

COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No 213/U/81

In the Matter of The Memorial Ground, Frampton-on-Severn, Stroud District, Gloucestershire

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Memorial Ground, Frampton-on-Severn, Stroud District being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. VG 121 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the Gloucestershire 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 Frampton-on-Severn Parish Council claimed (letter of 11 June 1974) under a deed of gift made by the Lord of the Manor, Mrs Clifford of Frampton Court and Penley, Milward and Bayley Solicitors of Dursley said (letter of 25 July 1974) that the land should be registered in the ownership of the Parish Council. No other person claimed to be the freehold owner of the land in question or 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 Gloucester on 22 November 1978. At the hearing Frampton-on-Severn Parish Council were represented by Mr F Powell their Chairman.

Mr Powell who has lived in the Parish for nearly 20 years, and been a member of the Parish Council for 12 years and chairman for 3 years, in the course of his evidence produced the said deed of gift. It is dated 11 March 1949 and was made by Mrs H H E C Clifford; it recites that she was then the Lord of the Manor; by it she conveyed "land situate near the Church ... upon part of which the Parish Pound and a cottage formerly stood but which is now used as the site of a War Memorial and a Parking Place for vehicles" comprising about 24 perches as coloured on the plan; under it the Parish Council was to hold the land "for the purpose of an open space or recreation ground and site of War Memorial for the benefit of the inhabitants of the said parish ..."

Mr Powell said (in effect):- The War Memorial is at the south-east end, and a small part is gravel (used by people coming to the Church): this is where the Pound stood but there is no sign of it now. The rest of the land is a very lovely lawn which has been so kept by Mr C R Williams who lives opposite and who was chairman of the Parish Council. There is no sign of the Cottage mentioned in the deed: the Parish Clerk used to live in it. There are people in the Village who remember the Pound and the Cottage.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Parish Council are the owners of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Gloucestershire County Council, as registration authority, to register Frampton-on-Severn Parish Council 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 11/6 — day of December — 1978

a.a. Bade Jelle

Commons Commissioner