

COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 202/U/43

In the Matter of The Green, School Green, Shinfield, Berkshire

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Creen, School Green, Shinfield, being the part of the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. VG 77 in the Register of Town or Village Greens 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 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 Windsor on 12 December 1978.

At the hearing the Shinfield Parish Council was represented by Mr W H Beckingham, its Vice-Chairman.

I have been furnished with a statement by Mr C R G Elisha, who was born in Shinfield in 1900, that the inhabitants of the Parish have in his lifetime, exercised without let or hindrance of any kind the full rights of ownership in respect of the land in question and have used it for recreational activities and religious services without, to his knowledge, any other person making any advenue claim in respect of the land and its ownership, and with a copy of the minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 29 February 1940 at which it was decided to post notice boards at suitable points notifying the prohibitions of the use of grassland as roads.

I am not satisfied that these matters constituted possession of the land by the Parish Council.

In the absence of any other evidence I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Berkshire County Council, as registration authority, to register the Shinfield Parish Council as the owner of the land under section 8(3) 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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Chief Commons Commissioner