COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No.16/U/50

In the Matter of Southern Green,
Rushden, Hertfordshire.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Southern Green, Rushden, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.C.L.39 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 the Trustees of the Manor of Rushden claimed to be the freehold owners 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 17th January 1973.

At the hearing the Trustees were represented by Mr. G.D. Chalk, himself a Trustee. Mr. Chalk produced a deed dated 16th February 1931, whereby James Ambrose Harman conveyed to three trustees the manor or reputed manor of Rushden together with (inter alia) the land the subject of this reference on trust to preserve the land as an open space for the purposes of the recreation of the inhabitants of Rushden. The present successors of the trustees named in this deed are Mr. Chalk and Mr. Horace Chapman, both of whom produced properly executed deeds of appointment.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Trustees of the Manor of Rushden are the owners of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Hertfordshire County Council, as registration authority, to register the Trustees as the owners 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 **25th** day of January 1973.

Chief Commons Commissioner