



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 38/U/1

In the Matter of the Saltings, Selsey,
Chichester Rural District, West Sussex

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of the part hereinafter specified ("the referred part") of the land which is known as the Saltings, Selsey Chichester Rural District, which is the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. C.L.7 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the West Sussex County Council and of which no person is registered under section 4 of the Commons Registration Act 1965 as the owner. The referred part is the land comprised in the said section of this Unit except so much thereof as has been registered under the Land Registration Acts 1925 and 1936 at H.M. Land Registry under Title Number SX 14051.

Following upon the public notice of this reference no person claimed to be the freehold owner of the land in question and no 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 Chichester on 9 January, 1973. The hearing was attended by Selsey Parish Council who were represented by Mr. W.R. Spragg, one of their members and chairman of their Commons Registration Committee and by the West Sussex County Council who were represented by Mr. M.C. Le Grand one of their staff.

Mr. Spragg described the land to me; it is next to the sea, being bounded on the north by a groyne, on the east by the mean high water line, on the south by a groyne and on the west by a sea wall built in 1966; it is mostly shingle and often covered by the sea. Mr. Spragg said something about the development or intended development of the adjoining land and how the registration of this Unit came to be amended. However the Parish Council could offer no evidence of ownership.

Mr. Le Grand explained how the land registered at H.M. Land Registry under Title Number SX 14051 overlapped this Unit. The County Council could however offer no evidence of ownership of the referred part.

In the absence of any evidence I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the land (the referred part) and it will therefore be subject to protection under section 9 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

19th

day of

January

1973

a. a. Baden Fuller.

Commons Commissioner