



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 211/U/99

In the matter of Angate Hill Green,
Wolsingham, Wear Valley District,
Durham

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Angate Hill Green, Wolsingham, Wear Valley District being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. VG102 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the Durham 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 no person claimed to be the freehold owner of the land in question and no one 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 Durham on 5 February 1986. At the hearing Wolsingham Parish Council were represented by Mr S Bee who has been a member since 1966 and has lived in the Parish for 23 years.

Mr Bee said (in effect):- Of the land nobody claimed ownership (there is no single house facing it to which it could belong). A public footpath (No. 151 on the definitive map) bisects it. It has always been used by the public especially by children (very convenient for those living nearby); its long recreational use is supported in two letters written by Mr Eddy Sanderson and by Mrs Vere Shuttleworth (inhabitants for many years of Wolsingham). Four seats have been placed on it by the District Council and they cut the grass: they support the claim of the Parish Council to be registered as owners.

In the absence of any evidence of the Parish Council or anyone else being the owner I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the land and I shall accordingly direct the Durham County Council as registration authority to register Wolsingham Parish Council as the owners of the land under section 8(3) 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 13th — day of February — 1986

A. A. Baden Fuller

Commons Commissioner