



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No.38/U/56

In the Matter of The Recreation Ground,  
Stedham, Stedham with Iping, West Sussex.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Recreation Ground, Stedham, Stedham with Iping, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.VG.50 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 no person claimed to be the freehold owner of the land in question, but the Charity Commission 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 25th July 1974.

At the hearing the Stedham with Iping Parish Council was represented by Mr E.A. Jury, its Clerk. Mr Jury produced an affidavit by Mr R.N. Platt, an officer of the Charity Commission.

By a conveyance made 23rd June 1948 made between (1) Annie Esther Chatterton (2) The Parish Council of Stedham the land the subject of this reference was conveyed to the Parish Council upon such charitable trusts and for such charitable purposes as the Council should in its uncontrolled discretion from time to time determine. The Parish Council has since used the land as a recreation ground.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Stedham with Iping 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 2nd day of August 1974

Chief Commons Commissioner