



## CHAPTER xxxvii.

An Act to confirm a Scheme under the Metropolitan Commons Act, 1866, and the Metropolitan Commons Amendment Act, 1869, relating to Staines Commons.

A.D. 1880.

[9th July 1880.]

**W**HEREAS the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales have, in pursuance of the Metropolitan Commons Act, 1866, and the Metropolitan Commons Amendment Act, 1869, duly certified a scheme for the establishment of local management with respect to Staines Commons, situate in the parish of Staines, in the county of Middlesex :

29 & 30 Vict.  
c. 122.  
32 & 33 Vict.  
c. 107.

And whereas the said scheme is set forth in full in the Report which was made by the said Commissioners for the year ending the thirty-first day of December one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine, and was duly laid before both Houses of Parliament :

And whereas by the said Metropolitan Commons Act, 1866, it is provided that any such scheme shall not of itself have any operation, but shall have full operation when and as confirmed by Act of Parliament, with such modifications, if any, as to Parliament seem fit :

29 & 30 Vict.  
c. 122.

And whereas it is expedient that the said scheme relating to Staines Commons should be confirmed :

Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

1. The scheme for the establishment of local management with respect to Staines Commons, situate in the parish of Staines, in the county of Middlesex, certified by the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales under their seal on the twenty-third day of December one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine, and contained in the schedule hereunto annexed, is hereby confirmed, and from and after the passing of this Act shall be deemed to be a

Scheme as  
to Staines  
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certified by  
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SCHEDULE.

A.D. 1880.

SCHEME WITH RESPECT TO STAINES COMMONS.

1. Staines Moor, Shortwood Common, Knowles Green, Birch Green, and certain strips of waste, herein-after called "the Commons," situate in the parish of Staines, in the county of Middlesex, as the same are delineated in a plan deposited with the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales, shall henceforth, for all the purposes of this scheme, be regulated and managed by the Local Board for the district of Staines, herein-after termed "the Board."

2. The powers of the Board generally as to appointing or employing officers and servants, and paying them under the general Acts applicable to the Board, shall apply to all such persons as in the judgment of the Board may be necessary and proper for the preservation of order on and the enforcement of byelaws with respect to the Commons, and otherwise for the purposes of this scheme; and the Board may make rules for regulating the duties and conduct of the several officers and servants so appointed and employed, altering such rules as occasion may require.

3. The Board may execute any works of drainage and improvement of the Commons so far only as may be required for the purposes of the Metropolitan Commons Acts, and shall preserve the turf, shrubs, trees, plants, and grass, and for this purpose may inclose by fences for short periods such portions as may require rest to revive the same, and may plant or otherwise beautify the Commons, and may provide and place seats for the accommodation of the public in convenient parts of the Commons. No house or any other building shall be erected on the Commons, except such lodges or other buildings as may be necessary for the maintenance or management of the Commons. The Board may from time to time erect on the Commons such lodges and other buildings as may be necessary for the maintenance or management of the Commons.

4. The Board may set apart any portion or portions of the Commons as they may consider expedient for cricket or other games, and may form any cricket ground or grounds, and may temporarily inclose the same with post and chain, or other open fence, so as to prevent cattle straying thereon.

5. The Board shall maintain the Commons, as delineated in the plan deposited with the Inclosure Commissioners, free of all encroachment, and shall permit no trespass on, or partial or other inclosure of any part thereof, and no fences, posts, rails, or other matters or things shall be maintained, fixed, or erected thereon without the consent in writing of the Board.

6. The Board shall frame byelaws and regulations for the preservation of order on the Commons, and for the prevention of nuisances thereon, including all or any of the following purposes, namely :—

The prevention of encroachments and of the deposit of road-sand, rubbish, or other matter on, and of the illegal taking, cutting, digging, and selling

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the turf, sods, gravel, sand, or other substances from, the Commons, and of the illegal cutting, felling, or injuring the gorse, heather, timber or other trees, shrubs, brushwood, or other plants growing thereon :

The prevention of injury to or the defacing or removing of seats, fences, or barriers, or notice boards, or other things put up by the Board thereon :

The prevention of injury to or disfigurement of fences or trees thereon by the posting of bills, placards, or notices :

The prevention of bird-catching, bird-trapping, taking of birds' eggs or nests, and illegal shooting or chasing of game or other animals thereon :

The regulation of games to be played, and other means of recreation on the Commons, and of assemblages of persons thereon :

The regulation of the use of the ranges on Staines Moor by rifle volunteer corps :

The prevention of vehicles being driven, or horses being exercised by grooms and others, on or across the Commons :

The exclusion, removal, and apprehension, if necessary, of gamblers, card-sharpers, gipsies, squatters, vagrants, sellers and exhibitors of infamous books, prints, photographs, or pictures, or persons guilty of brawling, fighting, or quarrelling, or using indecent and improper language, or any idle or disorderly persons, so that all such persons may be dealt with according to law :

And generally the prevention or restraint of any act or thing tending to the injury or disfigurement of the Commons, or to interference with the use thereof by the public for purposes of exercise and recreation.

Provided that all such byelaws made by the Board shall be in writing under their seal. And the Board may by any such byelaws impose upon offenders against the same such reasonable penalties as they shall think fit, not exceeding the sum of five pounds for each offence, and in the case of a continuing offence a further penalty not exceeding the sum of forty shillings for each day after written notice to the person committing such offence. And the Board may alter or repeal any such byelaws, and may make any other byelaws as may from time to time appear desirable : Provided always, that all byelaws imposing any penalty shall be so framed as to allow of the recovery of any sum less than the full amount of the penalty : Provided always, that no such byelaws shall be repugnant to the laws of England or the provisions of this scheme, and no such byelaws shall be of any force or effect unless the same shall be sanctioned and confirmed by the Local Government Board, who are hereby empowered to confirm or disallow the same as they may think proper. Provided that a copy of any such byelaws, signed and certified by the clerk of the Board to be a true copy and to have been duly confirmed, shall be evidence until the contrary is proved in all legal proceedings of the due making, confirmation, and existence of such byelaws without further proof : Provided also, that no such byelaws shall be confirmed unless notice of intention to apply for confirmation of the same shall have been given in one or more of the London daily morning newspapers one calendar month at least before the making of such application ; and for one calendar month at least before any such application a copy of the proposed byelaws shall be kept at the office of the Board, and be open during office



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hours thereat to the inspection of any ratepayer of the said district without fee or reward, and the clerk of the Board shall furnish every such ratepayer who shall apply for the same with a copy thereof, or any part thereof, on payment of sixpence for every one hundred words contained in such copy. A.D. 1880.

7. All byelaws made by the Board in pursuance of this scheme shall be legibly written at length on boards of suitable size, and placed on such parts of the Commons (not less than three) as to the Board may appear desirable.

8. Any penalty imposed by or under the authority of this scheme, or any byelaw made under this scheme, may be recovered, together with the costs of the proceedings, in such manner and with such remedies, by distress or otherwise, as are given in the Public Health Act, 1875, and the Acts incorporated therewith and amending the same; but all proceedings for the recovery of a penalty incurred under the provisions of this scheme, or any byelaw made under this scheme, shall be had or taken by the Board, and, notwithstanding anything contained in any Act relating to the Metropolitan Police Courts, the penalty recovered shall be paid to the Board, and shall be applied for the purposes of this scheme.

9. Except for the owner or owners for the time being of the soil, it shall not be lawful, without the consent in writing of the Board, to form, build, or lay any sewer, drain, pipe, water-way, or other matter of like nature in, into, or under any part or parts of the Commons.

10. Except for those persons who now by law are entitled to do so, it shall not be lawful to turn out on the Commons for grazing any cattle, sheep, or other animal.

11. The Board shall be at liberty to receive and apply for the purposes of this scheme, or any of them, any subscriptions or donations applicable thereto respectively that may come to their hands.

12. The Board may apply at any time for an amended scheme or for a new scheme.

13. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as placing any of the public roads or highways on or across the Commons under the care of the Board, if the Board has not otherwise the care of the said roads or highways.

14. All costs and expenses incurred by the Board in respect of this scheme and its execution, from time to time and at all times, shall be contributed by the Board as expenses incurred in the execution of the Public Health Act, 1875, and the Acts incorporated therewith.

15. No proceeding touching the conviction of any offender under this scheme nor any order or other matter or thing whatsoever made, done, or transacted in or relating to the execution of this scheme, shall be vacated, quashed, or set aside for want of form.

16. Saving always to all persons and bodies politic and corporate, and their respective heirs, successors, executors, and administrators, all such estates, interests, or rights of a profitable or beneficial nature in, over, or affecting the Commons, or any part thereof, as they or any of them had before the confirma-

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A.D. 1880. tion of this scheme by Act of Parliament, or could or might have enjoyed if this scheme had not been confirmed by Act of Parliament.

17. The lady of the manor of Staines claims the soil and freehold of the Commons, and the minerals under the same. The said manor is reputed to be coterminous with the parish of Staines. The owners and occupiers of lands and tenements within the said manor and parish claim rights of common of pasturage over the Commons, exerciseable according to stint prescribed by ancient byelaws made at courts held for the said manor.

This scheme affects the right over the Commons, so claimed as aforesaid, only so far as is absolutely necessary for the purposes contemplated by this scheme. The lady of the manor assents to her rights being affected in the manner and to the extent herein expressed, but subject and without prejudice to her rights to the gravel, mines, and minerals in and under the Commons, and so that in the event of any parts of the Commons being required by any railway company or any other public company or body under any legislative compulsory powers, but not otherwise, for the purposes of their undertaking, the lady of the manor shall be entitled to receive the same amount of purchase-money or compensation money for the same as she would have been entitled to claim or receive in case this scheme had not been made. Many of the persons claiming rights of common have, and others have not, assented to their rights being affected as aforesaid.

18. Printed copies of this scheme shall at all times be sold at the office of the Board, to all persons desiring to buy the same, at a price not exceeding sixpence each.

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The Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales, pursuant to the provisions of the Metropolitan Commons Acts, 1866 and 1869, hereby certify the above-written scheme.

In witness whereof they, the said Inclosure Commissioners, have caused their official seal to be hereunto affixed this twenty-third day of December One thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine.

L.S.