



In the Matter of The Village Green, Springthorpe,  
Lincolnshire

---

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Village Green, Springthorpe, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. VG 27 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the Lincolnshire 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 Lincoln on 7 July 1981.

At the hearing the Springthorpe Parish Meeting was represented by Mr M C M Anan, a parishioner appointed by the Chairman of the Parish Meeting.

By the Corringham and Springthorpe Inclosure Award made in 1852 under the Annual Inclosure Act 1848 the land in question was allotted and awarded to the Churchwardens and Overseers of Springthorpe to be used by the inhabitants of the parish of Springthorpe for exercise and recreation.

By art. 4(4) of the Overseers Order 1927 (S.R. & O. 1927 No. 55) the land was transferred to such number of persons not exceeding the number of churchwardens and overseers as may be appointed by the Parish Meeting.

These parish trustees were replaced by the body corporate named the Parish Trustees of the Parish of Springthorpe created by S.13(3) of the Local Government Act 1972. This body corporate consists of the Chairman of the Parish Meeting and the proper officer of the West Lindsey District Council appointed under S.270(3) of that Act. Mr Anan informed me that no such officer had been appointed. This, however, does not, in my view, mean that the body corporate does not exist in law.

I am therefore satisfied that the Parish Trustees of the Parish of Springthorpe are the owners of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Lincolnshire County Council as registration authority, to register the Parish Trustees as the owners 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

25<sup>th</sup>

day of

July

1981

  
Chief Commons Commissioner