

In the Matter of Henley Common (parts), Essebourne, West Sussex.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of parts of the land known as Henley Common, Easebourne, being the parts of the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL 148 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the West Sussex 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 no person claimed to be the freehold owner of the land in question and no one 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 17 February 1981.

At the hearing Cowdry Trust Ltd was represented by Mr R Stafford, its agent, and the Fasebourne Parish Council was represented by Mrs L J Deacon-Ford, its Chairman.

The land in question consists of three small areas verged in red and lettered "A", "B", and "C" on the Register Map.

The area lettered "C" was conveyed to Cowdray Trust Ltd by a conveyance made 13 November 1919 between (1) Weetman Dickinson Viscount Cowdray(2) Cowdray Trust Ltd.

The areas lettered "A" and "B" were also included in this conveyance, but they have since been sold and there was no evidence as to their present ownership.

On this evidence I am satisfied that Cowdray Trust Ltd is the owner of the land lettered "C" on the Register Map. I shall accordingly direct the West Sussex County Council, as registration authority, to register Cowdray Trust Ltd as the owner of the land under section 8(2) of the Act of 1965.

In the absence of any evidence I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the land lettered "A" and "B" on the Register Map, and it will therefore remain 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

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day of

March D. J.

1981

Chief Commons Commission r