to provide Market and Offices for the Town Council of Stafford.

XXVIII. That it shall be lawful for the Commissioners and they are hereby empowered and required to set apart a Portion of the Land to be purchased by them under the Powers of this Act, and to convert the same into a general Market in the Place of the Market heretofore held adjoining the existing Shire Hall and situated at the Back thereof, and also to erect and build on such Portion of Land, or on Part thereof, such Buildings and Offices for the Use of the Town Council of the said Borough, of such Dimensions and according to such Plans and Elevations, and containing such Rooms and Conveniences for the Transaction of the public Business of the said Borough, and to provide such Furniture for the same, as may have been or shall be agreed upon between the said Commissioners and the said Town Council in lieu and satisfaction of the Buildings, Rooms, Market House, and other Premises directed to be provided for the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the said Borough of *Stafford* by the said recited Act.

XXIX. That

Market and Offices when completed to be vested in the Town Council of Stafford for public Purposes.

XXIX. That when the Market Ground and Buildings to be provided under the preceding Section for the said Town Council shall have been so provided, and shall have been completed, finished, and furnished according to the Agreement so to be entered into between the said Commissioners and the said Town Council, the Commissioners shall cause Notice thereof to be given in some Newspaper published and circulated in the County of *Stafford* for Three successive Weeks, stating that such Market Ground has been so provided and such Buildings erected, and from thenceforth such Market Ground and Buildings shall be and the same are hereby vested in the High Steward, the Mayor, Recorder, Justices of the Peace, and Town Council for the Time being of the said Borough of *Stafford*, as to the said Buildings and Rooms for the Use of the said Town Council, and as to the said Market for the Use of the Inhabitants of the said Borough and other Persons frequenting the said Market; and such Market and Buildings shall for ever thereafter be repaired, altered, and enlarged, maintained and supported by and at the Expense of the said Town Council and the Inhabitants of the said Borough of *Stafford* out of the Corporate Funds and Rates of the said Borough: Provided always, that the said High Steward, Mayor, Recorder, Justices, and Town Council of the said Borough of *Stafford* shall have no Power to alienate, mortgage, or otherwise charge or incumber the said Market and Buildings or any Part thereof, nor shall the same or any Part thereof be subject to the present or future Debts, Judgments, or Liabilities of or against the said Town Council.

On Completion of Markets, &c. the present to be discontinued.

XXX. That from and after the Publication of the Notice of the Completion of the said Market Ground and Buildings it shall not be lawful for the said Town Council or any other Person to hold any Market on the Ground at the Back of the present Shire Hall hereby vested in the Commissioners for carrying this Act into execution for the Purpose of the Extension of the said Shire Hall; and thereafter the Right of the said Mayor, Justices, Aldermen, and Burgesses to the Use of the said Mayor's Office, Rooms, and other Buildings erected or provided under the said recited Act shall cease and determine.

Power to levy Rates on the County of Stafford for carrying the Act into execution.

XXXI. That, for raising Money for defraying and discharging the Costs and Expenses of applying for, obtaining, and passing this Act, enlarging, extending, and improving the said Shire Hall, and providing Market Accommodation, and providing and building Rooms and Offices for the Town Council of *Stafford*, and for the several Purposes of this Act, and carrying the same into execution, it shall be lawful for the Commissioners, being Justices of the Peace for the County of *Stafford* as aforesaid, and assembled at their General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the County of *Stafford*, or at any Adjournment or Adjourn-

Adjournments thereof, and they are hereby authorized, empowered, and required, to order and direct a fair and equal County Rate to be made on every Parish, Township, and Place, whether parochial or extra-parochial, within the said County of *Stafford* (except the City and County of the City of *Lichfield*), in the same Manner and with the like Powers and Authorities for assessing, collecting, levying, and recovering the same, and subject to the same Restrictions in all respects as by the Act passed in the Session of Parliament held in the 15th and 16th Years of the Reign of Her present Majesty, intituled *An Act to consolidate and amend the Statutes relating to the Assessment and Collection of County Rates in* England *and* Wales, Justices of the Peace for Counties or Divisions are thereby empowered to assess and tax Parishes, Townships, and Places, whether parochial or extra-parochial, within the Limits of their Commissions, for the Purposes specified in or contemplated by such Act, and the County Stock or Rate of the said County of *Stafford* is hereby made liable to the Payment of such Costs and Expenses accordingly.

15 & 16 Vict c. 81.

Limiting Amount of Rate.

XXXII. Provided always, That the Rates to be raised upon the said County for the several Purposes of this Act, exclusive of the Proportion of the Expense of supporting, repairing, maintaining, furnishing, and insuring the said Shire Hall, herein-before authorized to be charged upon and defrayed out of the County Rates of the said County of *Stafford*, shall not exceed the Sum of Twopence in the Pound in the whole, nor more than One Halfpenny in the Pound in any One Year,

Power to borrow Money on Mortgage of the Rates.

XXXIII. That for more speedily raising a Fund for the Purposes of this Act the Commissioners may and they are hereby authorized from Time to Time to borrow, at Interest, on Mortgage on the Credit of the County Rates of the said County of *Stafford*, such Sum or Sums of Money, not exceeding in the whole the Sum of Fifteen thousand Pounds, as they shall consider necessary and expedient for carrying this Act into execution; and for securing the Monies so to be borrowed, with Interest for the same not exceeding the Rate of Five Pounds *per Centum per Annum*, the Commissioners may and they are hereby empowered to assign over the County Rates of the said County of *Stafford* or any Part thereof to the Person who shall advance such Money, as a Security for the Payment of the Money so to be borrowed, together with Interest for the same.

As to Expenses of Mortgages.

XXXIV. That the Costs and Expenses of any Mortgage, and the Interest to become due in respect of such Mortgage, may be paid by the Commissioners out of any Rates or Assessments to be received by them, or out of the Monies to be borrowed by the Commissioners under the Powers of this Act.

XXXV. That

XXXV. That all the Costs, Charges, and Expenses of applying for, obtaining, and passing this Act or incidental thereto shall be paid out of the first Monies which shall be assessed and levied by virtue of this Act and come to the Hands of the Commissioners for carrying this Act into execution; and in the meantime, and until the Commissioners shall receive sufficient Money for such Purposes under the Powers of this Act, it shall be lawful for the Commissioners to advance and pay the same out of any Monies now in their Hands or under their Control belonging to the said County of *Stafford*, and applicable to the general Purposes thereof, or out of the Monies which the Commissioners are by this Act authorized to borrow. Expenses of Act.

XXXVI. That in citing this Act in other Acts of Parliament, and in legal Instruments or other Proceedings and Documents, it shall be sufficient to use the Expression "The *Stafford* Shire Hall Act, 1853." Short Title.

The SCHEDULE to which the foregoing Act refers.

COUNTY OF STAFFORD.

Property intended to be taken for the Purposes of the Act, all within the Parish of SAINT MARY in the Borough of Stafford.

Situation of Property.	Description of Property.	Owners or reputed Owners.	Lessees or reputed Lessees.	Occupiers.
In the Shire Hall and Market Street.	Mayor's Office, Police Office, Antechamber, Cells, and Outbuildings, in the Shire Hall at Stafford.	Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Stafford, and the Mayor, Town Council, and Justices of the Borough of Stafford.	- - -	The Mayor, Town Council, and Justices of the Borough of Stafford.
In Market Street	Cheese, Butter, and Poultry Market, and Outbuildings, at the Back of the Shire Hall, Stafford.	The Mayor, Town Council, and Justices of the Borough of Stafford.	- - -	The Mayor, Town Council, and Justices of the Borough of Stafford.
In Martin's Court, No. 1, & Martin Street.	The Old Blue Posts Public House, Yard, Garden, Stables, Outbuildings, and Premises.	Anne Rogers -	- - -	Robert Adams.
In Market Street, No. 10.	The Rose and Crown Inn and Public House, Yard, Stables, Outbuildings, and Premises.	George Ford -	- - -	James Harbour.
In Eastgate Street, No. 98.	House, Yard, Stables, Outbuildings, and Premises.	William Swift -	- - -	John Carless the elder.
In Eastgate Street.	A Garden and Hothouses at the Back of or adjoining to the House and Premises, No. 90, in Eastgate Street, and in Martin Street, Stafford.	Thomas Benson Elley.	- - -	Thomas Benson Elley.
In Market Square, No. 15.	House, Shop, Warehouses, Offices, Stable, Yard, Garden, Outbuildings, and Premises.	Thomas Turner -	- - -	Thomas Turner, Isaac Barton, and Henry Ward.
In Saint Mary's Churchyard, No. 8.	A Garden at the Back of the House, No. 8, in Saint Mary's Churchyard, Stafford.	James Gay Hiern -	- - -	James Gay Hiern.

The Stafford Shire Hall Act, 1853.

Situation of Property.	Description of Property.	Owners or reputed Owners.	Lessees or reputed Lessees.	Occupiers.
In Saint Mary's Churchyard, No. 7.	A Garden, Garden House, and Shed, at the Back of the House, No. 7, in Saint Mary's Churchyard, Stafford.	Thomas Farmer Kemsey.	- - -	Henry Thomas Lomax.
In Crabbery Street.	Two Yards and Gardens at the Back of Houses and Buildings, Nos. 1 & 2, Crabbery St., Stafford.	Charles Dawson, Edward Knight, Elizabeth Bond, Appolina Till.	- - -	Appolina Till and Anne Southall.
In Crabbery Street.	An Engine House and Buildings.	Charles Dawson, Edward Knight, Elizabeth Bond, Appolina Till.	- - -	The Directors of the District Fire Insurance Company.
In Market Square and Crabbery Street.	Warehouses, Stable, Garden, Outbuildings, and Occupation Road in Crabbery Street, and at the Back of the House and Premises, No. 18, in Market Square, Stafford.	George Fowke, Francis Fowke, Clerk, and John Kenderdine Shaw.	- - -	George Fowke.
In Market Square, No. 17.	House, Shop Warehouses, Stable, Yard, Outbuildings, and Premises.	Charles Cooke -	- - -	Charles Cooke.
In Crabbery Street.	Workshop, Stable, Coach-house, Buildings, and Premises.	John Kelsall -	- - -	Unoccupied.
In Gaolgate Street.	A Garden at the Back of the House, No. 1, in Gaolgate Street, Stafford.	Thomas Bowyer Hammersley.	- - -	Thomas Bowyer Hammersley.

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