

**MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD WITHIN
8/10 NEEDLESS ROAD PERTH ON WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE 2002**

PRESENT	Duncan MacKenzie	President (Chair)
	Douglas Scott	Chief Executive
	Moira Brady	Secretary

Plus eight Executive and Ordinary members as detailed below:

R Baird, G.J. Deans, J Hastie, D Jarron, G. Lees, D.G.Lindsay, Cheryl Murdoch
G Murdoch and D W Ferguson.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Bob Baillie, George Deans, George Jarron, Gilbert Grossett, Beaton Lindsay and Andrew Mutch.

RESIGNATION: Prior to the commencement of the meeting President MacKenzie read out a letter received from Past President and Education Convenor Bruce Brymer which stated that due to pressure of business, Bruce unfortunately does not have the time to commit to Federation duties. He unfortunately found it necessary to resign from the duties of Education Convenor, Finance Committee member and Director of Food Training Services. President MacKenzie thanked Bruce for his commitment over the years and stated that he hoped that we would see him back to the Executive some time in the near future.

MINUTE: The Minute of the previous meeting was approved by Hamish Deans and seconded by David Lindsay.

MATTERS ARISING: Hamish Deans referred to page 5 of the Minute and the statement that perhaps we should align ourselves with the Scottish Association of Wholesalers, and asked for a progress report on this matter.

The Chief Executive replied that at a Meeting of the Scottish Association of Meat Wholesalers, which George Jarron attended, a copy of our proposal was read to the meeting. However, we have no record of how much recognition was given to this within their own proposal. George Jarron has given us a Report of the meeting.

Hamish Deans remarked that he had a copy of the Wholesalers letter, which he would give to the Chief Executive, if we had no copy. Douglas confirmed that he had not received a copy of the SAMW letter.

David Jarron referred to page 11 and the item under Labour Conditions which referred to part time staff. David wished to clarify the statement and pointed out that a part time employee who is earning just above the SSP threshold and are earning say around £80 in their hand and if they take time off for sickness they get paid £62 SSP for doing nothing. The situation encourages them to take time off for sickness reasons. This is for 28 weeks and not 26 as stated. It is not really that beneficial for them to be off but it does not encourage staff on sickness to come back to work.

Hamish Deans referred to Wilson Ferguson's recommendation that Kerr-Smith Associates be asked to give update information on all changes and asked if we had this for the next Newsletter. The Chief Executive replied that since he took up office he had asked Kerr-Smith monthly for updates for the newsletter. Bruce McCall phoned him at the beginning of May and asked for updated information for the June newsletter. Nothing as yet has been received.

Letters have been sent out to Kerr-Smith and all corporate members, QMS, and others asking for editorial for next month's newsletter. This practice will be followed every month so that they are given the opportunity to have a presentation in the newsletter. Kerr-Smith does not issue the kind of regular updating information we get from other employment adviser sources, ie Miller Hendry, Kidsons and our own accountant, Bell & Co. In the Chief Executive's opinion Kerr-Smith could do more for us, there is no doubt he serves the membership well, but the Federation itself does not receive a lot. Hamish Deans suggested that the Chief Executive approach the accountant for information, as these professional companies receive information from a central source, especially following a Budget. Douglas confirmed that we receive information from these sources and that on a previous occasion Kerr-Smith took exception to this information being printed in a Federation Newsletter. David Jarron felt it was important that our members were informed that paying even 1p above the £89 threshold could make them liable for SSP.

On page 6 Hamish Deans referred to the discussion on the Edinburgh Master Butchers' Association and remarked that he had been informed that the Association had been wound up and a new Association formed. The Chief Executive replied that the proposal was to amalgamate with the Freeman Fleshers Association. He added that there was only seven people at the meeting and the decision was that it had to go to their AGM in October, so there was no decision at that time. There had been some flaws in the circulation of information about the meeting and the Agenda that meant that some people who would have attended did not get notice. He reported that Sandy Crombie and Douglas Mathieson were very protective of our position regarding the Edinburgh Master Butchers Association. The Chief Executive was of the opinion that the decision was still to be made but he was sure that there had been no radical move of the nature Hamish referred to. He did state though that some Federation non-members were pushing moves towards the Freeman Fleshers. David Lindsay remarked that some of the old Freeman Associations did not necessarily require a member to have a background as a butcher.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT: Douglas opened his report by listing the various meetings and events he had attended over the past month. On 9th May, together with Cheryl Murdoch he had attended the Food Standards Agency Board Meeting. A report of this had been included on page 5 of the June Federation Newsletter. The main concern was with the proposal for relaxing Licensing of Cutting Plants supplying farmers markets. The Chief Executive had written to the Food Standards Agency pointing out our position. He also wrote to the National Federation of Meat & Food Traders seeking their support and to The Scottish Consumer Council and Consumer Association. No response had been received from either of the last two stated organisations. The matter would be reconsidered on Thursday 13th at their Board Meeting, which Douglas would not be attending.

On 13 May the Chief Executive and T & D Manager met with the representative from Grampian Enterprise with whom we are negotiating the LEC National Provider Training Contract for the current year. Details of the meeting to be given under the T & D Report.

Seven Regional Meetings were attended, the Chief Executive had been round the whole circuit between 13th to 20th May. Meetings were reasonably well attended, some more so than others. Dundee was a very good turn out, with Borders being fairly reasonable. Bellshill struggled a bit and Ingliston was disappointing, but this may have been due to the difficulty of locating the Quality Hotel. Monkton had the usual members attending, although we would like to see more coming out, it does not appear that we will get them. The Elgin meeting was not so well attended as on previous occasions, but most of the membership has been present at some stage over the three meetings.

We intend to continue with these meetings at the end of August through to October and have taken into consideration avoidable dates with counter attractions!

The Chief Executive together with David Jarron met Peter Alexander, a farmer from Mains of Maws, Blairgowrie on 16 May, to discuss the production of a video showing the process of an animal from birth to butcher's shop and to look at what should be highlighted in this process.

Peter hosted the Scot Sheep event last week and in the process of hosting this Peter took part in compiling a video. The video has been produced by Arthur Anderson, who was formerly producer of BBC Landward and now has a private company. The plan now is for SFMTA to approach Arthur Anderson and ask if we can have a copy of this video to use either as a training tool or at Regional Meetings. It will show the Production Process with a beast on the video, which was eventually sold at Forfar Market and purchased by George Jarron. Douglas has now been to St Andrews Abattoir and taken photographs of this taken to its side state.

He commented that he had been very impressed with Mains of Maws farm, which was very professionally managed with a tremendous amount of livestock, and it would certainly be good to get the video.

Hamish Deans asked if it would be possible to have the carcass classified and Douglas confirmed that this could possibly be done from the photographs.

The Chief Executive then reported on his attendance at The Association of Meat Training Providers on 21 May. And also The Meat Training Council Scotland Details of this meeting will be given under the T & D Report.

On 22 May the Chief Executive visited Scotbeef in East Kilbride who have an account with us for training. Whilst Moira was on holiday Douglas paid them a visit to ensure that things were moving along as this is very important to us over the next two years.

Adding Value to Red Meat Seminar, Queensferry on 30 May. The Chief Executive circulated a paper giving a report of the meeting. This was one of three events held throughout Scotland during the last 10 days in May. Three SFMTA members attended, which included a representative from Simon Howie, S.M. Bayne and Forth Meats.

The meeting looked at the DTZ Pieda Research, which was really looking at the bigger companies and how they were adding value, not necessary new products, but just generally Processing. Their conclusions were really that their target group were the bigger companies and not the small independent butchers. Douglas pointed out that a lot of their new ideas and most of what they were talking about originated from butchers shops.

A first class presentation was given by a Swedish representative, Peter Wennstrom, who gave a very refreshing presentation that stimulated lots of ideas. He included the ethnic change in his demand where he said that "The Roast Beef of Olde England" has now become "The Chicken Tikka Masala". Douglas mentioned that he was looking at ways of getting Scottish Enterprise to support this to enable us to get this presentation out to butchers. It could become part of our roadshows. QMS are committed to the added value idea and Scottish Enterprise are also committed to assist this so we want to see how they can help the independent butcher.

FINANCE REPORT: The Chief Executive reported from the meeting held earlier. At that meeting the committee followed routine by looking at the usual compliment. Bad Debts Situation was fairly acceptable, with only one LEC, Ross and Cromarty with an outstanding claim. On the members' services side two members had defaulted and will be withdrawn.

The April figures showed the Training Department operating at a slight profit of £223, which had not been budgeted. They also made a profit on income from Courses, which had been generated in previous months. Overall the situation is looking good for a slight profit at the end of the year, but this will depend largely on the Scotbeef contract achieving targets during the month of June.

On the membership side, the Chief Executive reported that subscription income was not quite up to budget, but our figure for the year is predicting £66,928 as opposed to a budget of £66,300. It therefore suggests that we will bring in more income than last year. In April we showed a deficit of £3170, which was £50 more than forecast, but the forecast for the year is a surplus at the moment. The Finance Committee was reasonably comfortable with both sets of accounts.

Prior to concluding the Finance Report Douglas stated that the committee had today looked at quotes for the purchase of a new photocopier, which was now an urgent matter as our current copier can no longer cope with our demands. The quotes received were fairly comparable and it would now depend on which company would be prepared to co-operate with our negotiations.

MEMBERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT: In the absence of Convenor Mark Barnett the Chief Executive circulated the current schedule of membership received from Bruce McCall for today's meeting Douglas stated that we have two new members since last month and two late payers, giving an increase of 4. One resignation from Glasgow was also noted.

On the membership recruitment side we are getting very positive signals from EHOs in Fife and this has come from an SFMTA letter sent to all EHOs with regard to what SFMTA were doing for members and it would appear that Fife have reacted fairly strongly.

They wanted a copy of the Beef Labelling Board and will be pushing this and membership of SFMTA. Douglas stated that this may be something we could try with other EHO departments - free loan of a beef labelling board, to promote the use of in their area.

The membership currently stood at 365 paid with 75 branch shops and still a potential to pick up more. Those Association members present were given an update of the situation for their area.

GOLF EVENT – As reported in the newsletter this was won by Mr Kirk of Denny, with W Weepers Kirkcaldy 2nd and Hebbie Fowlie of Strichen 3rd. A total of 19 took part, which was disappointing for such a good Course. Dalziel had entered 7 entries.

TRADE FAIR – To date we have 37 stands sold out of a total of 59. Bruce McCall feels there is potential for others being taken.

The names of those who had taken Stands were listed and members were asked to encourage suppliers who could be interested to get in touch with us.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT: Moira Brady reported on the current situation with regard to Skillseeker numbers. As the new database is not quite ready for giving management reports exact numbers could not be stated. However, judging from the assessors' weekly reports the situation is very much status quo, with some out and some in!

The May Skillseeker claim was £700 above budget, but this may have been due to five skillseeker completions being claimed. The amount we could have claimed, had all trainees achieved their set targets, would have been £2,100 more.

LEAD LEC DEVELOPMENTS - The discussions on the 2002/3 LEC Contract have now been completed and we have a print out of the agreed allocation. At the moment we still await the Contract for signature. The total number of new starts allocated is 87, which includes 12 direct recruitment to Modern Apprenticeship. This does not include those candidates in the guarantee group (Skillseekers), who would progress from Level 2 to Modern Apprenticeship. Provision for them will be automatic.

The new Adult Modern Apprenticeships in the 25 plus age group have a provision of 13 starts. The financial value, which includes the current registered trainees, is a total of £210,000. This is broken down to 630 target points and 46 outcomes.

The benefit of having one Contract over the 12 Scottish Enterprise LECS is that we can identify more easily the potential financial outcome. In the past this had to be worked out per individual LEC and then totalled. With the old database it was almost an impossible task, or certainly a time consuming one at the end of the financial year when new budgets were being set. Highlands and Islands are still working on an individual LEC basis.

SKILLS SCOTLAND COMPETITION PROGRESS - The judges are still busy with their task of visiting candidates and assessing performance. This work will be completed by the end of this month. The feedback from the judges is that they have found it very interesting and have been very impressed on the majority of occasions, with the interest in training displayed by employers.

The finalists from each of the Regions will go through to the Trade Fair. The August Newsletter should have an announcement of the winners.

HYGIENE COURSES DISTANCE LEARNING - The new format of presenting Hygiene Courses as a Distance Learning package is now gaining popularity.

ESSENTIAL PROGRAMME - To-date 26 enquiries have been received with 14 candidates having completed the exam. Six of whom were Skillseekers and eight non-skillseekers, who paid either £55 or £40 for the programme, depending on whether or not their employer was a member.

INTERMEDIATE COURSES – Two candidates have now paid and registered for this programme. The first set of two working modules have been sent out to them and we await feedback on their progression. A Partnership Agreement has been drawn up with an EHO who will give candidate support and mark the short module test papers.

Course – being developed by Dalziel Ltd (David Brough) and SFMTA (Cheryl Murdoch). This course is to contain four main elements – Statistics, Marketing, Customer Relations and Product Development. Douglas Scott will discuss this with Cheryl and agree how to take it forward.

SCOTTISH QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (SQMS) - The SQMS auditor is scheduled to visit on 24th and 25 June to conduct the annual audit. Moira has prepared the internal audit report a copy of which is with the auditor. Arising from this audit there will be a need for Moira and Douglas to update a number of internal procedures prior to the 24th. This will involve addressing the Company's Three Year Development Plan drawn up by the consultants T L Dempster.

Hamish Deans remarked that it was disappointing not to receive a report of the skillseeker figures and asked Moira when the Executive can expect to have these reported. Douglas Scott explained the current situation regarding the update of the Database and confirmed that we should be able to receive management reports by the end of this month.

Douglas then reported on his attendance at the Association of Meat Training Providers and also Meat Training Council Scotland Meetings, which were held during Moira Brady's holiday week.

The Association of Meat Training Providers was launched at the Federation's Trade Fair last September. Joan Sampson took over the Chair from David Brown but with Joan leaving Food Training Services the Chair became vacant. The meeting was not well attended, with only David Grailey, Ron Spy (Meat Training Council Scotland) and a representative from Support Training, along with Douglas present. Ron Spy's role will be to identify training needs within the industry and recommend members of the AMTP to companies. This could be helpful to FTS, as they have little marketing activity. Funding and support appeared to be fairly sketchy but Ron Spy was given reserved support to advance the pace. Cheques paid last year, for membership were returned to the members and there will now be no charge for membership.

Meat Training Council Scotland - David Grailey and Ron Spy were again in attendance, with Alistair Donaldson in the Chair. The meeting commenced at 10.30 and finished at 12.30.

It was reported that the SUFI bid, which we were encouraged by MTC Scotland to submit had failed due to insufficient funds to cover the amount of proposals. Food Training Services' proposal was to set up a Learning Centre for the meat industry in Scotland.

At the meeting it was announced that the Food Learning Network was not going anywhere and appeared to have come to a halt. Ron Spy and Gill Simpson are going to take it forward as a private venture. Alistair Donaldson had asked Ron if this was a move towards privatisation of training. Ron Spy had replied that this was the situation.

The AMTP Meeting was discussed with little outcome.

SECTOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT – It was recognised that many small meat companies required this type of support but it was not being provided. Susan Godfrey from Brown Bros. Dumfries supported this. It was proposed that Meat Training Council Scotland should act as Project Manager to assist small companies through SSD. The funding for this will come through Economic Development Departments in Local Authorities but not all Local Authorities participated.

The Chairman felt that all Local Authorities should adopt SSD involved and that retailers should be accepted as processors. Douglas commented to the meeting at this point that problems have always arisen when retail butchers have applied for funding that we are seen as retailers and not processors. Financial support is not usually available for retail services. Ron Spy will meet with participating Local Authorities and discuss how this can be taken forward.

In conclusion Douglas stated that Meat Training Council would be holding a Nations Championship in Creative Butcher at the 2002 Skills Show in Manchester on 13/14 November. A Scottish team will be invited to compete and assistance will be required to enable them to participate. Douglas had asked the Meat Training Council Scotland Members for financial support but this was not available.

Douglas then reported that Alistair Donaldson would be retiring from QMS at the end of June but would remain on Meat Training Council Scotland representing SAMW, but not as Chairman. It was suggested that a representative from QMS take over the Chair as Alistair felt it was important to keep QMS involved.

Moira Brady commented that when Meat Training Council Scotland was initially set up the Chairman came in rotation from the industry bodies represented. At one stage SAMW were unable to take their turn and it was suggested that Alistair representing MLC should adopt this. Under the MTC Scotland Initiative, when funding was secured from Scottish Enterprise, this certainly was prudent. Moira was uncertain if this was a role to be undertaken by QMS, who have taken over MLC responsibilities in Scotland. No doubt it would be beneficial to have them involved, but perhaps not at Chairman level.

Douglas then referred to a funding Proposal, which David Grailey had suggested that SFMTA, as a partner of Meat Training Council might wish to submit. Douglas had felt that this might be a potential route of funding to support the development, marketing and launch of the Federation Diploma. However, if we were to get Government support this might open the Diploma to the whole meat industry. He stated that he wished to have the Executive's comments on whether we wish to retain the Diploma as our own or should we go for financial support and make it available to the industry.

David Lindsay felt we should retain this as a personalised Scottish Diploma for retail butchers. He was concerned that by obtaining Government funding other Training Providers would have access to it.

Hamish Deans was of the opinion that we could look at obtaining funding for parts of the Diploma, which could go national, but that we maintain the ownership of the Scottish Federation Diploma.

It was agreed that Douglas and Moira would look at how funding could be sought to assist with part of the development and marketing materials. The bid required to be submitted by Friday of this week.

LIVESTOCK: In the absence of Jamie Chapman, the Chief Executive submitted a report from the convenor regarding his attendance at the Joint Meat Council on 22 May.

Ivor Llewelyn who appeared to lack interest in the Council chaired the meeting. At the meeting MLC gave a report on their livestock figures and predictions. Cattle numbers have dropped by 6%, while slaughter numbers have risen by 5% giving cause for a decline in the national herd.

Sheep flock is down 13% and pigs down 4%.

There was quite a difference between the MLC figures and those produced by DEFRA. Robert Foster of the National Beef Association questioned this. As nobody from DEFRA's department of statistics was there an accurate figure could not be given. The MLC predict we are only 59% self sufficient in beef production while DEFRA feel it is 73%. In 1995 the figure was 103% and this is a worrying decline.

The BSE figure is again minimal and targeted testing of OTM cattle shows there would be only 12 cases.

The chairman had planned the next meeting for 12 months time, but the meeting pressed for one to take place in October.

The afternoon meeting of the JCC the main topic here was the announcement of the possible theoretical risk of BSE in sheep. Jamie wondered why anything should be said. It was felt that the Government were just creating problems by making such announcements. One member reported that he had attended a meeting about it when the Asian/Muslim community representative had great difficulty because they do not have a word for theoretical. In their belief it is either yes or no.

The red tractor quality assurance mark was mentioned. Jamie was of the opinion that this was becoming more and more diluted. Consumers believe that this indicates local farm produce. This is not so and any plant in the world can qualify if they are of the standard. South Korea send chicken to the UK that qualify for this mark!

The Chief Executive reported that included with the Agenda papers was an invitation from QMS to a Review of Meat Quality Action Plan Workshop, to be held in Perth on Tuesday 25 June. Douglas stated that he would be attending but other members may wish to go along.

Hamish Deans reported on the current position of Hides, which had dropped back to £30.50 and for small heifers £26. Lambs were fetching around 4.20 to 4.50 with hoggets dropping back to £3.

LEGISLATION: The Chief Executive reported on the potential for BSE in sheep announcement, which is going to be referred to the Food Standards Agency at a meeting this week. Following which we will hear more. Douglas remarked that on the day of the publicity we did get a number of members phoning up so Douglas produced advice for members and circulated this on the Friday. Douglas reiterated that decision day would be the following day and that he had put an article in the newsletter which described the situation and the possibility of a ban on the use of sheep intestines for sausages.

On the table Douglas had made available to members copies of the Scottish Executive and FSA response to the Task Force Report on E-Coli he had also issued with the newsletter Advice for Guide and Scout Camps which can be copied by butchers.

The Newsletter also shows other points which the Scottish Executive and FSA will address; none of which will affect us immediately so it is hoped that the independent butcher and retailer can be kept out of the comment at the moment.

Douglas stated that he also responded, last month, to the paper regarding clarity of food labels and he awaits the consultation invitation by QUID, which should come out this month.

LABOUR CONDITIONS: Convener David Jarron stated that he had nothing to report, other than to say he wished to see pressure being put on Kerr Smith Associates, or even our auditors, to give us an update on the pay-role side of matters.

CONSULTATION STRUCTURE QMS/MLC: The Chief Executive circulated papers. One referred to a Meeting with QMS held on 29 May within SFMTA offices. The other is a more recent paper, received last night, detailing an Analysis of Consultation Responses. Douglas remarked that SFMTA figures fairly prominently in all comments, and pointed out the relevant pages and paragraphs.

Our major concern is in relation to the Conclusions. This part of the report will be taken to the Strategy Planning Day, to be held the following day. The Chief Executive will be in attendance and will ensure that the points made from the independent butchers will not be overlooked. Douglas closed by stating that it would appear we are not alone with our views.

PROMOTIONS: President MacKenzie reported on the meeting held with QMS on 29 May. A copy of the Report was circulated. Hamish Deans remarked that he felt we had put over some very good points, but we were unable to get QMS to recognise this. He now wondered if we required to be a little more blunt with our comments, as we need QMS to recognise that we are independent butchers and not part of the multiple groups. Hamish added that the whole thrust is SSS and their report is worded in a way that we are prepared to endorse this. They are basically saying that we endorse their vision and this is not the case. Douglas confirmed that our words were not that we were endorsing their vision, but that we “recognised” it.

Graham Murdoch remarked that he was very concerned about what they were reporting back to us, which is nonsense of our thinking.

Hamish proposed that what we should be saying to them is, we do support what is being paid of the levy but we feel QMS should get 50% of what we contribute to for promotion and that the other 50% should be paid somewhere else. The MLC services were important to us and he felt that 50% of levy money should be paid to an organisation that will support butchers with advisory services and 50% on promotions.

David Jarron added that George Jarron had attended the Scottish Wholesalers meeting where the conclusions were almost coming round to being similar to our thinking.

Cheryl stated that the MLC services are all being devolved into private operations, and that it is uncertain at the moment what will be retained.

Discussion ensued on whether we should take our views on SSS to the Press, either the Scotsman or the Glasgow Herald. It was felt that our customers could respect us more if they knew our views.

Douglas then asked the meeting for their agreement on the points of our conclusions from our debate with QMS, each point was taken individually.

Point 1 to be amended to state an overwhelming majority of SFMTA members.

Point 5 was debated because Protected Geographical Indicators (PGI) requires a certification body. PGI is not the policing body but SFQC are, but EFSIS do so at the same time. The Guild of Q Butchers have EFSIS inspectors going into Q Butchers but they would not be able to inspect Scotch Beef standard, which would be a nonsense, EFSIS should be allowed to do this at the same time.

All points were agreed.

QMS PROMOTION PROPOSALS – Convenor Cheryl Murdoch reported that from the meeting of the 29th she felt we were in limbo and going nowhere at the moment. Cheryl was uncertain whether The Barbecue Promotion material had reached members shops, but members confirmed having received this. Comments were made regarding the lateness of

the material, and the limit of 2 posters in the tube. However, it was recognised that the Recipe Leaflets were very good and attractive to customers.

GUILD OF Q: The Chief Executive reported that Hugh Pender had been our representative on the Board. Douglas attends the meetings and is a Director of the Guild. The Guild of Q is made up of three members The National Federation of Meat & Food Traders, SFMTA, and the Q Guild. Each organisation has two representatives, therefore we are one short. Sandy Crombie has stated that he would be willing to attend.

The Regional Chairmen are having a meeting today in Butchers' Hall London and Robert Patrick has attended this as an occasional visitor. The Scottish members have agreed to share the representation.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS: George Lees spoke of a progressive degenerating disease, which causes a loss of limb control and research into this which has shown that one of the things which helps to slow down the progression is eating lamb and also haggis. It is felt that there may be a common ingredient in these products and an organisation looking into this would like to collect from butchers information for their research. President MacKenzie suggested that the Chief Executive put an article in the next newsletter asking butchers to contact the organisation.

Cheryl Murdoch referred to the Make It With Meat Awards and felt we required to get information out to our members very soon. However, the QMS support was required to be confirmed and the Chief Executive was asked to clarify this.

David Jarron spoke of a ban on dirty tripe for other than pet food, and the need to obtain a licence to secure this for sale as pet food.

The Chief Executive stated that John Chapman had asked if we could find out if the NFUS, Institute of Auctioneers and SAMW and ourselves could have a SMILG Meeting possibly on the 16 July. Douglas to arrange this with Richard Henton and also to agree who will represent SFMTA at this meeting. Items for the Agenda to be given to Douglas. John Chapman had suggested PGI and the new definition of what is Scotch.

The meeting agreed that Hamish, with either John or Jamie Chapman, together with President MacKenzie would attend.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 16.31 with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

THE NEXT MEETING WOULD BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER.