



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No.219/U/20

In the Matter of The Vine,
Sevenoaks, Kent.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Vine, Sevenoaks, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.VG 204 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the former 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 the Sevenoaks 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 Maidstone on 16th July 1975.

At the hearing the Sevenoaks Town Council was represented by Mr D.C.Green, solicitor.

The major part of the land the subject of the reference was conveyed to the former Sevenoaks Urban District Council by a deed of gift made 24th September 1926 between (1) Maj.-Gen.Charles John, 4th Baron Sackville (2) Sevenoaks Urban District Council. This part has passed to the Town Council by virtue of the Local Government Act 1972 and Schedule 2 to the Local Authorities (England) (Property etc) Order 1973 (S.I.1973,No.1861).

Two small pieces of land to the west of that conveyed in 1926 were held by the former Urban District Council by copy of court roll of the manor of Sevenoaks and Knole, dated 31st August 1921, at an annual rent of seven acorns, presumably one from each of the eponymous oaks. These pieces of land were enfranchised under the Law of Property Act 1925 and passed to the Town Council under the Act of 1972 and the Order of 1973.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Sevenoaks Town Council is the owner of the land formerly belonging to the Urban District Council. I shall accordingly direct the Kent County Council, as registration authority, to register the Town Council as the owner of this land under section 8(2) of the Act of 1965.

There remains a very small piece of land to the east of the Register Unit as to the ownership of which there is no evidence. I shall accordingly direct the County Council to register the Town Council as the owner of this small piece of land under section 8(3) of the Act of 1965.

3.
16/10/75



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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 28th day of

July

1975

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. D. Lamb".

Chief Commons Commissioner