



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 38/U/47

In the Matter of The Recreation Ground,
Cowfield, West Sussex.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Recreation Ground, Cowfield, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. VG.23 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the former 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 Cowfield 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 24th July 1974.

There was no appearance at the hearing, but the Clerk of the Cowfield Parish Council had by letter requested that the matter should be dealt with on affidavit evidence by an officer of the Charity Commission.

By a conveyance made 12th December 1945 between (1) Eva Mary Godman and Catherine Edith Godman (2) the Parish Council the land in question was conveyed to the Parish Council as a free gift in order that it might be laid out, maintained, and managed by the Parish Council as a public playing field for the purpose of cricket, football, or other games or recreations.

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 1st day of August 1974


Chief Commons Commissioner