



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No 16/U/81

In the Matter of Long Pond,  
Therfield, North Hertfordshire  
District, Hertfordshire

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DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Long Pond, Therfield, North Hertfordshire District, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No CL. 121 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the Hertfordshire 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 Therfield Parish Council (on whose 1968 application the registration was made) said (letter 20 May 1978):- The objected to the registration. Many years ago the County Council filled this pond in because of stagnant water. There were then complaints about rubbish and weeds coming through into the surrounding gardens. Mr Jefferies who lived next door offered to be responsible for this piece of ground. Long Pond is now maintained as a garden by Mrs Jefferies' widow who pays a quit rent of 10p per annum to the Parish Council. Since the ground has to be reached via Mrs Jefferies' garden, it is most unsuitable "to be declared common ground". No person 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 Hertford on 7 June 1978. There was no appearance at the hearing.

On this reference I have no jurisdiction to avoid the registration, it having become final on 1 October 1970 pursuant to the registration made on the application of the Parish Council. As to ownership, in the absence of any evidence I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the land, and it will therefore remain subject to protection under section 9 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 26<sup>th</sup> day of June 1978

*A. A. Baden Fuller*

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