

MINUTE of MEETING of COUNCIL of the  
SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE ASSOCIATION  
held in the City Mills Hotel, PERTH  
at 2 p.m. on Thursday, 6th SEPTEMBER,  
1984.

PRESENT:

Messrs. A.J. Allan, J.H. Barr, J.E. Cook, R. Doig, B. Fulton, J. Henderson, D. Maxwell, P. Miller, J. Logan Milne, P. Moffat, J.R. McArthur, K.A. McKenzie and J.O. Robertson, with R. David Hunter (Secretary) and D. Blackmore (Assistant) in attendance.

The President, Mr. J.E. Cook, chaired the meeting.

APOLOGIES:

The Secretary intimated apologies for absence on behalf of Messrs. G.S. Brass, J.P. Deuchar, J.G.H. Fenton, D.H. Lindsay, W.E. Muirhead, T. McClung and G. Smillie.

MINUTES:

Each Member of Council having previously received a copy of it, the Minute of Meeting of Council in Perth on 28th June, 1984 was taken as read. It was formally approved and signed to this effect by the Chairman.

MATTERS

ARISING:

(a) Membership - Mr. Blackmore reported notified amendments to the PMB list of licensed merchants, and notification of an application for a Seed and Ware Merchant's Licence by John Calderwood trading as Glenfarg Potatoes. Council asked to be informed of the outcome of this application in due course. He also reported receipt of letters from Messrs. Peter Moffat (Potatoes) and Scottish Farm Produce (Potatoes) Ltd. proposing Messrs. Strathtay Potato Co. for Association Membership. Council accepted this proposal with immediate effect (thus increasing the total Membership Roll to 116 Members) but subscription payable with effect from 1st November, 1984.

(c) Conditions of Purchase - Mr. Hunter reported that N.I.P.M.A. Ltd. had now written to say that due to lack of demand among its own Members, it is not to pursue its request to adapt SPTA Conditions of Purchase to its own use.

(c) Ware Imports Advisory Committee - Mr. Hunter also reported the content of a letter of reply from the PMB rejecting SPTA's proposal that this Committee should be discontinued.

(d) Small-sized seed - Mr. Cook and Mr. Hunter reported in detail on a meeting they had had with Mr. R.A.B. Whittle. It had been decided that in the best interests of the whole trade and provided that no further Press mention is made, Mr. Cook would not pursue his complaint of libel. Mr. Cook explained to Council he considered this personal aspect is now closed.

Mr. Hunter read NASPM's letter of 5th July, 1984. After careful consideration of SPTA's position Council decided <sup>not</sup> to reply to that letter and to treat the matter as closed.

(e) Foreign Study Tour 1985 - Mr. McArthur provided indications of cost (approx. £400 per person) for an "all-in", one-week visit to Lanzarote, flight from Glasgow, Thursday to Thursday, in early January. Mr. Miller reported that a one week (Monday to Monday) visit to Cyprus at end-January/early February, flight from Glasgow, would cost £295 per person on a twin-bedded, bed and breakfast basis. The Cyprus Board could arrange a programme of visits.

Following discussion disclosing little support, it was agreed to raise the matter again at Council's next meeting prior to possible circularisation of the whole Membership.



S.S.P.D.C:

Council discussed a pre-circulated précis of the Minute of a Meeting of the Scottish Seed Potato Development Council on 23rd August, 1984. Noting that continuation of that Council was recommended, it was understood that the Council itself would seek only a three year extension of its activities.

In this same connection, in readiness for a reply to DAFS' pre-circulated letter of 29th June last, today's meeting formulated the following composite proposal:-

"that the SPTA recommended an extension of three years only, to be followed by a poll to ascertain whether a clear mandate exists for further continuation thereafter. Failing such a mandate, the SSPDC should be wound up.

If a three years only extension is not accepted, then a poll on the same terms should be conducted immediately, before any longer extension is authorised."

In respect of this Association's ten nominations for six seats on SSPDC, Council instructed the whole Membership be invited to submit suggested nominations to Council for consideration.

SEED  
POTATO  
ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE:

Mr. McArthur reported on the meeting of the Seed Potato Advisory Committee which he had attended in London on 24th July, 1984. He explained the meeting had started very late and had run quickly. Small-sized seed proposals had notably lacked the support of Mr. David Sinclair.

TECHNICAL  
FORUM:

Mr. McKenzie reported on the meeting of the Technical Forum which he had attended in Edinburgh on 16th August, 1984. Press and College releases had since rendered much of the meeting now historical. Principally the meeting had concentrated on Tecnazene and on contamination there being heavy support for a ban on Tecnazene. Scientific evidence clearly showed that the usual half-dose application were useless for disease control, indicating it was being applied solely for its sprout suppressant effect, which is illegal. He explained the two ban options being considered were an amendment of the 1984 Regulations or removal of Tecnazene from the officially approved chemicals list. Mr. Cook felt it to be important to obtain a note of the levels which indicate whether the presence of Tecnazene is the result of application or contamination.

FINANCE  
COMMITTEE:

Mr. Hunter reported on the meeting of the Association's Finance Committee in Perth on 3rd September, 1984 solely to appraise the PRODUCT LIABILITY INSURANCE PROPOSALS. He explained the "cover" sections and read out the relative cover definition clauses and rates of premiums. Although the Finance Committee had felt the proposals would meet the identified needs of Members, it had not made a formal recommendation to Council. Following discussion, the Secretariat was instructed to send a copy of an explanatory Summary to all Members of Council, in readiness for a special "Working Lunch" meeting of Council in the City Mills Hotel, Perth on Thursday, 27th September, 1984 to determine the matter.

It was further agreed that same meeting would finalise the list of SPTA's ten nominations for appointment of six representatives to SSPDC.

A.O.C.B:

(a) Annual Elections to Council - The Secretary explained that only five Members (Messrs. A.J. Allan, J.H. Barr, R. Doig, D. Maxwell and W. Muirhead) qualified to meet the Constitution's requirement for six Members to retire by rotation each year. Following a precedent of a previous occasion, lots were drawn from next year's retirals and the Chairman drew Mr. J.P. Deuchar's name from the hat. The Secretary reported that Mr. Muirhead had notified his intention not to stand for re-election. The Secretariat was instructed to proceed with the usual arrangements for postal nominations followed by a ballot of all Members.

(b) Interim Crop Register - Mr. Blackmore reported notification from DAFS that last year's interim "raw data" arrangements are to be repeated this year. Council agreed he should arrange for copies to be made to meet any Members' requirements.

(c)/

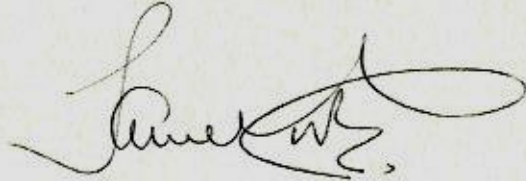


(c) Joint Liaison Committee - The Secretary sought Council's proposals for items for discussion with NASPM at the meeting to be held in Edinburgh on 17th October, 1984. Council felt these should certainly include chemicals problems and Product Liability Insurance.

(d) Dates of next Meetings - Apart from the "Working Lunch" meeting already agreed, Council agreed to meet again on Thursday, 25th October, 1984 in the City Mills Hotel, Perth (with own Bar) and on Thursday, 22nd November, 1984 (venue not decided). The date of, venue and Speaker for, the Annual General Meeting of Members were not determined.

(e) Notes for Arbiters and anomaly between Conditions of Purchase and Sale - Mr. McKenzie pointed out that the former appeared to need revision and he sought guidance on the latter point. The Secretary undertook to give these matters attention.

The Meeting then concluded with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'James W. ...', is written in a cursive style. The signature is located in the upper right quadrant of the page, below the text of the meeting minutes.