

MINUTE OF MEETING of COUNCIL of
THE SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE
ASSOCIATION held in the ICE
RINK, GLOVER STREET, PERTH, at
2.00p.m. on TUESDAY, 15th
NOVEMBER, 1994.

PRESENT: Messrs. A.M. Beattie, R. Doig, D. Harley, H. Lindsay, V. Lumb, J. MacFarlane, J.M. Marshall, J. Logan Milne, A.B. Pullar, J.O. Robertson and D.Y. Stewart, along with Mr. R.D. Hunter, the Secretary.

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

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Messrs. J. Deuchar, J.B. Hollywood, R. McArthur, K.A. McKenzie and I. Melrose. 5 SW 14701

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS: Before commencing the business of the meeting the Chairman welcomed Messrs. Harley and Lumb to their first meeting of Council.

(1) MINUTES: The Minute of Meeting of Council of 27th October, 1994 was taken as read and, subject to one minor amendment, approved and signed.

(2) MATTERS ARISING:

(a) Membership: The Secretary reported that he had now received from Peter Grewar (Potatoes) Ltd. a letter formally proposing James Forsyth Coatbridge Ltd. for membership of the Association and accordingly membership of the Association had now been granted to that Company. The Secretary reported that a letter had been received from GenTech Propagation Ltd. intimating that they had acquired Twygen Ltd. and that the membership name should be altered from Twygen Ltd. to GenTech Propagation Ltd.

(b) Conditions of Sale and Purchase: Mr. Doig confirmed that he had still to speak to the one Member of the Association who had neither paid the Copyright Fee entitling it to use the Association's Conditions nor written confirming that it does not use these Conditions.

(c) Arbitration Training Seminar: The Secretary reported that 22 people had attended the recent Arbitration Training Seminar. Those Council Members who had attended the Seminar felt that it had been a most successful event. It was agreed that the Conditions Sub-Committee should be asked to give consideration to holding a similar Seminar in the future for those Members who had not been able to attend on 9th

November. The Secretary reported that he would be making arrangements for a meeting of the Conditions Sub-Committee in order that progress may be made with regard to the revision of the Association's Arbitration Procedures.

- (d) Association Members Book: The Secretary reported that he was continuing to prepare material for inclusion in the Association Members Book.
- (e) S.S.P.D.C.: The Secretary referred to correspondence which had passed between this Association and The Scottish Office in 1990 regarding the decision, at that time, to continue The Scottish Seed Potato Development Council for a further period of five years. Although this Association in the correspondence, had repeatedly insisted that an independently conducted Poll should have been carried out no specific assurance had been received from The Scottish Office that such a Poll would be carried out before the review of S.S.P.D.C. due in 1995. After discussion the Secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Ian Whitelaw at The Scottish Office requesting details of The Scottish Office's proposed timetable for the review of S.S.P.D.C. in 1995.
- (f) Potato Farm Assurance Scheme: Mr. Doig reported that he had now obtained a Paper containing proposals with regard to the introduction of a Potato Farm Assurance Scheme. It was agreed that the Secretary would give to Members, on request, a copy of that Paper.
- (g) U.K.S.A.B.: Mr. Beattie gave a brief report on the meeting of U.K.S.A.B. held in London on 1st November, 1994. This had been the first meeting of U.K.S.A.B. and the following topics had been covered:- (1) Plant Varieties Bill (2) European Plant Breeders' Rights Regulation (3) Inventory Directive-Harmonisation (4) Vegetable Dus Testing in the U.K. and (5) Heritage Vegetable Varieties.
- (h) Annual Dinner and Dance: The Secretary reported that the demand for tickets was exceeding supply. The Secretary was instructed to contact Members who had applied for more than 10 tickets to see if they could reduce their requirements in order to make tickets available for late applicants.
- (i) Marketing of Seed Potatoes: Mr. Hunter reported that in the Minute of the Meeting of the Scottish Seed Potato Consultative Panel held on 13th December, 1993 it stated "Mr. Robb proposed that Skinspot should be regarded at tuber inspection as a progressive disease and subjected to a holding tolerance of 1% in order that the regulatory tolerance of 2% would be assured on arrival with the final customer. Industry representatives agreed." Mr. Pullar stated that the indications were that the Department were extending the

holding tolerance to all progressive faults. It was agreed to take this matter up with The Scottish Office at the next meeting of the Seed Potato Consultative Panel due to be held on 22nd November, 1994.

- (3) DRAFT 1993/94 ACCOUNTS: The Secretary took Council through the Association's unaudited Accounts for 1993/94 which had been previously circulated. The Accounts were approved for submission to the Association's Auditors.
- (4) BUDGET for 1994/95: Mr. Hunter reported to Council that at the morning's meeting of the Chairman's Committee a Budget for 1994/95 totalling £13,175.00 had been prepared for the approval of Council. The Budget included a provision for an increase in the Secretary's salary to £10,000.00. Council approved the fixing of the Secretary's salary for the current year at £10,000.00. The Secretary pointed out that in arriving at the Budget figure for "Expenses of Meetings" the Chairman's Committee were recommending that Council Members receiving lunch before Council meetings should be charged a nominal sum of £2.00 for lunch. This was approved by Council. Council approved the Budget of £13,175.00. Council, on the recommendation of the Chairman's Committee, agreed to recommend to Members at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting that subscriptions for the current year be fixed as follows:-

<u>TOTAL TONNAGE HANDLED</u>	<u>SUBSCRIPTIONS (Net of VAT)</u>
0 - 6,000 tonnes	£140.00
6,001 - 10,000 tonnes	£170.00
10,001 - 14,000 tonnes	£200.00
14,001 - 18,000 tonnes	£230.00
over 18,000 tonnes	£265.00

The Secretary pointed out that the Association suffered a Cash Flow shortage during the period from the commencement of a new financial year on 1st November down to the middle of January when subscriptions start to be received. Council agreed that in order to ease this Cash Flow problem the Secretary should seek to obtain from the Association's Bankers an Overdraft Facility of £2,000.00.

- (5) APPOINTMENT OF OFFICE-BEARERS: The retiring President, Mr. Doig, proposed that Mr. David Y. Stewart be appointed the new Association President. This was seconded and unanimously carried and Mr. Stewart took over as Chairman of the Meeting.

Mr. Stewart thanked Mr. Doig for his work as President over the previous three years and congratulated him on the manner in which he had carried out his duties. Mr. Stewart proposed Mr. A.B. Pullar for the post of Vice-President of the Association. This was seconded and unanimously carried. Mr. Pullar proposed that Mr. A.M. Beattie be appointed Deputy Vice-President of the Association. This was seconded and unanimously carried.

Council resolved to re-appoint Messrs. Craig, McIntyre

& Company, Chartered Accountants, Glasgow, as Association Auditors for a further year.

- (6) APPOINTMENT to COMMITTEES, ETC.: Council appointed the following representatives to serve on the following external Committees for the year to 31st October, 1995:-

Potato Marketing Board -

Joint Consultative Committee - Mr. D.Y. Stewart, with Mr.A.B. Pullar as Deputy.

Seed Advisory Committee - Messrs. D.Y. Stewart and A.B.Pullar, with Mr. A.M. Beattie as Deputy for either.

Other -

Joint (NASPM/SPTA) Liaison Committee - President, Vice-President and Deputy Vice-President ex officio, together with Messrs.R. Doig, J.M. Marshall and K.A. McKenzie.

Seed Potato Consultative Panel - Messrs. D.Y. Stewart, A.B.Pullar, with Messrs. A.M. Beattie and R. Doig as Deputies.

Working Party (Joint SPTA/SNFU) - Messrs.D.Y. Stewart, H.Lindsay, J.B. Hollywood and R. McArthur.

Council made the following appointments to the Association's own internal Committees for the year to 31st October, 1995 (The President, Vice-President and Deputy Vice-President being ex officio representatives on each Committee):-

President's Committee (formerly Chairman's Committee) - Messrs.R. Doig, D. Harley, V.Lumb, J.M. Marshall, J.R. McArthur and K.A. McKenzie.

Entertainments Committee - Messrs.Colin Dickie (Convener), D. Harley, G.Loithian, J. MacFarlane and G. Smillie.

Panel of Arbiters - All Members of Council, plus Mr.George S. Brass.

Press Officers - The three Office-Bearers.

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

Ware Interests - Mr. D.W. Veitch.

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

Conditions Sub-Committee - Messrs. J.B.Hollywood, J.M. Marshall, K.A.McKenzie, J.O.Robertson and J.M.Swinton.

- (7) POTATO MARKETING SCHEME/PMB: There was a brief discussion on the Paper entitled "Framework for Definition of a PMB Successor Body" which had been circulated to Council Members. It was accepted that the Paper constituted a satisfactory framework on which to build up the Association's policy with regard to the defining a Successor Body to the PMB. It was agreed to delegate to the President's Committee the task of formulating the Association's policy in this matter. It was agreed to co-opt Mr. H.Lindsay to the Committee for these discussions. The first meeting of the President's Committee was arranged to be held at the offices of Messrs.McCash & Hunter at 25 South Methven Street, Perth, at 1.45p.m. on Tuesday, 29th November, 1994.

- (8) CORRESPONDENCE: The Secretary reported that since the previous meeting of Council letters had been received from The Scottish Office under the following headings:-

The Use of Mineral Hydrocarbons in Food;
Commission Proposal for Regulation Setting Maximum
Tolerances for Certain Contaminants in Foodstuffs.

Mr. Hunter also reported that letters had been received from Pesticides Safety Directorate under the following headings:-

PDS Amendment to Environmental Protection Phrase;
Notice of Requirements for Official Recognition of Efficacy
Testing Organisations in U.K.

The Secretary also reported that a letter had been received from the Department of Trade & Industry headed:-
EC Consumer Legislation:Quantity Ranges/Capacity Containers
and Unit Pricing.

The Secretary confirmed that copies of these letters were available for issue to Association Members on request.

- (9) DATE OF A.G.M./NEXT MEETING: It was agreed that the 1995 Annual General Meeting of Members would be held in the Ice Rink, Perth, at 2.00p.m.on Thursday, 12th January, 1995, to be followed at 2.30p.m. by the next meeting of Council.
- (10) SMALL WARE: It was reported that The Scottish Office were finding it very difficult to prosecute the illegal trading in small ware for planting for the reason that evidence of a complaint required, by law, to be presented within six months of the alleged offence. It was reported that The Scottish Office were seeking support to have the six month period extended to one year. The Secretary was instructed to write to The Scottish Office giving it the support which it was seeking.
- (11) PERIODIC RETURNS: Mr.Robertson reported that he understood from Mr.John Collins, the Head of Information and Statistics with the Potato Marketing Board, that the Board were not proposing to collect Returns of Potato Stocks on Farms and Growers Premises this season. Council expressed its concern and instructed the Secretary to write to Mr.Collins detailing that concern.

A vote of thanks to the Chairmen concluded the meeting.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M. Hunter', is written over the bottom right portion of the page. The signature is stylized and slanted.