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THE MANORS OF DORNEY WITH BOVENEY

COPY OF COURT ROLLS

1. APPOINTMENT of MARK RICHARD HENRY BAILY to be STEWARD of the MANOR.
  2. REGULATIONS of the MANOR.
  3. SCHEDULE of REGISTERED STINTS 1st SEPTEMBER
  4. DEFINITIONS
  5. APPENDICES
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K N O W A L L M E N by these Presents that I  
PHILIP DAYRELL STEWART PALMER J.P., D.L. of  
Dorney Court Dorney in the Parish of Dorney  
in the County of Buckingham a Lieutenant Colonel  
(Retired) in His Majesty's Army hereby give and  
grant unto MARK RICHARD HENRY BAILY of Saddlers'  
Hall Gutter Lane Cheapside London E.C.2 Solicitor  
the office of STEWARD of my Manors of Dorney  
and Boveney to keep and hold all Courts belonging  
to the said Manors at the usual times the  
same have been accustomedly holden and at such  
other times as the said Mark Richard Henry Baily  
shall think fit and expedient TO HAVE HOLD AND  
ENJOY the said office of Steward and to take and  
receive all fees and profits thereunto belongings  
by him the said Mark Richard Henry Baily or his  
sufficient Deputy during such times as the said  
Steward shall well and faithfully demean and  
behave himself in his said Office.

I N W I T N E S S whereof I the said  
Philip Dayrell Stewart Palmer have hereunto set  
my hand and seal this 27th day of August One  
thousand nine hundred and seventy

SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED )  
by the above-named PHILIP ) (sgd) P.D.S.Palmer  
DAYRELL STEWART PALMER IN )  
the presence of:- )

John Gidney  
Eton College,  
Windsor - Estates Manager.

Regulations for the keeping of beasts on the  
Dorney and Lake End Commons of the Manor.

1. Definition of a Common Right.

A right of common of pasture appurtenant to graze the above Commons in common with the owner of the soil and other Commoners between dates agreed at the Annual Common Meeting and in accordance with the Common Rules anywhere over the whole of the permanent pasture of Dorney Common and Lake End Common in Register Unit No. CL56, CL57 without let or hindrance within stockproof boundaries, whose maintenance is the responsibility of frontagers occupying abutting land; to permit own beasts to stray onto the highways within the bounds of the Commons without committing an offence under the Highway Act, 1959, Section 135; to have a pound within the bounds of Dorney Common; to have gates across the Public highway, B.3026, on the Common boundaries in place of cattle grids.

2. Scale for Calculating Stint

The total commons shall be 198 neat beasts and 77 horses.

Commonable cottage without agricultural land		1 cow and 1 youngling bullock
Commonable messuage separated from its agricultural land		1 cow and 1 youngling bullock
Agricultural land	- 3 acres	1 neat beast
	- 5 acres	add one horse
	- every 5 acres above the first 5 acres up to a total of 70 acres	add 1 neat beast
	- every 10 acres above a total of 70 acres	add 1 neat beast
	- every 15 acres above the first 5 acres	add 1 horse
Sheep	- 1½ sheep per acre of agricultural land with rights appurtenant	
Hogs	- double the number of neat beasts	
Geese	- 1 goose and 1 gander to each Commoner and no more	

3. Definition of a Commoner

A Commoner is defined as a person who occupies within the Manor of Dorney with Boyney a dwelling or land or both with rights of common of pasture <sup>appurtenant</sup> on Dorney Common (CL 56) and Lake End Common (CL 57), which rights have been registered under the Commons Registration Act 1965 and its Regulations.

4. Only Commoners to Pasture

No person, other than a Commoner, shall pasture any beasts on Dorney and Lake End Commons, on pain of forfeiture:

To the Lord £5  
To the Hayward 5/- per head, when pounded.

5. Commoners to Pasture own Beasts Only

No Commoner shall pasture on the Commons of this Manor any beasts which are not his or her own property, on pain of forfeiture:

To the Lord £5  
To the Hayward 5/- per head, when pounded

6. Commoners not to dispose of Commons to Foreigners, etc.

No Commoner shall let, sell or give up his common rights either openly or under any pretence whatsoever to any person who is not also a Commoner (a "foreigner"), nor use Dorney or Lake End Common for the beasts of such a person, nor shall any Commoner put on either of these commons any beasts which he claims belong to him but which he has purchased from a person who is not a Commoner under a colourable sale agreement whereby it has been agreed between the Commoner and the foreigner that the foreigner is entitled to recover the beasts from the Commoner at some future date.

If it appears to the Overseers either after a normal scrutiny of the common or on receipt of any complaint, that this rule has been broken a Committee of three of the freeholders shall be set up to investigate the alleged breach. If it appears to them that the rule has been broken, the suspected beast or beasts shall be impounded until it shall have been proved to the satisfaction of the said three freeholders that the beasts are the true property of a Commoner. If they are satisfied that the rule has been broken, and that the beasts are not the true property of a Commoner, the beasts shall only be released on payment of such one or more of the following fines and costs as maybe appropriate:-

1. A fine of £5 payable by the Commoner who has so let, sold, or given up his common rights.
2. A fine of £5 payable by the true owner of the beasts.
3. To the Hayward 5/- per head when impounded.
4. All reasonable costs and expenses of feeding and watering the beasts during the time they have been impounded.

7. Stints not to be exceeded. Letting between Commoners allowed.

Commoners shall not exceed their stints of registered common rights, except that they may let or take their commons from one another at the best price and advantage at a Market for Rights to be held annually before the Commons are open and at which the Hayward shall be present, on pain of forfeiture:-

To the Lord £1 per head in excess of stint  
To the Hayward 5/- per head in excess of stint, when pounded.

8. Hayward to be told of lettings

Commoners letting or taking commons one from another shall inform the Hayward, on pain of forfeiture:-

To the Hayward 10/- per head

9. Marking of beasts

For a better certainty to the Hayward to see who transgresses the orders, Commoners shall mark their neat beasts, which they pasture on the Commons of this Manor, by means of a coloured tab to be attached to the right ear of the beast or by such other method of identification as may be agreed at the Annual Common Meeting, on pain of forfeiture:-

To the Hayward 10/- per head when pounded.

10. Scrutiny of the Commons

The Commons shall be driven by the Hayward assisted by the Overseers at times chosen by himself and a scrutiny taken.

11. Opening of the Commons

The Commons of this Manor shall be open from the 1st April until the 31st October unless the Annual Common Meeting on the recommendation of the Management Committee decides to vary the dates. No Commoner shall pasture beasts thereon during any other period, on pain of forfeiture:-

To the Lord £3  
To the Hayward 5/- per head, when pounded.

12. What beasts may pasture

No Commoner shall pasture beasts other than neat beasts and horses, other than geldings excluding riggs, on the Commons of this Manor, on pain of forfeiture:-

To the Lord £3  
To the Hayward 5/- per head, when pounded.

13. Sick Animals

No Commoner shall pasture sick, diseased, infectious or distempered animals on the Commons of this Manor, on pain of forfeiture:-

To the Lord £5  
To the Hayward 5/- per head, when pounded.

14. Sheep

Commoners may fold sheep on the Commons of this Manor from the 1st December until the 31st January unless the Annual Common Meeting decides to vary the dates. All sheep shall be marked with the owner's own brand, on pain of forfeiture:-

15. Hogs

Commoners may put their hogs on the Commons of this Manor from the 1st November until the 28th February. All pigs shall be deemed as hogs which shall be pigged before the 1st May, but all pigged after that date shall not be accounted hogs until the 25th September following. All hogs put on the Commons shall be sufficiently ringed and so kept ringed continually from time to time on pain that if any be found digging and unringed:-

To the Lord           5/- per hog  
To the Hayward       2/6d. per hog, when pounded.

16. Geese

Commoners may put geese on the Commons of this Manor when the Common is closed to beasts at pasture and at no other time, on pain of forfeiture:-

To the Lord           £1  
To the Hayward       1/- per head, when pounded.

17. Horses

No Commoner shall keep above six horses upon the Commons of this Manor on pain of forfeiture:-

To the Lord           £3 per horse in excess

Every Commoner that shall not keep his full stint of horse may have the liberty of keeping a cow in lieu of every horse wanting of his stint.

18. Common Rate

A rate per head of cattle, horses, sheep, hogs and geese pastured on the Commons of this Manor shall be levied according to the requirements of the said Commons to cover such expenses as the Management Committee recommends and the Annual Common Meeting approves. The full rate shall be paid irrespective of the length of period for which beasts may be pastured. The rate shall be decided at the Annual Common Meeting on the recommendation of the Management Committee. Commoners shall put no beasts on the Commons before they have paid the rate, on pain of forfeiture:-

To the Lord           £1 per head.

19. Breaking Pound

No person shall remove beasts from the Pound without the authority of the Bailiff, on pain of forfeiture:-

To the Lord and Hayward   Treble forfeitures.

20. Non-payment of forfeitures

A person who fails to pay his or her forfeitures shall forfeit treble damages.

21. Fences and Ditches

The custom of fencing and ditching against the Commons of this Manor is confirmed. Occupants of land abutting on the Commons are responsible for maintaining the fences and gates within their own frontage in a stockproof condition and similarly the boundary ditch scoured and cleansed, except those parts for which the Thames Conservancy are responsible.

22. Sporting Rights

It is confirmed that the sporting rights over the Commons of this Manor are reserved to the owner of the soil and no person shall infringe them, on pain of forfeiture.

To the Lord           £5

23. Detrimental Acts

No person shall do any act or thing whatsoever which shall harm the pasture or obstruct the beasts grazing or be otherwise detrimental to the rights and privileges of the owner of the soil and of the Commoners, on pain of forfeiture:-

To the Lord           Minimum £5. Maximum £25 according  
to the gravity of the offence.

24. Hayward

The Hayward shall be nominated by the Management Committee and appointed annually by the Annual Common Meeting.

His duties shall be:-

- (a) To take scrutinies to see that the Common Rules are complied with.
- (b) To impound beasts found on the Commons without right to be thereon or unmarked or offending the Common Rules.
- (c) To water and feed impounded beasts.

His salary shall be fixed at the Annual Common Meeting on the recommendation of the Management Committee.

25. Overseers

The Overseers shall be nominated by the Management Committee and appointed annually by the Annual Common Meeting.

Each Overseer who finds and presents any transgressions in the Common shall have 1/5th of the forfeiture due to the Lord arising from such transgressions.

26. Bailiff

The Bailiff shall be nominated by the Management Committee and appointed annually by the Annual Common Meeting.

26. Bailiff contd.

- (c) To authorise removals from the Pound
- (d) To obtain evidence for legal proceedings.

27. Management Committee

The Management Committee shall consist of the four Overseers, the Bailiff and a representative of Eton College and of Slough Borough Council with power to co-opt other persons. The Committee shall act in collaboration with the Lord/Owner of the soil, but its functions shall not affect his rights.

Its duties shall be :-

- (a) To ensure that the Common Rules are complied with in accordance with their duties as Bailiff and Overseers.
- (b) To take decisions and/or action on matters arising except such as may involve matters of principle or affect the interests of the owner of the soil, non-user Commoners or General Public.

Such excluded matters shall be referred to the Lord with their recommendations, if any, and he shall then either give a decision or call a special meeting or Court or take such other action as he may consider expedient.

- (c) To consider and take necessary action on matters referred to them by the Lord/Owner.
- (d) To recommend the Common Rate to the Annual Common Meeting and operate the Common Rate Account.

28. Annual Common Meeting

By convention, as it is not convenient to hold an annual Manor Court there shall be an Annual Common Meeting open to all Commoners, to which the Management Committee will refer any decisions which they have taken, or Licences which have been granted during the preceeding year for re-adoption. Members of the Committee who are not Commoners would be entitled to attend the Annual Common Meeting but not to vote. Freeholders with rights appurtenant may attend and vote on matters affecting their interests.

The Annual Common Meeting, on the recommendation of the Management Committee, shall :-

- (a) Appoint a Bailiff and four Overseers.
- (b) Appoint the Management Committee
- (c) Appoint the Hayward and fix his salary.
- (d) Receive and adopt annual accounts.
- (e) Approve of the renewal of Annual Licences.
- (f) Adopt the date for opening and closing the Common, recommended by the Management Committee.



28. Annual Common Meeting contd.

(h) Conduct the Market for Rights.

(i) To make decisions, other than on matters of principle, which would require the convening of a Manor Court.

(Note: If an individual Commoner disagrees with the general body of Commoners a decision at the Annual Common Meeting will not deprive him of his legal right to sue a Licensee but he will have to do so at his own expense.)

29. Court Roll

The Steward may alter matters of form in these regulations and orders but not matters of substance and shall engross and attach them to the Court Rolls.