

21 March 1743/4 a house in Sheep Street was leased to Robert Wild for twenty-one years at a charge of £6 a year, payable by two equal instalments at Michaelmas and Lady Day (the tenant was to put the house in repair and 'at the end of lease to leave it so') [155b]. The Leather Hall was leased to Henry Cole for seven years in 1752 at the yearly rental of £1.15s.0d. [215].

In 1752 it was agreed that Virgin Mascord should continue to rent 'a garden in Banbury till Michas. Day next', for which she was to pay £4 [219b]. Another extension of an agreement was made on 7 December 1758, with Mr Harrison, who 'from St. Thomas next' was to pay 20s. a year 'for his school and to keep and leave the windows in repair' [252b]. At a Hall on 5 November 1744 it was agreed that the Constables should erect, in the Cow Fair, a Common Pound 'at a convenient distance from the Chapel Well'; it was to be eight yards square, 'of oak, not exceeding 18d. a foot for the posts and 4½d. a foot for planks' [171b]. However, it does not appear to have been built, because on 5 November 1748 the Council granted to William Hide and Benjamin Aplin (recently appointed Town Clerk) a 21-year lease, to begin as from Michaelmas 1748, of a 'strip of ground between the two common roads from Chapel Well so far as the ground extends down where the said two roads meet'; for this they were to pay a rent of 10s. yearly, and on it they were to build 'a Pound and to have all profits arising' [198]. The last lease recorded in the Journal was granted on 4 June 1760 and was of land 'near Oxford Bar' to James Burling on payment of 5s. per annum for 99 years to the Mayor and Corporation [257b].

As lords of the manor the Corporation was also entitled to chief rents and rents for encroachment on the waste; these had usually been paid to the Chamberlain, but at a Hall on 14 October 1724 it was decided that they should be paid to the Mayor [46]. Assessments made by the Council on 5 November 1744 illustrate the kinds of encroachments that were made and how those responsible were dealt with:

'John Welchman to pay 2s.6d. a year for a Bulk<sup>13</sup> which stands on waste projecting from his house at the end of Parsons Lane.

'Mr [Richard] Woodfield to pay 1s.6d. for his Bulk.

'Mr Busby [weaver], to pay 2s.6d. a year for his Pallisadoes before his door being on the waste.

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<sup>13</sup> A stall or framework built in front of a shop or house.