

MINUTE of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the SCOTCH SEED POTATO EXHIBITORS
held at 8, Kinnoull Street, PERTH at
2pm. on FRIDAY, 25th MARCH, 1977.

PRESENT:

Messrs. P. L. Fordyce (Mr. Peter Miller), Messrs. G. Henderson & Co. (Mr. G. Henderson), Messrs. McKenzie Bros. (Mr. K. McKenzie), Messrs. Powrie Bros. (Mr. A. K. Powrie), West Cumberland Farmers Ltd. (Mr. R. McLeish) and W. G. Whitton Ltd. (Mr. J. Laing), with R. David Hunter, the Secretary and Mr. D. Blackmore in attendance.
Mr. A. K. Powrie occupied the Chair.

APOLOGY:

The Secretary reported receipt of an apology for absence from Central Farmers Ltd. (Mr. D. Stephen).

ACCOUNTS:

The Meeting first considered the Annual Account for the Royal Smithfield Show 1976, pre-circulated to all Group Members. With an opening balance of £82.71 and estimated membership of 22, contributions had been fixed at £65 each. In the event, four additional members had been recruited and total contributions had thus increased by £260 to a total of £1,690. Net Bank Interest of £45.06 (against £25.77 the previous year) had brought out total credits of £1,817.17.

Outlays had been in line with estimates, except for Stand costs (underestimated by £28) telephones (underestimated by £14) and the Secretary's Salary and outlay had been increased by £50. The Chairman explained the latter had remained unchanged since 1970 and he had taken it upon himself to authorise the increase. The Meeting formally endorsed this change. There was discussion of the increase in telephone call charges. Mr. Blackmore, as Stand Attendant, could not explain this increase and it was agreed to institute changes to counter a future recurrence.

With Outlays totalling £1,377.01, the closing balance was brought out at £440.76 to show that the 1976 Show itself had made a "profit" of £98.05, in addition to new member contributions. Supported by questionnaires returned by 15 members, the Meeting formally approved and adopted the 1976 Account.

1977
SHOW:

Turning to consideration of arrangements for the Royal Smithfield Show 1977 the Secretary reported that all 15 members who had returned questionnaires intended to/

to participate. Two of them wished to limit contributions to £60, while five indicated £65, four indicated £70 and four £75. With such clear support the Meeting unanimously agreed to exhibit at the 1977 Show.

The Secretary tabled relative cost estimates totalling £1,533.90. Following discussion it was agreed that the whole balance in hand be utilised toward these costs, without repayments to 1976 members, whether or not they participate in 1977. It was further agreed that a reversion to the former, larger-sized Stand should not be undertaken for cost considerations and the possibility of being unable to continue it in other years.

To provide for possible reduction of members and some reduction of funds in hand it was decided to determine each member's share of 1977 costs at £55 plus V.A.T. The Secretary was formally instructed to notify all members that these contributions are now due and to call for payment now. It was further agreed that, in view of the funds in hand, any new Members be required to contribute £70 towards the costs of the arrangements for the 1977 Show.

Other detailed arrangements were discussed from which it was agreed that a telephone earpiece should be ordered and a notice be displayed to remind users to observe the charging arrangements, a dial-lock being felt to be impracticable.

COMMITTEE:

The Meeting next considered election of the Group's Committee to oversee the 1977 arrangements. By unanimous consent it was agreed to re-appoint Mr. A. K. Powrie as Chairman and Messrs. Stephen and K. McKenzie as Committee members, along with Mr. D. Stewart (Robertson of Perth Ltd.) (nominated and seconded by Messrs. A. K. Powrie and R. McLeish respectively) and to invite Council of the Scottish Potato Trade Association to re-appoint Mr. D. H. Lindsay as the Association representative in the Group's Committee.

The meeting then concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

John H. Barr