



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No.19/U/27

In the Matter of The Old Cricket Ground,
Seal Chart, Seal, Kent.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Old Cricket Ground, Seal Chart, Seal, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.C.L.38 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the Kent 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 Seal 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 Maidstone on 16th January 1974.

At the hearing the Parish Council was represented by Mr. C. Thompson, solicitor.

On 4th November 1863 a copyhold estate in the land the subject of this reference was granted to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Parish of Seal to be used as and for a cricket ground for the use of the parishioners of Seal. By virtue of sections 6(1)(c)(iii) and 67 of the Local Government Act 1894 the copyhold estate was transferred to the Parish Council. On 21st March 1940 the land was enfranchised by Charles John, Lord Sackville, the lord of the manor.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Parish Council is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Kent County Council, as registration authority, to register the Seal 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 February 1974


Chief Commons Commissioner