



COMMONS REGISTRATION ACT 1965

Reference No. 14/U/27

In the Matter of the Stratfield Saye
Recreation Ground, Stratfield Saye,
Hampshire.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as the Stratfield Saye Recreation Ground, Stratfield Saye, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No.V.G.86 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the Hampshire 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 Trustees of the Parliamentary Estate of the Duke of Wellington claimed to be the freehold owner 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 Winchester on 31st May 1972.

At the hearing Mr. Christopher Scott, on behalf of the Trustees of the Parliamentary Estate of the Duke of Wellington, informed me that the Trustees were not concerned to claim ownership, but to ensure that the land in question would be in responsible public ownership. Mr. G.E. John, the Clerk to the Stratfield Saye Parish Council, said that the Council had administered the land and received the rents from it for many years, but he had no documentary evidence as to the ownership. Since it could make no difference to the outcome of the proceedings, I did not pursue the question of whether the Parish Council had acquired a possessory title. Therefore, not being satisfied that any person is the owner of the land, I shall direct the Hampshire County Council, as registration authority, to register the Stratfield Saye 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 27th day of June 1972

Chief Commons Commissioner