



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No.9/U/38

In the Matter of The Village Green,
St Giles-in-the-Wood, Devon.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Village Green, St Giles-in-the-Wood, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.VG 7 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the former Devon 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 Exeter on 3rd July 1975.

At the hearing the St Giles-in-the-Wood Parish Council was represented by Mr B.L.Prichard, its Clerk. Mr Prichard produced the part of the Return of Endowed Charities (County of Devon), dated 1st December 1909, relating to the parish of St Giles-in-the-Wood. This contains the report of an inquiry held on 24th May 1909, in which it is stated that a school had been built on part of the Village Green and that the rest of the Village Green (which I identify as the land comprised in the Register Unit) was "regarded as belonging to the parish". This is a somewhat imprecise and unsatisfactory statement, and it appears to me that the safer course is for me to say that I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Devon County Council, as registration authority, to register the Parish Council as the owner of the land under section 8(3) 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 17th day of July 1975


Chief Commons Commissioner