



JW

COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 204/U/45

In the Matter of The Village Green, Abbots
Ripton, Cambridgeshire

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Village Green, Abbots Ripton, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No. VG.54 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the Cambridgeshire 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 Fellowes Trustees claimed to be the freehold owners 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 Cambridge on 22 February 1983. At the hearing, the Abbots Ripton Parish Council was represented by Mr M Thomas, its Clerk, and the County Council by Mr A. D. Hill of the County Record Office, and there was no appearance by or on behalf of the Fellowes Trustees.

Mr Hill informed me that in the register and valuation made under the Finance (1909-10) Act 1910 the owner of the land in question is shown as Lord de Ramsey. This is consistent with the claim made by the Fellowes Trustees. However, all that has been offered in support of the claim is a copy of a letter from a firm of Solicitors in which it is stated that it is quite clear that the land in question is in the ownership of the Trustees. Such a letter is not evidence. It is for me, not for a firm of Solicitors, to decide whether "it is quite clear" who is the owner of the land.

In these circumstances I can only say that in the absence of any evidence I am not satisfied that any person is the owner of the land, and I, shall accordingly direct the Cambridgeshire County Council as registration authority, to register the Abbots Ripton 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.

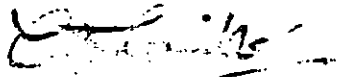
Dated this

11th

day of

March

1983


Chief Commons Commissioner