

Village Green Decision

Application to register land at Oughtonhead, Hitchin, Hertfordshire ("the Land") as a town or village green

Hertfordshire County Council ("HCC") acting as the Commons Registration Authority ("CRA") has assessed the evidence provided in respect of this application, and for the reasons set out below, is of the opinion that the statutory test for voluntary registration of the land as a town or village green has been met. HCC has therefore decided to accept the application.

The application to register the above land as town or village green was made by North Hertfordshire District Council on 9th May 2011 under section 15(8) of the Commons Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

This section provides that the owner of any land may apply to the commons registration authority to register the land as a town or village green.

Section 15(9) of the 2006 Act provides that "An application under subsection (8) may only be made with the consent of any relevant leaseholder of, and the proprietor of any relevant charge over, the land".

The application was found to have been duly made on 24th May 2011. A notice advertising the application was publicised in the Hitchin Comet on 29th September 2011 and on HCC's website. Notices were also placed at the offices of North Hertfordshire District Council and on site.

No objections to the application were received. One representation was received in support of the application.

A meeting was held by the CRA on 18th November 2011 to determine the application. The CRA considered whether:

- The applicant was the owner of the Land
- The Land was subject to any lease or charge
- If the Land was subject to such lease or charge, the consent of the lessee or chargee had been obtained

After considering the official copies for title number HD426046, the CRA decided that the applicant was the owner of the Land and that the Land was not subject to any lease or charge. The requirements of section 15(8) had therefore been satisfied.

Conclusion

Having carefully examined the evidence presented, for all of the reasons stated, the CRA have decided to accept the application to voluntarily register the Land as village green.