

In the Matter of Bickerley Common, Ringwood.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of the part of the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. VG.169 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the Hampshire County Council of which no person is registered as owner under section 4 of the Commons Registration Act 1965 or under the Land Registration Acts.

Following upon the public notice of this reference no 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 Winchester on 29 January 1986.

There was no appearance at the hearing by any claimant. The greater part of Bickerley Common is registered freehold under the Land Registration Acts. There are two small areas one at the N W tip of the Common ("the NW area") and the other at the SE tip ("the SE area") which are not so registered, and with which this enquiry is concerned. Since the hearing, evidence has been submitted in support of claims to each of these areas.

An a Conveyance dated 26 October 1955 there was sold and conveyed by Mrs Cicely K Smith to Tudor House Farm Ltd ("the Company") land which included both the NW and the SE areas. In 1966 the Company sold and conveyed the NW area to Mr Harold E Hiscock, the Conveyance being dated 1 April 1966.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Company owns the SE area and that Mr Hiscock owns the NW area. I shall accordingly direct the Hampshire County Council, as registration authority, to register them as such respective owners 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

21 April

1986.

L.J. Wilms Smith commons Commissioner