

COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No.14/U/42

In the Matter of Bell Hill Common, Petersfield, Hampshire.

DECISION ·

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Bell Hill Common, Petersfield, being the part of the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.VG 32 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the former Hampshire 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 the Petersfield Town 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 Winchester on 21st May 1975.

The Petersfield Town Council was represented at the hearing by Mr Peter Jenkins, the Town Clerk. Mr Jenkins informed me that the Council have control of the land under a scheme made under the Commons Act 1899, but that he did not know in whom the ownership is vested.

In the absence of any evidence I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Hampshire County Council, as registration authority, to register the Town Council as successor to the former Petersfield Urban District Council as the owner 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 low day of June 1975

Chief Commons Commissioner