



In the matter of Singleton Village Pond,
Singleton, West Sussex.

DECISION

201
This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Singleton Village Pond, Singleton, being ~~the part of~~ the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL 248 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 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 Chichester on 18 February 1981.

At the hearing the Singleton Parish Council was represented by Mr P A Norrell, one of its members.

The land in question consists of a pond. It is bounded on the west by the Village Green, the ownership of which by the Parish Council has been registered under the Act of 1965. The Parish Council has looked after the pond for many years. In 1933 the Council paid for building a chalk rim to the pond and has since maintained the rim. In 1976 the Council excavated and slightly deepened the bed of the pond. In my view, this is sufficient to establish a possessory title.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Parish Council is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the West Sussex 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

March

1981

Chief Commons Commissioner