



Commons Act 1876

1876 CHAPTER 56 39 and 40 Vict

PART II

AMENDMENT OF THE INCLOSURE ACTS

Field Gardens and Recreation Grounds

^{F1}21

Textual Amendments

F1 S. 21 repealed (19.11.1998) by 1998 c. 43, s. 1(1), Sch. 1 Pt.VI.

^{F2}22

Textual Amendments

F2 S. 22 repealed (19.11.1998) by 1998 c. 43, s. 1(1), Sch. 1 Pt.VI

^{F3}23

Textual Amendments

F3 S. 23 repealed (19.11.1998) by 1998 c. 43, s. 1(10), Sch. 1 Pt.VI.

24 ^{F4}

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commons Act 1876, Cross Heading: Field Gardens and Recreation Grounds. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments
F4 S. 24 repealed by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1977 (c. 18), Sch. 1 Pt. XVI

25 F5

Textual Amendments
F5 S. 25 repealed by Statute Law Revision Act 1894 (c. 56)

26 Amendment of law as to letting field gardens.

..... F6 Allotment wardens, if they are unable to let the allotments under their management, or any portion thereof, to the poor inhabitants of the parish in gardens not exceeding a quarter of an acre, may let the same, or any unlet portion thereof, in gardens not exceeding an acre each to such inhabitants as aforesaid: Further, it shall be the duty of allotment wardens to offer the gardens under their management to the poor inhabitants of the parish at a fair agricultural rent, if from time to time sufficient to satisfy all rates, taxes, tithes, tithe rentcharge and the rentcharge charged on the said allotments under the provisions of the ^{M1}General Inclosure Act 1845, but not otherwise, instead of at such rent as is required by the said Act. Moreover, if in any parish the allotment wardens are unable to let the allotments under their management, or any portion thereof, to the poor inhabitants of the parish in such quantities and at such rents as aforesaid, they may let the same, or such portion as may be unlet to any person whatever at the best annual rent which can be obtained for the same, without any premium or fine, and on such terms as may enable the allotment wardens to resume possession thereof within a period not exceeding twelve months, if it should at any time be required for such poor inhabitants as aforesaid.

This section shall apply to all land allotted to the poor for the purpose of cultivation under any Inclosure Act whatever, whether public or private, whether under the management of allotment wardens, feoffees, trustees, rector, or vicar and churchwardens, overseers, managers, or any other person or persons whatever, and whether at present cultivated or uncultivated, so that all such persons as aforesaid shall have like powers and duties as are herein-before given to and imposed upon allotment wardens.

Textual Amendments
F6 Recital omitted under authority of Statute Law Revision Act 1894 (c. 56)

Marginal Citations
M1 1845 c. 118.

27 Application of surplus rents of recreation grounds and field gardens.

..... F7 The surplus rents arising from recreation grounds shall F8 be applied to all or any of the following purposes, and to no other purpose; that is to say in improving the recreation grounds or any of them in the same parish or neighbourhood,

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or maintaining the drainage and fencing thereof, or in hiring or purchasing additional land for recreation grounds in the same parish or neighbourhood; and the surplus rents arising from field gardens shall^{F8} be applied to all or any of the following purposes, and to no other purpose; that is to say, in improving the field gardens or any of them in the same parish or neighbourhood, or maintaining the drainage and fencing thereof, or in hiring or purchasing additional land for field gardens in the same parish or neighbourhood.

The trustees of any recreation ground and the allotment wardens of any field gardens may, with the approval of the Inclosure Commissioners, sell all or any part of the allotment vested in them, and out of the proceeds of such sale purchase any fit and suitable land in the same parish or neighbourhood: Provided, that the land so purchased shall be held in trust for the purposes for which the allotment so sold as aforesaid was allotted, and for no others; and provided, that the Inclosure Commissioners shall not sanction any such sale as aforesaid unless and until it shall be proved to their satisfaction that land more suitable for the purposes for which the allotment proposed to be sold was allotted may and will be forthwith purchased; and the proceeds of any such sale shall be paid to the Inclosure Commissioners, and shall remain in their hands until such purchase of other land as aforesaid.

Textual Amendments

- F7** Recital omitted under authority of [Statute Law Revision Act 1894 \(c. 56\)](#)
- F8** Words repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1894 \(c. 56\)](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** [S. 27](#) amended by [Commons Act 1879 \(c. 37\)](#) and [Commons Act 1899 \(c. 30\), s. 16](#)

28 Reports to be made by managers of recreation grounds and field gardens.

The trustees of recreation grounds, where such trustees are the overseers or churchwardens of a parish, and the allotment wardens of field gardens shall, from time to time, and at such intervals of not less than three years nor more than five years, as the Inclosure Commissioners direct, make such reports to the said Commissioners in respect of the recreation grounds and field gardens under their management, with such particulars of the rents received by them, as the Commissioners may require.

29 Amendment of law as to town and village greens.

.^{F9} An encroachment on or inclosure of a town or village green, also any erection thereon or disturbance or interference with or occupation of the soil thereof which is made otherwise than with a view to the better enjoyment of such town or village green or recreation ground, shall be deemed to be a public nuisance, and if any person does any act in respect of which he is liable to pay damages or a penalty under section twelve of the^{M2} Inclosure Act 1857, he may be summarily convicted thereof upon the information of any inhabitant of the parish in which such town or village green or recreation ground is situate, as well as upon the information of such persons as in the said section mentioned.

This section shall apply only in cases where a town or village green or recreation ground has a known and defined boundary.

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Textual Amendments

F9 Recital omitted under authority of [Statute Law Revision Act 1894 \(c. 56\)](#)

Marginal Citations

M2 [1857 c. 31.](#)

^{F10}30 Jurisdiction of county court in respect of illegal inclosures.

[^{F11}The county court] shall have jurisdiction to hear any case relating to any illegal inclosure or encroachment of or [^{F12}upon any] common or part of a common respectively made after the passing of this Act, or to any nuisance impeding the exercise of any right of common arising after the passing of this Act, and to grant an injunction against such inclosure, encroachment or nuisance, or to make an order for the removal or abatement of such inclosure encroachment or nuisance.

[^{F10} Any person aggrieved by any injunction granted or order made or refusal to grant an injunction or make an order by a county court in pursuance of this section may, on giving security for costs to the satisfaction of the county court, appeal to the [^{F13} Court of Appeal] in a summary manner, or by special case or otherwise, as may be prescribed by rules of court [^{F14}within the meaning given in the Interpretation Act 1978].

The appellate court may on hearing the appeal reverse modify or confirm the injunction or order complained of, or remit the case to the county court from which the appeal lay, with instructions to deal with the case according to the directions given by the appellate court.

Where an appeal is lodged against the order of a county court directing the removal or abatement of any inclosure encroachment or nuisance, such order shall be suspended during such time as such appeal is pending.

Nothing in this Act contained shall abridge or interfere with any existing right of abating or otherwise preventing any illegal inclosure of or encroachment on any common, or any nuisance interfering with any right of common.

Until rules of court are made for the purposes of this section, an appeal may be had from the decision of any county court under this section in the same manner in which an appeal from the decision of a county court may be had in a case within its ordinary jurisdiction.]

Textual Amendments

F10 Words in s. 30 repealed (E.W.) (1.10.2006 for E., 6.9.2007 for W.) by [Commons Act 2006 \(c. 26\)](#), s. 56, [Sch. 6 Pt. 2](#) (with s. 60); [S.I. 2006/2504](#), art. 2(i); [S.I. 2007/2386](#), art. 3(q)

F11 Words in s. 30 substituted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 9 para. 13\(a\)](#); [S.I. 2014/954](#), art. 2(c) (with art. 3) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.I. 2014/956](#), arts. 3-11)

F12 Words in s. 30 substituted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 9 para. 13\(b\)](#); [S.I. 2014/954](#), art. 2(c) (with art. 3) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.I. 2014/956](#), arts. 3-11)

F13 Words substituted by [Administration of Justice \(Appeals\) Act 1934 \(c. 40\)](#), [Sch. Pt. I](#)

F14 Words in s. 30 substituted (1.10.2009) by [Constitutional Reform Act 2005 \(c. 4\)](#), s. 148(1), [Sch. 11 para. 13](#); [S.I. 2009/1604](#), art. 2(d)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commons Act 1876, Cross Heading: Field Gardens and Recreation Grounds. (See end of Document for details)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C2 S. 30 extended by [Metropolitan Commons Act 1878 \(c. 71\), s. 3](#)

^{F15}31 Three months notice of claim to inclose to be given in the local papers.

[^{F15}Any person intending to inclose or approve a common or part of a common otherwise than under the provisions of this Act shall give notice to all persons claiming any legal right in such common or part of a common, by publishing, at least three months beforehand, a statement of his intention to make such inclosure, for three successive times, and in two or more of the principal local newspapers in the county, town, or district in which the common or part of a common proposed to be inclosed is situate; but the provisions of this section shall not apply to any commons or waste lands whereon the rights of common are vested solely in the lord of the manor.

A production of a newspaper containing such advertisement as aforesaid shall be evidence of the same having been issued, and the inclosure shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to have taken place at the time specified in such advertisement.]

Textual Amendments

F15 S. 31 repealed (E.W.) (1.10.2006 for E., 6.9.2007 for W.) by [Commons Act 2006 \(c. 26\), ss. 49\(1\), 56, Sch. 6 Pts. 3](#) (with s. 60); S.I. 2006/2504, art. 2(c); S.I. 2007/2386, art. 3(i)(r)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C3 S. 31 extended by [Metropolitan Commons Act 1878 \(c. 71\), s. 3](#)

^{F16}32

Textual Amendments

F16 S. 32 repealed (19.11.1998) by [1998 c. 43, s. 1\(1\), Sch. 1 Pt.VI](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commons Act 1876, Cross Heading: Field Gardens and Recreation Grounds.