

# TIBBERTON Gloucestershire

## TIBBERTON ALMSHOUSES

Nos 1 – 4 Bovone Lane, Tibberton, Gloucester. GL2 8EA



Almshouses trace their history back to monastic times, when the terms 'bedehouse', 'Maison Dieu', 'almshouse', 'hospital' and others described the monastic provision of accommodation for those in need. By the middle of the 1530s, there were about 800 medieval hospitals spread across the country but, following the dissolution of the monasteries, only a handful remained, the majority of which were reformed on secular lines and rebuilt in the new collegiate style, including a chapel for regular worship by the residents. Many of these ancient chapels still survive as architectural gems and still occupy a very special place in the life and soul of the almshouse communities they continue to serve, as do other chapels built from the 17th to the 20th centuries.

Almshouses are dwellings provided by a benefactor in perpetuity for people in need and administered by a body of voluntary Trustees. They have existed in the United Kingdom for over 1000 years, the first recorded almshouse being in York in the tenth century.

Most Almshouse Trusts have fewer than ten dwellings; many are listed buildings and are beautiful examples of our architectural heritage.

The Tibberton Almshouses were built in 1868, endowed in trust by William Philip Price MP; landowner and owner of Tibberton Court, ***to permit the same to be forever occupied by aged or infirm (elderly, disadvantaged or disabled {where possible}) persons, inhabitants of the said Parish of Tibberton (now Tibberton, Taynton, Rudford and Highleadon, Highnam and where merit exists). Subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Charity, NO person shall be ineligible or considered a less deserving object of the Charity by reason or on account of their religious opinions.***

There are four; semi-detached one and two-bedroom properties in Bovone Lane Tibberton, on land donated by William Philip Price of Tibberton Court. The aims of the Trust have not materially changed since the premises were built in the Nineteenth Century. The Trustees are drawn from members of the Local Parish with a representative of Tibberton Court and Holy Trinity Church. Their time is given voluntarily in support of the residents. *The 'Original' Minute Book is still used today.*

On the South – facing wall of No1 Bovone Lane is a plaque placed there in 1868 which states: -

*“These houses, a refuge in old age, out of concern for the poor of this parish, were founded by William Philip Price 1867, to be forever occupied by aged or infirm person's, inhabitants of the said Parish of Tibberton who would otherwise be probably compelled to end their days in the Union Workhouse”*