

In the Matter of Recreation Ground.

Slindon, Arun D

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Recreation Ground, Slindon, Arun D being the part of the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. VG 55 in the Register of Town or Village Greens 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 Slindon 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 Chichester on 3 October 1979.

Mr Keeling, Clerk to the Slindon Parish Council appeared on behalf of his Council. He produced the Slindon Enclosure Award dated 1871. The land in question comprises lots 53 and 52 identified on the map annexed to that award and both lots were allotted to the Churchwardens and Cverseers of the Poor of the Parish of Slindon and I am satisfied that the title to the land is now vested in the Parish Council as their successor. The land is now used as a recreation ground. Lot 53 was a recreational allotment, but lot 52 was allotted "In Trust as an allotment for 16 labouring poor of the Parish" and was formerly used to provide allotment, but was later incorporated in the Recreation Ground with the consent of the Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries. It appears to me that the allotment of lot 52 was for charitable purposes and it is open to doubt whether the said Minister had any power to give his consent to the use of the land as part of the Recreation Ground. For this reason I am sending a copy of this decision to the Charity Commissioners.

On this evidence I am satisfied that Slindon Parish Council is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the West Sussex County Council, as registration authority, to register Slindon 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

2 ~

day of November

1979

Commons Commissioner

Y. A. Lettle

Of & class banning