

COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No.19/U/71

In the Matter of Snodland Common (part), Snodland. Kent.

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Snodland Common (part), being part of the land comprised in the Land. Section of Register Unit No.C.L.67 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the Kent 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 C. Townsend Hook & Co.Ltd. 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 Maidstone on 15th January 1974.

At the hearing C. Townsend Hook & Co.Ltd. was represented by Mr. B.C. Williams, its Secretary/Chief Accountant. The Snodland Parish Council was represented by Mrs. M. Ashbee, its Chairman.

This reference relates only to so much of the land comorised in the Register Unit as lies to the east of a line C - D on the register map, the ownership of the land to the west of that line having been registered by the Snodland Parish Council without objection.

The land the subject of the reference was conveyed to C. Townsend Hook & Co.Ltd. by a conveyance made 19th March 1947 between (1) Frank Ernest Reeves (2) C. Townsend Hock & Co.Ltd. Mr. Reeve's title went back to 1867 and C. Townsend Hook & Co.Ltd. has been in undisputed possession since 1947.

For these reasons I am satisfied that C. Townsend Hook & Co.Ltd. is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Kent County Council, as registration authority, to register that Company 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 this 31st day of Januar