



In the Matter of West Ward Meadows, Bradford Peverell,
Dorset

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as West Ward Meadows, Bradford Peverell, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL 322 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 H.R.H. Charles, Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall claimed to be the freehold owner 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 Dorchester on 5 March 1980.

At the hearing Mr D S D Hall, land agent, appeared on behalf of the Prince of Wales.

The land in question is included in a survey made in 1779 of the manor of Fordington belonging to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales (i.e. the eldest son of King George III), where it is shown as parcel of a copyhold tenement in the possession of one Thomas Cooper. It does not appear from the Duchy records when or how the copyhold estate came to an end, but in 1849 the land was let to George Henning at a rent of £2. 3s. 1d. per annum and it was let to a succession of tenants until 1919, since when it has been in hand.

On this evidence I am satisfied that H.R.H. Charles, Prince of Wales is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Dorset County Council, as registration authority, to register him as the owner of the land under section 8(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

15th

day of

January

1981

[Handwritten Signature]

CHIEF COMMONS COMMISSIONER