



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No 225/U/161

In the Matter of Buttlands,  
Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk

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DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Buttlands, Wells-next-the-Sea, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No VG. 108 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the Norfolk 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 Wells-next-the-Sea Town 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 Norwich on 24 May 1978.

At the hearing the Town Council was represented by Mr H E Combes, its Clerk.

By an indenture dated 7 October 1907 Thomas William, Earl of Leicester let the land the subject of the reference to the former Wells-next-the-Sea Urban District Council as a public pleasure ground and open space for 500 years from 29 September 1907. By a conveyance dated 12 May 1957 the Earl of Leicester conveyed the freehold reversion to the Urban District Council. The land was transferred to the Town Council as successor authority in respect of public open spaces by the Local Authorities (England) (Property etc) Order 1973 (S.I.1973, No 1861).

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Town Council is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Norfolk County Council, as registration authority, to register the Town 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 8th day of June 1978

Chief Commons Commissioner