

COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 220/U/34

In the Matter of Warton Salt Marsh in the parish of Warton

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Warton Salt Marsh in the parish of Warton being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.CL.161 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the Lancashire 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 Messrs. James and Roger James Wilkinson claimed to be the freehold owners 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 Lancaster on 16 June 1987.

Mr J A Strong appeared for Lancashire County Council as registration authority. Mrs E. Rudkin (chairman) appeared on behalf of Warton Parish Council. Mr Michael Bates of Bannister Bates & Son of Morecambe and Heysham appeared for Messrs. R and R J Wilkinson. Mr J Day appeared for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

This register unit consists of three separate parcels of land, all of which adjoin CL.45.

Mr Bates asked me to hear this reference at the same time as that relating to CL.45, and I did so.

The deeds on which Mr James Wilkinson and Mr Roger James Wilkinson ("the Wilkinsons") rely to show title to these 3 parcels are the same as those on which they relied in respect of the land claimed by them in CL.45, that is to say the following Conveyances:-

- (i) 5th November 1931 (1) Carnforth Hematite Iron Company (1915) Limited in liquidation (2) Harold Hockley (3) James Fitzpatrick (4) Imperial and Foreign Corporation Limited and (5) Thos. W Ward Limited
- (ii) 20th October 1975 (1) Thos. W Ward Limited and (2) James Wilkinson (iii) 6th April 1977 (1) James Wilkinson and (2) the Wilkinsons

For the reasons given in my decision relating to CL.45 I am satisafied that under these conveyances the Wilkinsons can make a good title to the two most northerly and westerly parcels of land comprised in the present register unit. As regards the third parcel, being the strip of land to the south and east of the other two, and lying adjacent to the railway line, further consideration is required.

