

COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No.219/U/29

In the Matter of Wouldham Common. Wouldham, Kent.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Wouldham Common, Wouldham, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. VG 118 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the former 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 Wouldham 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 15th July 1975.

At the hearing the Wouldham Parish Council was represented by Mr H.W.Glover, one of its members.

By an Inclosure, Exchange and Improvement Order, dated 9th August 1866, made by the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales, the land the subject of this reference was set out, allotted, and awarded to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the parish of Wouldham to be held in trust as a place for exercise and recreation for the inhabitants of the parish and neighbourhood.

The land was transferred to the Parish Council by sections 6(1)(c)(iii) and 67 of the Local Government Act 1894.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Wouldham Parish Council is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Kent 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 281Z day of

1975

Chief Commons Commissioner