

four were from Corporation members, plus the Town Clerk and the Sergeant-at-Mace; and the innkeeper of the Red Lion, a leading hostelry probably patronised by all of them. The 24 Whig voters were the expected mixture of tradesmen; none were Aldermen or Burgesses.

The two places with sizeable numbers of voters were Great and Little Bourton (in Cropredy parish), with 13 Whig voters, all yeomen or tradesmen, no Tories; and the Sibfords (in Swalcliffe parish) with 24 Whigs to two Tories, one a clergyman. Both were 'open' villages with no dominant landowner or nearby church. In a smaller way, the three Whig voters in North Newington contrasted with just Dr John Knight,¹ the Tory rector of Broughton. In Wardington there were 16 Whigs (five from Williamscoote) to three Tories, one of those being the squire, George Chamberlain Esq.² Wroxton's single (Tory) voter contrasted with two Whigs at Balscote. Horley (seven) and Hornton (six) voted solidly Whig. Wigginton voted seven Whigs to one Tory. As peers, the landowners at Broughton and Wroxton did not feature.

In the larger villages the number of voters is too small to be significant: Adderbury had six Whigs and one Tory; in contrast its chapelries Barford St John had four Tories and one Whig, whilst Bodicote had six Tories to four Whigs. Bloxham including Milcombe had two Tories and one Whig. But at Hook Norton, also presumably an 'open' village, there were no less than 28 Whigs, mainly yeomen, to one Tory. Moving south, in contrast and perhaps more in tune with the rest of the county, Barford St Michael's eight voters all were Tories, and Deddington had only five Whigs to 13 Tories. Very few in the county used their two votes to support one of either party, but three of these were at Deddington, one at least, John Kempster, being an innholder – perhaps trying to please *all* his regulars.

Statistics can be used to try to prove anything, and the numbers here are far too small to be acceptable. Nevertheless, those able to vote in the 25 north Oxfordshire places showed by 100 votes to 67 their Whig preference. As the rector of Alkerton expressed himself in taking the Association Oath to King William III five years later, "We have no Jacobites here!" He was to an extent speaking for Banburyshire.

Politics and Loyalty in Post-Revolution Oxfordshire: The '1690' County Parliamentary Poll; The Association Oath Rolls, 1695-6. 80pp., Oxfordshire Family History Society, 2011. £5 + £1 p&p from the writer.

¹ *Victoria County History, Oxfordshire*, vol. 9 (Bloxham Hundred), pp.97-8.

² *Victoria County History, Oxfordshire*, vol. 10 (Banbury Hundred), pp.214-5.