

SOUTHEND STANDARD NOVEMBER 5th 1907

Great Waking and the Effigy

Sequel in the Police Court

At the Southend County Petty Sessions on Wednesday, there was a sequel to the events of November 5th at Great Waking, when three men were charged with discharging fireworks on the highway, at Great Waking, on November 5th.

Their names were Sydney Watkins, Shoemaker, Shoebury; Chas Hills, Labourer, Great Waking; and Fred'k Stowe, Labourer, Great Waking.

Supt Pryke said he would like to say that these three cases all took place at Great Waking during the unpleasant affair there. He thought the best way to stop it was to bring them before the magistrates, and he had no wish to press the cases against these lads. They were all respectable young men.

Stowe pleaded not guilty, and the other two guilty.

Ps Totterdell said about 7.15 he saw the lads standing on the footpath. He saw Stowe light a squib and throw it into the road, and it went off with a bang. When served with the summons, Stowe admitted that he lit the firework from another lad's cigarette.

Watkins and Stowe were fined 1s and 2s 6d costs, and Hill, who was a younger lad, had to pay a fine of 1s.

Alec Butcher, Labourer, Great Wakering, denied a charge of being drunk and disorderly at Great Wakering on November 5th.

Ps Totterdell said that shortly after ten o'clock, he saw defendant in the midst of a large crowd. He was very drunk and disorderly and was inciting the people to riot.

By Supt Pryke: Defendant was very obstinate and it took ten or fifteen minutes to get him to go away.

Defendant said that he had only three pints of beer that night. He had more that morning than he had that night. He was like other people, only excited over the burning.

Supt Pryke said the evidence of Ps Totterdell was correct. Defendant was very drunk and disorderly. There was a large crowd about, mostly hostile, all through this man. Witness stopped there till eleven o'clock, and then left three men in charge.

There was two previous convictions against defendant, and he was now fined

20s and 4s costs. Allowed a fortnight to pay.

Also in same edition of Southend Standard

Sir,

I cannot understand where you obtained the report in Thursdays paper. I consider it is very misleading. The disturbances at Great Wakering were not caused by the refusal to permit Pc Baker to receive testimonial. No one in Great Wakering knew of the refusal on Saturday evening until the effigy was being carried through the street. As one of those who were the organisers of the testimonial, your insinuations of taking part in the disturbances, are entirely without foundation. I knew nothing of it till Sergt Totterdell brought the message of the refusal and at that time the effigy was in the street. Most all the people subscribed were respectable tradesmen of Great Wakering and know there is no truth in it.

Yours Truly

W Goodman

Great Wakering