

MINUTE of MEETING of COUNCIL
of THE SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE
ASSOCIATION held in the ICE
RINK, GLOVER STREET, PERTH, at
2.00 p.m. on TUESDAY, 21st
JUNE, 1994.

PRESENT: Messrs. A. Bayne, M. Beattie, J. Deuchar, R. Doig, J. Hollywood, H. Lindsay, J. MacFarlane, K. McKenzie, J. Marshall, J. Robertson, J. Swinton and S. Whitehead, along with Mr. R.D. Hunter, the Secretary.

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

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Messrs. R. McArthur, A. Pullar and D. Veitch.

(1) MINUTES: The Minute of Meeting of Council of 19th April, 1994 was taken as read, approved and signed.

(2) MATTERS ARISING:

ACTION

(a) Conditions of Sale and Conditions of Purchase: Mr. Hunter read out to the meeting the names of fourteen members of the Association who may be the using the new Conditions but had overlooked to pay the copyright fee in respect of these Conditions. Various Council Members agreed to speak to these members in order that the position may be clarified. Council confirmed that members of the Association, other than those who had received membership during the current year, who had not paid the Basic Charge of £20.00 for a pack of the Conditions were not entitled at law to use the new Conditions.

(b) Membership: The Secretary reported that all the subscriptions of current members of the Association were now paid. The Secretary reported that the membership of the Association now stood at 89. Mr. Hunter stated that the total of the subscriptions for the current year was £12,330.00 as compared with the estimated total of £12,700.00 included in the budget for the current year. Mr. Hunter explained that the actual figure was less than the budget for two reasons, namely, (i) the budget had anticipated a membership of 91 as opposed to the existing membership of 89, and (ii) most of the "bracket movements" were in a downward direction. During discussion it was suggested that in the future it might be useful to introduce an additional top bracket.

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- (c) U.K.S.A.B. The Secretary read to the meeting a letter from The Scottish Office confirming that this Association had been granted one place on the new United Kingdom Plant Varieties & Seeds Advisory Body. The Secretary was instructed to nominate Mr. Mike Beattie as this Association's representative on that Body. RDH
- (d) Annual Golf Outing: It was reported that the 1994 Golf Outing played at Forfar Golf Course on 19th May, 1994 had been a successful event with 31 golfers participating. Mr. Hollywood expressed the opinion that steps can be taken to increase further the attendance at future Golf Outings. The Secretary confirmed that the President had been in correspondence with one Association member who had expressed dis-satisfaction with his having been included in the Draw for the Outing as a reserve.
- (e) Arbitration Seminar: Mr. Hunter reported that, to date, only nine Association members had indicated an interest in attending an Arbitration Seminar. It was considered that more members would come forward if a definite date and venue for the Seminar was announced. Accordingly, the Secretary was instructed to proceed with the arrangements for the Seminar. It was emphasised that the seminar would be open to all members of staff of members. It was also agreed that members of the Scottish National Farmers' Union would also be invited to attend the Seminar. The Secretary was also instructed to investigate possible sources of subsidy to minimise cost to those attending the Seminar. RDH
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- (f) Agra Europe Group Subscription: The Secretary reported that for the reason that only one of the existing subscribers wished to renew its Agra Europe subscription for a further year the Association's Group Subscription Scheme had now lapsed.
- (3) DEPUTY VICE-PRESIDENT: The appointment of Mr. A. Pullar as Deputy Vice-President of the Association was formally proposed and seconded and unanimously carried. RDH

(4)/

- (4) FUTURE OF POTATO MARKETING SCHEME/PMB. The Secretary read to the meeting correspondence which had passed between himself and the Potato Marketing Board regarding the form of the Questionnaire to be sent out to Potato Producers by the Potato Marketing Board in connection with the Survey which it had been proposed would be carried out by the Potato Marketing Board as an alternative to a formal demand to have a Poll of Producers carried out, as provided for in the 1958 Agricultural Marketing Act, on the question of whether or not they wanted the Potato Marketing Scheme to be ended immediately. In the correspondence this Association had complained that the Potato Marketing Board had not honoured its assurance that this Association would be consulted regarding the drafting of the Questionnaire. Mr. Doig confirmed that negotiations regarding an acceptable format for the Questionnaire had broken down and that accordingly the Demand for Poll Forms held by the Secretary would now have to be formally handed over to the Potato Marketing Board. Mr. Doig added that he considered that this Association's function in the matter had now been completed and that from now onwards the Association would not be further involved in the matter. There was detailed discussion regarding the whole matter during which some concern was expressed that the conducting of a Statutory Poll at this time could result in the Potato Marketing Board being disbanded without a successor Body being in place. Mr. Doig undertook to speak to one of the Scottish Board Members in a final effort to have the requested amendments to the Questionnaire carried out. It was agreed, however, that if that effort was unsuccessful the Demand for Poll Forms will be handed over to the Potato Marketing Board by an English Producer rather than by this Association. Mr. Hollywood expressed regret that campaigners for change had felt it necessary to implement a poll at this time and congratulated Mr. Doig and the other campaign members for the work they had undertaken on behalf of the Potato Trade.

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RDH

- (5) J.C.C. In the absence of Mr. McArthur who had attended the meeting of the J.C.C. on 27th April there was no report on that meeting.

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- (6) S.S.P.D.C. Mr. Hunter issued to Council Members a copy of the Minute of Meeting of S.S.P.D.C. held on 6th April, 1994. Mr. Hollywood gave a brief report on the meeting of S.S.P.D.C. held on 3rd May, 1994.
- (7) SEED POTATO ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Mr. Doig gave a verbal report on the meeting of the Seed Potato Advisory Committee held in Edinburgh on 8th June, 1994.
- (8) MEETING WITH N.F.U.S. Mr. Doig reported that Mr. Heading, the Chairman of the Potato Marketing Board, had without prior warning to this Association, attended the normal routine meeting between this Association and the National Farmers Union of Scotland held on 8th June, 1994. Mr. Doig stated that the meeting had been entirely devoted to the P.M.B. Questionnaire. Mr. Doig stated that he had been perturbed at the manner in which the meeting had been conducted by the Farmers' Union. Council gave authority to the President, with the assistance of the Secretary, to write a letter to the Convener of the N.F.U.S. Potato Committee regarding the manner in which the meeting had been conducted.
- (9) CHAIRMAN'S COMMITTEE: Mr. Hunter gave a verbal report on the meeting of the Chairman's Committee which had been held earlier in the day. Mr. Hunter confirmed that he had tabled an unaudited six months Association Account at the meeting. Mr. Hunter confirmed that, as he had reported earlier in the meeting, subscriptions were less than budget. Mr. Hunter added that Expenses of Meetings and General Administration Expenses were currently in excess of budget but that was being compensated for by other expenses being below budget. Mr. Hunter stated that included in the General Account were expenses incurred in connection with the P.M.B. Poll Campaign which would be independently financed.

RD

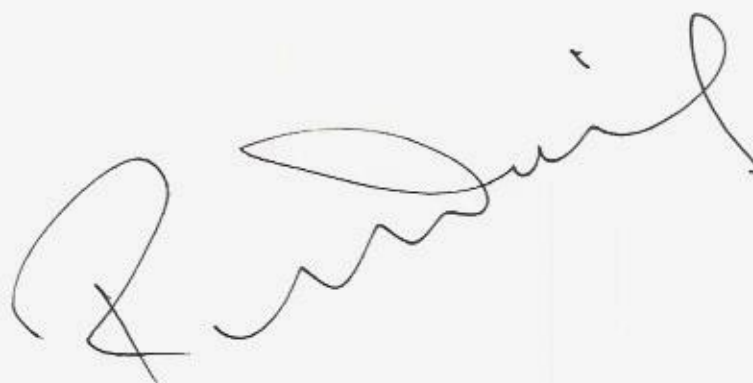
Mr. Hunter stated that the Chairman's Committee were recommending acceptance of the Stockbrokers' advice to sell the Association's holdings of £2,630 9% Treasury Stock 1994 and £1,100 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ % Treasury Stock 1995 and to re-invest the proceeds in 7% Treasury Stock 2001. Council accepted the Chairman's Committee recommendation and the Secretary was instructed to proceed accordingly.

RDH

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- (10) ASSOCIATION MEMBERS' BOOK: Mr. Hunter gave a verbal report on the meeting of the Year Book Sub-Committee which had been held earlier in the day. Mr. Hunter reported that it was the recommendation of the Sub-Committee that the Members' Year Book should be based on the Superfine Display Book with A4 sized pockets. Council accepted the Sub-Committee's recommendation and the Sub-Committee were instructed to proceed with the finalisation of the Year Book for issue to members. RDH
- (11) SMALL WARE: It was agreed to defer discussion on this subject until the next meeting of Council when there would be more time to give adequate consideration to this important issue. RDH
- (12) CORRESPONDENCE: Mr. Hunter issued to members of Council a copy of a letter from The Scottish Office, dated 10th June, 1994, containing certain proposals for altering the Regulations concerning Potato Cysted Nematode (P.C.N.). It was agreed that members of Council should let the Secretary have any comments regarding the contents of that letter as quickly as possible to enable him to reply to The Scottish office by 4th July, 1994, as requested. ALL
- (13) DATE OF NEXT MEETING: It was confirmed that the next meeting of Council would be held at Perth Ice Rink on Tuesday, 23rd August, 1994. RDH

The Chairman was congratulated on the manner in which he had conducted a potentially difficult meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Hunter', is written across the bottom of the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'R' and a long, sweeping tail.