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In the Matter of The Recreation Ground,
Binfield Heath, Shiplake, Oxfordshire.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Recreation Ground, Binfield Heath, Shiplake, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. VG 69 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the former 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 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 Oxford on 19 July 1978.

At the hearing the Shiplake Parish Council was represented by Mr R W Keep, its Clerk.

By the Shiplake Inclosure Award made 21 March 1867 under the Acts for the Inclosure, Exchange and Improvement of Land the land in question was allotted to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the parish of Shiplake in trust for the exercise and recreation of the inhabitants of the parish and neighbourhood.

The land became vested in the Parish Council by virtue of sections 6(1)(c)(iii) and 67 of the Local Government Act 1894.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Parish Council is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Oxfordshire 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 3rd day of August

1978

CHIEF COMMONS COMMISSIONER