



In the Matter Of The Croft, Hungerford,
Berkshire

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Croft, Hungerford, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No VG 45 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the former Berkshire 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 Newbury on 31 January 1978.

At the hearing Mr J Marshall, solicitor, the Clerk to the Trustees of the Charity called or known as the Town and Manor of Hungerford and Property administered therewith in the Ancient Parish of Hungerford in the County of Berks, appeared on behalf of the Trustees.

The land in question was vested in the Official Custodian for Charities by a scheme set out in the schedule to an Order of the Charitable Commissioners of 11 February 1908 as affected by the Charities Act 1960. By a lease made 31 May 1969 between (1) The Official Custodian (2) the then Trustees (3) The Parish Council of Hungerford the land was let to the Parish Council for 21 years from 25 March 1969 at a yearly rent of ten shillings.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Official Custodian for Charities is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Berkshire County Council, as registration authority, to register him 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 27th day of February 1978

CHIEF COMMONS COMMISSIONER