



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 238/U/75

In the Matter of Bognor Common and Waste of  
the manor of Bedham, Fittleworth and Kirdford,  
West Sussex.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Bognor Common and Waste of the manor of Bedham, Fittleworth and Kirdford, being the part of the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL.78 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the West Sussex 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 Trustees of the Leconfield Estates, Mrs H Hastings, and the Sussex Trust for Nature Conservation Ltd claimed to be the freehold owners of parts 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 Chichester on 7 May 1982. At the hearing the Sussex Trust for Nature Conservation Ltd was represented by Mr F.P. Penfold, its Chairman, and I gave leave under reg. 20 of the Commons Commissioners Regulations 1971 for the Trustees of the Leconfield Estates to be represented by Mr A.R. Dickinson, Chartered Surveyor.

The land the subject of the reference consists of some small areas lettered "A", "B", "D", "E", "F", and "G" on the Register Map.

A part of "B", the whole of "E", and a part of "F" were conveyed to the Sussex Trust for Nature Conservation Ltd by a conveyance made 16 October 1973 between (1) Barbara Elizabeth Mitford, Sophie Marguerite Mitford, John Bruce Michell McKay Forbes and Ernest John Prestwich Elliott (2) The Sussex Trust for Nature Conservation Ltd.

The whole of "G" was included in the premises of a conveyance and deed of discharge made 28 February 1969 between (1) John Edward Reginald, Baron Egremont (2) John Gore Phillimore, The Hon Mark Hugh Wyndham, and Sir Walter Leslie Farrer (3) Pamela, Baroness Egremont, Sir Phillip Francis de Zulueta, and Joseph Frederick Burrell.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Sussex Trust for Nature Conservation Ltd and the Trustees of the Leconfield Estates are the owners of parts of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the West Sussex County Council, as registration authority, to register them as the owners of those respective parts under section 8 (2) of the Act of 1965.

In the absence of any further evidence I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the remaining parts of the land the subject of the reference, and those parts will therefore remain subject to protection under section 9 of the Act of 1965.



-2-

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

18<sup>th</sup>

day of

May

1982

Chief Commons Commissioner