



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 2/U/6

In the Matter of Church Green,
Stanford-in-the-Vale, Berkshire.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Church Green, Stanford-in-the-Vale, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.V.G.8 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the Berkshire 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 one 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 Reading on 5th October 1972.

At the hearing Mr. J. Vogt, solicitor, appeared for the Stanford-in-the-Vale Parish Council. Evidence was given by Dr. John Armand Tobin, of the Old House, Stanford-in-the-Vale that the Parish Council has been in possession of Church Green since at latest 1897, since when the Council has cut the grass and generally kept the Green in order. The Council planted a tree on it in 1897 and placed seats and a bus shelter on it in 1953. These latter acts were inconsistent with the rights of the true owner, whoever he may have been, and I have come to the conclusion that the Parish Council has now acquired a possessory title to the land.

For these reasons I am satisfied that the Stanford-in-the-Vale Parish Council is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Berkshire County Council, as registration authority, to register the Parish Council 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 17th day of October 1972

Chief Commons Commissioner