Kelly's Directory 1915

WEST KNOYLE is a parish 5½ miles north east from Gillingham station on the Salisbury and Yeovil section of the London and South Western railway, 3 east from Mere and 7 north from Shaftesbury, in the Southern division of the county, Mere hundred and union, Tisbury Petty sessional division, Shaftesbury County Court district, rural deanery of Chalke (Tisbury portion), archdeaconry and diocese of Salisbury.

The church (dedication unknown) is an edifice of stone chiefly in the Early English style and was rebuilt, except the tower, in 1878. It consists of a chancel, nave, vestry and organ chamber, south porch and a Perpendicular embattled western tower with pinnacles containing 5 bells. There are stained windows and tablets to the Willoughby family.

The church register dates from the year 1718, those of earlier date having been burnt.

The living is a rectory, net yearly value of £266 with residence and 51 acres of glebe in the gift of the Earl of Pembroke and held since 1907 by the Rev. George Walter Griffith B.A. of Pembroke College Oxford.

There is a charity of £16 a year left by Christopher Willoughby Esq., for four poor widows who do not receive parochial aid.

The ancient parish stocks still stand at the entrance to the church. North east and close to the church, formerly stood the residence of the Willoughby family, pulled down about 1745; the terraces of the gardens still remain.

The soil borders on the chalky stratum and is principally of still loam clay. The land is partly pasture and partly arable, growing wheat, oats and barley. The area is 2,016 acres, rateable value £1,142. The population in 1911 was 137.

Parish Clerk - James Gray

Post Office - Mrs. Mabel Emily Riddick, Sub-postmistress.

Letters through Bath delivered at 8.20am and 5.50pm; dispatched 8.20am and 5.45pm; Sundays 11.15am. Mere 4 miles distant is the nearest money order and telegraph office. Wall Letter Box, The Common, cleared 8.30am and ??; Sunday 11am.

Elementary School (mixed) built in 1874 for 50 children.

Gentry/Private Residents/Traders

Surname	Given Name	Industry/Occupation
Griffith, Rev	George Walter	Rectory
Austin	George	Farmer, Broad Mead Farm
Dammers	Edward Max	Farmer, West Hill
Drew	James William	Farmer, Bush Farm
Gray	James	Parish Clerk
Radclyffe	Raymond	Farmer, Manor Farm
Riddick, Mrs	Louisa	Cowkeeper
Riddick Mrs	Mabel Emily	Sub Postmistress
Riddick	Tom	Cowkeeper
Turner	Frank	Dairy Farmer
White	Walter Herbert	Blacksmith
Whitney	David	Farmer, Oxleaze Farm