

MINUTE of MEETING of COUNCIL
of THE SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE
ASSOCIATION held in PERTH ICE
RINK, GLOVER STREET, PERTH, at
2.00 p.m. on FRIDAY, 19th
NOVEMBER, 1993.

PRESENT: Messrs. A.M. Beattie, G.S. Brass, J.P. Deuchar, R. Doig, J.B. Hollywood, J.M. Marshall, I. Melrose, J. Logan Milne, J.R. McArthur, K.A. McKenzie, J. MacFarlane, A.B. Pullar, D.Y. Stewart and A.S. Whitehead, along with Mr. R.D. Hunter, the Secretary.

CHAIRMAN: The President, Mr. R. Doig, occupied the Chair.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS: Before commencing the business of the meeting Mr. Doig welcomed Messrs. Beattie and MacFarlane to their first meeting of Council.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Messrs. A.C. Galbraith and J. Robertson. Mr. Hunter read to the meeting a letter which he had received from Mr. A.C. Galbraith intimating his resignation from Council on the ground that because of business commitments he was no longer able to honour his obligation to Council by attending meetings. Council accepted Mr. Galbraith's resignation with regret. It was agreed to consider at the next meeting of Council the co-opting of a new member of Council with particular experience in the Ware Trade as a replacement for Mr. Galbraith.

(1) MINUTES: The Minute of Meeting of Council of 28th October, 1993 was taken as read, approved and signed. ACTION

(2) MATTERS ARISING:

(a) Conditions of Sale and Conditions of Purchase: Mr. Hunter confirmed that he would be informing members in the next News Letter that the earlier versions of Conditions of Sale and Conditions of Purchase were now out of date and that the new Conditions introduced earlier in the year should now be utilised.

(b) Membership: Mr. Hunter reported that he had written to various Potato Merchant Companies inviting them to consider applying for membership of the Association.

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- (c) Future of P.M.B./Potato Marketing Scheme. Mr. Hunter confirmed that he had written to Mrs. Gillian Shepherd, the Minister of Agriculture & Fisheries, as instructed by Council.
- (d) Association Year Book: Mr. Hunter reported that he had not yet had an opportunity of preparing the "mock up" of the Year Book for future consideration by Council.
- (e) Protected Region and Community Grades: Mr. Hunter confirmed that, as instructed, he had written to The Scottish Office. Mr. Hunter added that intimation had now been received that the meeting of the Scottish Seed Potato Consultative Panel was to be held in Edinburgh on 13th December, 1993 when the suggestion of introducing the Export Standard for all trade would be discussed.
- (3) S.S.P.D.C. As there was no member of S.S.P.D.C. present at the meeting there was no Report on the meeting of that Council which had been held on 18th November, 1993.
- (4) J.C.C. MEETING: Mr. McArthur tabled copies of the Minute of Meeting of J.C.C. held on 4th November, 1993. Mr. McArthur confirmed that at that meeting Mr. Michael Franklin had been unanimously re-appointed Chairman of the Joint Consultative Committee for a period of two years.
- (5) CHAIRMAN'S COMMITTEE MEETING: Mr. Hunter gave a verbal report on the meeting of the Chairman's Committee which had taken place earlier in the day. During the report Mr. Hunter stated that it was the recommendation of the Chairman's Committee that an early meeting be held of the Conditions Sub-Committee to consider, in advance of the meeting of the Working Party with the N.A.S.P.M., what this Association would like to be included in any Arbitration Rules which may be introduced. Mr. Hunter added that the Conditions Sub-Committee would also be drawing up a short list of Association Members who might be invited to be included in the Association's Panel of Arbiters. Mr. Hunter stated that the Chairman's Committee were recommending that this Association makes arrangements for a Training Course for Arbiters to be held in Scotland. It was considered that this would be less/

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less expensive than particulating in the Arbitration Course being arranged by N.A.S.P.M. bearing in mind the travelling expenses which would be involved. Mr. Hunter added that he had also been instructed by the Chairman's Committee to write to various firms of Solicitors inviting them to suggest names of members of the firm who might be included in the Association's Panel of Arbiters. After discussion the recommendations of the Chairman's Committee with regard to Arbitration Procedures were ratified.

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(6) DRAFT 1992/93 ACCOUNTS: Mr. Hunter took the Council through the Association's unaudited Accounts for 1992/93 which had been previously circulated. The Accounts were approved for submission to the Association's Auditors.

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(7) BUDGET for 1992/93: Mr. Hunter reported to Council that at the morning's meeting of the Chairman's Committee a Budget for 1993/94 totalling £12,700 had been approved. The Budget included provision for an increase in the Secretary's salary from £9,200 to £9,600. Council approved the fixing of the Secretary's salary for the current year at £9,600. Council also approved the Budget of £12,700. Council, on the recommendation of the Chairman's Committee, agreed to recommend to members that Subscriptions for the current year be fixed as follows:-

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<u>TOTAL TONNAGE HANDLED</u>	<u>SUBSCRIPTION (Net of VAT)</u>
1 - 6,000 tonnes	£120.00
6,001 - 10,000 tonnes	£150.00
10,001 - 14,000 tonnes	£180.00
14,001 - 18,000 tonnes	£210.00
over 18,000 tonnes	£240.00

(8) APPOINTMENTS to 1993/94 COMMITTEES, ETC. Council resolved to appoint Messrs. Craig, McIntyre & Company, Chartered Accountants, Glasgow as Association Auditors for a further year.

Council appointed the following representatives to serve on the following external Committees for the year to 31st October, 1994:-

Potato Marketing Board -

Joint Consultative Committee -

Mr. J.R. McArthur, with Mr. R. Doig as Deputy.

Seed Advisory Committee

Messrs. R. Doig and J.M. Swinton, with Mr. D. Stewart as Deputy for either.

Ware/

Ware Potato Imports Advisory Committee -

Mr. D.H. Lindsay, with Mr. J.O. Robertson as Deputy.

Others -

Joint (NASPM/SPTA) Liaison Committee -

Office Bearers ex officio, together with Messrs. J. Marshall, K.A. McKenzie and A.S. Whitehead.

Seed Potato Consultative Panel -

Messrs. R. Doig and D. Stewart, with Mr. A.M. Beattie as Deputy for either.

Scottish Working Party (Joint SNFU/SSPDC/SPTA) -

As for Consultative Panel above.

PMB/Potato Scheme (Joint SPTA/SNFU) -

Messrs. R. Doig, D. Stewart, J. Hollywood and R. McArthur.

Council made the following appointments to the Association's own internal Committees for the year to 31st October, 1994 (the President, Mr. R. Doig, the Vice-President, Mr. D. Stewart, and the Deputy Vice-President, Mr. L. Logan Milne being ex officio representatives in each case):-

Chairman's Committee - Messrs. G.S. Brass, J.M. Marshall, J.R. McArthur and K. McKenzie.

Entertainments Committee - Messrs. P. Miller (Convener) and Colin Dickie, G. Lothian, G. Smillie and A.S. Whitehead.

Panel of Arbiters - All members of Council.

Press Officers - Messrs. R. Doig, D.Y. Stewart and J. Logan Milne.

Ware Sub-Committee - Messrs. D.H. Lindsay (Convener), A.C. Galbraith, I. Melrose, J. MacFarlane, and J.O. Robertson .

Ware Interests - Mr. D.H. Lindsay.

Year Book Committee - Messrs. R. McArthur and J.M. Marshall.

Conditions Sub-Committee - Messrs. G.S. Brass, K.A. McKenzie, J.O. Robertson and J.M. Swinton.

- (9) CORRESPONDENCE: Mr. Hunter referred to the letter from The Scottish Office, Agriculture & Fisheries Department, dated 9th November, 1993, entitled "Compliance Cost Assessment (CCA): GB Implementing Order for new EC Ring Rot Directive". The proposals contained in the letter were discussed. The need was voiced for the U.K. to be vigilant in endeavouring to avoid the introduction of rots, particularly, ring rot and dry rot, into the United Kingdom. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed at the forthcoming meeting of the Scottish Seed Potato Consultative Panel.

(10) DATE OF NEXT MEETING: It was agreed that the 1993/94 Annual General Meeting of Members would be held in the Ice Rink, Perth, at 2.00 p.m. on Thursday, 13th January, 1994 to be followed by a meeting of Council at 2.30 p.m.

(11) S.S.P.D.C. QUESTIONNAIRE: Mr. Doig referred to the Questionnaire recently sent out by S.S.P.D.C. for completion by Seed Potato Growers in Scotland regarding the future of the Potato Trade in Scotland. Mr. Doig added that the Questionnaire had been discussed at the morning's meeting of the Chairman's Committee. He stated that the Chairman's Committee were of the opinion that the S.S.P.D.C. Questionnaire lacked a question concerning the future of S.S.P.D.C. itself. Accordingly, the Chairman's Committee were recommending that this Association itself send out a further Questionnaire to Seed Potato Growers in Scotland asking them to answer the following questions:-

- (1) I/We want S.S.P.D.C. to remain in existence.
- (2) In the event of S.S.P.D.C. and P.M.B. being disbanded I/We would/would not support a Producer led Scottish Potato Authority.

Mr. Doig stated that the Chairman's Committee were recommending that a pre-paid Business Reply Envelope be issued with the Questionnaire. Mr. Doig reminded Council Members that this Association had a meeting during the following week with representatives of the Scottish National Farmers' Union. Mr. Doig stated that it was the recommendation of the Chairman's Committee that no final decision be made regarding the issuing of the Questionnaire until the matter had been discussed with the Scottish National Farmers' Union. Mr. Doig accordingly invited Council to reify the recommendations of the Chairman's Committee and to give to the Chairman's Committee power to issue the Questionnaire when they considered the time to be appropriate. There was detailed discussion. It was the majority decision of Members of Council that the Chairman's Committee be given the powers which it sought.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the Meeting.

