

MINUTE of MEETING of COUNCIL of the
SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE ASSOCIATION held in
the Station Hotel, PERTH at 11.30a.m. on
Friday, 21st NOVEMBER, 1980.

PRESENT: Messrs. J.H. Barr, J.E. Cook, J.G.H. Fenton, J. Fordyce, B. Fulton, J. Henderson, D. Hendry Lindsay, D. Maxwell, J.R. McArthur, K.A. McKenzie, J. Logan Milne, R. Ramsay, J.O. Robertson, G. Smillie and J.M. Waddell, with R. David Hunter (Secretary) and D. Blackmore (Assistant) in attendance.

The President, Mr. D. Hendry Lindsay, occupied the Chair.

APOLOGIES: Mr. Blackmore intimated apologies for absence on behalf of Messrs. A.J. Allan, J.P. Deuchar, R. Doig, W. Gordon and T. McClung and for delayed arrival on behalf of Messrs. J. Fordyce, B. Fulton, D. Maxwell and J. Logan Milne.

MINUTES: The Minute of Council's Meeting in Perth on 30th October, 1980 (copies of which had been pre-circulated to each Council Member) was taken as read. It was formally approved and signed to this effect by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING: (a) Membership - Mr. Blackmore reported his telephoned enquiry to the P.M.B. re Wm. M. Hosie's application for a Ware Merchant's Licence. This had been deferred pending receipt of the necessary financial information. Refusal of an application for other than business or financial status reasons appeared to be unknown.

He also reported receipt of a formal application for Association Membership for Messrs. F.F. Mackenzie and Co., Rothes. Council accepted this application with effect from 1st November, 1980. It was also decided to defer whether to invite John F. Armstrong, Glenfarg to apply for Membership until officially notified that he had been granted a Ware Merchant's Licence and to take no action in this same respect following official notification that Licences have been granted to Grampian Growers Ltd., Montrose.

(b) Copyright of Conditions of Sale - Speaking professionally, Mr. Hunter explained his view that a strong claim could be made for joint N.A.S.P.M./S.P.T.A. ownership of the copyright but a Court could decide otherwise. In any event he could not recommend a confrontation on the issue and suggested a financial contribution towards N.A.S.P.M.'s legal expenses should be made.

After full discussion Council accepted in principle that S.P.T.A. should make a financial contribution and instructed its delegates to the next Joint Liaison Committee Meeting (in London on 4th December, 1980) to negotiate the best possible "without prejudice" terms, on the basis that "Copyright S.P.T.A." (as already printed and extensively distributed) cannot now be changed. It was agreed that continued demand exceeding £300 should not be met without Council's further authority and Mr. Hunter suggested this should be treated as capital expenditure.

(c) Annual Accounts - Council formally approved the now-Audited Association's Accounts for the year to 31st October, 1980 (including a retention of £70 towards Expenses of Meetings incorporated therein) and instructed the Secretariat to send a copy of the Audited Accounts, with formal Notice of the Association's Annual General Meeting (in the Station Hotel, Perth at 2p.m. on Thursday, 15th January, 1981), to each Member of the Association.

FINANCIAL
ESTIMATES
1980/81: /

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Mr. Blackmore spoke to the Estimates of Income and Expenditure which he had prepared and pre-circulated to each Council Member. The Chairman explained the Estimates took no account of change in the Secretary's Salary for the Association's current accounting year. To allow Council's free discussion of representations, Mr. Hunter and his assistant withdrew from the Meeting. On their return they were advised of Council's decision to increase the Secretary's Salary by £2,000 (to £6,000) for the year to 31st October, 1981 and were instructed to prepare fresh Estimates on this basis and submit them to the Office Bearers for consideration in the first instance. Mr. Hunter expressed his appreciation of Council's decision.

BRITISH
POTATO
TRADES
CONSORTIUM:

Council took note of Mr. Fenton's pre-circulated Report on the Consortium's Meeting which he had attended in London on the morning of 10th November, 1980

JOINT
CONSULTATIVE
COMMITTEE:

and also Meeting
his pre-circulated Report on the Joint Consultative Committee /
which he had attended in London on the afternoon of the same day.

In reply to the Chair, Council decided both Association representatives should attend future meetings of the Consortium and of the Joint Consultative Committee occurring on the same day. As requested by letter, Council also nominated Association representatives to the Potato Marketing Board Committees as follows :-

Joint Consultative Committee

Messrs. D.H. Lindsay and J.G.H. Fenton,
(with J.R. McArthur as alternative)

Scottish Advisory Committee

Messrs. J.E. Cook and J.R. McArthur,
(with D.H. Lindsay as alternative)

Seed Potato Advisory Committee

J.G.H. Fenton (with Mr. J.R. McArthur as alternative).

Export Development Committee

Mr. J.P. Deuchar (with Mr. J.M. Waddell as alternative).

Ware Potato Imports Advisory Committee

Mr. D.H. Lindsay (with Mr. B. Fulton as alternative)

The Secretariat was instructed to advise the Board accordingly.

SEED
TRADE
COMMITTEE:

Mr. McArthur reported on the meeting of the Seed Trade Committee held in Perth on 13th November, 1980. He outlined the complete package of joint proposals on which agreement had been reached and which each constituent organisation is to submit individually to D.A.F.S. (in readiness for the meeting of the Seed Potato Consultative Panel in Edinburgh on 15th December, 1980).

He further explained that, in reply to repeated requests, D.A.F.S. had submitted its own proposals - in a letter dated 14th November, 1980! A further meeting of the Seed Trade Committee had been arranged in Perth for 25th November, 1980 to consider D.A.F.S.' proposals.

Council's very full discussion of the many aspects of these matters was hampered by lack of time. It was felt to be essential that the Association's representatives be very fully briefed for the meeting with D.A.F.S. and it was hoped that D.A.F.S. would arrange a second meeting of the Seed Potato Consultative Panel at the end of January, 1981.

N.S.D.O
WORKING
PARTY:

Mr. Barr reported that the meeting of the National Seed Development Organisation Working Party arranged for 18th November, 1980 in London had been postponed, in response to representations from the Trade Organisations, and will now take place in mid-late January, 1981.

BRITISH
RAIL:

The Chairman explained that the meeting with representatives of British Rail, arranged to precede today's Council meeting and postponed due to a train breakdown, would take place later today.

OTHER
COMPETENT
BUSINESS:

(a) Foreign Trip 1981 - Under pressure of time this matter was deferred.

There being no other business the meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

D. Mendenhall Luntsey