

COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965



Reference No. 226/U/63

In the Matter of The Village Green (part)  
Greens Norton, Northants

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DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of the land described above being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. VG 160 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the Northamptonshire 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 Greens Norton Parish 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 Northampton on 3 July 1979. At the hearing the Parish Council was represented by its clerk, Mr R Dove.

The Village Green at Greens Norton consists, both physically and on the Register Map, of three separate pieces of land which front on to the High Street in a roughly north-south line; the separations are caused by access tracks to the High Street for premises lying to the west of the Green. For practical purposes the three pieces constitute one Village Green and are looked after by the Parish Council as one unit. All three are registered, the separate Register Units being (from north to south) VG 160, VG 161 and VG 162.

Mr Dove produced two conveyances on sale to the Parish Council, the first dated 12 May 1951 by A Basford to the Parish Council comprising property which included the most southerly of the three pieces (VG 162) and may have included the middle piece (VG 161) - the plan and measurements in the conveyance appeared to extend to VG 161 but the wording ("the southern portion of the Village Green") suggests otherwise. The second conveyance dated 10 July 1952 by Chesham Breweries to the Parish Council clearly included VG 161 and this indicates that the parties did not consider that the Parish Council had acquired it under the first conveyance.

Neither conveyance comprised VG 160, and in the absence of further evidence I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of that land, and I shall accordingly direct the Northamptonshire County Council, as registration authority, to register the Parish Council as the owner 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

22 August

1979

Commons Commissioner