

MINUTE of MEETING of the ORGANISING COMMITTEE
of the SCOTCH SEED POTATO EXHIBITORS, held at
8, Kinnoull Street, Perth at 11 a.m. on
Wednesday, 1st OCTOBER, 1980

PRESENT: Messrs. K.A. McKenzie, D. Stephen and D. Stewart, with D. Blackmore in attendance.

The Convenor, Mr. K.A. McKenzie occupied the Chair.

APOLOGIES: Mr. Blackmore intimated apologies received from Mr. Gordon Smillie and on behalf of Messrs. D. Hendry Lindsay and J.G.H Fenton (both ex officio) and Mr. R. David Hunter (Secretary).

1979 SHOW
ACCOUNTS:

The Organising Committee first considered the pre-circulated Accounts for the 1979 Royal Smithfield Show. In reply Mr. Blackmore explained that, believing a mis-understanding had occurred, the Account did not give effect to the instruction to augment the Stand Attendant's 1978 expenses. The Committee recommended that the immediately subsequent Annual General Meeting of Members approve the Account as stated subject to adjustment in the current year in respect of the adjustment authorised on 31st August, 1979.

1980 SHOW
ARRANGE-
MENTS:

In consideration of the arrangements for the 1980 Show, the Committee first considered the Estimates prepared by the Secretariat. Mr. Blackmore explained that the 25% increase in the Site Rent (from £352 to £440) was inescapable and the first (25% deposit) instalment thereof had already been paid.

Against the estimated cost of standfitting etc. (£1438.65) he also explained that, in response to his determined request for minimisation of costs, Beck & Pollitzer Contracts Ltd. had proposed two economy measures to provide a standfitting-only quotation of £1140. Accepting the total vulnerability to electrical and furniture hire charges out-with the stand fitter's control, the Committee was averse to the proposed economies. The Secretariat was instructed to try to secure an overall quotation from Beck & Pollitzer Contracts Ltd. for standfitting etc. (excluding the proposed economies) not exceeding £1450.

It was also decided not to dispense with insurance cover and to reduce telephone costs to installation of one instrument with extra earphone only. It was recognised this will require increased co-operation between members. Since even calls within the local (London) area are now time-charged it was further agreed that Members should now pay for these too, and a new notice and cash box will be provided for this purpose. The Committee agreed that the estimated costs of stand-cleaning, electricity and sundries required no revision and that the estimated Stand Attendant's outlays were understated. After giving effect to all these various amendments, the total estimated net cash requirement was £2,250.

From questionnaires returned by Members, supported by his further telephoned enquiries, Mr. Blackmore reported that twenty three Members had indicated their intention to participate in the 1980 Show. After most careful appraisal the Committee decided to recommend to the Annual General Meeting of Members that the Group should Exhibit at the 1980 Royal Smithfield Show.

This recommendation was conditional upon the Meeting's agreement to encroach upon the Group's Cash Reserves to the extent of one-half (i.e. £130), in order to restrict each Member's share of the 1980 costs to £90 plus V.A.T. To take account of the Group's present Cash Reserves the Committee recommended adoption of an intensive campaign to recruit new Members who should each be required to contribute £105 plus V.A.T towards the costs of the 1980 Show.

In Conclusion the Committee instructed that the standfitting contract include the provision of decorative fern, while the Committee Members themselves had already arranged to provide the necessary moss and seed samples for display purposes.

The Meeting then concluded.