



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No.29/U/68

In the Matter of Stoke Row Village Green,  
Stoke Row, Oxfordshire.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Stoke Row Village Green and adjoining pieces of Parish Land and Ponds, Stoke Row, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.V.G.44 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the Oxfordshire 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 Stoke Row Parish Council and Mr. and Mrs. G. Henley, as inhabitants, in common with other inhabitants of Stoke Row, claimed to be the freehold owners 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 Oxford on 30th January 1974.

At the hearing the only appearance was by Mr. G.J. Boyson, a member of the Stoke Row Village Association, which applied for the registration.

The land the subject of this reference consists of ten parcels of varying sizes, some of them very small.

By the Inclosure Award for Stoke Row made 10th December 1863 under the Annual Inclosure Act, 1860 five of the ten parcels and a part of another, there numbered 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, and 34, were allotted and awarded to the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the parish of Ipsden to be held in trust as a place for exercise and recreation for the inhabitants of the parish and neighbourhood. By sections 6(1)(c)(iii) and 67 of the Local Government Act 1894 these areas were vested in the Ipsden Parish Council. By an order made in 1951 under section 141 of the Local Government Act 1933 the eastern part of the parish of Ipsden in which these areas were situated was constituted a separate parish named Stoke Row.

Three more of the ten parcels, numbered 8, 42, and 63 in the Inclosure Award, were set out and appointed as public ponds, but, as was usual in the case of public ponds, they were not allotted to anyone. There appears to be no evidence as to the ownership of the remaining parcel and the part of the parcel mentioned above.

For these reasons I am satisfied that the Stoke Row Parish Council is the owner of the land numbered 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, and 34 in the Inclosure Award, and I shall accordingly direct the Oxfordshire County Council, as registration authority, to register the Parish Council as the owner thereof



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under section 8(2) of the Act of 1965.

In the absence of any evidence I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the remainder of the land in the Register Unit and I shall accordingly direct the County Council to register the Parish Council as the owner thereof 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 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 1974

Chief Commons Commissioner