



In the Matter of Bishop Middleham Village Green,
Sedgefield D

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of the land described above being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. VG 76 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 Bishop Middleham Parish Council 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 Darlington on 24 July 1980.

At the hearing Mrs J Crowden, Solicitor, appeared on behalf of the Parish Council. Mr Alan Thompson, Vice Chairman of the Parish Council and a member since 1974 gave evidence. The Green has been maintained by the Parish Council at an annual cost of several hundred pounds. It has been maintained since before 1969, a year in which it won an award in a competition for village greens.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Parish Council is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Durham County Council, as registration authority, to register the Parish Council 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

12 August

1980

L. J. Morris Smith

Commons Commissioner