



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 233/U/66

In the Matter of The Village Green,
Abbotts Bromley, Staffordshire

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Village Green, Abbotts Bromley being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. VC 39 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the former Staffordshire 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 Abbotts Bromley 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 Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent on 12 January 1979.

At the hearing Mr C A Tucker, Solicitor of the East Staffordshire District Council, appeared on behalf of the Parish Council, and no one else appeared.

By a conveyance dated 11 May 1932 between (1) the Marquess of Anglesey (2) the Earl of Pembroke and Romer Williams (3) the Parish Council of Abbotts Bromley, the Marquess (tenant for life under a Settlement) conveyed and the Trustees of the Settlement confirmed to the Parish Council the right title and interest of the Marquess in the land and the Parish Council covenanted to maintain it for the use of the Parish. Evidence was given by Mrs E M Robertson, the Chairman of the Parish Council, of which she had been a member since 1968/69. She had known the Village Green for some 24 years: the grass has been cut and the Green maintained regularly by the Parish Council, and there are three seats, two presented to and one provided by the Council. Apart from the use of the seats, the Green is used for such occasions as open air services for the village.

On this evidence I am ~~not~~ satisfied that the Parish Council is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Staffordshire County Council, as registration authority, to register Abbotts Bromley 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 15th day of February 1979

L. J. Morris Smith

Commons Commissioner