

In the Matter of The Village Green, Belvoir, Leicestershire.

DECISION

This reference relates to the question of the ownership of land known as The Village Green, Belvoir, being the land comprised in the Land Section of Register Unit No VG 88 in the Register of Town or Village Greens maintained by the former Leicestershire 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 Leicester on 14 June 1978.

At the hearing the Duke and Duchess of Rutland were represented by Mr D D C Darling, their land agent.

The land comprised in the Register Unit consists of two parts, the south-westerly of which is a triangular area on which stands a war memorial. There was no evidence as to the ownership of the triangular area. I am therefore not satisfied that any person is the owner of that area, and I shall accordingly direct the Leicestershire County Council to register the Belvoir Parish Council as the owner of that area under section 8(3) of the Act of 1965.

The remainder of the land was conveyed to the Duke and Duchess of Rutland by a conveyance made 15 July 1975 between (1) Charles John Robert, Duke of Rutland and Kathleen, Dowager Duchess of Rutland (2) The Duke and Frances Helen, Duchess of Rutland. The Duke and the Dowager Duchess had a good root of title in a conveyance made 16 April 1924 between (1) Henry John Brinsley, Duke of Rutland and John Henry Montagu Manners (commonly called Marquess of Granby) (2) Belvoir Castle Estates Ltd.

On this evidence I am satisfied that the Duke and Duchess of Rutland are the owners of part of the land, and I shall accordingly direct the Leicestershire County Council, as registration authority to register them as the owners of that part of the land under section 8(2) 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 2221 day of June

1978

CHIEF COMMONS COMMISSIONER