



In the Matter of Land at Corner of St Giles Road,
Skelton, North Yorkshire

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land at the corner of St Giles Road, Skelton, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL 115 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the former North Riding 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 Skelton 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 Malton on 12 October 1977.

At the hearing the Parish Council was represented by Mr E Green, its Clerk.

The land comprised in the Register Unit is a very small area at the junction of two roads. Since about 1910 the Parish Council has maintained on it a notice-board on which it has posted notices. It is recorded in the Parish Council minute book that on 10 August 1938 the Council gave permission to the former Rural District Council to erect a similar notice-board on the land. In my view, the Parish Council has been in possession of this land long enough to have acquired a possessory title.

I am therefore satisfied that the Parish Council is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the North Yorkshire County Council, as registration authority, to register the Skelton 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 4th day of Nov 1977

Chief Commons Commissioner