



Date

Ellingham

Kirby Cane

1631	The Book of Orders required justices to hold monthly meetings in their divisions and summon constables, churchwardens, overseers and surveyors to make presentments to them. Our local meeting was held at Loddon.	
1632	John Hammond died possessed of Ellingham Manor. 	Thomas Smith, 'His Majesty's farmer' (i.e. he had bought the right to charge rents and issue licenses) was in control of the manor and soke of Stockton. 1635 Thomas Catelyn died.
1633	The parishes paid 4d to the summoner (for what the Stockton church warden calls " <i>the booke of toleration</i> " - the lawful sports to be used on Sundays), ordered by the King to be promulgated in every parish.	
1634	King Charles I levied ship money, as he did not need the consent of Parliament to do so.	
1635	The attempt of King Charles I to levy ship money during peacetime and extend it to the inland counties of England without Parliamentary approval, provoked fierce resistance, and was one of the grievances of the English propertied class.	
1636	George Harwood gained rights of the fishing and fowling in ' a river by a water mill called The Kings Stream flowing by a water mill called Ellingham Mill.	Humphrey Copley died. Michael Bonfellow, yeoman, died.
1637	Laud's 'orders, directions and remembrances', issued after his visitation, contained 28 articles designed to promote reverence, decency and good order; the communion table had to be against the chancel wall, an altar rail to stop dogs, hats off, bowing and kneeling reintroduced. It cost Stockton 14s to buy and have John Prat fit the altar rails. A questionnaire was circulated among churchwardens which amounted to spying on their clergy. The move to foist these reforms on the Scots, lead them to rebel and invade England. A conflict which was referred to as the Bishops' war.	
1638	Thomas Turner, a 32 year old weaver took a ship from Great Yarmouth to Holland " <i>desirous to goe to Holland to see friends and upon liking of the countrie to inhabite otherwise to retorne within two months</i> ". Many weavers were leaving the country because of low wages. Equally, many Puritans were escaping Bishop Wren's innovations. There was popular hatred for Archbishops Laud's move to repress puritan and introduce more ceremonial into churches, which the populace thought 'popish'. Scottish protestants' covenant aimed at abolishing bishops. John Buxton, Sheriff of Norfolk was having difficulty raising the unpopular ship money from the Clavering. This hundred (also Blofield and Walsham) was in arrears but the chief constable, William Meek refused to distraint the goods of those who would not pay.	
1640	Charles I ran out of money and had to recall parliament. The Long Parliament overturned many of Laud's reforms, involving our local churchwardens in much expense.	

