



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No.1/U/76

In the Matter of The Pond,  
Milton Bryan, Bedfordshire.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Pond, Milton Bryan, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.CL.64 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the former Bedfordshire 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 freeholder 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 Bedford on 23rd April 1974.

Mr. S.T. Morris, the Assistant Secretary of the Bedfordshire Association of Parish Councils, appeared for the Milton Bryan Parish Meeting, and Mr. D.J. Hall, of the Bedford Office represented the Trustees of the Bedford Settled Estates.

The question of the maintenance of the pond in question was considered at a Parish Meeting held on 9th January 1911, when it was resolved that the Duke of Bedford (the lord of the manor) should do as he liked with it. This resolution was duly communicated to the Duke's agent, and the agent and his successors have since acted in accordance with it. By an agreement dated 6th July 1965 the Bedford Estate Trustees let the pond to Mr. R.H. Horsler on an annual tenancy, subject to the rights of the public.

Having heard the evidence, Mr.Morris stated that he did not wish to pursue the claim on behalf of the Parish Meeting.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Trustees of the Bedford Settled Estates are the owners of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Bedfordshire County Council, as registration authority, to register them as the owners 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 14th day of June 1974

Chief Commons Commissioner