



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No 21/U/9

In the Matter of The Village Green,  
Bitteswell, Harborough District, Leicestershire

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DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Village Green, Bitteswell, Harborough District being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No VG. 60 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the Leicestershire 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 no person claimed to be the freehold owner of the land in question and no 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 Leicester on 22 July 1976. At the hearing Bitteswell Parish Council were represented by Mr J Cooper their clerk.

Mr Cooper described the land, and after the hearing I inspected it. It comprises nine pieces of open grassland in the middle of the Village, together of an attractive appearance, and obviously a valuable amenity for all who live nearby and for many others.

Mr Cooper produced a copy of the Byelaws made 7 March 1929 by the Parish Council under the Public Health Act 1875 and the Local Government Act 1894, and allowed on 6 May 1929 by the Minister of Health, and also a copy of amending Byelaws made on 17 September 1954 by the Parish Council and confirmed on 1 January 1955 by a Secretary of State. Mr Cooper said (in effect):- He had seen the Inclosure Award (I understood he was referring to that made under the Bitteswell Inclosure Act 1787), but it did not help as to the ownership of this land. He understood that the Earl of Denbigh is or was the Lord of the Manor of Bitteswell. The Parish Council had no deeds relating to this land, and could offer no evidence of ownership.

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 Leicestershire County Council as registration authority to register Bitteswell Parish Council as the owners 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 27<sup>k</sup> day of July —

1976

*a. a. Baden Fuller*

Commons Commissioner