

MINUTE of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of
MEMBERS of the SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE
ASSOCIATION in the Wheel Inn Motor
Hotel, SCONE at 2 p.m. on Friday,
15th JANUARY, 1988.

PRESENT:

A.D.S. Cluny Ltd.	(W.P. Balfour, Esq.)
Messrs. Alexander Bayne & Son	(A.P. Bayne, Esq.)
Beeson Group Ltd.	(A.D. Lamont, Esq.)
G.S. Brass (Perth) Ltd.	(G.S. Brass, Esq.)
Messrs. P.L. Fordyce	(P. Miller, Esq.)
W. & A. Graham (Glasgow) Ltd.	(J.H. Barr, Esq.)
James Haggart & Sons Ltd.	(J.R. McArthur, Esq.)
Wm. Law & Son (Potatoes) Ltd.	(J.O. Robertson, Esq.)
David Lindsay (Potato Merchants) Ltd.	(D.H. Lindsay, Esq.)
G. & D. Maxwell Ltd.	(D. Maxwell, Esq.)
Gilbert McClung Ltd.	(T. McClung, Esq.)
Messrs. McKenzie Bros.	(K.A. McKenzie, Esq.)
Nickerson Seed Specialists Ltd.	(I. Melrose, Esq.)
Robertson of Perth Ltd.	(Messrs.D.Stewart, Snr. and Jnr.)
J. & E. Smillie (Potato Merchants) Ltd.	(J. Robb, Esq.)
Stokes Bomford Ltd.	(A.S. Whitehead, Esq.)
West Cumberland Farmers Ltd.	(R. McLeish, Esq.)

with R. David Hunter (Secretary and Treasurer) and D. Blackmore (Assistant Secretary) in attendance.

The President, G.S. Brass, Esq. took the Chair and welcomed those present to the meeting.

APOLOGIES:

The Secretary intimated apologies for absence on behalf of:-

J.E. Cook, Esq. (Beeson Group Ltd.)	
Bond & Waddell Potatoes Ltd.	(J.M. Waddell, Esq.)
David T. Fenton & Sons Ltd.	(J.G.H. Fenton, Esq.)
Messrs. Wm. Fraser	(J.P. Deuchar, Esq.)
J. Logan Milne (Potatoes) Ltd.	(J.L. Milne, Esq.)
Messrs. Peter Moffat (Potatoes)	(P. Moffat, Esq.)
J.M. Swinton, Esq. (West Cumberland Farmers Ltd.)	

ANNUAL
ACCOUNT:

The Treasurer presented his Annual Report, providing detailed explanation and comment on the Association's Audited Annual Account for the year to 31st October, 1987 a copy of which had been sent already to each Member of the Association. There being no response to the Treasurer's invitation for questions from the meeting, Mr. J.O. Robertson, seconded by Mr. K.A. McKenzie, moved that the meeting approve adopt the Account. The Motion was carried without dissent.

COUNCIL'S
REPORT:

The Secretary presented Council's Report for the year to 31st October, 1987 attached hereto. The Chairman re-iterated the call for more feedback from the whole Membership. The meeting endorsed the view that two-way communication is vital to the Association's fullest effectiveness and that circularisation of Reports on Council's (and other) meetings to all Members should be continued.

MEMBERSHIP
SUBSCRIPTIONS
1987-88:

The Treasurer reported the Finance Committee's recommendation, which had been endorsed by Council, that annual Membership Subscriptions for the year to 31st October, 1988 should be increased as follows:-

0 - 2,000 tonnes	from £ 60.00 to £ 65.00	plus V.A.T. @ 15%
2,001 - 6,000	-do- £ 90.00 to £ 95.00	-do-
6,001 - 10,000	-do- £115.00 to £120.00	-do-
10,001 - 14,000	-do- £140.00 to £150.00	-do-
14,001 - 18,000	-do- £160.00 to £165.00	-do-
over 18,000	-do- £195.00 to £200.00	-do-

Following/

Following brief discussion, Mr. D. Stewart, Snr. moved and Mr. W.P. Balfour seconded that the recommendation be adopted. In the absence of any amendment the Motion was carried unanimously.

AMENDMENT
OF RULES:

The meeting considered the following pre-circularised Resolution:-
"That the first sentence of Rule 12 of the Association's Constitution and Rules be amended to read 'The Council, of whom six shall form a quorum, shall meet for the despatch of business at such times and places as they may think fit'".

Following explanation and discussion Mr. A.S. Whitehead, seconded by Mr. K.A. McKenzie, moved that the Resolution be approved and adopted. The Motion was carried unanimously.

A.O.C.B.:

The Chairman reported briefly on Council's discussions and policy decisions at this morning's meeting in respect of (a) The proposed Seed Support Scheme and (b) a proposed Prohibition on the planting of unclassified seed within the High Grade Seed Area. The Members Meeting endorsed both policy decisions.

The meeting then closed and Mr. McClung's proposed Vote of Thanks to the Chair received unanimous support.

TREASURER'S REPORT
for the year to 31st October, 1987
to the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS
of the
SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE ASSOCIATION

Each Member of the Association has been sent a copy of the Association's Audited Annual Account for the year to 31st October, 1987. Commenting on the Account I refer first to the INCOME side (in the top right-hand quarter), where SUBSCRIPTIONS are shown at £9,310. This is only £25 less than the budgetted figure of £9,335 and £44 less than was received during the preceding year. Changes in Membership and between tonnage-brackets movements by Members thus had a very small net effect on this year's outcome. Net INVESTMENT INCOME increased by £8 to £420, reflecting the lower tax rate applicable, while Gross BANK INTEREST increased by £11 to £176, compared with a budgetted figure of £100. The DEFICIT, being the excess of Expenditure over Income was £151.59 (£15 more than the preceding year) will result in an offsetting tax repayment of £160 during the current year.

On the opposite, EXPENDITURE, side EXPENSES OF MEETINGS increased by £73 to £545 compared with a budgetted figure of £550. GENERAL expenses also increased by £95 to £630, which was £30 above budget. Reflecting communication circularisations to Members, PHOTOCOPYING costs went up by £170 to almost £720. This was £70 over budget, but POSTAGES offset this by a reduction of £75 to £425 which was £125 below budget. TELEPHONES were only £5 up on the previous year to £405 and this, too, was well below budget, as were TRAVELLING EXPENSES/

EXPENSES at £377, only £17 above the preceding year. The SECRETARY'S SALARY includes the increase of £325 instructed by Council at the start of that year.

The left-hand side of the BALANCE SHEET is self-explanatory and records a modest increase of almost £48 (to £1,031.47) of Surplus Revenue accumulated by the close of the Account. On the opposite ASSETS side of the Balance Sheet you will see that the Market Value of the Association's INVESTMENTS at the close was nearly £830 (14.88%) higher than cost. The small increase in the CASH position over the previous year mirrors the increase in the accumulated Surplus Revenue I referred to a moment ago.

In discussion during the Audit process the Auditor recommended that future Accounts should avoid showing a deficit in one year with the corresponding tax repayment being shown in the following year when received. This would involve incorporating a Sundry Debtors heading into the Assets side of the Balance Sheet, in which V.A.T. recoverable would also be more properly shown. Subject to Council's approval in due course, next year's Account could introduce such changes.

That concludes my Report. If there are any questions from the meeting I shall be pleased to provide replies.