



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 210/U/34

In the Matter of Portland Meadow
in the parish of Wareham Lady St.
Mary Dorset

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Portland Meadow in the parish of Wareham Lady St. Mary being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL.136 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the Dorset County Council of which no person is registered under section 4 of the Commons Registration Act 1965 as the owner.

Following upon the public notice of this reference a number of persons claimed to be the freehold owners of separate parts of the land in question and no other person claimed to have information as to its ownership.

I held a hearing for the purpose of inquiring into the question of the ownership of the land at Poole on 9 July 1980.

Mr P H Chesterfield appeared for E C C U Quarries Ltd, Messrs. Winckworth and Pemberton Solicitors of Wimbleton appeared for Mr D C D Ryder Mr J Hughes appeared for the Wessex Water Authority, and Nigel Neville Jones of Messrs. Neville-Jones and Howie Solicitors of Wimbleton appeared for Mr G P Sturdy.

There was no disagreement between the claimants as to which parts of the land each owned and having considered the documents of title produced I was satisfied that these claims were substantiated.

I was advised that Mr Ryder was in process of acquiring the part of the land owned by E C C Quarries Ltd and I agreed to defer my decision until that transaction had been completed. The date of the material document is 31 December 1980.

On this evidence I am satisfied that:

1. Wessex Water Authority is the owner of the land shown hatched blue on the plan annexed thereto.
2. Giles Patrick Sturdy is the owner of the land shown edged red on the said plan and
3. Dudley Claud Douglas Ryder is the owner of the land shown hatched red on the said plan and of all the remainder of the land comprised in the Register Unit lying to the east of the said land edged red, and I shall accordingly direct the Dorset County Council, as registration authority, to register these persons as the owners of the land under Section 3 (2) of the Act of 1965.

I am required by regulation 30 (1) of the Commons Commissioners Regulations 1971 to explain that a person aggrieved by this decision as being erroneous in point of law may, within 6 weeks from the date on which notice of the decision is sent to him, require me to state a case for the decision of the High Court.

Dated this 17th day of March 1981

George Harbottle
Commons Commissioner