

In the Matter of Crookham Common (part)

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as Crookham Common (part) being the part of the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. CL 60 in the Register of Common Land maintained by the Berkshire 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 the Ministry of Defence claimed to be the freehold owner of some 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 Reading on 16 July 1981.

Mr R H Haddow of the Treasury Solicitor's Office appeared for the Ministry and produced a Conveyance made the 10 February 1955 Between Major-General R A Branwell Davis, R L C Blyth and Mrs I F M Forbes of the one part and the Secretary of State for Air of the other part and a Statutory Declaration made on the 26 January 1955 by Francis John Trumper, Chartered Surveyor and Land Agent.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Ministry of Defence is the owner of the land marked 'A' and 'E' on the plan annexed hereto, I shall accordingly direct the Berkshire County Council, as registration authority, to register the Ministry as the owner of the land under section 8(2) of the Act of 1965. I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the land marked 'B', 'C' and D on the said plan and this land 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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1981

Commons Commissioner

