

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

2 FEBRUARY 1991 - 28 SEPTEMBER 2002

Bound by Ruby Dunn & Wilson October 2012

SCD/14/3

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE AT 12 COATES
CRESCENT, EDINBURGH, ON
SATURDAY 2 FEBRUARY 1991 AT
10AM

PRESENT: Mr A S Aitkenhead (in the Chair), Miss A W Miller, Mrs N Dunn,
Miss E M Ferguson, Dr I P Gormley, Mr J Laurie, Miss B Nairn,
Miss I Paton, Mr A Smart, Miss C Traynor.

ATTENDING: Mrs J A Moore (Secretary)

GP91/1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs A Murphy and Mr J Taylor

GP91/2 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed the Committee to the start of a new session and he gave a particular welcome to Mr Smart and Miss Traynor who had joined the Committee.

GP91/3 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 20 OCTOBER 1990

The Minutes of the Meeting on 20 October 1990 had been approved at the Executive Council Meeting in November 1990.

GP91/4 BUSINESS ARISING (and not included elsewhere in the Agenda)

a) GP90/29 Teaching Visit to Argyll

The Secretary reported that letters had been received indicating that the Teaching Visit by Dr A MacFadyen and Mrs M More to Argyll had been most successful and that the classes had been well attended. The Society was thanked for arranging and funding the tour.

b) GP90/29 Youth Festival of International Dance, Japan

The Secretary reported that a report had been received from Knightswood Secondary School. At Nagoya the Scottish group had been given the important task of finishing the programme prior to the grand finale. They had performed to a capacity audience of around 2000 amongst whom were the new British Consul and his family.

c) GP90/38 Venues for AGM 1992 and 1993

1992: Discussion for possible venues for the 1992 Annual General Meeting are continuing.

1993: The Secretary reported that a letter had been received from Edinburgh Branch intimating that they would like the opportunity to arrange the Annual General Meeting in 1993.

5209
2

/ 1993

The Committee thanked Edinburgh Branch and accepted the offer.

d) GP90/40 Branch Certificates

The Committee discussed the question of a design for such certificates. It was agreed that this should be itemised on the Agenda of the next Executive Council Meeting.

GP91/5 PROJECT 1991

The Chairman reported that the plans for Project 1991 were progressing well. The Secretary said that replies had been received from almost 500 Schools indicating their interest in the project. All these had been acknowledged except in those cases where no address had been given. Publicity materials for the project were now with the printers and Bryce Laing was making the tape of dance music to accompany the programme of dances.

GP91/6 SUMMER SCHOOL 1991

The Secretary reported that considerable numbers of applicants for this year's Summer School were arriving daily. She said additional residential accommodation had been reserved in David Russell Hall to cater for the expected over flow from University Hall.

The Chairman outlined the programme of special events which were being arranged for the diamond anniversary.

GP91/7 AFFILIATIONS

The undernoted affiliations were approved:

The Rowan Tree Dancers	The Netherlands
Saltash Scottish Country Dance Club	Cornwall
Tennessee Valley Scottish Country Dancers	Alabama

GP91/8 CONSTITUTIONS

- a) Vancouver Branch: minor adjustment required and the Constitution would be approved if this was accepted by the Branch.
- b) Sydney Branch: minor adjustments required to the Special Resolution and General Resolution 4. It was also noted that no reply had been received to our letter of 17th July 1990 asking to see their draft document showing how it was intended to incorporate the model Constitution with the Rules of the Corporate Affairs Commission of NSW.
- c) Teachers' Association, Australia: Adjustments required before Constitution could be approved.
- d) Pietermaritzburg Branch: accepted
- e) Central Kentucky: proposed changed accepted.

/accepted

GP91/9

BRANCH FORMATION

- a) An application for approval to endeavour to form the Brighton Branch was approved.
- b) An application for approval to endeavour to form the St John's Branch was approved.

GP91/10

a) SCROLL SUB-COMMITTEE

The Secretary reported that five nominations had been received.

A sub-committee to give preliminary consideration to the nominations and to report to the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee was appointed as follows: Vice-Chairman, Mr Laurie, Miss Nairn and Miss Traynor.

b) SCHOLARSHIP SUB-COMMITTEE

A sub-committee to consider the nominations for scholarship to the 1991 Summer School was appointed as follows: Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Director of Summer School.

c) AGM AGENDA SUB-COMMITTEE

A sub-committee to consider the agenda for the 1991 Annual General Meeting was appointed as follows: Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary.

GP91/11

SCHOOLS AFFILIATION

The Chairman outlined ideas for a schools' affiliation. After discussion it was agreed that the principle was worth following up and would be looked at again.

GP91/12

MEMBERSHIP - RECRUITMENT

The Chairman expressed his concern that not enough was being done to promote membership recruitment and agreed that he would draw up a list of ideas which could be circulated to Executive Council representatives.

GP91/13

ANNUAL BULLETIN

GP90/37 It had previously been discussed that a sub-committee should be formed to consider the future of the Annual Bulletin. It was agreed that this sub-committee should be represented by two members from each of the General Purposes Committee (Mr Laurie and Mr Smart were appointed), the Finance Committee and the Publications and Research Committee.

The first meeting of this sub-committee will take place on Friday 12 April 1991, at 6.30pm at Coates Crescent.

/Crescent

GP91/14

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) North West Ayrshire Branch proposed to pay for the engraving on the Chairman's Chain of Office of the names of two of their members both of whom were Chairmen of the Society. The Committee agreed in principle but other Branches with members who were past Chairmen would be invited to participate.
- b) A letter had been received from Mr J D Fyfe referring to the interpretation of the five year clause as set out in resolution (f) at the last AGM. A reply would be sent stating that guidelines had been laid down and minuted on how this ruling will be implemented.

GP91/15

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Archivist. Discussing the intentions of the Society's Archivist to retire at the end of the current year, the Committee agreed that it is desirable that the person proposed to fill the position should have some knowledge/experience of librarianship and an interest in historical archives.
- b) Branch logos. Proposed logos from Leicester Branch and Central Kentucky Branch were approved.
- c) Furlongs Travel. A letter from Furlongs Travel proposing the operation of an occasional RSCDS Holiday which could be offered expressly to our members was discussed. The Committee agreed that it could not favour one travel company over others.
- d) The Committee was pleased to accept on behalf of the Society, a portrait of Mrs Gudger which had been presented by Southport Branch.

PR91/16

NEXT MEETING

13 April 1991 at 10am

Regina S. Mailes
Vice-Chairman 13/4/91

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE AT 12 COATES
CRESCENT, EDINBURGH, ON
SATURDAY 13 APRIL 1991 AT
10.00AM

PRESENT: Miss A W Miller (in the Chair), Mr J Taylor, Mr J Laurie,
Miss E.M Ferguson, Mrs A Murphy, Miss B Nairn, Miss I Paton,
Mr A Smart, Miss C Traynor.

ATTENDING: Mrs J A Moore (Secretary)

GP91/17 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr A S Aitkenhead, Mrs N Dunn,
Dr I P Gormley

GP91/18 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Miss Miller welcomed the Committee and in particular Mr
Taylor wishing him continued good health.

GP91/19 MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 2 FEBRUARY 1991

The Minutes of the Meeting on 2 February 1991 were approved.

GP91/20 BUSINESS ARISING

a) GP91/4 c) AGM 1992

The Secretary reported that the venue for the 1992 AGM
was still open and that this was now a matter of some
urgency.

b) GP91/4 d) Branch Certificates

There was further discussion about the design of Branch
Certificates. The Committee agreed that the design of
the Certificate should have the Society logo and the
name of the Branch shown prominently. The Committee
recommended that no Branch Certificate should bear a
physical resemblance to the Society Scroll.

c) GP91/6 Summer School 1991

The Secretary reported that more than 1000 applications
for Summer School had been acknowledged with acceptance
slips and that accommodation had been reserved at
David Russell Hall for 263 students.
Arrangements for a rota of helpers for the Summer School
Shop were well in hand.

d) GP91/12 Membership Recruitment

The Committee discussed Mr Aitkenhead's proposed letter
to Branch Secretaries concerning membership recruitment.

/ recruitment

Members agreed to consider it further and to discuss it at the next meeting.

e) Annual Bulletin

The Vice-Chairman reported that one meeting of the Bulletin Sub-Committee had already taken place at which it had been agreed that the Bulletin would continue to be published on an annual basis. Another meeting had been arranged for 7 September at which the format, contents and size of the Bulletin would be considered. All agreed that the size should be reduced to cut down on printing and mailing costs.

f) GP91/14 a) Chairman's Chain of Office

There was further discussion referring to the proposal for engraving the Chairman's Chain of Office and the Committee agreed that the Chain should not be inscribed. Mr Taylor suggested that an alternative could be a blue ribbon with gold plated bars inscribed with the name and dates of each past Chairman. The ribbon should have a suitable means of attaching the Badge of Office and could be worn by the Chairman at all official functions. The Committee accepted this alternative proposal and the Secretary was asked to write to North West Ayrshire Branch thanking them for their generous offer.

GP91/21

SCROLLS

The Committee recommended that from the nominations received five should be accepted for the award of a Scroll. The names of those recommended would be before the Executive Council in May for ratification. The Committee recommended that the criteria for awarding the Scroll should be reconsidered.

GP91/22

AFFILIATIONS

The undernoted affiliations were approved:

- a) Clynnog Thistle Scottish Dance Group
- b) Yelverton Scottish Dancers

GP91/23

CONSTITUTIONS

- Adelaide - approved
- Exeter - approved provisionally subject to suggested amendments being agreed
- Melbourne - approved provisionally subject to suggested amendments being agreed
- New Zealand - approved if one minor amendment suggested was accepted by the Branch
- Sydney - (New Rules) not considered acceptable as at present.

/ present

GP91/24

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter had been received from Pinelands Caledonian Society regarding members of the Group who were R.S.C.D.S. Members through Cape Town Branch. The Secretary would reply that technically these were members of the Cape Town Branch and therefore were entitled to receive notification of the Branch AGM.

GP91/25

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) "Five Year Clause". It was proposed that it might be helpful for Branches if, when nomination forms for representatives are being sent out, that it is stipulated to the Branches concerned that their representative while still eligible to be a representative is ineligible for nomination to a standing committee.
- b) Honorary Archivist. The Committee agreed that in addition to the qualifications already stated, the person proposed to fill the position should also have some knowledge of document preservation.

GP91/26

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

15 October 1991 at 10am

A handwritten signature in cursive script, possibly reading 'A. P. ...', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is slanted upwards to the right.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE AT 12 COATES
CRESCENT, EDINBURGH, ON
SATURDAY 5 OCTOBER 1991
AT 10.00

PRESENT: Mr A S Aitkenhead (in the chair), Miss A W Miller,
Mr J Taylor, Mrs N Durn, Dr I P Gormley, Mr J Laurie
Mrs A Murphy, Miss B Nairn, Miss I Paton, Mr A Smart,
Miss C Traynor.

ATTENDING Mrs J A Moore (Secretary)

GP91/27 APOLOGIES

An apology was received from Miss E M Ferguson.

GP91/28 MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 13 APRIL 1991

The Minutes of the Meeting on 13 April 1991 had
previously been approved at the Executive Council
Meeting on 11 May 1991.

GP91/29 BUSINESS ARISING

a) GP91/20 a) A.G.M. 1992

The Secretary reported that an offer by Aberdeen
Branch to host the 1992 A.G.M. had been accepted.

b) GP91/20 b) Summer School 1991

The Convener reported that Summer School 1991 had
been most successful. The programme of Special
Events had been well prepared and went without a hitch
The Convener paid tribute to Mrs Linda Gaul and her
small committee for this achievement.

GP91/20 e) Annual Bulletin

The Committee was informed that the cost of producing
the 1991 Bulletin and its size had been reduced, and
although fewer in number, the revenue from advertising
had increased.

The Convener reported on the progress of the sub-
committee set up to review the format of the Bulletin.
It had been agreed that the 1992 Bulletin should
include the following:

Index; AGM 1991 Report; Annual Report 1991-92 and List of Committees; Accounts & Budget; Reports from Headquarters to include Chairman's Report, special events, official tours; Calendar of Branch events including Summer School and Annual General Meeting; Information, which could cover such items as Insurance Donations, Scholarships and Price List; Obituaries; Branch Details (but no reports); Affiliated Groups; Advertisements.

d) GP91/12 d) Membership Recruitment

Several ideas for the recruitment of new members were discussed. Two suggestions put forward for further consideration were Society sponsored festivals in Edinburgh and a personal approach through the existing membership to be encouraged.

e) GP91/21 Scrolls

The Committee discussed the criteria for the award of the Scroll and agreed the present criteria listed on the reverse side of the nomination form should remain unchanged.

f) GP91/20 f) Chairman's Chain of Office

The Committee having accepted the proposal put forward by Mr Taylor at the previous meeting agreed that a remit should go before the Finance Committee for necessary funding.

g) GP91/25 Honorary Archivist

The Committee agreed that the candidates for the position of Honorary Archivist should each have a proposer and seconder at the Executive Council.

h) Project '91

The Convener reported that Project '91 was going ahead but on a reduced basis.

GP91/30

AFFILIATIONS

The undernoted affiliations were approved:

- a) Calgary Scottish Country Dance Group
- b) Cupar YW/YMCA
- c) Fraser Scottish Dancers
- d) Frimley Green Scottish Country Dance Class
- e) Group de danses Ecosaises de Lyon
- f) Purley Scottish Dancing Club
- g) St Albans & Mid Herts Caledonian Society

An application for affiliation from Otamatea Scottish Country Dance Club was discussed and concern expressed at New Zealand Branch's unwillingness to support the application. The Secretary would write to New Zealand Branch.

GP91/31

CONSTITUTIONS

Atlanta	Amendments to Constitution & Rules approved
Cincinnati	Amendments to Constitution approved
Western Australia	Amendments to Constitution approved
Leeds	Constitution approved but suggested transferring some clauses to the section on Rules
Berks/Hants Surrey/Border	Constitution not approved meantime pending acceptance of General Purposes Committee's recommendations
Clackmannanshire	Addition to Branch Constitution not approved
Northern Territory	Constitution acceptable but pending discussion on Disbandment Clause at Executive Council

GP91/32

SCHOLARSHIPS

Discussion on Scholarships deferred until next meeting.

GP91/33

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1991

The Chairman outlined the procedure for the AGM 1991 and indicated that, in the absence of the President, he would take the Chair for the meeting in its entirety

GP91/34

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) The Secretary read a letter from Mrs Holden expressing her appreciation to the Committee for their recommendation for the award of the Society's Scroll.
- b) A letter from The Hague District Branch expressing concern about resolutions being put forward at the AGM, was noted.

GP91/35

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) The Committee approved the logo design for East Stirlingshire Branch.
- b) Because there are no further stocks of 'Won't You Join the Dance' at Headquarters, it was agreed that a note should be sent out with the Executive Council papers asking Branches if they could make available any spare copies which they might have.

DATES OF MEETINGS 1992

1 February 1992

11 April 1992

3 October 1992 (subject to approval by the Executive Council)

The Chairman, whose last meeting this was as Convener, thanked the Committee for their support during his tenure of office. The Committee recorded its gratitude to the Chairman for the way he had guided the Committee throughout his three years as Convener.

Roger S. Mallet
Chairman

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH
ON SATURDAY 1 FEBRUARY 1992 AT
10AM

PRESENT: Miss A W Miller (in the Chair), Mr G Lawson, Mr A S Aitkenhead, Mr R Turnbull, Mrs R Colwell, Mr A Dewdney, Miss E Ferguson, Mrs C Munro, Miss I Paton, Mrs M Shaw, Mr G Stephens, Miss C Traynor.

ATTENDING: Mrs Joan A Moore (Secretary)

GP92/1 APOLOGIES

An apology was received from Miss F Gordon.

GP92/2 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman warmly welcoming members to the first meeting of the new session said that General Purposes was the committee where much hard work was done on behalf of the Society and where many decisions had to be made. She particularly welcomed new members and hoped they would enjoy their time on the committee. The Chairman finally pointed out that Committee discussions were confidential.

GP92/3 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 5 OCTOBER 1991

The Minutes of the Meeting on 5 October 1991 had previously been approved at the Executive Council Meeting on 16 November 1991.

GP92/4 BUSINESS ARISING

a) GP91/29 h) Project '91
Replying to a question about the schools which had participated in Project '91, the Secretary said a list of those involved would be made available.

b) GP91/32 Scholarships
The Committee discussed the whole system of scholarship awards and agreed that all scholarships should be designated The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Scholarship. However the scholarship awarded in the memory of Duncan MacLeod would continue to be called The Duncan MacLeod Scholarship. All scholarships would be funded from the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund. The Secretary would prepare sample application forms for the next Committee meeting.

Arising from the discussions on scholarships it was agreed that a remit should go before the Summer School Committee to ask that Committee to consider the possibility of having talks at Summer School specifically on music for Scottish Country Dancing. It was suggested that these should be informal talks on lines similar to the piping classes.

GP92/5

AFFILIATIONS

The undernoted affiliations were approved:

- a) New Delhi Scottish Country Dance Society
- b) Societa Di Danza, Bologna

The application for affiliation from Otamatea Scottish Country Dance Club was deferred to the next meeting pending further information.

GP92/6

CONSTITUTIONS

Australian Teachers' Associations

Constitution Approved

South East Queensland Branch Inc.

Amendments to Constitution approved pending one very minor adjustment.

Northern Territory Branch Inc.

Necessary adjustments having been made by the Branch, approval of the Constitution was confirmed.

Sydney Branch Inc.

Adjustments required and Constitution would be approved if accepted.

Dumfries Branch

Amendments to Constitution approved.

GP92/7

APPOINTMENT OF SCROLL SUB COMMITTEE

A sub committee to give preliminary consideration to nominations for the award of the Scroll and to report to the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee was appointed as follows: Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice Chairman), Miss C Traynor, Miss I Paton, Mr G Stephens. The sub committee would meet on 28 March 1992 at 9.45am.

GP92/8

APPOINTMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP SUB COMMITTEE

A sub committee to consider the nominations for scholarship to the 1992 Summer School was appointed as follows: Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice Chairman), Dr A MacFadyen (Director of Summer School). The sub committee would meet following the Summer School Committee meeting on 15 February 1992.

GP92/9

APPOINTMENT OF AGM AGENDA SUB COMMITTEE

A sub committee to consider the agenda for the 1992 Annual General Meeting was appointed as follows: Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary.

GP91/10

SCHOOLS AFFILIATION

Mr Aitkenhead presented his thoughts on a Schools' Association which could be affiliated to the RSCDS. He suggested that schools could be offered resources to enable them to design and develop Scottish Dancing at school or class level. After discussion the Committee approved the idea in principle and agreed that the Finance Committee should be approached about funding for the scheme. It was also agreed that Mr Aitkenhead would make a presentation to the Executive Council in May to seek approval. Meantime Committee members were asked to submit their views and ideas for such an association to Headquarters by 1st March.

GP92/11

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) A letter from Mr Taylor (Wirral Branch) was read and discussed.
- b) A letter from Isle of Skye requesting a missionary visit was discussed. The Secretary would reply that the Committee had agreed that such a visit should take place.
- c) The Committee discussed a letter from Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) in which he asked that the scope of the sub committee set up to review the costs of the Executive Council Meetings should be extended to cover each sub committee. However it was agreed that the original remit from the AGM was solely concerned with Executive Council Meetings.
- d) A letter from Mr M Brown (York and North Humberside Branch) was fully discussed and the Secretary was asked to reply.
- e) Letter from London Branch concerning the Open Forum at the AGM was discussed at length and the Secretary would reply.

GP92/12

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) It was agreed that the date of the next meeting of the Committee would take place on 28 March at 10.30am instead of 11 April.
- b) A remit from the Executive Council relating to Branch Orders was discussed. These orders are prepared by HQ staff for collection at the AGM. The Chairman pointed out the problems of transporting them to the AGM venue, only to find that in many instances they were not uplifted by the Branch delegates. The Committee agreed that in future no orders would be taken to the AGM but should be collected from Headquarters before Executive Council Meetings.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE AT 12 COATES
CRESCENT, EDINBURGH, ON
SATURDAY 28 MARCH 1992 AT
10.30AM

PRESENT: Miss A W Miller (in the Chair), Mr G
Lawson, Mr A S Aitkenhead, Mr R Turnbull,
Mrs R Colwell, Mr A Dewdney, Miss E
Ferguson, Mrs C Munro, Miss I Paton,
Mrs M Shaw, Mr G Stephens.

ATTENDING: Mrs J A Moore (Secretary)

GP92/14 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Miss F Gordon
and Miss C Traynor.

GP92/15 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 1 FEBRUARY 1992

The Minutes of the Meeting on 1 February
1992 were approved after the following
amendment was agreed:

GP92/11 c) The Committee discussed a
letter from Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy
Branch) in which he asked that as the
scope of the Sub-Committee set up to review
the costs of the Executive Council meetings
could not be extended, arrangements be made
to review other items.

GP92/16 BUSINESS ARISING

a) GP92/4 Scholarships. There was con-
siderable discussion about suitable wording
and format for a scholarship application
form to cover all classes of scholarships
which may be awarded at the discretion of
of the Scholarship Sub-Committee.

It was finally agreed that each member of
the General Purposes Committee would submit
proposals which would be returned to Head-
quarters by 30 April.

b) GP92/7 Scrolls. The Scroll Sub-Committee recommended that from the thirteen nominations received, six should be accepted for the award of a Scroll. The names of those recommended would be before the Executive Council in May for ratification.

c) GP92/10 Schools Affiliation. Mr Aitkenhead thanked the Committee members for the comments which had been submitted relating to the schools affiliations and said he would take notice of all the suggestions when drafting his proposals for presentation to the Executive Council. He said that a Sub-Committee would be set up to discuss the content of the introductory cassette of dances.

GP92/17

AFFILIATION

The application for affiliation from the Otamatea Scottish Country Dance Club, New Zealand was rejected.

GP92/18

CONSTITUTIONS

The Committee was informed that the amendment suggested to New Zealand Branch Constitution had been accepted by the Branch.

GP92/19

CORRESPONDENCE

Three letters from Mr James Carswell were discussed at length and the Secretary was asked to reply.

GP92/20

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) The Secretary reported that Headquarters had been overwhelmed with letters from affiliated groups all relating to Phonographic Performance Limited. The Committee agreed that it would not be possible to answer all this correspondence and that a notice of regret concerning this should be included in the Bulletin later this year.

b) Concern was expressed about information received relating to Scottish Country Dancing reported to be part of the programme at the Tattoo later this year. The Secretary was asked to write to the organisers to ensure that there would be no reference to the RSCDS in the Tattoo programme pointing out that the dances were not under RSCDS auspices.

c) Mr Stephens raised the question of Society specialist awards to individuals. The Committee agreed that they did not wish the Society to present awards other than the Scroll presentation.

d) A letter from the Australian Teachers' Association requesting affiliation was noted. The Secretary would reply indicating the Committee's agreement.

e) A letter from St John's Newfoundland Branch was noted and the Secretary would reply.

GP92/21

NEXT MEETING

3rd October 1992 at 10am

Deques S. Miller

Chairman

3.10.92

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE AT 12 COATES
CRESCENT, EDINBURGH ON
SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER 1992 AT
10AM

PRESENT: Miss A Wilma Miller (in the Chair), Mr G Lawson,
Mr R Turnbull, Mrs R Colwell, Mr A Dewdney, Miss
F Gordon, Mrs C Munro, Miss I Paton, Mrs M Shaw,
Mr G Stephens, Miss C Traynor.

ATTENDING: Mrs J A Moore (Secretary)

GP92/22 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Miss E Ferguson and
Mr A Aitkenhead.

GP92/23 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 28 MARCH 1992

The Minutes of the Meeting on 28 March had previously
been approved at the Executive Council Meeting on 16
May 1992.

GP92/24 BUSINESS ARISING

GP92/16 Scholarship Application Form
The Chairman thanked all the Committee Members who
had submitted suggestions for the new scholarship
application form. The Committee expressed its
approval of the format of the new form.

GP92/25 AFFILIATIONS

The undernoted affiliations were approved:

- a) Scottish Blue Bell Club, Tokai
- b) St Andrew's Society, Chile
- c) Cranleigh Scottish Dance Society

GP92/26

CONSTITUTIONS

Mid Somerset Branch	Amendments approved
Milton Keynes Branch	Amendments approved
Royal Tunbridge Wells Branch	Amendments approved
Dunbartonshire West Branch	Amendments approved
Canberra & District Branch Inc.	Amendments approved
Western Australia Branch Inc.	Amendments approved
Melbourne & District Branch Inc.	Amendments approved
Los Angeles Branch Inc.	Amendments to Constitution approved pending one very minor adjustment.

GP92/27

BRANCH FORMATION

An application for approval to endeavour to form the Cork Branch was approved.

GP92/28

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1992

The Committee noted the items on the Agenda of the AGM and the Chairman said that, in the absence of the President, she would take the Chair, but that Mr Aitkenhead had been asked to make the presentations to the recipients of the Society's Scroll.

GP92/29

BUSINESS FROM EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

a) EC92/3 a) The question of mailing the provisional agenda for the AGM to the UK representatives of overseas Branches was discussed by the Committee and it was agreed that this should not be done.

b) EC92/4 (GP92/12) The Committee unanimously agreed that it would be more appropriate to commemorate the seventy fifth anniversary of the Society and did not support the suggestion of a festival for the seventieth anniversary. It was agreed that emphasis should be placed instead on the planned Schools' Association during the seventieth year. However, Branches should feel free to have their own celebrations for the seventieth anniversary of the Society.

GP92/30

CORRESPONDENCE

a) A letter from Cornwall Branch requesting a missionary visit was discussed and approved. The Secretary would reply accordingly.

b) A letter from Mrs See regarding the formation of Northern Territory Branch Inc was noted and the Secretary would reply.

c) Three letters relating to PPL from Mr M G Wright of the Glayva Scottish Dancers affiliated group was noted.

d) A letter from Dr Reinstein concerning a possible review of the organisation of the Society was discussed. The Committee felt that in the light of the recent review of the Constitution and of the discussions regarding the Executive Council this would be unnecessary at this time and the Secretary would reply.

GP92/31

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) It was noted that, with the cooperation of schools and RSCDS teachers, St Andrews Day dances were being planned in St Andrews, Fife Region and throughout Tayside Region and the Chairman expressed her pleasure at these activities.

b) Affiliated Groups. There was considerable discussion concerning the position of Affiliated groups in relation to the RSCDS as a whole. No conclusions were reached and the Committee felt this topic would require more extensive discussion over a period of time.

c) A question was raised regarding speakers' time limits at the AGM. The Chairman said that this would be carefully monitored at the forthcoming AGM.

d) Office Maintenance. The Convener of the Finance Committee presented the details of remedial work to be carried out at Headquarters - work which was necessary in the interests of safety and to comply with legislation. Mr Turnbull said that estimates had been received which the Finance Committee had examined closely and that the details of the expenditure had been approved. The General Purposes Committee gave its approval for the proposed work to be carried out.

GP92/32

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

13 February 1993 at 10am
3 April 1993 at 10am
2 October 1992 at 10am

In conclusion the Chairman thanked the members of the committee for their help, cooperation, ideas and loyalty to the Society and said she was very grateful for all their support during the year.

Agnes S. Miller
Chairman

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

92/93
93/94
94/95
95/96
96/97

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE AT 12
COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH ON
SATURDAY 13 FEBRUARY 1993.

PRESENT: Miss A W Miller (in the Chair), Mr G Lawson, Mr K Stacey, Mrs R Colwell, Mrs J Harper, Mrs C Munro, Ms R Scott-Huxley, Mrs M Shaw, Mr A Smart, Mr G Stephens, Miss C Traynor, also Mr A S Aitkenhead.

ATTENDING: Mrs J A Moore (Secretary)

GP93/1 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies

GP93/2 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed the Committee members to the first meeting of the new session. She particularly hoped that members who were new to the Committee would find the work enjoyable.

GP93/3 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 3 OCTOBER 1992

The Minutes of the Meeting on 3 October 1992 had previously been approved at the Executive Council Meeting on 21 November 1993.

GP93/4 BUSINESS ARISING

a) GP92/31a) Miss I Bennett, one of the teacher's involved in the St Andrews Day Dances, was thanked for letting the Committee see letters of appreciation from some of the children who had taken part.

b) GP92/31 b) Affiliated Groups. It was reported that the problems which had arisen with the Affiliated Groups relating to PPL had now lessened.

c) GP92/31 d) Office Maintenance. It was reported that the work had started as planned on 19 January and by 12 February some 60% of the total work, excluding paintwork, had been accomplished. Before the work started there had been a problem with the security equipment which resulted in the renewal of the Control Panel, however there will be a complete reappraisal of the system.

GP93/5

AFFILIATIONS

The undernoted affiliations were approved:

a) High Wycombe & District Caledonian Society
High Wycombe.

b) Budapest Scottish Country Dance Club, Hungary.

GP93/6

CONSTITUTIONS

Oxfordshire Branch

Constitution Approved

Regina Branch

Change of Branch name
to Saskatchewan Branch
approved.

GP93/7

APPOINTMENT OF SCROLL SUB COMMITTEE

A sub committee to give preliminary consideration to nominations for the award of the Scroll was appointed as follows:

Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice Chairman), Mr a Smart, Mr G Stephens Miss C Traynor.
The sub committee would meet on 3 April 1993.

GP93/8

APPOINTMENT OF AGM AGENDA SUB COMMITTEE

A sub committee to consider the agenda for the 1993 Annual General Meeting was appointed as follows:

Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice Chairman), Mrs J A Moore (Secretary), Mr K Stacey (Convener of Finance Committee), Mr A Smart.

GP93/9

SCHOOLS AFFILIATION

Mr Aitkenhead said that a Schools Affiliation had already been approved in principle by the General Purposes Committee and the Executive Council. He also said that the Finance for the project had also been approved in principle but further details of the expenses involved would be provided for the Finance Committee. Mr Aitkenhead suggested that the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund might be a suitable source of funding.

A sub committee to formulate the plans for the Association was appointed as follows:

Mr A S Aitkenhead (Convener), Miss I Bennett, Mrs C Munro, Mrs F Turnbull, Miss C Traynor.

GP93/10

REMIT FROM EXECUTIVE COUNCIL : FIVE YEAR RULING

There was considerable discussion regarding the election of conveners to standing committees in relation to the five year ruling. It was agreed that continuity from one year to the next was important. The matter was deferred to the next meeting for further discussion.

Concerning the qualifications of proposed committee members which are not widely known at the Executive Council at the time of elections it was agreed that a CV form should be issued with the nomination form for Branch Representatives to the Council. The Committee agreed the wording for a suitable form.

GP93/11

CORRESPONDENCE

a) The Committee welcomed a letter from Perth Branch inviting the Society to hold its Annual General Meeting in November 1994 in Perth. The Secretary would reply accepting this invitation.

b) A letter had been received from Aberdeen Branch relating to the discussion at the November Executive Council meeting on the matter of AGM meals. The comments that "the interpretation of a light meal be left to the host Branch" was noted.

GP93/12

The Committee agreed that the Secretary should enquire about booking the 1993 Executive Council Meetings in the Grosvenor Hotel.

GP93/13

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

3 April 1993 at 10am.

Alfred S. Mallet

Chairman

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE AT 12 COATES
CRESCENT, EDINBURGH ON
SATURDAY 3 APRIL 1993

PRESENT: Miss A W Miller (in the Chair), Mr G Lawson, Mr K Stacey, Mr S Adam, Mrs R Colwell, Mrs J Harper, Mrs C Munro, Mrs M Shaw, Mr A Smart, Mr G Stephens, Miss C Traynor.

ATTENDING: Mrs J A Moore (Secretary)

GP93/14 APOLOGIES

An apology was received from Ms R Scott-Huxley.

GP93/15 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 13 FEBRUARY 1993

After it was noted that an apology had been sent by Mr S Adam, though not received, the Minutes were approved.

GP93/16 BUSINESS ARISING

a) GP93/4 c) The further extent of the maintenance work at Headquarters was noted. The Committee expressed their appreciation to the office staff for coping so cheerfully during the disruption.

b) GP93/12 Executive Council Meetings.

The Secretary reported that she had been unable to book the 1993 Executive Council Meetings in the Grosvenor Hotel. Instead the Meeting on 8 May would be held in the Wapole Hall and the November meeting in the St George's Church Hall. The Committee agreed that the Secretary should make further enquiries about booking the 1994 Executive Meetings in the Grosvenor Hotel.

GP93/17 SCROLLS

The Committee recommended that from the nominations received, six should be accepted for the award of a Scroll. The names of those recommended would be placed before the Executive Council in May for ratification.

GP93/18

CONSTITUTIONS

Amendments to the constitutions of Edinburgh Branch and New Zealand Branch were approved.

GP93/19

FIVE YEAR RULING : REMIT FROM EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

After lengthy discussion the Committee strongly recommended that the Five Year Ruling should be adhered to.

There was also a recommendation from the General Purposes Committee that the Convener of the Finance Committee, the Convener of the Publications & Research Committee and the Convener of the Examinations Committee should be appointed within that Committee and not by the Executive Council.

GP93/20

REMITTS FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE

a) F93/8b) The Committee agreed that the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund should make a donation towards the Residential Training Course for prospective teachers in remote areas which was being organised by the Australian Teachers' Association. This would be a "one off" donation.

b) F93/9e) It was agreed that the Jean Milligan Fund would provide the funding for the Musicians Course May 1994.

c) GP93/9 The Committee agreed that the initial funding for the Young Scottish Dancers Association would come from the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund and that any profits from the Association would be paid into the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund.

GP93/21

CORRESPONDENCE

a) A letter from Aberdeen Branch suggested that the equivalent amount of the charge for the use of Beach Ballroom at the 1992 AGM which had been waived by the management should be donated by the Society to the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund. The Committee agreed this was unnecessary.

b) Grimsby Scottish Country Dance had written enquiring about a suitable badge for the Group. The Committee suggested that the idea should be passed to Strathspey Sales Directors to look into.

GP93/21

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Mr George Lawson reported that he had attended the Tenth Anniversary Celebrations of Mid-Argyll Branch and had enjoyed the atmosphere and standard of dancing in the Branch.

b) Mrs J Harper informed the Committee that South Argyll Branch was the venue for a forthcoming programme of Take The Floor, hosted by Robbie Shepherd.

c) The Chairman reported that she had attended the Children's Festival at Bathgate and the Eighteenth Festival at Dundee and that she was impressed by the numbers attending and the excellent standard of dancing at both functions.

GP93/22

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

2 October 1993 at 10am

Agnès W. Miller

Chairman 2/10/93

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE AT 12
COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH ON
SATURDAY 2 OCTOBER 1993 AT 10AM.

PRESENT: Miss A W Miller (in the Chair), Mr G Lawson. Mr K Stacey,
Mr S Adam, Mrs R Colwell, Mrs J Harper, Mrs C Munro,
Ms R Scott-Huxley, Mrs M Shaw, Mr A Smart, Mr G Stephens,
Miss C Traynor.

ATTENDING: Mrs J A Moore (Secretary), Mrs M A Jeffcoat (Treasurer).

GP93/24 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

GP93/25 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 3 APRIL 1993

The Minutes of the Meeting on 3 April 1993 had previously
been approved at the Executive Council Meeting on 8 May
1993.

GP93/26 BUSINESS ARISING

GP93/21 b) It was noted that the suggestion from Grimsby
Scottish Country Dance Group concerning a suitable badge
should be referred to the Strathspey Directors.

GP93/27 AFFILIATIONS

The undernoted affiliations were approved:
(a) Java St Andrews Society, Jakarta, Indonesia.
(b) Penicuik Scottish Country Dance Club, Penicuik.
(c) White Heather Scottish Dancers, Chingford.

GP93/28 BRANCH FORMATION

An application for approval to endeavour to form the
Retford & District Branch was approved.

GP93/29 CONSTITUTIONS

a) St Andrews Branch.	Constitution approved.
b) Croydon & Dist. Branch	Amendments to Constitution approved.
c) Cincinnati Branch	Amendment to Constitution approved pending one very minor adjustment.
d) Montreal Branch	Minor adjustments required and if accepted Constitution would be approved.
e) Bristol Branch	Amendments to Constitution approved.
f) Western Australia Branch	Amendments to Constitution approved.

- g) Australian Teachers Ass. Amendments to
Constitution approved.

GP93/30

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1993

The Committee noted the items on the Agenda of the A.G.M. and that in the absence of the President, the Chairman and Vice Chairman, where appropriate, would take the Chair. The Chairman said that she would make the presentation to the recipients of the Society's Scroll.

GP93/31

REMITTS FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE

a) Public Relations Budget. Following discussion the Committee agreed that there was a need for greater promotion of the society and a sub committee for this purpose should be set up at the next meeting of the Committee. Some funding from the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund would be provided.

b) Tutors Course. The Committee agreed that the Tutors Course would be funded from the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund.

GP93/32

CORRESPONDENCE

a) Two letters concerning the format of the Bulletin were discussed and the Secretary would reply.

b) A letter from Mr Carswell relating to the licence for use of sound recordings was discussed. The Committee noted that a reply had already been sent to Mr Carswell from the Publications Committee.

c) Oxfordshire Branch had written enquiring about criteria for a Branch logo and would be informed that the accepted design should use the R.S.C.D.S. "crown" logo with the Branch name added.

d) The Committee agreed to the design of logo for the Australian Teachers Association.

GP93/33

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Mr Graeme Stephens requested that the secondary schools in Fife should be advised about the Young Scottish Dancers Association.

b) Mr George Lawson (Vice Chairman) advised the Committee that he had represented the Society at the funeral of Colin Finlayson, band leader.

c) Financial Working Party (London Branch). It was agreed that copies of the Working Party report would be distributed to Committee members before the next meeting for their comments.

d) The Chairman reported to the Committee on her recent teaching/missionary visit to Cornwall. She said she had taught twenty eight classes in 6 days

(eighteen of which were children's classes). Each night she had taken classes and a workshop on the Saturday. A very successful seminar involving a question and answer session had followed on the Sunday. Mr Jack Judson had proved a most helpful and willing pianist for all the events. The Committee thanked the Chairman for all the work and enthusiasm she had put into the visit.

GP93/34

LEGISLATION GOVERNING SCOTTISH CHARITIES

The Treasurer was invited to attend the meeting so that the Committee could be informed about the requirements of the recent legislation governing Scottish charities. The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations came into force on 30 September 1992. This Act insists that the statement of accounts must follow a particular format.

Arising from the new legislation major decisions have to be made and the Society has to look at certain questions. Is the R.S.C.D.S. a Charity? Who are the Trustees? What is the status of the Branches?

Because the situation is not clear and needs to be clarified, a sub committee was set up to consider the way forward for the Society. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Convener of the Finance Committee, the Treasurer and Secretary, Mr J C Brown, Mr R Mackay, Mr D Ross, Mr A Smart were appointed to the sub committee.

GP93/35

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

12 February 1994
9 April 1994
1 October 1994

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Chairman thanked the Committee members for their backing, hard work and support during the year.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE AT 12 COATES
CRESCENT, EDINBURGH ON
SATURDAY 12 FEBRUARY 1994 AT
10AM

PRESENT: Miss A W Miller (in the Chair), Mr G Lawson, Miss I Bennett,
Miss C Catto, Mrs J Harper, Mrs C Munro, Mr A Smart, Mr K
Stacey, Mr G Stephens, Miss C Traynor, Mrs R Wilton.

ATTENDING: Mrs J A Moore (Secretary).

GP94/1 APOLOGIES

An apology was received from Mr S Adam.

GP94/2 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed members to the first meeting of the
Committee for this year and gave a special welcome to those
members attending for the first time. The Chairman said she
hoped they would enjoy the work of the Committee.

GP94/3 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 2 OCTOBER 1993

The Minutes of the Meeting on 2 October 1993 had previously
been approved at the Executive Meeting on 20 November 1993.

GP94/4 BUSINESS ARISING

- a) GP93/31 a) Public Relations Budget/Sub-Committee.
The Committee agreed to postpone the formation of a
Public Relations sub-committee in the meantime.

The members considered that the time was inappropriate
in view of the new legislation affecting Scottish Charities
and the work of the relevant sub-committee reviewing
these changes. Because of the present uncertainties
the Committee agreed it would be unwise to set up
another sub-committee, the work of which might conflict
with that of the charities review sub-committee.

Members were informed that the Sub Committee had already met on two occasions and was looking into the consequences of being a charity under the legislation. A report would be produced as soon as possible but at the moment possibilities and options were being explored.

The Committee accepted the Chairman's proposal that Mr J B C Brown, Chairman of the "Review" sub-committee, should be invited to report to the Executive Council Meeting in May on the progress of the discussions to date.

- b) 93/31 b) Tutors' Course. It was noted that this course would be funded from the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund.
- c) 93/33 c) Financial Working Party : London Branch. The report from London Branch had been circulated to members of the Committee prior to the meeting.

The report was discussed and comment made. It was noted that the Finance Committee had not authorised the study and it was considered that the suggestions put forward were more applicable to Branches than Headquarters. However, although it was felt that some of the ideas were good, because of the changes being considered in the light of the Charities Legislation, the report would be considered again at a later date.

GP94/5

AFFILIATIONS

The undernoted affiliations were approved:

- a) Association de Dances Ecossaises de Saint Quay Perros, France.
- b) Blairmore Country Dance Club, Argyll.
- c) Newport Scottish Country Dance Club, Gwent.
- d) Sevenoaks Reel Club, Kent.

GP94/6

BRANCH FORMATION

An application for approval to endeavour to form the Ribble Valley Branch was approved pending support from Southport Branch.

GP94/7

CONSTITUTIONS

- a) East Lothian Branch. Constitutional Changes approved.
- b) Retford and District Branch Adjustments required to conform with the Model Constitution.
- c) South Wales Branch Constitutional changes approved.

GP94/8

APPOINTMENT OF SCROLL SUB COMMITTEE

A sub committee to give preliminary consideration to nominations for the award of the scroll was appointed as follows:

Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice Chairman), Mrs Jessie Harper, Mr G Stephens, Mr Alasdair Smart.

The sub committee will meet following the next General Purposes Committee Meeting on 9 April 1994.

GP94/9

APPOINTMENT OF AGM SUB COMMITTEE

A sub committee to consider the agenda for the 1994 AGM was appointed as follows:

Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Mr Alasdair Smart, Mr Keith Stacey.

GP94/10

DANCE WORLD '94

The Secretary read a report from Mr Andrew Kellett, London Branch, on Dance World '94 at which the Society was participating at the Barbican Exhibition Centre from 4 to 7 February 1994. The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society stand was staffed by members of London, Croydon and Royal Tunbridge Wells Branches and in addition some of the decor was provided by Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch.

Tapes and books were on sale and literature advertising Scottish Country Dancing was given away. Over 250 serious enquiries about Scottish Country Dancing were dealt with. On the Sunday afternoon the London Branch demonstration team performed in the Barbican foyer to a large audience, and Jenny Greene led a workshop which was fully subscribed.

The Committee congratulated those concerned and agreed that London Branch should be reimbursed from the Jean Milligan Fund for the £675.00 payment for the stand.

GP94/11

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) A letter had been received from Ayr Branch offering to host the AGM in 1995 and in the year 2000. The Committee was pleased to accept the invitation for 1995 and provisionally accepted for 2000.
- b) A letter from Miss L Beattie and Miss M Paterson enquiring if the Society had rules stating that ladies must wear skirts when attending practical classes was discussed.

A reply would be sent saying the Society does not have a general ruling except at Summer School and that the matter would be raised at the AGM of the Branch where this was the policy.

- c) Mr John Drewry had written asking the Committee to consider a modification of the five year rule in favour of allowing a Convener to serve a minimum of three years.

The Committee agreed that this had been very thoroughly discussed on a previous occasion and that the ruling had to be given a chance to work.

- d) A letter from Mr Carswell raising points about AGM procedure and arrangements for the Open Forum was noted and a reply would be sent.

GP94/12

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Concerning the question raised at the Executive Council about Scottish Country Dancing at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo, the Secretary reported that a letter had been sent to the Tattoo office which had been acknowledged and would be referred to the Artistic Director, Major Michael Parker. Major Parker was expected to be in touch with the RSCDS in due course.
- b) A request was made to reconvene the Bulletin sub committee with a view to reinstating Branch reports. It was agreed that this could initially be referred back to the Finance Committee as having originally insisted that the costs of producing the Bulletin must be considerably reduced.

GP94/13

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

9 April 1994 at 10am.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH
ON SATURDAY 9 APRIL 1994 AT 10.30AM

PRESENT: Mr G Lawson (in the Chair), Miss I Bennett, Miss C Catto,
Mrs J Harper, Mrs C Munro, Mr A Smart, Mr K Stacey,
Mr G Stephens, Miss C Traynor, Mrs R Wilton.

ATTENDING: Mrs J A Moore (Secretary).

GP94/14 APOLOGIES

An apology was received from Miss A W Miller.

The Convener, on behalf of the Committee, asked the Secretary to send a message of good wishes to the Chairman for a full and speedy return to good health.

GP94/15 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 12 FEBRUARY 1994

The Minutes of the Meeting on 12 February 1994 were approved.

GP94/16 BUSINESS ARISING

a) GP94/4 a) The Secretary informed the Committee that a report from the Convener of the Sub Committee Reviewing New Legislation Relating To Charities in Scotland and its Affect on The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society was being prepared for presentation to the Executive Council and would be circulated with the papers.

b) GP94/4 b) Tutors Course. The Secretary reported that 35 tutors and potential tutors had attended this very successful course and that a number of letters had been received expressing appreciation.

c) GP94/11 b) The Committee was advised that the Branch where the wearing of skirts was obligatory at classes had now resolved the problem.

d) GP94/12 The Secretary informed the Committee that a meeting with Major Michael Parker was arranged for 29 April 1994.

GP94/17

AFFILIATIONS

The undernoted affiliations were approved;

- a) Scotia Country Dancers, Alabama.
- b) Macclesfield Group, Cheshire.
- c) Purple Heather Club, Harrogate.

GP94/18

BRANCH FORMATION

An application for approval to endeavour to form the Tucson Branch was approved.

GP94/19

CONSTITUTIONS

New Zealand Branch. Amendment to Constitution - Approved.

GP94/20

SCROLLS

The Committee recommended that from the nominations received three should be accepted for the Award of a Scroll. The names of those recommended would be placed before the Executive Council in May for ratification.

GP94/21

CORRESPONDENCE

a) A letter was received asking the Committee to consider adding the name of the Hon. Peregrine Moncreiffe of Moncreiffe to our list of Vice Presidents. The Committee agreed that this might be a suitable addition to the list but felt it would be advisable to defer any such decision until after the review of the Constitution had been completed when this matter would be reintroduced.

b) Correspondence from London Branch relating to Dance World '95 requested financial support to allow the Branch to participate in this national event on the Society's behalf. The Committee agreed that a grant of £500 from the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund should be given for this purpose.

c) The Committee was pleased to accept an offer from Dundee Branch to host the 1996 AGM.

GP94/22

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) A report on the Young Scottish Dancers Association was circulated and discussed. It was noted that decisions had been reached on the production of the tape for 1994, Volume II. This would contain six Scottish Country Dances and one Social dance and Miss Dorothy Leurs had been invited to do the VOICE. Music would be provided by Muriel Johnstone.

Because the uptake of Volume 1 was less than expected, there was discussion by the Committee on ways of targeting the non-participating schools.

The Committee agreed that Mr Aitkenhead should speak to the Executive Council on the present position of the Association and its plans for 1994. It was also agreed that he should ask all Branches to purchase a copy of Volume 1 and the accompanying booklet when they come to the Executive Council Meeting in May.

b) With regard to the Annual General Meeting, Perth Branch submitted the names of a teacher and musician (accordionist) for the morning class. These were approved.

c) The Central Council of Physical Recreation had enquired whether the RSCDS would consider being affiliated. The Committee agreed that this would depend on the benefits which would follow from affiliation. The Secretary was asked to write requesting further information.

GP94/23

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

1 October 1994 at 10am.

A. Selma Miller
Bairn 1/10/94

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE GENERAL
PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT 12 COATES CRESCENT,
EDINBURGH ON SATURDAY 1
OCTOBER 1994 AT 10AM

PRESENT: Miss A W Miller (in the Chair), Mr G Lawson, Mr S Adam, Miss C Catto, Mrs J Harper, Mrs C Munro, Mr A Smart, Mr K Stacey, Miss C Traynor, Mrs R Wilton.

ATTENDING: Mrs J Dick (Assistant Secretary).

The Convener welcomed everyone to the Meeting and hoped it had been a good summer for all. Miss Miller thanked them for their good wishes and lovely flowers during her recent illness.

GP94/24 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Miss I Bennett and Mr G Stephens.

GP94/25 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 9 APRIL 1994

After it was noted that Mr S Adam had indeed attended the last General Purposes Meeting the Minutes of the Meeting on 9 April 1994 were approved.

GP94/26 BUSINESS ARISING

a) GP94/22 c) The Central Council for Physical Recreation.

The benefits of affiliation to the CCPR were discussed in detail by the Committee and it was reported that historically the RSCDS had connections with the CCPR in the past, that we could benefit from their expertise in a Public Relations capacity and also that young people would be introduced to Scottish Country Dancing through this field. After a vote it was agreed that the RSCDS would become affiliated to the CCPR at a cost of £50 per annum.

b) Mr Smart queried why the name of The Hon. Peregrine of Moncreiffe was on the AGM Agenda. It was explained that this had been previously approved at the last Executive Council Meeting.

GP94/27

AFFILIATIONS

The undemoted Affiliations were approved.

New Forest Scottish Country Dancers
East Grimstead Scottish Country Dance Society
The Epping Forest Scottish Association

GP94/28

BRANCH FORMATIONS

There were no Branch Formations.

GP94/29

CONSTITUTIONS

Carlisle & Border Branch	Amendments to the Branch Constitution Approved.
Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles Branch	Amendments to the Branch Constitution Approved.
New Mexico Branch	Amendments to the Branch Constitution Approved.
Cincinnati Branch	Amendments to the Branch Constitution Approved.
Tucson Branch	Constitution Approved

GP94/30

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Miss Miller asked Mrs C Munro, Perth Branch, who should be thanked for the Executive Lunch. Mrs Munro will inform Miss Miller of this in due course.

Going through the Agenda it was noted that Lord Mansfield will again be unable to attend the AGM this year. This was discussed, and because the Committee are aware of the workload undertaken by Lord Mansfield, will write in due course and enquire if Lord Mansfield wishes to remain as President of the Society.

The Convener explained that because of the number of queries from Branches regarding the New Legislation Affecting Scottish Charities, the Open Forum would be dedicated to this subject. Other items would be discussed if there was time but otherwise they would have to be held in abeyance until a later date.

The Committee discussed the Amendment from Perth & Perthshire Branch and agreed that it is important that Trustees should be on a standing committee so that they are involved in the running of the Society.

The Proposal from London Branch regarding the Constitution & Rules was discussed and the Committee agreed that a 3 year period for Vice-Chairman was needed because the learning process was long and difficult.

GP94/31

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Convener informed the Committee of her idea of forming a Sub Committee for Public Relations. After discussion it was agreed in principle, that the Sub Committee was a good idea although it was pointed out that it should be made up of people who are in the business of Public Relations. The Committee agreed that this should go on the Agenda for the next Executive Council Meeting in November.

GP94/32

ARCHIVIST

Miss Miller said that we had all heard of the death of Miss F Gordon and what a sad loss she was as the Society Archivist. The Committee were informed that nomination forms had been distributed to all Branches and the new Archivist would be decided at the next Executive Council Meeting in November.

GP94/33

ACCESSORIES FOR JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

The Convener explained the background to this and said that the Society should now decide to to ahead with this project as the matter had been shelved long enough. The style of Membership Card and Badge was discussed and the Assistant Secretary will obtain samples and quotations. This matter will be remitted to Strathspey Sales Ltd.

GP94/34

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) A letter from Leeds Scottish Country Dance Club requesting funding for their Annual Festival of Scottish Country Dance was discussed. A reply will be sent saying the Society is unable to assist.

b) Glasgow Branch wrote offering to host the 75th Annual General Meeting of the Society. A reply will be sent accepting with pleasure.

c) A letter from Mr Angus Henry of Northern Territory Branch offering to undertake the production of the Society Logo was discussed. A reply will be sent advising Mr Henry that the Logo is under copyright which is held at Headquarters and therefore his offer would be declined.

d) Miss Martin of Canada wrote enquiring about the proportion of RSCDS members needed for a new Affiliated Group. A letter will be sent explaining that there is no specified number for membership necessary but the maximum number should be the members she had stated.

e) A letter from Mr J Carswell was discussed. As he failed to ask specific questions a letter will be sent asking for these.

f) Mr Mackay of New Zealand wrote to the Committee explaining the difficulties he has encountered in trying to form a Branch. A reply will be sent with the sympathy of the General Purposes Committee and New Zealand Branch will also be written to asking for their views.

GP94/35

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Edinburgh Branch wrote asking for permission to use the Committee Room for their meetings. Because of the security system in place at Headquarters, this request will be denied.

b) Miss Miller informed the Committee that a Japanese lady visiting Summer School had donated over £6,000 to the Society. She wanted part of the donation to be used in the production of 2 CD's and the remainder as we saw fit. The Convener suggested that all the money should be given to Publications & Research for the production of CD's and after discussion the Committee agreed. A remit will go to Publications & Research with this recommendation.

c) Mr A Smart expressed his concern that the time of a recent meeting had been changed at a very late date. This was noted.

GP94/36

FUTURE MEETINGS

These were agreed as follows:

11 February 1995, 8 April 1995, 7 October 1995.

In conclusion, Miss Miller thanked the Committee for 3 trouble free years as Convener and said that their cooperation and response to ideas had been much appreciated.

Mr G Lawson, on behalf of the Committee, thanked Miss Miller for chairing these meetings with wisdom.

W. Clement
11-2-95

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE GENERAL
PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD AT
12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH
ON SATURDAY 11 FEBRUARY 1995 AT
10AM

PRESENT: Mr W Clement (in the Chair), Miss A W Miller, Miss C Catto,
Mrs J Harper, Mrs C Munro, Dr J Reinstein, Mr R Turnbull,
Mr D Watson, Mrs R Wilton.

ATTENDING: Mrs J A Moore (Secretary).

GP95/1 APOLOGIES

An apologies were received from Mr G Lawson and Miss C
Traynor.

GP95/2 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

In the absence of Mr George Lawson, the Vice-Chairman
welcomed the members to the first Committee meeting of the
new session and in particular Dr J Reinstein and Mr D Watson
who were attending for the first time.

The Vice-Chairman then paid tribute to Graeme Stephens who
had been a member of the Committee for many years. Graeme
had been a loyal member of the RSCDS and had worked hard
for it both in his Branch, Kirkcaldy, and for Headquarters. The
loss of his services would be considerable.

On behalf of the Committee the Vice-Chairman expressed his
appreciation for the magnificent lectern which had been
presented to the Society by Kirkcaldy Branch in memory of
Graeme Stephens.

The Secretary was asked to write to Kirkcaldy Branch.

GP95/3 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 1 OCTOBER 1994

The Minutes of the Meeting on 1 October 1994 had previously
been approved at the Executive Council Meeting on 19
November 1994.

BUSINESS ARISING

a) GP94/26 CCPR

It was agreed that the RSCDS would be represented in the Movement and Dance Division by Marie Jamieson.

It was also agreed that a contribution of £50 be paid to the CCPR.

Following the Society's decision to re-join CCPR the Society was invited to take part in the Diamond Jubilee celebrations at the Royal Albert Hall in September and London Branch was asked to organise this.

Kellogs Special K has agreed to sponsor the September event. In connection with this, Special K packets will carry a special offer in May and June inviting people to a free dance movement class organised by one of the groups participating in the Royal Albert Hall event.

(b) GP94/31 PUBLIC RELATIONS

At the Executive Council Meeting in November 1994 the Council Members agreed that a Public Relations sub committee should be appointed from members with particular experience in this field and that suitable names should be forwarded to the Secretary prior to the meeting of the General Purposes Committee on 11 February.

The Secretary reported that, to date, no names had been forwarded. However, at the meeting, two names were put forward (Mrs Linda Gaul and Anne Hodgson), which would be kept in mind until further names with suitable experience came forward.

(c) GP94/33 ACCESSORIES FOR JUNIORS

Designs for Membership cards and badges were looked at and the Committee members selected a design for a badge with a gilt motif on a blue background. Quotations to be requested.

CO OPTIONS

The Secretary was asked to write to Mrs Isabel Rae to invite her to fill the vacancy on the committee created by the death of Mr Stephens.

GP95/6

AFFILIATIONS

The undemoted Affiliation was approved.

Luxembourg Scottish Country Dance Club.

GP95/7

CONSTITUTIONS

Bristol Branch	Amendments to Branch Constitution approved.
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Kingston, Ontario Branch	Amendments to Branch Constitution approved.
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Melbourne & District Branch	Amendments to Branch Constitution approved.
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New Zealand Branch	Amendments to Branch Constitution approved.
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GP95/8

APPOINTMENT OF SCROLL SUB COMMITTEE

A sub committee to give preliminary consideration to nominations for the award of the Scroll was appointed as follows:-

Mr G Lawson (Chairman), Mr W Clement (Vice-Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Immediate Past Chairman), Mrs C Munro, Dr J Reinstein.

The Committee will meet prior to the next General Purposes meeting on 8 April 1995 at 9.30am.

GP95/9

APPOINTMENT OF AGM SUB COMMITTEE

A sub committee to consider the Agenda for the 1995 AGM was appointed as follows:-

Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Immediate Past Chairman, Secretary, Mr Alasdair Smart, Mr Richard Turnbull.

GP95/10

CORRESPONDENCE

a) A letter from Forres requesting a grant towards examinations was discussed. A reply would be sent pointing out that Headquarters pays the travel and examiners fees but the class would have to pay for the hall.

- b) A letter from Cape Town Branch advising Headquarters about dwindling numbers was noted.
- c) New Zealand Branch in reply to our letter of 5 October informed us that they had received no communication from Mr Mackay about forming a Branch in New Zealand.
- d) A letter from Richmond Branch about facilities at Headquarters for visitors was discussed at length and would be referred for further discussion.
- e) A letter from Tokyo Branch relating to the safety of RSCDS members in the recent earthquake area was noted.
- f) A letter was received from Aberdeen Branch offering to host the AGM in 1997 over the weekend of Friday 31 October and Saturday 1 November. The Committee was pleased to accept the invitation.
- g) A letter from Ayr Branch requested approval for teachers and pianists for the 1995 AGM, *was accepted*
- h) A letter from Mr Carswell raising points already raised by him on previous occasions was discussed and the Secretary would reply.

GP95/11

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) SPECIAL MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
11 MARCH 1995

In discussing the special meeting of the Executive Council some members felt more time was required. Miss Miller, seconded by Mr Richard Turnbull, proposed that the meeting on 11 March should be postponed and that power be given to the Chairman to hold a meeting of Conveners and officials and the President to discuss further implications of the recent Charities legislation as it relates to the Society.

Miss Miller, seconded by Dr J Reinstein, proposed that the meeting on 11 March be reconvened on the morning of the Executive Council meeting on 13 May. 10.30am was the suggested time.

Both proposals were carried.

b) DANCE WORLD 1995 : 31 March - 2 April

Mrs Wilton informed the meeting about the programme of events at Dance World.

c) It was agreed that there would be discussion at an appropriate time to clarify in the Constitution apparent ambiguities. It was agreed that this was necessary because there was nothing in the Constitution & Rules which would indicate that the resolution at the 1994 AGM relating to Trustees was unconstitutional.

d) The Committee was saddened to learn of the death of Miss Margaret Rae. Miss Rae was the founder of Duns & District Branch, she had been a Council Representative for many years, a former member of the Finance Committee, she was also a teacher, examiner and adjudicator.

A memorial service will be held for Miss Rae on 24 February at which the Vice Chairman will represent the Society.

GP95/12

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8 April 1995 at 10am

M. Wilton
8. 4. 95

MINUTES OF MEETING OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH ON SATURDAY, 8 APRIL 1995, AT 10AM

PRESENT

Mr G Lawson (Chairman), Mr W Clement (Vice Chairman), Miss A W Miller, Miss C Catto, Mrs C Munro, Mrs I Rae, Dr J Reinstein, Mr A Smart, Miss C Traynor, Mr R Turnbull, Mr D Watson, Mrs R Wilton. Miss G Parker (Secretary)

APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Mrs Jessie Harper

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

After minor amendment the minutes of the meeting of 11 February 1995 were approved by the Committee and signed by the Chairman.

CHAIRMANS REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Isobel Rae to the Committee and reminded her that her replacement of Mr Stephens on the Committee afforded full voting rights. He also welcomed the new Secretary of the Society, Miss G Parker, and pledged to give her whatever support necessary.

BUSINESS ARISING

Memorial Service for Miss Margaret Rae
Miss Miller, on behalf of the members of the Duns & District Branch, thanked Mr Clement for attending the memorial service for Miss Margaret Rae, a founder member of the Branch and former Executive Council member.

Special Meeting of Executive Council

The Chairman reported that the Conveners of the Committees had met and a copy of the report regarding the new Charities Legislation had been circulated to all the Committee members, Executive Council representatives and Branch Secretaries. The report had also been circulated to the President, Lord Mansfield, who had passed it to his solicitor, although to date no response had been received. The Chairman agreed to contact Lord Mansfield again to ensure that his response to the report could be ascertained in advance of the Meeting on 13 May.

The Committee agreed to recommend to Executive Council that

- The Society remain a Charity
- The Branches of the Society become autonomous by *(date to be confirmed by the Treasurer)*
- A sub-committee be formed with a remit to investigate relevant changes to the constitution arising from the decisions regarding charity and branch status and any further clarification deemed necessary.
- This Constitution sub-committee be given authority to draft necessary resolutions to be put before the AGM

After some discussion the Committee further agreed that the Secretary would contact all the previous members of the Sub-Committee which investigated the Charities Legislation to ask if they would be prepared to stand for the new Constitution sub-committee. It was also stressed that the expertise and knowledge of members of the new sub-committee would be of paramount importance. It was agreed that the new Sub-Committee should comprise 5 members and should include someone with sufficient legal expertise to assist in drafting the proposed changes to the constitution and further that the new sub-committee should be appointed and meet as soon as possible.

JUNIOR ACCESSORIES

The Secretary advised the Committee that two quotations had been received for the production of badges for junior members and they agreed to accept the quotation from Fattorini and Sons for 1000 badges with safety pin style attachment. The design would be that approved by the Committee at their previous meeting.

AFFILIATE GROUPS

Miss Parker advised the Committee that three applications for Affiliate Group Membership had been received:

- The Bangkok St Andrews Society, Thailand
- EMO Dancers, Essen, Germany
- Vernon Scottish Country Dance Group, Canada

All three applications were recommended for approval.

SCROLL HONOURS

The Secretary advised the Committee that the Scrolls sub-committee had met prior to this

meeting and had agreed the Award of Scroll be granted to 4 applicants from 11 received, these were recommended for approval by the Committee. The Committee was reminded that the names of the nominees would be put forward for approval by the Executive and the scrolls would be presented where possible at the AGM in Troon.

PUBLIC RELATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE

It was agreed to recommend to Executive that

- the following members would be asked to form a Public Relations Sub-Committee: Mr Bill Clement (as Convener), Mr George Lawson, Mrs Heather Cochrane (Dundee Branch), Mrs Linda Gaul and Mrs Anne Hodgeson, and that they be granted authority to co-opt further members as necessary. Their remit would be to investigate the subject of Public Relations and to consider suitable events for the society's 75th Anniversary Year in 1998.

It was noted that, following a letter from Mr Clement, the Royal Mail were considering producing a commemorative stamp for the RSCDS, although no final decision had been made.

It was also noted that Toronto Branch had produced their own Publicity Plan and this would be made available to the new sub-committee when they were appointed.

JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

Stirlingshire Branch

An application had been received for funds to assist the branch to attend the 20th anniversary celebrations of an Icelandic folk dance group, Fidrildin. It was agreed to refer this matter to the Finance Committee.

Mrs A Murphy

The Committee noted that the Finance Committee had previously rejected this application for a grant to fund the Preliminary Test and Teachers Certificate Examinations held in April in South Cumbria. Mr Turnbull advised the Committee that grants were only considered by the Finance Committee to cover any shortfall in holding examinations, provided certain criteria was adhered to:

- examinations are organised by RSCDS branches
- detailed costings are submitted to HQ prior to the examinations
- suitable contributions are requested from each candidate

In this instance none of the above were carried out, therefore this Committee agreed to recommend that no grant be awarded from the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund, although it was noted that an income and expenditure account was now available.

Pianists Course, London Branch

An application for grant had been received from the London Branch who were organising a Pianists course, open to all members, to be held on 9 September 1995. The Branch had submitted details; each pianist had been asked to pay a sum equivalent to the cost of the administration, accommodation and lunch; the branch were to fund the balance of costs ie Tutor's accommodation and travel. It was agreed that a grant of £100 be awarded to cover the cost of the Tutor's fees.

CORRESPONDENCE

Headquarters Membership

The Committee noted that a letter had been received from Mr J Seddon, currently a headquarters member, expressing his desire to maintain headquarters membership and outlining the advantages of such status to someone who is not permanently based at one address.

Annual General Meeting 1996

It was noted that the City of Dundee District Council through their district library has one of the finest collections of Scottish music in the world. They had offered to form a display with some of the volumes and hope to accommodate limited access to the remainder of the collection to coincide with the Society's visit to Dundee. The Secretary agreed to remit this to the next meeting of the Publications and Research Committee for further consideration.

Minutes of AGM 1994

Several letters regarding the contents of the Minutes of the 1994 Annual General Meeting had been received from West Lothian Branch, and the Committee discussed the matter of whether the minutes were a true record of the proceedings. The minutes had not indicated that two items had been deemed to be unconstitutional. Miss Parker reminded the Committee that the General Purposes Committee were not competent to amend the minutes of the AGM. Mr Lawson had provisionally agreed the draft minutes which would be printed in the Bulletin and it was at the 1995 AGM that delegates would have the opportunity to propose any amendment to the Minutes.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Circulation of Minutes

The Secretary had circulated a paper to all members of the Committee proposing that the current situation where all sets of minutes of the Committees were circulated to all the Branch Secretaries and their Representatives be amended as follows:

A report (comprising a summary of the main topics of business and clearly setting out the recommendations to Executive Council) be produced for each of the Committees to replace the need to circulate copies of the minutes

The Committee discussed this in some detail and Mr Clement reminded them that the Conveners were already used to giving a report. Miss Parker advised them that the report would still be circulated to Executive Council members prior to the meeting allowing time to consider the recommendations and the Committee accepted that the Representatives currently received minutes at the Executive meeting which required ratification.

Dr Reinstein suggested, and the Committee agreed that Miss Parker would produce an example of the proposed report from the minutes of the previous General Purposes Committee and Mr Turnbull agreed to do likewise for the Finance Committee. This would ensure that when the members of Executive Council considered the proposal they would have an example before them.

The Committee recommended the proposal and further agreed to recommend that any subsequent changes to the constitution be remitted to the Constitution Sub-Committee.

Compact Discs

Mr Clement advised that committee that, following a most generous donation of £6000 from a Japanese member, three new CDs would be available at the end of the month.

Dancing in Princes Street Gardens

The Committee were advised by Mr Watson that Edinburgh Branch had been in correspondence with Edinburgh District Council regarding their proposal to cancel the dancing held annually in the Ross Bandstand, Princes Street Gardens from June - September. He appealed to members of the committee to encourage others to sign the petition and support their appeal. The Secretary agreed to contact the Council and to


express the Society's wishes that this event continue.

Chairmans Activities

Mr Lawson reminded the Committee of the many activities that he had attended on behalf of the Society since the last meeting and in particular Dance World 1995 which had been held at Olympia in London. He also reported that the Central Council for Physical Recreation, was delighted that the RSCDS had rejoined, and had offered assistance to the Society in investigating whether some form of blanket insurance for PPL could be organised for affiliated groups. It was noted that Marie Jamieson was the RSCDS representative

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee will be held on Saturday 7 October 1995 at 10am.



**MINUTES OF MEETING OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD AT 1000 HRS ON SATURDAY 7 OCTOBER 1995
AT 12 COATES CRESCENT EDINBURGH.**

PRESENT:

Mr G Lawson (Chairman), Mr W Clement (Vice Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Past Chairman), Miss C Catto, Mrs J Harper, Mrs C Munro, Mrs I Rae, Mr A Smart, Miss C Traynor, Mr R Turnbull, Mr D Watson and Miss G S Parker (Secretary)

APOLOGIES:

Apologies had been received from Dr J Reinstein and Mrs R Wilton

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING GP95/25

The Minutes of the meeting of 8 April having been approved at the Executive Council meeting, were signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING GP95/25

Junior Badges GP95/25/1
It was noted that the Junior badges were now available for purchase; they had been included on the publications list and some sales had been achieved.

Ross Bandstand Dancing GP95/25/2

The Committee agreed that Miss Leurs had been able to hold the usual dancing at the Ross Bandstand in Princes Street Gardens this year. It had proved to be a very successful event and the weather had been kind. The funds achieved from the sale of tickets had paid the cost of the bands, stewards etc. and had provided additional funding for next year. It was also noted that the arrangements and funds were not part of the Edinburgh Branch or Headquarters, but had been made by Miss Leurs. The Committee wished to thank her, and all those involved in the project for their efforts.

APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS GP95/26

It was agreed to recommend that the following be admitted as Affiliated Groups of the Society:

White Heather Dancers, Oklahoma City
Mid Sussex Scottish Dancing Class
The Panama St. Andrews Society
Caracas Scottish Country Dancers,
Venezuela
Dalriada Thistle Scottish Country Dancers,
Florida
St. Andrews Society of the River Plate,
Argentina

It was further agreed that subject to approval from their local branch, the Stratford upon Avon and District Caledonian Society, would also be recommended.

The Committee were anxious however to ensure that all Affiliated Groups were actively encouraging membership of the Society to their members.

CHANGE OF NAME GP95/27/1

The Committee agreed that the Dunbartonshire West branch could now be called the Helensburgh & District Branch because of local authority boundary changes.

GP95/27/2

The Committee noted that the Victoria branch was required under local legislation to become incorporated and agreed to provide the required confirmation of approval.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS GP95/28

Constitution GP95/28/1

(Mr A Smart Convener)

It had been agreed that the three main tasks were:

- (a) to amend the constitution in line with the autonomous nature of the branches*
- (b) to assist the branches in their applications for charitable status*
- (c) to look at any revisions of the constitution*

Nomination forms for the Executive Council would now include the statement: "It must be understood that acceptance of membership of the Executive Council also carries with it trusteeship of the Society"

A proposal that the term "branch" could be redefined, the model constitution redrafted, and a statement of autonomy included under Section III of the Society Constitution was rejected by Miss Ross of Murray Beith & Murray (Lord Mansfield's solicitor) she advised that the proposal would leave the branches out on a limb. She recommended that the minimum likely to be acceptable was that the constitutions of the Society and the Recommended Branch constitution should be changed

together, and an agreement (contract) should be drafted between the branches and the Society as a means by which the Society could remove the use of the name Royal Scottish Country Dance Society from the branch.

Mr Smart drafted new constitutions currently under consideration by the sub-committee and Miss Ross. It was agreed that his draft constitutions had incorporated more amendments than were strictly required. It being preferable to take the process more slowly and to make it a two stage process by submitting the necessary changes to the constitution in line with the legislation first, and subsequent changes could be submitted at a later date.

Miss Ross advised that current legislation required the Society to consolidate the accounts of the branches with those of the Society, or it must be clearly shown that the branches are autonomous and could stand alone without the Society. Miss Ross agreed to look over the two drafts and report back. Once the Executive Council had agreed the proposals, they should be submitted to the Inland Revenue for confirmation before ratification by the AGM.

Mr Lawson thanked Mr Smart for all his work and proposed that a further three people be appointed to the sub-committee. It was agreed that Richard Turnbull, Graham Bell and Wilma Miller be invited to join the sub-committee, and that only the minimum change would be presented to the Executive Council. The proposals would be issued to the Council as soon as possible to allow them time to assess the proposals before the May meeting.

The Chairman and Mr Smart agreed to meet to draft a report to be issued to delegates at the AGM advising them of the progress to date.

Public Relations GP95/28/2
(W Clement - Convener)

Agreed objectives were

- a) To encourage membership
- b) To encourage awareness of the Society
- c) To revitalise the image of the Society

Evidence should be provided to members of benefit of membership. Suggestions included:

- Discount to members (or increased cost to non-members) for Society publications and recordings.
- Discounted dance tickets on provision of membership cards
- Discounts could be available from other organisations on production of RSCDS membership cards (ie National Trust, Historic Scotland, HMV, Virgin Record Shops)
- Recommendation to stock Pillings and aim for world authority on Scottish Country Dancing
- Approach various youth organisations for closer links
- The Bulletin could be revamped and split into Annual Report and twice yearly Bulletin with information/articles/interviews for branches to use in their own publications.

75th Celebrations

It was agreed to co-opt Alastair Aitkenhead and Alastair MacFadyen to assist with the future discussion for the planning of suitable events. Events were still under consideration but should be year long and a variety of projects were being considered

The Committee accepted the report but agreed that in stocking the Pillings publication, a small insert should be distributed with the book indicating "Distribution by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society does not infer approval and it is recommended that this publication is used in conjunction with RSCDS publications"

It was also agreed that the Glasgow branch would investigate the possibility of holding a lunch prior to the AGM for all members on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Society.

Tattoo GP95/28/3
(W Clement - Convener)

Mr Clement had met with the new Director of the Tattoo - Brigadier Melville Jamieson, who had indicated that he wished to change the current format of the

dancing. The Brigadier hoped to have highland, army and Scottish country dancing performed together at the tattoo next year with a theme of "Robert Burns". Mr Clement had agreed to provide some suggestions as to possible dances. The Brigadier had also suggested that Scottish Country Dancing may not necessarily be included in the programme every year.

**Young Scottish Dancers Association
(A Aitkenhead - Convener) GP95/28/3**

The Secretary advised the Committee that the 3rd YSDA pack was available, and had included a book, tape and stickers for the children. Approximately a fifth of the original supply of 250 had been sold.

**JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND
GP95/29**

Mr Lawson advised the Committee that the original intention of the Fund had been that the interest was to be spent on extending and expanding the work of the Society, and that it should benefit all categories of membership whilst remaining flexible. The fund should help overseas branches and UK ones and may be used to assist potential teachers to attend Summer School.

Mr Turnbull advised the Committee that there was currently £7,000 of income that had not been spent and in recent years certain projects had been funded from the General Fund which meant that the JMMF was increasing while the General Funds were decreasing.

Video of Manual GP95/29/1
The Committee agreed that the video will benefit the Society but that the sales could not be expected to cover the production costs. It was also to be a one-off cost. It was approved that a sum of £10,000 would be granted for the production of the video.

Young Scot Expo GP95/29/2
This event was expected to attract 10,000 young people from Secondary Schools across Scotland. It would be held on 19-21 November at the Royal Concert Hall in Glasgow. Glasgow branch were co-ordinating teams to attend and provide a demonstration. A small stand would be available. It was agreed to provide a maximum of £500 to cover transport of teams plus approx. £110. for the stand

**Australian Teachers Association
GP95/29/3**

The Committee agreed that their request for funding for a residential course to be held in 1996 could not be supported by a grant.

Tutors Course GP95/29/4

The Examinations Committee had arranged a course to be held in Edinburgh, on 23 March for tutors with experience in presenting candidates for examinations. It was agreed to provide a grant to cover the candidate fees, and lunches.

Potential Tutors Course GP95/29/5

The Examinations Committee had agreed to hold a course in Edinburgh, on 20 April for suitably qualified teachers with experience, and who intended to run a candidate class in the near future. Applications would be limited and the Committee agreed to a grant to cover the candidate fees, and lunches.

Musicians Course GP95/29/6
This was to be held over 16-18 February, in Berwickshire, for piano and one other instrument. Funding was granted to cover fees and accommodation (bed/breakfast).

Teaching Tour of South Africa GP95/29/7
Three of the four branches had requested a bi-annual teaching tour to include a pianist. After some discussion the committee agreed that the funding be granted on the following basis: it was a one-off "missionary" tour to maintain strong links with South Africa.

Miss Parker agreed to contact the branches and confirm when they wished the tour to take place, and to obtain a suggested schedule of approximately three weeks duration. In view of the timing, if they preferred a tour in 1997 this may be considered.

Residential Course GP95/29/8
A request had been received for support for a member from Tasmania to attend the Australian residential course. The Committee decided not to approve a grant.

Examiners Seminar GP95/29/9

A request had been received for funding to assist with the travelling expenses incurred by some overseas examiners in attending the Examiners Seminar held in August. The Committee agreed that as this was part of the business of the Society, funding could not be allocated from the Fund.

NOMINATION OF VICE PRESIDENT

GP95/30

Miss M Brander had submitted a nomination of the Earl of Elgin, which had been supported by her branch. It was agreed that there had not been sufficient information in support of the nomination and the Secretary agreed to request further details.

MEMBERSHIPS GP95/31

CCPR GP95/31/1

The subscription rate for membership was based on a minimum fee, plus 0.001p per member, and 0.05p per affiliated group. The Committee agreed to this, based on the UK membership.

Scottish Sports Association

GP95/31/2

The Committee agreed that there was no need for the Society to join this organisation since it was already involved in the umbrella organisation of the Scottish Sports Council.

SPONSORSHIP - SCOTTISH SPORTS COUNCIL GP95/32

Mr Turnbull advised the Committee that the Finance Committee had sent a representative to an open meeting of the Council at which it was noted that 47 of the 55 governing bodies of sport were receiving funding of between 21p and £94 per member. An application could only be lodged three months prior or post the Society year end. It was agreed that the matter would be remitted to the YSDA, Summer School and Public Relations Sub-Committees to investigate suitable projects for application, such as funding to allow YSDA packs to be distributed to all schools free of charge.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS GP95/32

Guide To Branch Administration

GP95/32/1

Updating of this document, currently available to Branch Secretaries and Treasurers was deferred.

Advertising Sale Records GP95/32/2

Mrs Harper suggested to the committee that the advert which had appeared in an earlier issue of the Box and Fiddle newspaper, should be repeated, now that the dancing season had resumed. The Committee agreed.

Request for Minute Books GP95/32/3

Perth & Perthshire Branch had deposited for safekeeping the early minute books of the branch with Headquarters some years ago, and now wished to have access to the books for the purposes of obtaining photocopies for their own records. The Committee agreed.

Open Forum GP95/32/4

A member had put forward various suggestions regarding the administration of the AGM Open Forum. It was agreed that the Vice Chairman would continue to chair this session. While no minutes would be taken it was agreed that notes of the topics discussed may be taken as an aide memoire. The forum was intended as a means by which individual members could air thoughts and discuss matters of interest to them. Questions should continue to be submitted in advance in order to avoid duplication of discussions.

Past Chairman GP95/32/5

Miss Miller advised the Committee that this was to be her last meeting and said how much she had enjoyed working with the Committee and wished them success in the future. Mr Lawson thanked her for her contribution throughout her term of office and expressed his appreciation to her for all her help and for attendance, at the many meetings.

DATES OF 1996 MEETINGS

The dates of the meetings in 1996 will be Saturday 10 February, 13 April, and 5 October.



George Lawson

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY 10 FEBRUARY 1996 AT 10.30AM
AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH**

PRESENT

Mr G Lawson (Chairman), Mr W Clement (Vice-Chairman), Mrs J Harper, Mrs C Munro, Mr J Healy, Mrs I Rae, Dr J A Reinstein, Mr A Smart Mrs A Traill, Mr R Turnbull, Mrs R Wilton, Miss G Parker (Secretary).

APOLOGIES GP96/1

Due to the bad weather conditions Dr P Gormley had been unable to attend and had tendered his apologies.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS GP96/2

The Chairman had welcomed the new members to the Committee and had advised them that due to other pressures of work within the Society Headquarters, it had not been possible to produce copies of many of the papers for today's meeting.

He did however advise the meeting that in future in order to save time within the meeting and to provide the fullest amount of information to Committee members to allow effective decision making, additional papers would be forwarded to Committee members.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

GP96/3

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 1995 were approved by the Committee.

MATTERS ARISING GP96/4

Young Scot Expo GP95/29/2

It was noted by the Committee that the exhibition had taken place in Glasgow. The response had been disappointing in that the exhibition had been geared for professional career orientated stands and the Society stand was separated from the main body of the exhibition. The exhibition itself did not appear to be very well attended.

Musicians Course GP95/29/6

It was noted that the Musicians Course was due to take place over the weekend 16-18 February. Miss Muriel Johnstone, as Director, had approved the attendance of all those who applied to attend a pianist course. Unfortunately there had been a couple of applications from those wishing to play the accordion and it had not been possible to run a specific course for this. They had therefore not been accepted onto the course.

Tutors Course GP95/29/4

It was noted that the date of the Tutors Course had been amended due to the Special Executive Council Meeting to be held on the 23 March 1996. The new date for the Tutors Course was to be 30 March 1996.

APPLICATION FOR BRANCH STATUS (Tokyo Bluebell Club) GP96/5

An application had been received from the Tokyo Bluebell Club for Branch status. The application indicated that the current Tokyo Branch should cover greater Tokyo and all six Kantoh area prefectures, while the Scottish Bluebell Club covered central Tokyo area.

The Tokyo Branch had co-ordinated a meeting of all the qualified teachers in Japan to discuss the issue. They were not able to fully support the reasons behind the formation of a new Branch.

The Committee discussed the matter and agreed that although the Tokyo Bluebell Club had proved to be a most successful Affiliated Group, there was not sufficient justification to form an additional Branch within the Tokyo area. The application was therefore denied.

CHANGE OF BRANCH NAME GP96/6
East Stirlingshire Branch GP96/6/1

An application had been received on behalf of the Branch for permission to change their name due to local government re-organisation. The new name of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Falkirk Branch, was accepted by the Committee.

Adelaide Branch GP96/6/2

An application had been received from the Adelaide Branch requesting to change their name from Adelaide Branch to the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Adelaide & Districts Branch. The Committee agreed.

APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS GP96/7

The Committee agreed that the following groups would be accepted to Affiliated Group Status with the Society. It was however noted that each of the groups should be encouraged to ensure as many members of the Group as possible should become members of the Society

Budapest Scottish Country Dance Club
St Andrews Society of Russia
Worcester Caledonian Dancers

JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND GP96/8

Teaching Tour - Southern Africa 1996 GP96/8/1

It was noted that following approval at the previous meeting for funding towards the above tour, the approximate cost of attendance would be £1,275.00 per person. It was further noted that the teacher for the tour would be Margo Priestley accompanied by the pianist Doreen McKerran.

The tour was to be funded as a missionary visit by the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund and would cover Johannesburg, Pretoria, Harare (including Mutere and Bulawayo), Cape Town and Grahamstown/Port Elizabeth. The tour would take place from 7 - 28 May 1996 and would incorporate the

teacher and pianist visiting the Pietermaritzburg Day School.

Teaching Tour - New Zealand 1996

GP96/8/2

An application had been received via the Examinations Committee for a teaching tour of New Zealand to incorporate attendance at the Winter School being held from 10 - 17 August. It was noted that the usual examination tour which should have taken place in 1995 was cancelled since the overseas examiners were in attendance at the Examiners Seminar. It was also noted that the New Zealand Branch frequently invited teachers to attend their Winter School.

After some discussion, the Committee regretted that the funding for such a tour could not be found for a teachers tour in 1996. The Committee would be pleased to suggest suitable teachers, however their expenses would have to be covered by the Branch.

The Secretary agreed to contact the Branch to advise them of this decision.

REDUCED SUMMER SCHOOL FEES FOR JUNIORS GP96/9

A letter had been received from Marilyn Watson of Bournemouth Branch, who had indicated that she had several members between the ages of 16-18 who attended regular classes and wished to attend Summer School. They had already made great efforts to raise sufficient funds, however it was unlikely they would be able to raise sufficient to send all nine members to the School.

The Committee discussed the proposal of offering reduced fees to younger members and agreed that this could not be considered at this stage. However they agreed to consider the matter further at the next meeting.

They did agree that the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund would give a grant to this Branch to assist the members specified to attend Summer School. Should 4 or more children attend Summer School for 1 weeks duration a grant of £250.00 would be paid, if 4 or more attended for 2 weeks duration a grant of £450.00 would be paid.

TRAVELLING COSTS GP96/10

A request had been received from a member of Glasgow Branch who took Scottish Country Dancing classes after school for primary school children (for which there was no charge). The group had to travel great distances to attend day schools, dances and festivals and a request for funding to assist with the costs of attending these events was requested from the fund.

The Committee considered the issue and with regret agreed that no funding could be made available.

REPORTS FROM SUB COMMITTEE

GP96/11

CONSTITUTION SUB COMMITTEE

GP96/11/1

Mr Smart reported that:

"The sub-committee met on 25 January and concluded the revisions to the Branch Constitution. The Society Constitution had now also been agreed and the sub-committee reviewed the licence agreement in line with comments submitted by the branches.

One final clause regarding disputes had just been received from a member of the sub-committee and the licence agreement, redrafted Society constitution and recommended branch constitution will be forwarded to all branch secretaries and executive council representatives.

Many branches seemed to misunderstand the nature of the licence agreement, and its relation to the constitutions of the Society

and the branches. The licence agreement is merely the link with the Society which determines the only means by which the Society can influence the branches. The branches as autonomous bodies must determine their own methods of administration which cannot be influenced by the Society.

The timing of the implementation of the licence agreement (which all branches will be required to sign) and constitutions, will be governed by the Special General Meeting (11 May), however it is clearly intended that the licence agreement will be implemented in tandem with the constitutions.

Several branches questioned the reasoning for the clause which specified that the agreement shall be governed in accordance with the laws of Scotland and subject to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts. The committee considered these comments carefully, however, the agreement must be clear in its specification as to one jurisdiction, and given the Society HQ are based in Scotland this was accepted as being the proper jurisdiction.

The Recommended branch constitution, which had been drafted, is the means by which we believe the branches should be governed, in respect of the new responsibilities imposed upon us from the Charities Acts. The Society Constitution is, as far as possible, based on the original with only those amendments included which the committee deemed necessary to comply with the Society's charitable status.

It was noted that there was no reference to the word Branch included in the papers. It is not intended however, to change branch names, unless they choose to do so. The sample licence agreement includes the word "Branch" as an example of how they might complete the agreement.

While all three papers have been drafted with the assistance of lawyers, they have not yet been passed by the Charities Commission in England as being acceptable for charitable purposes. It is hoped that an initial response in this regard may be available at the Special Executive Council meeting on 23 March".

PUBLIC RELATIONS SUB COMMITTEE GP96/11/2

Mr Clement had reported that the Public Relations Sub Committee had looked into the subject of member benefits. In particular they had recommended that the annual membership card should be reduced to credit card size and that long term members should receive a laminated card. They also suggested that life time members should be offered a new style of card provided some sort of payment was received.

The Committee discussed the issue and agreed that this would not be acceptable. Although it was noted that when the life time membership was available inflation rates were low and it was no longer cost efficient to administer a life member.

The Committee agreed therefore that life members could be invited to contribute to the administrative fee charged by the Branch to which they were members.

The Sub Committee had also agreed to draft a press release pack for issue to Branch to assist them in producing suitable press releases, for issue to radio, TV and newspaper editors.

The Sub Committee were also considering further the possibility of setting up a project for a student of design to take onboard the redesign and possible re-launch of the Society logo, letterhead, inlay cards and in-house printing styles.

The Sub-Committee had also suggested that the Society should produce a

newsbrief in order to advise the members of the discussions and decisions at the AGM, Executive Council with regard to the Charitable Status decisions. Articles would include the effect of the decisions regarding subscription levels which were made at the AGM. The Chairman would also contribute a column. Copies of the Newsletter were tabled at the meeting and it was agreed that this was proving to be a most worthwhile publication which would help to keep the members advised of events. The Committee agreed that a Newsbrief should be published on an annual basis with the distribution (if possible) in January.

The Committee agreed that a working party would be set up to consider the possibility of the RSCDS Bulletin being split into two publications. The first would be a bi-annual publication, directory of the Branch Secretaries and Affiliated Group Secretaries as currently appears in the Bulletin. The second would be an annual report which would be in A4 size which would assist with reducing the cost of postage. The current size of Bulletin was such that it was at its maximum and no further pages could be added. An A4 format could be flexible in its layout and its design.

Mr Clement also advised the meeting that the working party had considered events for the 75th anniversary year in 1998. The working party had agreed that the celebrations should last for one year from January 1998 culminating in the AGM to be hosted by Glasgow Branch in November 1998. The national Society events should take the form of anniversary rallies. It was proposed that these should start in January/February in London, progressing through Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle, Perth, Aberdeen and culminating in Glasgow. It was proposed that should the event prove acceptable, a Royal Garden Party might be held at Holyrood Palace, Edinburgh while Her Majesty The Queen was in residence

(during June). Other countries would be asked to arrange similar national rallies within their own country.

Each rally would include a core of five dances and would be locally administered by the Branches, they would be self financing with each Branch in the area having a representative on the organising committee. Branches would of course be encouraged to hold their own birthday dances during the anniversary year. It was hoped that the rally events could be either for adults or children or a combination.

The Committee also considered the 1998 booklet (Book 40) which they agreed should include a combination of history reflecting the world wide nature of the Society and three or four simple traditional dances as they would have been originally described and as they would be included in a contemporary RSCDS publication. The matter was referred to the Publications Committee.

It was noted that a representative from the Glasgow Branch and the Director of Summer School had been asked to attend the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

FORMATION OF TEACHERS GROUP GP96/12

Committee members had received papers regarding the formation of a teachers group in The Northern Territories of Australia. The Committee unanimously supported the correspondence which had been prepared by the Secretary responding to queries raised by the Committee of Management of the Northern Territories Branch.

The Committee confirmed that the Society required no formal involvement with the Scottish Country Dance Group of Northern Territories as defined in Mr Henry's letter of 11 December 1995.

The stated support of the RSCDS as an objective of the group posed no difficulties

for Headquarters, however the Committee agreed that there must be no inference of any affiliation or support from the Society to the Teachers Group.

The Committee also agreed that the objective to support the philosophy and activities of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society must not be used in promotional material to infer acceptance by the Society.

The Branch is permitted to pay the teachers for services rendered as indicated in the Northern Territories Branch Constitution and Rules No. 4.

The Committee agreed that the Chairman would write to Mr Henry to advise him of the Committee decision.

SCOTTISH TRADITIONS OF DANCE TRUST GP96/13

The Committee noted that an advertisement had appeared in the January issue of the Scots Magazine from the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust. A reply had been sent to the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust copied to the Scottish Arts Council (The Funding Body), The Editor of Scots Magazine, and Dr MacFadyen, as a trustee and founder member, indicating that it was misleading for the Trust to indicate that there was no body encouraging education and research and providing information sources and archival material in relation to Scottish Country Dancing.

In addition it has been agreed that the Archivist would draft an article, which it was hoped would be accepted by the Scots Magazine. The article would include details of the Archives indicating their importance to Scottish Country Dancing and Scottish traditions. It was also noted that there was to be a meeting with the Director of the Trust at which the Society's concerns would be raised.

REVIEW OF AGM FORMAT GP96/14

The Committee agreed the following:

- The AGM would continue to be held on the Saturday afternoon. The AGM should now commence at 2pm.
- Presentation of the Society Scrolls would be made earlier in the meeting. (Although it was noted that every effort was made to ensure the Scroll recipient were welcomed and were escorted to the appropriate area of the hall, it was recommended that the Scroll recipients should automatically be sent tickets for the ball which would be paid for by Headquarters).
- a minimum of 2 microphones should be provided for the AGM and that the proposers and seconders be asked to sit in the central aisle seats.
- the organising branch should be given the option to consider the possibility of holding a social dance on the Friday evening and the ball on the Saturday evening.
- the classes should be maintained wherever possible, since this proved to be a popular event.

A proposal as to arrangements for proxy voting was discussed. However it was agreed that following approval by the Branch AGM, the proposed change to the Constitution should be submitted to the Society Secretary for inclusion within the AGM Agenda.

The Committee also recommended to the Executive Council that

- the current policy of inviting the Executive Council members to lunch at the AGM should now be reviewed. It was however accepted that the Dundee Branch may have already made arrangements for the 1996 AGM. However if they wished to dispense with the Executive Council lunch this year, subject to Executive Council approval, this would be acceptable.

ADDITIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT

GP96/15

Following a suggestion from Margaret Brander, the Committee had considered the possibility of the Earl of Elgin being invited to take up the position of Vice-President in addition to those already holding the post.

Mrs Brander had now apparently contacted Lord Elgin, who was delighted to be invited to take up the post. He very much wished to maintain the traditions of his mother, Countess of Elgin, who had been the Society President when Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II granted the Society her patronage.

The Committee agreed that in future any proposals of additional Vice-Presidents or office bearers must be confirmed by the Executive Council before they could be approached by the Society Secretary on behalf of the Executive Council.

The Committee agreed to recommend to the Executive Council that

- the Earl of Elgin be invited to become an additional Honorary Vice-President.

RSCDS CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE, NORTHERN IRELAND

GP96/16

The Committee noted that the annual report from the Committee and audited statement of accounts had been forwarded to the Society. The Co-ordinating Committee acted as a fund raising body for the Northern Ireland Branches of the Society and the Committee unanimously approved the grants which were awarded by the Committee during 1995.

SCROLL SUB-COMMITTEE

GP96/17

It was agreed that the following members would be appointed to the Scroll Sub-Committee:

Mr G Lawson
Mr W Clement

Mrs C Munro
Dr J Reinsten
Mrs I Rae

The Sub Committee agreed to meet to consider the applicants for the Award of Scroll prior to the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee.

AGM SUB COMMITTEE GP96/18

The following members were appointed to the AGM Sub Committee:

Mr G Lawson
Mr W Clement
Mr R Turnbull
Mr A Smart
Mr J Healy

THE SCOTTISH TARTANS AUTHORITY GP96/19

Mr Clement reported to the Committee that he had been made aware of the existence of the Scottish Tartans Authority which had just been incorporated and was in the process of applying for charitable status.

The Authority had as its objectives, to study, record, stimulate, research and educate the public about the origins, history and developments of Scottish Tartans. To develop and manage interpretative museums, libraries, lectures etc. To carry out research and training; to encourage publications etc to encourage a spirit of commitment in others towards these objectives.

The Committee noted that many tartan manufacturers were already involved with the Authority and the Society should be seen to be involved and may gain useful contacts within the industry.

The Committee agreed that a group membership should be taken up by the Society.

REFUND OF SUMMER SCHOOL FEE GP96/20

Mrs Wilton raised the issue of refunding student fees when students genuinely were unable to attend and their place could be filled by another student. It was noted that the current policy was to give no refund and the application form made it clear that insurance cover should be obtained by each student attending. It was agreed to refer the matter to the Finance Committee for further consideration.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES TO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL GP96/21

Mr Turnbull advised the Committee that due to the timing of the Finance Committee meetings, it was not possible to include a report of all of the Finance Committee meetings to be sent out to Executive Council Members.

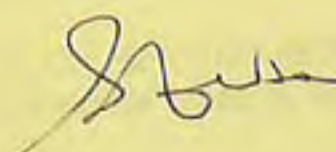
The Committee agreed that it was preferable that a report, of at least some of the business of the Committee, was forwarded to Executive Council members prior to the meeting. However they agreed that the Secretary would investigate the possibility of revising the Committee timetable in order to allow greater flexibility in producing the reports.

SUMMER SCHOOL QUESTIONNAIRE GP96/22

The Public Relations Sub-Committee had proposed a questionnaire which was to be distributed to all members attending the Summer School. The Committee agreed subject to a minor amendment to the form that it appeared to adequately cover each of the topics of relevance at the Summer School.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING GP96/23

The date of the next meeting of this Committee will be held on Saturday 13 April 1996 at 10am.



**MEETING OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD ON SATURDAY 13 APRIL 1996
AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH AT 10.00AM**

PRESENT

Mr G Lawson (Chairman), Mr W Clement (Vice Chairman), Mr J Healy, Mrs J Harper, Mrs C Munro, Mrs I Rae, Dr J A Reinstein, Mr A Smart, Mrs A Traill, Mr R Turnbull (Finance Convener), Mrs R Wilton, Miss G Parker (Secretary).

APOLOGIES

Dr P Gormley was unable to attend due to illness and had tendered his apologies.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING GP96/24

Mr Turnbull wished to clarify the Minutes in that under the section "Reports of Committees to Executive Council", GP 96/21, the question was whether or not the Reports should be delayed until such time as all were available, or whether they should be sent out before the meeting in order to allow representatives an opportunity to consider the papers, even if this meant that some reports would need to be tabled at the meeting.

The Minutes were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS GP96/25

The Chairman advised the Committee that during the week, a theft had occurred from Headquarters, the settle which had been donated to the Society on purchase of the current building at Coates Crescent, had been stolen during office hours. The matter had of course been reported to the police, however it was unlikely that an insurance claim would be possible, since the settle had been kept between the inner and outer doors and no forced entry had taken place.

MATTERS ARISING

Musicians Course GP95/29/6

Mr Lawson advised the Committee that Miss Johnstone was unable to take the Musicians Course at the last minute, however Robert Mackay had been able to do so and the Course had proceeded smoothly.

The Secretary had written to Mr Mackay on behalf of the Examinations Committee to thank him for his efforts in this regard.

Tutors Course GP95/29/4

It was noted that the Course had taken place on the 30 March. Several letters had been received from those attending indicating that the course had proved to be most successful.

Reduced Summer School Fees GP96/9

It was noted that although previous minutes had indicated that the matter should be discussed at this meeting, it would be more appropriate to discuss it further once the accurate numbers of younger people attending the Summer School were available. It was agreed however to recommend to the Finance Committee that a reduced funding level be considered for members under 21 years of age attending. The funding would come from the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund.

APPLICATION FOR BRANCH STATUS

Bluebell Tokyo Club GP96/26

A letter had been received from the Secretary of the Tokyo Scottish Bluebell Club indicating their disappointment at the decision of the Committee to reject their application for Branch status. The letter also requested that the Committee reconsider their decision.

The Committee noted that the club had a selective process for membership with a restricted age limit and that the original situation whereby two branches would cover one city was still in contravention of the Constitution. It was therefore agreed that there would be no change to the Committee decision.

APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS GP96/27

Dorset Caledonian Society.
This application was considered by the Committee and approved.

PROPOSED REVISION OF COMMITTEE TIMETABLE GP96/28

At the last meeting the Committee had agreed that the current timetable did not allow sufficient time to allow the Reports of the Committees to be prepared and issued to the representatives within a reasonable time frame.

It was agreed therefore that the Secretary would devise a revised timetable in order to allow suitable distribution of the papers. A revised version was tabled at the meeting, and with minor amendments the Committee agreed to recommend it to the Executive Council.

REPORT ON MEETING WITH SCOTTISH TRADITIONS OF DANCE TRUST GP96/29

The Chairman advised the Committee that he and the Vice Chairman had met with Office Bearers of Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust. The meeting had been called in order to open discussions as to ways to which the two organisations could work together.

It was noted that the Trust wished to act as an umbrella body to promote all forms of dance and work for the benefit of the dance bodies. It was stressed that the Trust did not wish to be seen as being in opposition to the Society and it was hoped that the two organisations could work together.

It was agreed that the Trust would alert the Society to any Scottish Country Dances discovered and it was not their wish to publish any new dances.

It was suggested that the Society should appoint a representative to the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust Liaison Panel, which it was hoped would act as a communication bridge between the Trust and Scottish Country Dance Organisations. The Committee agreed that subject to a suitable meeting timetable Mr Jim Healy would be the Society representative.

It was noted that following the previous meeting the Archivist had drafted an article for inclusion in the Scots Magazine. This was to counter the original article from the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust which appeared in the January issue of the magazine. This had been amended by the Chairman and Vice Chairman and had now been forwarded to the Scots Magazine for possible publication.

HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS GP96/29

It was noted that His Grace The Duke of Atholl had died on the 27 February 1996. The funeral service had been a private affair and the Society had sent a card and a wreath to the Duke's sister. The Chairman and Vice Chairman had attended a memorial service for the Duke which had taken place on 12 April 1996.

NEW HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENT

GP96/30

It was noted at the previous meeting the Committee had recommended to the Executive Council that the Earl of Elgin be invited to become an additional Honorary Vice President. A further suggestion had now been submitted from Glasgow Branch and the Committee considered this carefully. However it was agreed that the information provided did not show that the candidate was suitably involved with Scottish Country Dancing. It was therefore rejected.

AWARD OF SCROLL

GP96/31

The Scroll Sub-Committee had met and recommended to the Committee that five Scrolls be awarded. The Committee were reminded that the names of the nominees would be put before the Executive Council for approval and the Scrolls would be presented, where possible, at the AGM in November in Dundee.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

GP96/32

Committee Reports

GP96/32/1

It was noted that the trial period of one year, imposed by the Executive Council was almost expired.

It was agreed to recommend to the Executive Council that the current system of the summarised report be made permanent. It was agreed however, that a note should be added to the current reports indicating the dates of the meetings covered by each Report.

Sports Council Funding

GP96/32/2

Mr Smart advised the Committee that in order that the Society might be able to gain funding through the Scottish Sports Council, it would be a prerequisite that the Society was accepted and recognised as the governing body for Scottish Country Dancing.

Executive Council Meetings

GP96/32/3

It was suggested that the Secretary should investigate a means by which a sandwich lunch could be made available for the representatives attending the Executive Council Meeting. It was accepted that the representative would have to bear the cost of the lunch. The Secretary reminded those present that no lunch facilities would be available for the Meeting of the Executive on 11 May.

75th Anniversary Working Party GP96/32/4

It was noted that the working party had met on 1 March and had revised the suggested timetable for the 75th anniversary rallies which it was hoped would be held in the UK. The timetable was now as follows:

January/February	London
March	Birmingham
April	Manchester
May	Newcastle
June	Edinburgh
July	Perth
August	Dundee
September	Aberdeen

Culminating in the AGM in November hosted by Glasgow Branch.

The actual format of the rally would be left to the organisation of the local region, although the objective must be to ensure that it attracts as many Scottish Country Dancers as possible within the area, to celebrate the anniversary.

Individual Branches would of course hold their own birthday events. Each rally would include a core of five dances and would be locally administered by the Branches. The events would be self financing, with each branch in the area having a representative on the organising Committee, and would cater for either children or adults, or both.

It was agreed that the following five dances would form the core of the rallies.

Mrs Stewart's Jig
The Duke of Atholl's Reel
Miss Milligan's Strathspey
The Triumph
Sugar Candie

A contingency fund would be set up and the Director of Summer School advised that the raffle at this years school would be contributed to the contingency fund. In addition it was hoped that donations, from members, raffles, and special events, would be contributed to the fund.

It was noted however, that the Society could not officially underwrite all the events. It was further noted that the 1998 AGM would commence at 2.30pm in order to allow a lunch to be available to all those attending the event.

Public Relations Sub-Committee GP96/32/5

An approach was to be made to the relevant Scottish Education Department Officials, to investigate whether a scheme might be set up whereby the Society gained credits towards a SCOTVEC (NVQ) qualification.

The Sub Committee were currently in the process of providing a press pack for use by Branches.

It was noted that the initial approach to the Scottish Sports Council regarding a possible fund towards the appointment of a development officer to promote Scottish Country Dancing in Schools had not been positive. A proposal was however being considered and would be put before the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

An approach has been made to the Head of Graphic Art at the Glasgow School of Art, in order to investigate whether the college would be prepared to take on a project to relaunch the

Society logo. This would involve letterhead, compliment slips, inlay cards, inhouse publications etc.

A new RSCDS leaflet was currently being devised and costs would be put before the Finance Committee.

Constitution Sub Committee GP96/32/6

It was noted that there were several suggestions as to amendments to the Constitution brought forward at the last Executive Council Meeting. It was agreed that such suggestions would be put to the Constitution Sub Committee for further consideration. It was also agreed that the sub-committee would be given authority to approve any amendments to branch constitutions submitted.

Secretary GP96/32/7

Dr Reinstein reminded the Committee that while the title Secretary was commonly used, the duties carried out by the current Secretary were far in excess of the duties of a Secretary. The term Secretary was often misunderstood, and a more suitable title would be considered for Miss Parker.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING GP96/33

The date of the next meeting will be on 5 October 1996 at 10am.

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD ON SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 1996 AT 1000 HRS.**

PRESENT

Mr G Lawson (Chairman), Mr W Clement (Vice Chairman), Mr R Turnbull (Finance Convener), Dr P Gormley, Mr J Healy, Mrs J Harper, Mrs C Munro, Mrs I Rae, Dr J A Reinstein, Mr A Smart, Mrs A Traill, Mrs R Wilton, Miss G Parker (Secretary)

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 13 April were approved by the Committee

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS GP69/34

Mr Lawson welcomed all to the meeting and particularly Dr Gormley who had been unable to attend the previous meetings. He advised the committee that this would be the last time that he would convene the committee and that he felt a lot had been achieved within the Society in the two years of his office. Now was the time to take stock before moving on to matters new, and to consolidate the results of the recent changes.

MATTERS ARISING

Southern Africa Tour

The Committee noted that the tour, funded by the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund had been particularly successful and that Mrs Priestley and Mrs McKerron had been very much appreciated. A letter received from the Johannesburg Branch had indicated that they hoped that this would become a regular tour. However the committee agreed that this had been funded as a one-off "missionary tour".

Change of Title GP96/32/7

It was noted that the perception of the title "Secretary" by outside organisations was one of a typist, and this did not adequately reflect the position currently held by Miss Parker. In addition the Society had almost 170 branches all of which had a Secretary, and it was important to differentiate between the Honorary Secretaries and the Society Secretary. It was noted that any change in title did not change the duties undertaken by Miss Parker and need not require any change to the constitution. It was therefore agreed that Miss Parker should in future be referred to as Executive Director and Secretary of the RSCDS.

Request for Funding GP96/32/2

It was noted that the Sports Council had not been able to grant funding to the Society for

the appointment of a Promotions Officer to promote Scottish Country Dancing in schools. An application had been submitted to the Thompson Trust in Perth. However, as the Trustees met infrequently, no response had yet been received.

APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS GP/96/36

It was agreed that the following groups be granted affiliated group status, and that they should encourage their members to join the Society.

- Buchanan School of Scottish Country Dancing
- Derby Maxwell Scottish Society
- Penrith Scottish Country Dance Club
- Columbus (Heather 'n' Thistle) Scottish Country Dancers
- Club de Dance Ecosaise, Grenoble

CHANGE OF BRANCH NAME GP96/37

An application for a change of branch name from Ayrshire North West to RSCDS North Ayrshire Branch was approved.

APPLICATION FOR BRANCH STATUS

New Jersey Branch GP/96/38
An application from the Hudson Valley class of the New York Branch to form the RSCDS New Jersey Branch was approved.

Tokyo Scottish Bluebell Club GP96/5

A further request from the Tokyo Scottish Bluebell Club asking that their application for branch status be reconsidered, was discussed by the Committee. It was noted that Mr Clement was due to visit Japan on a private visit, and it was agreed that he would discuss the matter further with the Club and the Tokyo Branch. It was suggested that as the club had their headquarters in a kantoh outwith the centre of Tokyo, it might be acceptable to all parties if the club form a branch which did not include the name Tokyo. It was also stressed that the club must agree to accept a constitution in line with the model constitution for Local Associations.

AMENDED BULLETIN FORMAT GP96/39

It had been agreed that the Bulletin format should be amended in order to allow for greater flexibility in the layout and in order to ensure that the Bulletin was easier to read. It was noted that the Finance Committee had considered the funding requirements and that

there would be no increased costs for producing the following:

- A4 Bulletin issued to all members (via the branch network) each year
- A5 Directory of Branch and Affiliated Group Secretaries issued to all members (via the branch network) every second year
- A4 Newsbrief - six copies to be issued to all branches in January for distribution to their membership either by reproduction in Branch Newsletters or any other means available.

REPORTS OF SUB-COMMITTEES

Tattoo GP96/40/1
This sub committee had been set up following concerns about the standard and style of dancing at the Tattoo. Mr Clement was the Convener, and Mrs Gaul and Mr Harry were also members of the sub-committee. They had met with Major Parker the former Producer and had raised the Society's objections. He had welcomed their comments and had asked that they come forward with suggestions. A video had been submitted, however, the new Producer had since taken up the post. Brigadier Jamieson had indicated that he wished to change the format of the dancing and had taken up two of the suggested dances for the 1996 Tattoo. Mr Clement agreed to continue to establish links with the Producer.

Young Scottish Dancers Association

GP96/40/2

Mr Aitkenhead, as convener of the sub-committee had submitted his report indicating that the YSDA had now produced four packs containing a cassette tape, book of dance instructions and badges. The packs were proving useful for all teachers involved in children's classes. It was agreed that the YSDA sub-committee should meet and set up a "Dance Scottish" event in 1998, which should encourage as many schools as possible to enter into Scottish Country Dancing.

Details of the availability should also be circulated to all English Education Authorities, as had already occurred with the Scottish ones.

Constitution GP96/40/3
Mr Smart advised the committee that a meeting had taken place with the Charity Commissioners in Liverpool. They were currently considering adopting a modified version of the Model Constitution, for Local Associations in England and Wales wishing to

apply for charitable status. They had asked that until the modifications were agreed no further applications should be submitted. In future there would need to be two model constitutions for Local Associations:

1. Model Constitution for Local Associations in England and Wales (applying for charitable status) ["The Charity Model"]
2. Model Constitution for Local Associations (this to apply to branches outwith England and Wales or to those in England and Wales who did not wish to apply for charitable status) ["The Model"]

Recommendations on Amendments To Society Constitution

- **Proxy Voting** - Headquarters would provide greater assistance to branches wishing to appoint a representative/delegate. This already achieved with TAC
- **Immediate Chairman *ex-officio* for one year** - Assistance provided by the attendance of the Past Chairman at committee meetings in the year after demitting office as Chairman was invaluable, therefore no change required.
- **Branches must have 2 qualified teachers** - Impractical to insist to all branches that they had to have 2 qualified teachers within their area, however branches should aim to have 2 active teachers within their branch.
- **AGM Motions** - "All motions to the AGM must be submitted through the Executive Council (except in special circumstances whereby the Executive Council grants the power to a sub-committee or standing committee to submit an emergency motion to the AGM)" This was in order to ensure that all motions have been adequately discussed and considered before being submitted to the membership at the AGM.
- **Nominations of Chairman and Vice Chairman** - A clause should be added to the Society Constitution to clarify that nominations for Society Chairman and Vice Chairman can only be submitted by a Branch.
- **Sub-Committee Reports** - All sub-committees must report to the main committee on the business conducted between the meetings of the main committee. (In exceptional circumstances the convener of the Committee may grant the sub-committee powers to report direct to the Council)

• **Membership Representation**

It was noted that HQ members still were not represented on the Executive Council and at the AGM. It was agreed that the HQ membership category had been established with the intention that they would not have representation and therefore it was proposed to disband the HQ membership category and replace it with a "Non-Voting Membership Category". All existing HQ members would be invited to apply for membership with a branch of their choosing, or to remain as a Non-Voting Member. This would be clear in any future application form. (The Charity Commission in Liverpool had indicated that they saw no problem with this.

It was agreed that the following matters required further discussion:

Number of Branch Delegates - There was some discussion about an additional banding level to be added to the existing entitlement for branch delegates, and it was referred back to the sub-committee.

Society Trustees

All the Society Trustees (Executive Council Representatives) should sign the accounts to confirm that they had approved them. In the past the Chairman and Finance Convener had signed them on behalf of the Council, however under Charity Law the Trustees must have had sight and confirmed their approval before the accounts are adopted (at the AGM). The current meetings timetable was such that this was not practical, and therefore the accounts could not be approved by the Trustees.

- In order to comply with the Law, a smaller number of Trustees must be appointed from those actively involved in the running of the Society.

This would allow the Trustees to meet before the AGM in order to consider the accounts. As this required a resolution to reduce the number of Trustees, the committee agreed to consider a suitable resolution to be submitted before the Executive Council in May.

Licence Agreements - It was noted with some concern that many branches had not yet submitted their Licence Agreements. All branches were required to sign the Licence Agreement regardless of their status as charitable or non charitable bodies.

Mr Healy raised the question of an article which had appeared in the Edinburgh Branch Newsletter indicating that they did not intend to sign the agreement and it was agreed that an urgent meeting would be arranged between

the sub-committee and the branch office bearers in order to discuss their concerns.

Additional Members

It was agreed to appoint an additional member to the sub-committee.

Public Relations

GP96/40/4

It was noted that the sub-committee were drawing up a marketing plan in order to co-ordinate the plans for the 1998 celebrations and that Mr Clement had approached a Public Relations company who were to look at the Society promotional material and draw up a plan together with costings. The Edinburgh College of Art had agreed to consider competing for a small prize to redesign the RSCDS headed paper/ logo/ in-house printing.

A request would be put forward for members with suitable quality photographs to submit them for possible use within Society material.

It was also noted that the sub-committee were investigating registering as a SCOTVEC qualification centre for young people wishing to gain a qualification in Scottish Country Dancing.

It was further suggested that the Society should set up a Web Page and the Secretary agreed that this was now something that the Society was considering, although HQ did not intend to set up E-Mail facilities.

75th Anniversary

GP96/40/5

It was noted that there was to be a separate and additional logo designed for use during 1998. Some branches had indicated that they were co-ordinating rally events for 1998, however many branches had not yet advised HQ of their plans.

A variety of special commemorative items were being costed and would be presented to the Finance Committee for funding.

JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

Investment Policy

GP96/41/1

Mr Turnbull advised the committee that the Stock Brokers had been asked to reconsider the investment policy for the Fund with an emphasis on both income and capital. This was a review from the current policy of high income. This proposed change of policy resulted in their advising that the Fund sell 2 of the current holdings.

The Committee recognised that the current policy may lead to erosion of capital but lead

to higher income and agreed that there was no need to review the current policy.

Funding Applications GP/96/41/2

Funding was approved for the following, to include course fees, and lunch.

- Musicians Course 1997
- Tutors Course 1997
- Potential Tutors Course 1997

Funding of £75 per course, as honorarium be given to the tutors and musicians of the latter two courses, was approved, to be allocated by the Examinations Committee. This was not a retrospective decision.

It was further agreed that a subsidy of £50 per week be given to any student under 21 attending Summer School.

COMMITTEE REPORTS GP/96/42

The Committee considered a request that the full committee minutes, of all committees be send out on request, and agreed that the minutes were available for inspection at Headquarters, or prior to the Executive Council meeting.

SCOTTISH TRADITIONS OF DANCE TRUST GP/96/43

It was noted that the liaison panel had not yet been established, however the RSCDS representative was to be Mr Healy. The Trust had recently been officially launched in Edinburgh, and a demonstration of traditional Scottish Country Dances had been given by the Edinburgh Branch. Mr Clement agreed to raise the committee concerns with the Trust.

A letter had been received from Mr Blair raising objections to a letter to the Editor of the Aberdeen Press and Journal, submitted by the Society. Mr Lawson agreed to discuss the matter with Mr Blair. It was noted that following the launch Mrs Hood had indicated that she had "found two new Scottish Country Dances" but unfortunately to date these had not been forwarded to the Society for confirmation.

CLARIFICATION OF STATUS GP/96/44

It was noted that the current status of the Teachers Associations, and the Affiliated Groups now required some clarification, and it was agreed to defer this to the next meeting of the committee.

SCROLL RECIPIENTS GP/96/45

It had been suggested that a new "scroll recipients badge" be made available, for

presentation along with the scroll to those receiving the Scroll of Honour. This was agreed in principle the funding to be approved by the Finance Committee.

BRANCH MATTERS GP/96/46

It was noted that a member had become a Committee member of two branches. It was agreed that the Society could not rule on this matter. However a branch was entitled to add to their constitution that no member of the branch committee can be a member of another branch's committee. It was also agreed that any member in the situation of being appointed to another branch committee should declare their interest before such appointment is approved.

TIMING OF MEETINGS GP/96/47

Dr Reinstein questioned whether the time of the meeting might be adjusted so that it was easier to travel from farther afield to attend the meetings. It was agreed that in future the meetings would commence at 1030 am and a sandwich lunch would be provided, in order that a working lunch could take place to allow for extended meetings which were becoming more prevalent.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Saturday 11 January at 1030 am, and a sandwich lunch will be provided.

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
MINUTES OF MEETING OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD ON SATURDAY 11 JANUARY 1997 AT 1030 hrs
12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH

PRESENT:

Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mr R Turnbull (Finance Convener), Mrs H Hall, Mr J Healy, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs I Rae, Dr J Reinstein, Mr A Smart, Mrs A Traill, Mrs R Wilton, Miss G Parker (Secretary).

APOLOGIES:

Mr G Lawson (imm Past Chairman), Dr A MacFadyen.

OPENING COMMENTS:

Mr Clement opened the meeting by wishing those present a Happy New Year, and welcoming them to the meeting. A particular welcome was extended to the Vice Chairman, Linda Gaul; to Alice Murphy and Hazel Hall, all of whom were attending for the first time.

The Chairman also extended his condolences to Miss Florence Adam's family, and explained that both Mr Lawson and Dr MacFadyen were attending the funeral on behalf of the Society.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of 28 September 1996 were approved by the Committee.

MATTERS ARISING GP97/1

Sub-Committees (GP96/1/1) Mrs Wilton asked whether all sub committees were required to report back each decision to the parent Committee. It was agreed that the sub-committees were entitled to make decisions within their remit, however all sub-committees must report back to the parent committee on the business conducted. Where practicable approval should be sought before making decisions.

Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust

(GP96/1/2) Mr Healy reported that there was to be a meeting of the liaison group early in February. Representatives from the Early Dance, Step Dance, Ladies Step, Hebridean, Highland and the Highland Board of Dancing at the meeting. It was further noted that The Chairman, Vice Chair, and Secretary were due to meet with officers of the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust in order to raise concerns and to establish greater links with the Trust.

Committee Support GP/97/1/3

Mr Lawson had asked that the Committee be made aware of his concerns regarding the recent decisions of the Executive Council to overturn recommendations of this committee. The Chairman reminded the Committee members that they should actively support the decisions of the committee once a recommendation had been agreed upon. It was noted that a Committee member could be instructed by their branch to vote against a recommendation despite personal/committee support of the issue.

REQUEST FOR FUNDING GP97/2

Mr Clement advised the Committee that the Thompson Trust had rejected the Society's initial request for funding to cover a Development Officer. Following a meeting with the Trust, he explained, it was understood that they would be prepared to consider a request in the region of £2000, particularly if it would be used towards a project involving children.

Miss Parker suggested that the YSDA activities would appear to be suitable. It was agreed that the Society would fund the YSDA activities (as per estimate provided) pending a response from the Trust. Should funding not be forthcoming, the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund would cover the cost.

It was further agreed that Mrs Gaul should be appointed to the sub-committee in order to maintain the link between the sub-committee and this Committee. She would co-ordinate with the other YSDA members to prepare a suitable application to be submitted before the Thompson Trust.

It was noted that the previous minutes had indicated that the English education authorities would be circulated with details of the YSDA and to date no information was available as to whether this had been undertaken.

STATUS OF TEACHERS ASSOCIATIONS GP97/3

It was noted that there was little in the constitution regarding Teachers Associations, in particular regarding their status and representation within the Society. (GP96/44)

The Australian Teachers Association (ATA) had indicated that the proposed Teachers Association fee of £100 was inappropriate due to their size. It was noted that the ATA was established by a group of teachers in Australia gathering together to form a discussion group to disseminate information and to try to establish links to avoid Branches feeling isolated. ATA did not wish (or intend) to undertake the organisation of the Society's Australian Examination or any of the other functions currently undertaken by the other Teachers Association.

The Teachers Association of Canada, had world-wide members, undertook the organisation of the N. American examination tour, arranged their own examination courses and Schools, and sent a representative and delegates to Society meetings.

It was agreed that the status of TAC should remain unchanged.

The ATA should be given three options

1. Maintain Teachers Association Status and pay the proposed rates as previously agreed.
2. Resign as a Teachers Association, and apply to become an affiliated group thereby gaining entry into the Bulletin and only paying the affiliated group subscription. (*This would require a change of name from ATA*)
3. Resign as a Teachers Association and have no formal link with the Society. The branches would continue to receive details of the Society discussions, and this could be made available to the Teachers Discussion Group.

STATUS OF AFFILIATED GROUPS GP97/5

It was noted that the Finance Committee had considered a variety of options for Affiliated Groups before agreeing on the current subscription level. It was agreed that the Affiliated Groups should continue to receive a copy of the Bulletin, subscription copy, and to receive a free listing in the Directory of Secretaries. It was agreed therefore that there should be No change to their current status.

APPLICATION FOR BRANCH STATUS

GP97/6

Mr Clement advised the Committee that he had received a particularly warm welcome from all the groups which he met on his recent visit to Japan. It had been agreed that a new branch would be established in Japan

(GP96/5) The parties concerned in Japan had accepted that the new branch would be called - RSCDS Tokai Branch. Any member of the Tokyo Branch who wished, could join the Tokai Branch and *vice versa*.

It was also suggested that in order to assist the two branches to develop, and to establish themselves a similar level of subscription should be agreed by each branch in Japan. As there was already a group in the Tokai area, it was agreed that they should be encouraged to apply for Affiliated Group status.

APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS

GP97/7

It was agreed that applications from the following groups would be accepted.

- Rancho Bernardo Community Presbyterian Church Scottish Country Dancers
- Luckenbooth Circle
- Scottish Dance Group of Monaco

MARKETING

GP97/8

A paper on marketing had been submitted with the agenda, the Committee agreed to accept the proposals outlined.

Mrs Gaul advised that, as Convener of the sub-committee, she proposed to send a summary to all branches with the Newsbrief.

It was suggested that the proposals would require that the Society broaden its appeal to the public. This would, in turn, require that teachers (who are the ambassadors of the society) may need to take different approaches to promoting the Society and perhaps this should be taken into account by the Examinations Committee.

It was further recommended that the Local Associations should be encouraged to establish and/or strengthen links with the Affiliated Groups.

It was suggested that the sub-committee should consider appointing a younger member (20-30) to ensure that the views of such members could be adequately considered.

REPORTS OF SUB-COMMITTEES GP97/9

Tattoo (GP97/9/1)

A letter had been sent to the current Tattoo Producer suggesting three possible dances that could be used for the 1997 Tattoo theme "Royalty". No response had been received. It was understood that a large number of Highland dancers would be used this year.

YSDA

GP97/9/2)

A short report on the proposed activities of the YSDA sub-committee was submitted. It was noted that the Association hoped to organise two events during the 75th anniversary celebrations. Dance Scottish in Schools would cover the UK and would take place during the last week in November 1997. Dance Scottish International would take place in 1998. It was noted that funding for these events had already been discussed earlier.

Constitution

(GP97/9/3)

The minutes of the last two meetings were considered and it was agreed that two items would be left for further consideration.

1. Proposal to amend the number of delegates for branches with less than 100 members.
2. Proposal regarding the number and composition of Trustees.

75th Anniversary

(GP97/9/4)

The minutes of the meetings were accepted by the Committee. It was noted that a budget of £5000 had been granted to fund the initial purchase of a small range of commemorative items.

RESTRUCTURE OF SOCIETY

GP97/10

A paper had been circulated which set out proposals regarding a possible restructure of the Society's Executive Council and Trustees.

It was agreed that the Society was currently inefficient in holding two meetings a year of 170 people to discuss its administration. It is often the case that subjects are referred back to other committees thereby extending the lengthy period before any matter can be agreed upon.

It was agreed that two further papers would be prepared for the next meeting, and all three would be submitted to the Executive Council.

The three papers would set out the following:

1. Proposal to disband Executive Council and establish a small Management Committee of Trustees (half elected and half *ex officio*)
Jim Healy
2. Proposal to reduce the number of Representatives by establishing a regional representation (*This might be introduced by a two year trial where representatives meet before the Executive Council in their regional groups and appoint a rapporteur(s) who will represent the region and speak on their behalf. All representatives would attend*

(the Executive meetings during this trial.)

Rachael Wilton and Jerry Reinstein

3. Paper supporting the status quo.

Alasdair Smart

It was recognised however that the Society needed to establish a smaller group of Trustees in order that the 1997 accounts might be approved in line with the legislation.

It was recommended that:

- a small group of trustees be appointed as an interim measure, pending a final solution. The Trustees would comprise President (*as Chairman of the Trustees*), Chairman, Immediate Past Chairman, Vice Chairman, Finance Convener.

All would be *ex-officio* and would be charged with safeguarding the assets of the Society.

This would also require the current Trustees to resign as Trustees and to sign a document to this effect.

It was agreed that legal advice would be sought on whether constitutional change would be required. A paper would be prepared for the next meeting and should be submitted before the Executive Council.

OPEN FORUM DISCUSSIONS

GP97/11

Supporting Documentation for Branch Resolutions to be made available with the AGM Papers

(GP97/11/1)

It was agreed that the above suggestion would help with understanding the basis of any resolution put forward by a Local Association and that any such documentation must be made available to Head Office by 30 June.

Questions to be made available before the Open Forum

(GP97/11/2)

It was agreed that copies of the questions (without the names of those submitting the question) should be made available at the event on the evening prior to the Open Forum.

Discussion Groups

(GP97/11/3)

It was agreed that some form of Discussion Group should be made available for delegates attending the AGM weekend. It was proposed and agreed that the Group(s) should take place concurrently with the classes and delegates could then choose to attend either a class or a Group. Topics would be submitted in advance (by 1 September) so that this could be intimated with the final papers. The Vice

Chairman would be given the authority to select those which were most appropriate.

The Discussion Groups should be facilitated by someone other than an office bearer, with suitable skills. An appropriate person, with suitable expertise in the subject matter should also be asked to attend.

It was agreed that suitable facilities would be required and (subject to ratification) that initially the number of groups might be limited to one or two.

Dress at Formal Ball (GP97/11/4)

Various comments had been received regarding the policy of not allowing men to remove their jackets at the ball, and of women not wearing sufficiently formal outfits.

The Committee felt it would be appropriate to consider advertising one evening of informal attire and one of formal (optional) during the AGM. This allowed the men to wear formal attire and to remove their jackets after the first dance. It also allowed those who did not have formal attire to attend the function.

It was agreed to raise the matter at the Executive Council, as a wider representative body to ascertain their views on the matter.

PUBLICATION POLICY GP97/12

It was agreed that the composition of Book 39 - containing several established demonstration dances was unfortunate. It was noted however that permission for the use of the dances *Prince Charles of Edinburgh*, *Robertson Rant* and *The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh* had been granted together and it was the wish of the Society to include *The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh* to celebrate Her Majesty's anniversary in 1996.

Had the Society chosen not to publish these dances it was likely that they would not have been given permission (on the same basis) in the future.

1999 AGM GP97/13

It was noted with pleasure that RSCDS Edinburgh Branch was to celebrate its 75th anniversary in 1999 and wished to host the 1999 AGM.

The agreed schedule was therefore:

1997	Aberdeen
1998	Glasgow
1999	Edinburgh
2000	Ayr

JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND GP97/14 **Funding Requests (GP97/14/1)**

Miss Parker reminded the Committee that approval had been given to fund the 1997 Musicians Course. To date there had been 4 applications for an accordion course and 5 for a pianists course, however due to the spread of experience the Course Director felt it would not be appropriate to hold the course.

It was agreed that an accordionists course should be held in 1997 and that the pianists could be invited to attend. As the topics covered would include choice of alternative tunes and tempo this should be equally appropriate to both musical instruments.

As Mr MacKay felt unable to take an accordion course it was agreed to ask the Music Sub-Committee to appoint a Course Director.

Trustees Of Memorial Fund (GP97/14/2)

It was noted that the Finance Committee had recommended that this Committee should reconsider its decision not to change the investment policy for the Fund. They had also recommended that this Committee should in future take responsibility for maintaining the Fund.

It was agreed in future the Fund would form part of the agenda of each meeting and that the details of the fund would be made available.

BUDGETS GP97/15

It was noted that the Finance Committee had indicated that each committee should be responsible for its own budget. Mr Healy asked whether the committee was responsible for its sub-committees and what input they had into setting the budget.

Mr Turnbull advised that all committees were responsible for their sub-committees. The budget responsibility was more especially on items such as examination expenses and publications for which a budget had been set.

CHANGE OF TITLE "SECRETARY" GP97/16

It was agreed that this item, be placed on the agenda for the next meeting, as there had not been a satisfactory conclusion to the matter.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 1030 hrs on Saturday 15 March 1997.

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

MINUTES OF MEETING OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

HELD ON SATURDAY 15 MARCH 1997 AT 1030 HRS

12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH

PRESENT: Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Immediate Past Chairman), Mr R Turnbull (Finance Convener), Mr J Healy, Dr A MacFadyen, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs I Rae, Dr J Reinstein, Mr A Smart, Mrs A Traill, Mrs R Wilton, Miss G Parker (Secretary) [Mrs Hall was absent]

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

It was with great sadness that the Society had heard of the death of Miss Kitty McLauchlan on 25 January 1997. Kitty was an outstanding pianist and had given great pleasure to many dancers around the world. She had served with distinction at Summer School attending between 1932 and 1995, was a former member of the Publications Committee and the Music sub-committee. Both Mr Clement and Mrs Gaul had attended the funeral on 30 January on behalf of the Society and were pleased to see many other members of the Society also attending. Miss McLauchlan had graciously bequeathed four volumes of Neil Gow dances and the Society was also a beneficiary of her will.

It was noted that a letter had been received from Paris branch expressing their sympathy at the sad loss of Miss Florence Adams.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting were approved with minor amendment. It was agreed however that clarification was required on the following

MATTERS ARISING

GP97/17

Marketing (GP97/8) It was agreed that the previous minute should be expanded. In training teachers attention should be paid as to how to approach different classes. The teachers must be able to deal with classes which were less technically excellent and still allow them to enjoy the experience. We must encourage dancing whatever the setting and broaden our appeal (if necessary by taking in ceilidh dancing)

MEETINGS WITH OTHER BODIES GP97/18

Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust (STDT)

(GP97/18/1) The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary had met with Evelyn Hood, Joan Henderson, Bob Blair and Jennifer Swanson of the Trust.

The meeting had been useful to establish links with the Trust and allowed the Society to raise concerns regarding future co-operation.

The Trust were keen to establish recordings of the elderly members of the Society. One means by which we could improve links was for the Society to submit articles for use in their newsletter and they would also help to promote Scottish Country Dancing through their network of contacts.

The Chairman also raised the question that the Society should be kept informed of any "new" traditional dance that they had researched. It was noted in particular that they had announced that they had found a "new" dance although it now appeared that the gentleman was reluctant to reveal the dance to the Trust researchers!

Regrettably the Trust did not have sufficient funds to give a grant to the Society.

Mrs Gaul had attended the STDT Liaison panel and reported that representatives from early dance, Highland Dance Association, Step Dancing, and the Society had attended the meeting which had proved useful.

Burns Federation (GP97/18/2)

Mrs Gaul, Mr Clement, Miss Parker and representatives from the Burns Federation had met to establish links and to assess whether there might be areas in which we could be of mutual assistance.

The Federation had many overseas members who were interested in things Scottish and although the Federation was more loosely organised than the Society they were gearing towards celebrating the year 2000.

Discussion had also centred around the possibility of a joint project between the Burns Federation and the Society to produce a video of Scottish Dancing on location. Further partners would also be required to allow the project to be investigated further.

Scottish Council for the Curriculum (SCC) (GP 97/18/3)

Mrs Gaul advised the Committee that a submission on behalf of the Society had been submitted to the SCC who were currently undertaking a review on Scottish culture and the curriculum.

AUSTRALIAN TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (ATA) GP97/19

Unfortunately no response had been received from ATA regarding the proposals discussed previously for the future status of the Association.

The options were

- Maintain teachers association status and pay appropriate fee
- resign as teachers association and apply for affiliated group status
- resign as teachers association and have no formal link with the Society.

CHANGE OF TITLE "SECRETARY" GP97/20

The Committee reconsidered its previous recommendation and agreed that they felt that a change of title was needed.

It was agreed that a separate paper would be presented to the Executive Council in support of their decision. The paper would include details of the fact that this change was required in order that outside bodies were able to more fully appreciate the nature of the position.

The change of title did not mean a change of duties or power. An outline of the duties undertaken by the Secretary would also be included.

Mr Turnbull agreed to speak to the paper at the Executive Council.

The paper would recommend that the Committee still felt that the best title was Executive Director although if the Executive Council rejected this Director of Administration should be considered.

APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS GP97/21

It was agreed to recommend that the following be accepted as Affiliated Groups of the Society:

Circolo Pisano della Società di Danza (Italy)
Ohimayadai Scottish Country Dance Club (Japan)

SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS GP97/22

Constitution (GP97/22/1)
It was noted that 23 Local Associations had not yet signed their Licence Agreements. In addition 2 were waiting for their next AGM and discussions were underway with 2 others.

It was noted that the RSCDS Edinburgh Branch had not responded to the sub-committee proposals regarding the Licence Agreement, sent in November. It was not known if the proposals were acceptable.

Concern was raised that local associations who had not signed a licence agreement should continue to make use of the Society's name and to have representatives at the Executive Council meeting. The matter would be kept under review.

Tattoo (GP97/22/2)

Mr Clement advised the Committee that there was to be no element of Country Dancing at the 1997 Tattoo. A letter would be sent to the Producer indicating that 1998 was to be the 75 Anniversary of the Society and we should like to have some input into the content of the Scottish country dance element of the Tattoo.

It was understood that rehearsals were already underway for the 1998 Tattoo.

YSDA (GP97/22/3)

The sub-committee were to go ahead with plans for a "Dance Scottish in the UK" in 1997 and a world-wide event in 1998.

A questionnaire had been issued to all UK local associations and affiliated groups to ascertain their interest in participating in the 1997 Dance Scottish event. A circular was to be issued to all local authorities in the UK.

A grant request would be sent to the Thompson Trust in Perth to enquire about funding for this project to cover posters, badges, tape duplication etc.

It was agreed that the Grant Maintained Schools Foundation should be contacted to distribute the information to all grant maintained schools.

Appointment of AGM Sub Committee

(GP97/22/4) It was noted that the function of this sub-committee (which did not usually meet but conducted business by correspondence) was as follows:

- where deemed appropriate, to clarify the wording of motions.
- where several branches have submitted similar motions to agree a consolidated motion.

It was agreed to appoint the following: Mr W Clement, Mrs L Gaul, Mr J Healy, Mr G Lawson, Mrs A Murphy and Mr A Smart.

75th Anniversary (GP97/22/5)

It was noted with some concern that few details were available for the proposed events for the 75th anniversary. Mr Clement had been contacted to ask if the 75th rally to be held in Manchester might be moved to May. The Committee agreed provided that this did not clash with the Newcastle event also scheduled for May.

RESTRUCTURE OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL GP97/23

Representation by geographical area (GP97/23/1) A discussion paper was presented which set out how the number of Executive Council members might be reduced while ensuring that all local associations are represented.

This would allow the Executive Council not only to continue to function but to do so more efficiently. Local Associations would be able to either meet on a regional basis, or if distances precluded this to arrange for alternative means of communication. It was noted that E-mail, telephone and fax facilities meant that this was not necessarily a problem.

Status Quo (GP97/23/2)

A paper was presented expressing the argument for the *status quo*. This raised the questions of a fear of a disintegrating society which could make the local associations feel less involved if they could not actually have their representative present at the Executive Council discussions.

As the papers raised considerable discussion within the committee it was agreed that sufficient time should also be allowed for discussion within the Council. It was agreed to hold a special meeting, before the ordinary Executive Council Meeting, at which time the three discussion papers would be presented, questions raised, and general discussion take place. A memo would be issued to all concerned advising them of this decision.

It was not intended that any decision would be made on this important matter, but merely that the representatives would be given the opportunity to discuss the proposals.

APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM TRUSTEES GP97/24

It was noted that the Society had taken legal advice following the decision to recommend to the Executive Council that five Trustees be appointed on an interim basis until such time as a permanent solution can be found.

The advice recommended that the Society must make express provision in its constitution for Trustees. Proposed additions to the Constitution were agreed, along with a Trust document which would have to be signed by all Trustees following approval at the Executive Council meeting.

It was noted that the existing trustees (the Executive Council representatives) would also have to sign a deed resigning as Trustees of the Society and the form of this was approved.

- The process would therefore be as follows:
- approval by Executive of recommendation to appoint interim trustees effective immediately
 - each representative to sign resignation form
 - approval of Deed of Trust
 - each trustee to sign Deed of Trust
 - approval by Executive of wording of addition to Constitution to be put before the 1997 AGM

JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND GP97/25
Following the Committee's decision to administer the fund, a balance sheet, and investment schedule were discussed.

It was agreed that a greater emphasis should be given to the protection of the capital fund and advice would be sought from the Investment Broker in this regard in respect of all the investments held within the JMMF. The broker's advice would also be sought regarding reinvestment of the funds.

Video of the Manual (GP97/25/1)

Mr Turnbull advised the Committee that the Society had now received an additional invoice to cover the re-filming session for the video of the manual. The project was now considerably over budget and it was unknown as to the extent of payments still required in order to complete the project.

It was agreed that the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund would fund the invoice for the re-filming (approx. £5,000). Mr Turnbull agreed to discuss the matter with Mr MacKay who was in charge of production and to ascertain an estimate of further costs before any further action could proceed.

It appeared that there had been confusion as to whom had overall responsibility for the project. Any future project must learn from this and lines of responsibility must be established from the outset.

SCROLL APPLICATIONS GP97/26

It was agreed to recommend to the Executive Council that eight nominees be presented with the Scroll of honour. Subject to ratification, and where possible, the scrolls would be presented at the 1997 AGM in Aberdeen.

1998 AGM - GLASGOW GP97/27

It was noted that RSCDS Glasgow Branch were making the preparations for the 1998 AGM in Glasgow. A paper had been presented which laid out the options available for a special lunch prior to the AGM, which all of those attending the AGM could attend.

It was noted that due to the excessive costs of the lunch and the other activities throughout the weekend a subsidy would be required to bring the ticket prices to what was considered to be acceptable.

The Committee agreed that the level of subsidy required was such that the Society was not able to give charitable funds to the level indicated. It was agreed that it may be necessary to reject the luncheon and that the 75th sub-committee would be given authority to discuss the matter with representatives of RSCDS Glasgow, and to reach a satisfactory conclusion.

CORRESPONDENCE

GP97/28

It was noted that correspondence had been received regarding the Newsbrief, subscription copy, and communication between the Society and its members.

The Publications Committee were to meet shortly and one of the items under discussion was the future of the subscription book. The Secretary was asked to reply.

It was noted that there was a particular method of printing which allowed photographs (contained within the Newsbrief) to be suitable for reproduction by photocopying. The Secretary agreed to raise this with the printers.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 27 September 1997 at 1030 hrs.

*Mr Clement
27th Sept. 1997*

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

MINUTES OF MEETING OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

HELD ON SATURDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 1997 AT 10:30 HRS

AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH

Present:

Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mr R Turnbull (Finance Convener), Mrs H Hall, Mr J Healy, Dr A MacFadyen, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs I Rae, Dr J Reinstein, Mr A Smart, Mrs A Traill, and Mrs R Wilton.

Apologies:

Mr G Lawson (Past Chairman)

In Attendance:

Miss G Parker (Secretary)

Chairman's Comments:

Mr Clement welcomed the members to the last meeting of this present committee.

The Chairman also advised the Committee that both he and Mr Lawson had represented the Society at the Royal Garden Party this year, and it was likely that the Society would continue to receive two invitations to the Garden Party.

Mr Clement had just returned following his attendance at the Teachers Association of Canada AGM, which had been held on the Queen Mary. He had been warmly welcomed and had extended thanks, on behalf of the Executive Council for all the work that TAC was doing for Scottish Country Dancing and for the Society.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting of 15 March were approved.

Matters Arising

Burns Federation (GP97/18/2) It was noted that the Federation had now forwarded a copy of the "Bursian" - their news letter - containing the article from the Society.

Australia Teachers Association (GP97/19) It was noted that to date no response had been received from ATA despite reminders.

MISSIONARY VISIT

GP97/29

RSCDS Cornwall Branch had written to the Society indicating that they had been experiencing some problems in membership. Mrs Gaul had agreed to make a "missionary" visit to Cornwall. This had proved to help the local

association to strengthen their ties with the Society and it was noted that they had a representative to the Executive Council in order to be fully involved with Society business.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**RESTRUCTURE**

GP97/30

It was agreed that there were two different aims involved within the discussion which had taken place.

- reduced size of the Executive Council
- more effective Executive Council

It was also noted that often nominees for the positions on standing committees were often elected more because of the fact that they were known than because of their particular abilities for the committee.

Two further papers had been submitted from interested members, and these were welcomed and the committee agreed to consider these and any others submitted after the Society's AGM. It was further agreed that this may require a special meeting of the Committee to consider this one matter

GUIDELINES FOR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

GP97/31

It was agreed that it would be helpful to circulate guidelines to all Executive Council Representatives before the next meeting of the Council.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

GP97/32

The deadline for nominations of Executive Council Representatives was stipulated within the constitution (VI (1) (c)) as "eight weeks before the date of the Annual General Meeting". It was noted however that for several years the deadline had been flexible and additional nominations were read out at the first Executive Council Meeting.

It was agreed that it was unacceptable for the constitution to be broken in this manner, and after some discussion it was agreed that the deadline should be changed to :
"6 weeks before the date of the Annual General Meeting, and 8 weeks before the date of any other Executive Council Meeting for local associations which had not previously nominated a Representative".

In future this would be an **absolute** ruling and late nominations could not be accepted.

(Note: a local association would continue to be able to substitute their nominated Representative should they wish to do so).

Such a change to the constitution would require to be approved by the membership at an Annual General Meeting and could not therefore take effect until 1999.

It was agreed that in line with the above proposal, three late nominations would be accepted this year.

AGM MOTION AMENDMENTS REQUIRED GP97/33

It was noted that the solicitor had neglected to include a sentence from the drafted motion which was included within the current constitution. It was agreed that this should be added to the original motion.

An amendment to motion 11.1(d) had been received and would be presented to the membership.

Mr Clement, Mrs Gaul and Miss Parker had met with the solicitor, Mr Reith, to discuss the presentation of the motions at the AGM. He had confirmed that

There were three types of motion:

- ordinary motion -on provisional agenda
- emergency motion -on final agenda
- urgent motion -not on the agenda but raised at the meeting

The Chairman, as Chairman of the meeting was entitled to place an item on the agenda, which was issued by the Secretary.

The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer currently held title to the property and assets exofficio, as noted in the title deeds of the property purchased in the 1950's. The Society, as an organisation, could not do so. This did not mean that these individuals were responsible for the assets.

A reply had also been received from the Inland Revenue regarding the draft agenda, and this would be issued to all delegates and branch secretaries (for information).

It was agreed that it would be helpful if there could be someone with suitable legal knowledge to be available to advise delegates on the legal situation.

The Secretary was thanked for all her work in particular that involved in ensuring that the

notes of the meeting with the solicitor were prepared and available for the members of the General Purposes Committee the following day.

CHANGES TO CONSTITUTION GP97/34 Proposed by Inland Revenue GP97/34/1

It was noted that the Inland Revenue (which was the body, in Scotland, responsible for the registration of Charities) had requested that the Society amend both the model constitution for local associations and the Society's own constitution. (see attached correspondence).

The Committee therefore recommended to the Executive Council that these changes be proposed at the next Annual General Meeting (in 1998).

Headquarters' Members Representation GP97/34/2

It was noted that each Headquarters member had been issued with a copy of the January Newsbrief which contained proposals regarding representation of Headquarters Members at the Annual General Meeting.

No response had been received from the membership and therefore, it was agreed that the matter would be reconsidered.

LICENCE AGREEMENTS GP97/35 RSCDS Edinburgh Branch GP97/35/1

It was noted that, to date, no response or acknowledgement had been received from the letter of 28 July. A copy of the draft licence agreement and the Secretary's response would be sent to the Executive Council for further consideration.

Outstanding Licences GP97/35/2

It was noted that out of 169 local associations, 6 had not signed a licence agreement. It was understood that of that number 3 had experienced secretarial problems and were in the process of signing the agreement.

It was agreed that any local association which had not signed a licence agreement would continue to remain a local association until such time as they had been expelled. (The process of expulsion is contained within Rule III (3).)

It was agreed that the matter should be addressed by the Executive Council.

JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND GP97/36 Responsibility for Funds GP97/36/1

It was noted that the motion being presented to membership at the AGM gave responsibility to the Finance Committee for the funds of the Society. It was agreed that in future

- responsibility for spending the funds would remain with the General Purposes Committee
- responsibility for safeguarding the funds would be passed to the Finance Committee.

Applications GP97/36/2 Courses

It was agreed that funding would be made available for the Tutors, Potential Tutors and Musicians courses to cover course fees, tutors fees, musicians fees, lunch and afternoon tea/juice.

Young Dancers Trip to Taiwan

It was noted that there was no local association or affiliated group in the area to which the group had been invited. The Committee agreed therefore, as a one-off gesture, to support the group in their promotion of Scottish Country Dancing. A grant of £700 would be provided.

Summer School Raffle Income

It was confirmed that the income from the Raffles at the Summer Schools, in 1996 and 1997, had been transferred to the 75th anniversary commemorative fund. This income would normally have been credited to the JMMF.

SUB COMMITTEES: GP97/37

It was agreed that the questions of the appointment of, remit of and terms of each of the sub-committees would be considered at the next meeting of the Committee.

Tattoo Sub Committee GP97/37/1

It was reported that the Chairman and Vice Chairman had written to the Producer of the Tattoo. Although there had been no SCD at the Tattoo this year, the standard and quality of the highland dancing and dancers was to be commended. They had also repeated the request that the Society contribute to the content of the Tattoo particularly in 1998 - our 75th Anniversary.

YSDA GP97/37/2

The report of the meeting of 23 July was considered.

It was noted that the YSDA sub-committee had been granted £2,500 to complete their work towards the project "Dance Scottish in

the UK - 1998". Approximately £1,300 had already been spent.

Constitution Sub-Committee GP97/37/3
The report of the meeting of 3 July was considered.

It was noted that Mr Smart had considered 45 draft constitutions which had been submitted following the decision that the Society should retain its charity status and the local associations should become autonomous.

Mr Stacey had reluctantly resigned from the sub-committee.

Public Relations Sub-Committee GP97/37/4
The reports of the meetings of 28 June and 30 August were considered.

1. It was agreed to appoint the professional public relations company Playfair Walker for an initial 4 month period.
2. It was agreed to recommend to the Finance Committee that they approve funding to produce a colour brochure for the Society. The current temporary black and white version could then be replaced with a more suitable version aimed at attracting the general public.
3. It was confirmed that Mrs Pia Walker should be appointed to the sub-committee as an additional member.
4. It was noted that the Society should encourage local associations/members to send in clippings of any article which had appeared in the press, so that a central register could be maintained at HQ. It was also agreed that it would be helpful if HQ were informed of any television coverage.
5. The suggestion that Mr Robbie Shepherd be considered as an Honorary Vice President was rejected, however it was agreed to consider whether another form of recognition might be presented to Mr Shepherd.
6. After some discussion it was agreed that further investigation should be made into whether lettering might be added to the fanlight window over the front door, and/or whether a suitable brass plaque could be erected.
7. It was agreed to approach the individual who currently held the Internet Address

RSCDS.Org to ascertain whether the Society could purchase the address from him.

8. The sub-committee was instructed to continue to plan for the promotion of the Society particularly throughout 1998 and that although the duration of the sub-committee would be discussed at the next meeting.

75th Anniversary Sub-Committee GP97/37/5
It was noted that Mrs Gaul had agreed to co-ordinate the President's Reception, which would be held on 1 July 1998 in Stirling Castle. (Historic Scotland having granted the Society a "charity let" of the building through a national scheme).

It was not known yet whether the Society would be granted permission to host a Garden Party at the Palace of Holyroodhouse. A further letter was to be discussed with the Mrs Walker of Playfair Walker.

APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS GP97/38
The following groups were recommended to the Executive Council as Affiliated Groups of the Society:

- The Bangkok Reel Club (Thailand)
- Caledonian Scottish Country Dancers (Ontario, Canada)
- Lechlade Scottish Country Dance Club (Gloucestershire)
- Suncoast Scottish Country Dancers (St. Petersburg, Florida)

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS GP97/39
Term of Reference GP97/39/1

It was noted that there had been some comments from members who did not wish HQ to be known as Head Office. While there was no strong feeling, it was agreed that, for continuity, the term "Headquarters" or "HQ" would continue to be used when referring to the offices at 12 Coates Crescent.

Director of Administration GP97/39/2
A letter, addressed to the Chairman, from Mrs Gibbons was discussed and noted.

Linlithgow Palace GP97/39/3
A letter had been received from Mr Carswell advising the Society that there were now plans from the for a new roof for Linlithgow Palace. This could mean that a new venue would be available for Scottish country dancing. The Secretary had already written to Mr Carswell

to acknowledge receipt of the letter and to offer the Society's support of the project.

Ladies Sash GP97/39/4
It was noted that Mr Van Zon had written to the Convener to complain that the ladies in the demonstration team at Summer School had been wearing their sashes on the wrong shoulder.

It was agreed that there was no definitive ruling as to which was the correct shoulder and this matter should be left up to personal preference.

Committee Room GP97/39/5
Mr Clement advised the members of the Committee that there was a need for additional space within HQ for a meeting room/archive room. If such a room was available the annual Tutors, Potential Tutors and perhaps the Music Courses could be conducted there.

At present all of rooms in the basement were used for storage of the records, books, accessory items, etc., and these needed to be stored at different temperatures.

It was agreed to investigate whether better use could be made of the other rooms, so that the front basement room could be made over to a committee room.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS GP97/40
PIPE BANNER
It was noted that the current pipe banners had become tarnished due to the oxidation of the silver thread over the years. It was suggested that the Society should consider renewing the banner for the 75th anniversary.

A quotation was considered and it was agreed to investigate the quality and durability of the material before proceeding further. A sample would also be requested.

SCOTTISH TARTANS AUTHORITY GP97/41
It was agreed that although this was a fledgling organisation the Society should maintain its membership at an annual cost of £30.

COSTS OF 1998 AGM GP97/42
The Finance Committee had been advised that the likely costs for the Society of hosting the AGM would be £3,200. The cost of the "Autumn School class" would be offset against this, but as is was not likely that more than

300 people would attend the class this would not bring in sufficient income.

It was agreed to discuss the matter with representatives of RSCDS Glasgow Branch and to suggest that in the circumstances it may be appropriate to raise the cost of the class to £3.00.

RECOGNITION OF SERVICES GP97/43
Following a suggestion from a member, it was agreed to seek the opinion of the Executive Council on the question of whether a badge might be commissioned as a recognition of services to local associations. This could be purchased from HQ, and presented by the local association.

TIMING OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS GP97/44

It was suggested that the Executive Council Meetings could be rescheduled so that the meeting commenced at 10:30 hrs and broke for lunch. This would allow the Representatives an opportunity to meet during the lunch break. In order to ensure the costs were kept to a minimum this would require the Meeting to return to the St. George's Church venue. A sandwich Lunch (for which the Representatives would be charged) could be provided, along with afternoon tea.

This proposal would be presented to the Executive Council for consideration.

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS GP97/45
In answer to a question, it was noted that the current membership records held on computer at HQ comprised all Life, and Long-Term members, all HQ members, plus other members who had either attended Summer School or sat an Examination. No complete membership list was held.

GP97/46
Mr Smart advised the Committee that he was not to be on the Committee next term, as he had completed his 5 year term of office. It was agreed that he should continue as Convener of the Constitution Sub-Committee until the Committee had discussed the remit and composition of the various sub-committees at their next meeting.

ULSTER SCOTS HERITAGE COUNCIL (USHC) GP97/47
Mrs Gaul advised the committee of her meeting with two representatives of the USHC. They were a government funded body set up to establish community based projects. They had asked for the fact finding meeting in

order to meet with the various organisations which had in the past supported events organised by the USHC. Mrs Gaul had provided them with details of the publications the Society had produced, including the YSDA packs and informed them of the contacts for the 3 local associations in N Ireland.

DATES FOR MEETINGS IN 1998
The proposed timetable of meetings for 1998 was approved. The next meeting of the committee will therefore be held on 10 January 1998.

The Meeting closed with thanks for the Secretarial support in providing the various papers for the meeting.

**Minutes Of Meeting Of General Purposes Committee
Held on Saturday 10 January 1998 at 10:30 hrs
at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh**

1. **PRESENT:** Mr W Clement (Convenor), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mr D Watson (Finance Convenor), Mrs J Harper, Mr J T Healy, Dr A MacFadyen, Mr A Mair, Mrs C Munro, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs I Rae, Mrs R Wilton.
received all correspondence sent to local association secretaries.
2. **APOLOGIES:** Dr J A Reinstein.
3. **IN ATTENDANCE:** Miss G Parker (Secretary)
4. **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:** The Chairman welcomed all members to this first meeting of the Committee in this our 75th anniversary year. In particular he welcomed the new members of the committee, Mrs Harper, Mr Mair, Mrs Munro and the new Finance Convenor Mr Watson.
5. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**
6. It was noted that while the Executive Council ratified the report of the Committee, it was the responsibility of the Committee to approve the minutes as a true record of the meeting.
7. It was agreed that GP39/1 should be amended to indicate that it was as a result of the committee's preference that the term Headquarters was used, and not for "continuity" as indicated in the minutes.
8. **MATTERS ARISING**
9. **Teachers Association Status(GP98/1)**
10. (GP97/19) Miss Parker advised the Committee that there were currently two teachers associations. One in Canada (TAC) and one in Australia (ATA).
11. Each were quite different and carried out different duties, but the Society constitution set out how they should be established. Each teachers association was entitled to a representative on the Executive Council and a maximum of two delegates to the AGM. Each received "branch discounts" on Society publications and recordings, and each
12. The Secretary agreed to write again to ATA to advise them of the current situation and to seek a reply to the suggestions presented by the Committee in January 1997.
13. **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL RESTRUCTURE (GP98/2)**
14. (GP97/30) It was agreed that further discussion time was required to consider the responses which had been received and to formulate a recommendation for the Executive Council.
15. It was agreed to hold a special meeting of the committee on Saturday 14 February at 10:30 hrs to discuss this one matter.
16. **STRATEGIC PLAN (GP98/3)**
17. The Chairman advised the committee that he had invited six individuals to form a sub-committee in order to fulfil the terms of the AGM motion:
18. "This Meeting therefore instructs the Executive Council to examine the aims and objects of the Society (as set out within its Constitution) and to produce, within 24 months, a strategic plan setting out in detail how the Society intends to further these aims over the next five years."
19. The members of this sub-committee would be: Mr J Hill, Mr A Kellet, Mrs L Ogilvie, Mr J Carswell, Mr A Boode, and Ms M Johnstone. It was agreed that Dr J Reinstein would be invited to chair the meetings. Mr Clement would only attend the first meeting.
20. **DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS OF REPRESENTATIVES. (GP98/4)**
21. (GP97/32) The Executive Council having approved that a change should be made to the constitution to enable local associations to appoint a delegate after the first meeting of the year; the committee approved the wording of the motion to be presented to the AGM.

delete clause VI (1) (c) and replace with following:

- "(c) (i) The representative from each Local Association shall be appointed by the Local Association in terms of the procedure contained in its constitution.
(ii) A Local Association may appoint a representative who is not a member of the Local Association provided the representative is a member of the Society.
(iii) Representatives shall be appointed for the period from the Executive Council meeting immediately following an Annual General Meeting of the Society until the immediately succeeding Annual General Meeting. Representative may be appointed at any time during this period.
(iv) Confirmation of an appointment must be in the hands of the Secretary at least eight weeks before the first Executive Council meeting to be attended by the representative.
(v) In the event of the nominated representative being unable to attend any meeting of the Executive Council, an accredited substitute shall be allowed, provided no one representative shall represent more than one Local Association."

insert additional clause VI (3) (d)

"(d) The Executive Council shall have the power to make rules regulating the expenses payable to representatives attending meetings of the Executive Council or to delegate the making of such rules to the Finance Committee."

renumber current VI(3) (d) as VI (3) (e).

22. *It was agreed that as this was a simple change to the constitution it was not necessary to submit this to the solicitor although it would require to be approved by the Inland Revenue (the regulating body for charities in Scotland).*
23. **LICENCE AGREEMENT WITH RSCDS (EDINBURGH BRANCH) (GP98/5)**
24. (GP97/35/1) *The Chairman advised the committee that further amendments had been suggested to the draft licence agreement*

submitted by the local association. These had been sent to the local association and it was hoped that the licence would be signed shortly.

25. **LICENCE AGREEMENTS OUTSTANDING (GP98/6)**

26. *It was noted that all the local associations other than that indicated above and the new RSCDS Tokai Branch had now signed a licence agreement. A reminder would be sent to the Tokai secretary to ensure that a licence could be completed without delay.*

27. **CONFIRMATION OF STATUS (GP98/7)**

28. (GP97/6) *It was confirmed that the RSCDS Tokai Branch was established in the Tokai area (including Shiyouka, Aichi and Mie prefectures). RSCDS Tokyo Branch would continue to operate within Tokyo Kanto area and the Tokyo Scottish Bluebell Club will carry out its normal activities in Tokyo and retain its affiliated group status.*

29. **RSCDS TOKAI BRANCH CONSTITUTION (GP98/8)**

30. *It was agreed to forward the constitution to the sub-committee convener for consideration.*

31. **JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND (GP98/9)**

32. **Promotional Leaflet (GP98/9/1)**

33. *It was agreed that a promotional leaflet, clearly setting out the parameters of the Fund, should be produced. The Secretary agreed to provide the committee with draft copies for the next meeting.*

34. **Kitty McLauchlan Bequest (GP98/9/2)**

35. *Miss Katherine McLauchlan had generously bequeathed to the Society a legacy of £60,000. When this legacy had been received by the Society in the autumn no indication had been given as to whether Miss McLauchlan had given any instructions as to its use.*

36. *In the interim the money had been placed in a separate account earning interest until such time as a suitable project(s) could be considered. Miss Parker had recently*

received a telephone call from Miss McLauchlan's solicitors indicating that her will had indicated that the funds should be donated to the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund.

37. It was agreed that full details of the terms of the bequest and of the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund were needed before the Society could consider suitable project(s). The matter was referred to the Finance Committee to provide further information.

38. Grants

39. Potential Examiner Travel Expenses (GP98/9/3)

40. It was agreed that funding would be forthcoming from the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund to cover the travel expenses for the overseas potential examiner who was unable to attend for assessment at Summer School last year, to attend for assessment this year. This matter would be referred to the Examinations Committee for their consideration.

41. AGM (GP98/9/4)

42. It was agreed that the Society would run a "Founders Ball" in association with the RSCDS Glasgow Branch on the Friday evening prior to the AGM. The Society would underwrite this event to a maximum of £3,000.

43. The matter would be discussed further with RSCDS Glasgow Branch.

44. Income from Sales of Books (GP98/9/5)

45. Dr MacFadyen advised the committee that the income from sales of "Dance with your Soul" and "Facsimile Festival Booklet" (now out of print) should be donated to the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund. This had not been referred to in the past few Bulletins.

46. Miss Parker had been unaware of this and agreed to look into the matter.

47. SUB-COMMITTEES (GP98/10)

48. The Secretary was asked to prepare an outline of the current remits of the various sub-committees set up by the General Purposes Committee.

49. It was agreed that the appointment of the members of the sub-committees was part of the function of the GP Committee and that when each was appointed its remit should be made clear. This would naturally establish a term for the sub-committee unless a new remit was agreed.

50. It was suggested that the GP committee should have an annual review of the sub-committees at their first meeting of the year.

51. The current sub-committees of the GP committee are:

52. 75th (est. Oct. 1995) Mr W Clement (Conv.), Mrs L Gaul, Mr A S Aitkenhead, Mr G Lawson, Dr A MacFadyen, Mr A Maciver, Mrs M MacRae, Miss C Traynor

53. AGM Sub(1997/8 reappointed annually) Mr W Clement (Conv.), Mrs L Gaul, Mr J T Healy, Mr A Mair, Mrs C Munro, Mrs A Murphy

54. Constitution Sub (est. May 1995) Mr A Smart (Conv.), Mr W Clement, Mrs L Gaul, Mr G C Bell, Mr J Douglas, Mr G Lawson

55. Mr R Turnbull

56. Marketing (est. May 1995) Mrs L Gaul (Conv.), Mr W Clement, Mr B Harry, Miss A Hodgson, Mrs P A Walker, Mr J Walker, Mrs R Walker(PR Consultant)

57. Tattoo (est. Feb. 1994) Mr W Clement (Conv.), Mrs L Gaul, Mr B Harry

58. YSDA Sub (est. Feb 1993) Mr A Aitkenhead (Conv.), Miss I Bennett, Mrs L Gaul, Mrs C Munro, Miss C Traynor, Mrs F Turnbull

59. Strategy (est. Jan 1998) Dr J Reinstein (Conv.), Mr A Boode, Mr J Carstwell, Mr J Hill, Ms M Johnstone, Mr A Kellett, Miss L Ogilvie

60. The Secretary is in attendance at all sub-committee meetings.

61. It was further agreed that the full committee would consider the scroll nominations at their next meeting.

62. **Reports of Sub-Committees**

63. * the report of the Constitution sub-committee was covered under GP98/6

64. **Public Relations GP98/10/1**

65. It was agreed that for easier reference and distinction from the Publications Committee that in future this sub-committee will be referred to as the "Marketing" sub committee.

66. Notes of the meetings of 3 Oct. and 21 Nov. were circulated.

67. The display boards at the AGM had attracted considerable interest and had resulted in an overwhelming number of replies indicating that the Society logo should not be changed.

68. It was noted that the Society had received superb coverage of its press launch in November. The coverage had included television, radio, newspapers and a couple of magazines. It was hoped that a follow-up could be arranged before the end of the contract with the PR consultant on 31 Jan.

69. **Tattoo GP98/10/2**

70. The Chairman and Vice Chairman had attended a planning meeting with the tattoo organisers. Three dances: "The Earl of Mansfield", "Trysting Place", and "The Reel of the 51st" were to be included in the 1998 Tattoo. The Society had also been asked to provide text for the programme.

71. **75th Anniversary GP98/10/3**

72. The notes of the meeting of 11 December were circulated.

73. Although plans were underway for the Presidents Reception the Society was not to hold a Garden Party. Her Majesty had provided 25 tickets to her own Garden Party (to include partners) and it was agreed that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary

would draw lots from the names of the Executive Council representatives.

74. Mr Clement indicated that as he had already attended a Garden Party he would not be putting his name forward.

75. **YSDA GP98/10/4**

76. It was noted with pleasure that the "Dance Scottish in Schools" events in November had been very successful and well attended. The Chairman had attended 2 events in Fife, 1 in PEdinburgh and 1 in Perth. Plans were now underway for the 1998 events "Dance Scottish World-wide" although these would not necessarily be solely for children.

77. **APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS GP98/11**

78. The following applications were approved:

79. The Sorrento Scottish Country Dancers (Canada) and The St. Andrews Society of Paphos.

80. **LOCAL ASSOCIATION BADGES OF MERIT GP98/12**

81. (GP97/43) As the Executive Council had expressed no opinion on this matter the committee would not proceed further.

82. **SASH GP98/13**

83. (GP97/39/4) The Committee were unanimous in their previous decision that they had no firm view on which shoulder was the "correct one", and that there should be no such ruling. Information provided from the Court of the Lord Lyon appeared to give all the advice that was necessary and the committee recommended that this should be provided as the Society's viewpoint.

84. **PIPE BANNER GP98/14**

85. (GP97/40) A sample of material had been provided and it was agreed that a new pipe banner should be purchased.

86. **LETTERING ON DOOR GP98/15**

87. (GP97/37/4(6)) It was agreed that there was no identification to the Society's headquarters outside the front door. It was agreed to erect a brass plaque with the words "The Royal

Scottish Country Dance society
(Headquarters)" and to put gold lettering on
the fanlight above the door

**88. ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE ROOM
GP98/16**

89. (GP97/39/5) It had been suggested that one of
the rooms in the basement might be able to be
converted to allow an additional committee
/meeting /archive room. On further
investigation it appeared that there was not
currently sufficient room to move the items
currently stored there. (The LPs and books
required to be stored in different climatic
conditions which were regulated to ensure
that the stock was stored in its best condition).

**90. TERM OF OFFICE ARCHIVIST AND
DIRECTOR OF SUMMER SCHOOL
GP98/17**

91. It was noted that the initial 4 year term for
the above offices was due to expire in 1998
and therefore procedures would need to be set
in place should the present incumbents not
wish to seek re-election. The Secretary agreed
to contact Mr MacPherson and Mrs MacRae
to seek their views on whether they wished to
seek re-election for a further 3 year term.

92. USE OF E-MAIL GP98/18

93. It was noted that recently there had been
messages posted on the Internet regarding
information on the financial situation of the
Society. It was agreed that such information
should not be discussed in such a public
forum until such time as the financial
information has been approved by the Society.

94. It was also agreed that where there might be
comments which could be deemed to be critical
these should be discussed privately with those
concerned before any message is posted on the
Strathspey mailing list.

95. AGM MOTIONS GP98/19

96. It was agreed that a note would in future
accompany the provisional agenda to ensure
that all delegates were aware that the AGM is
not a meeting where amendments to motions
can be agreed. The provisional agenda is
submitted to all local associations in advance

to give them the opportunity to submit their
amendments.

97. SOCIETY WEB-SITE GP98/20

98. Unfortunately due to other pressures
progress on the Society's Web-Pages had been
slower than expected. This was to be rectified
and it was hoped that the sites could be
established shortly.

**99. ORDER OF BUSINESS AT EXECUTIVE
COUNCIL GP98/20**

100. It was noted that it was not best practice to
take the reports of the committees in the same
order at each meeting. This meant that one
committee was always last and their report
considered late on in a long meeting. It was
agreed to rotate the order in which these are
considered at future meetings.

101. It was noted with regret that RSCDS
Peterborough Branch had written expressing
their concern at the new early start time for
the Executive council meetings. This might
mean that they would not be able to be
represented at these meetings since it either
meant an overnight stay (inconvenient and
costly) or missing the first chunk of the
meeting.

**102. BLINDS FOR COMMITTEE ROOM
GP98/21**

103. It was agreed to purchase vertical blinds for
the committee room.

**104. SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING
VIDEO GP98/22**

105. It was noted that the Society had been
approached by another production company
which were considering producing an
entertainment/instruction video of Scottish
country dancing.

**106. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
Saturday 14 March 1998**

Sub Committees of General Purposes Committee

*The current sub-committees of the GP committee
giving details of their composition
and an extract of their remit from the original minutes*

*75th (est. Oct. 1995) Mr W Clement (Conv.), Mrs L Gaul, Mr A S Aitkenhead, Mr G Lawson,
Dr A MacFadyen, Mr A Maciver, Mrs M MacRae, Miss C Traynor*
Remit: to consider and carry out the planning of suitable events for the Society's 75th anniversary.

*AGM (1997/8 reappointed annually) Mr W Clement (Conv.), Mrs L Gaul, Mr J T Healy, Mr A
Mair, Mrs C Munro, Mrs A Murphy*

Remit:

- where deemed appropriate, to clarify the wording of motions.
- where several branches have submitted similar motions to agree a consolidated motion.

*Constitution (est. May 1995) Mr A Smart (Conv.), Mr W Clement, Mrs L Gaul, Mr G C Bell,
Mr J Douglas, Mr G Lawson, Mr R Turnbull*

Remit:

- (a) to amend the constitution in line with the autonomous nature of the branches
- (b) to assist the branches in their applications for charitable status

*Marketing (est. May 1995) Mrs L Gaul (Conv.), Mr W Clement, Mr B Harry, Miss A
Hodgson, Mrs P A Walker, Mr J Walker, Mrs R Walker (PR Consultant)*

Remit: Agreed objectives were

- (a) To encourage membership
- (b) To encourage awareness of the Society
- (c) To revitalise the image of the Society

Tattoo (est. Feb. 1994) Mr W Clement (Conv.), Mrs L Gaul, Mr B Harry
Remit: Arising from discussions at the Open Forum concerning the Tattoo, the Council agreed to appoint a sub-committee to meet with the organisers of the Tattoo

*YSDA (est. Feb 1993) Mr A Aitkenhead (Conv.), Miss I Bennett, Mrs L Gaul, Mrs C Munro,
Miss C Traynor, Mrs F Turnbull*
Remit: To formulate the plans for the Association, in order to introduce SCD into schools

*Strategy (est. Jan 1998) Dr J Reinstein (Conv.), Mr A Boode, Mr J Carswell, Mr J Hill, Ms
M Johnstone, Mr A Kellett, Miss L Ogilvie*

Remit: to fulfil the terms of the following AGM motion:
"... to examine the aims and objects of the Society (as set out within its Constitution) and to produce, within 24 months, a strategic plan setting out in detail how the Society intends to further these aims over the next five years."

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
Notes on Special Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
to discuss the restructuring of the Executive Council
Held on Saturday 14 February 1998 at 10:30 hrs at
12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh

Present: Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mrs J Harper, Mr A Mair, Dr A MacFadyen, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs C Munro, Mrs I Rae, Mr D Watson (*Finance Convenor*), Mrs R Wilton.

Apologies: Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mr J Healy and Dr J Reinstein.

In Attendance: Miss G Parker (Secretary)

1. The Committee agreed that the overriding principle behind any change to the Executive must be to make it more efficient and accountable. However the Society was a Charity and must ensure that the objective to educate the public was foremost. The members "donated" their membership subscription and the Society must act for the good of the public not solely for the benefit of its members.
2. Any change to the Executive would inevitably affect both the Standing Committees and the AGM structure since all were linked.
3. Various papers had been submitted in addition to the three papers discussed by the Executive Council at their special meeting in May. A summary follows.

Mrs M MacRae:

4. *The Administrative Year to be split into three. Office Bearers and standing committees be elected at the AGM. Reports at the end of each period be sent to Local Associations who in turn send comments/questions to each convenor for discussion. The morning of the AGM to be left over for discussion and ratification of the year's business. Afternoon of the AGM for election of Office Bearers etc. and any other business.*
5. It was felt that this would be more isolationist for the Local Associations and

that it would mean that they would not be able to "hear" the other comments raised. This proposal would mean additional paperwork and did not obviously show a more effective decision-making process. It was felt that there should be an Executive Group and that such a group should consider the work of the Committees more than once a year.

RSCDS Brighton Branch

6. *The Executive is made up of people with totally different mandates and different terms of appointment. The meetings are becoming just a watchdog and not a forward-thinking management body. Local Associations should be encouraged to co-operate together on a regional basis. Could overseas groups consider twinning with a UK Local Association?*

7. There were several problems envisaged with twinning in that a representative could be asked to speak for and against the same motion thus balancing out the argument. A Local Association might agree with a particular UK viewpoint on some issues and not on others. This would cause Local Associations to feel that they were not being fairly represented. Co-operation on a regional basis could be encouraged whatever the outcome of these deliberations.

Berks./Hants/Surrey Borders

8. *The strategy of the Society should be defined each year at the November Executive. The Convenors agree an action plan and meet once between Executive Meetings to monitor progress and ratify recommendations. The powers of the Committee of Convenors to be restricted to administrative matters but in some cases extended to constitutional matters. The Society*

constitution to be revamped without further delay.

9. It was agreed that this proposal would leave a very small group of people ratifying the decisions of the committees. Especially as they would all be intimately involved in coming to these decisions within their own committee. To set policy each year is too short-sighted and this would be better set at 5 year intervals. Who would decide on the infrastructure to support these decisions? Continuing to have the committee conveners meetings to discuss matters of mutual interest was not discounted. It was considered best that this was kept as an informal arrangement.

Wilson Nicol

10. *An Executive of twelve people to run the Society on a day to day basis. Comprising: the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Finance Convenor, Convenor of Publicity and Publications Committee, Convenor of Professional Activities (Examinations and Summer School), Convenor of General Affairs (Membership), plus six elected representatives.*
11. *A Representative Council of one rep per Local Association, meeting twice a year to decide Policy and Principles and to appoint the working members of the committees.*
12. *A members AGM (open to all) to receive reports of activities of the Society, (postal vote for election of Executive Committee and to engage questions and discussion with Executive.*
13. The Committee agreed that this proposal would mean that the AGM was diminished into "rubber stamping", if the Executive set the policy for the Society. It also added an additional layer of bureaucracy which was not really necessary.

Conclusions and Recommendations

14. The Committee agreed that :
- The Society should have an inclusive AGM, appointing an Executive Group and Standing Committees. The AGM should decide on Society policy.

- An Executive Group (wholly elected by the members at the AGM) should be responsible for carrying out the policy set by the AGM and to put forward proposals to the AGM for future policy. The Executive Group should direct the Committees who would be responsible for the administration of the work.
 - Committees, and their Convenors, to be elected at the AGM.
15. The Committees would cover different sectors of responsibility:
- * Finance and General Purposes
 - * Technical and Training - currently Examinations and Summer School
 - * Marketing and Publications
16. A more extensive AGM, open to all members to attend, could be established. This could take the form of a weekend conference with separate sessions, to review each sector's activities and to discuss the background behind recommendations being put before the AGM. The plenary session (the "business" part of the weekend) to agree the annual report, accounts and policy decisions, and voting.
17. It was agreed that Mrs Murphy would draft a more detailed proposal for the next meeting of the Committee.
18. Consideration would need to be taken of all practicalities before any decision could be finalised. ie:
- central (HQ) membership records
 - nomination procedure
 - background information for nominees
 - voting system (proxy voting for those who could not attend)
 - venue for AGM conference
 - the effects of increased paperwork
 - nominations on a rolling basis so that there is a definite change over of people on the Executive Group
 - specific limit as to "time out" from Executive Group (3 years on 3 years off?)

Annual Conference

(open to all members)

Responsible for setting Society Policy

Day One (workshop sessions)

Individual Sessions to discuss work of each sector and background to proposals being presented at AGM

Day Two (Annual General Meeting)

Plenary Session to cover the Business of the AGM including:

- ◆ Annual Report
- ◆ Accounts
- ◆ Voting for: Office Bearers
Executive Group
Committee Convenors
Committees
- ◆ Policy Resolutions
- ◆ Changes to Constitution

Election of Management Group at AGM

Election at AGM of Convenors from Executive Group

Election of Committees at AGM

Executive (Management) Group
Responsible for implementing Policy Decisions

Executive Group of say 51
Term of office 3 years
(thus 17 to be elected each year with 2/3 remaining for continuity)
Would meet approx twice per year to review decisions committees had taken. This would be retrospective.

Standing Committees
Responsible for the following sectors:

- Finance and General Purposes
- Technical and Training currently Examinations and Summer School
- Marketing and Publications

*Minutes of Meeting of General Purposes Committee
Held on Saturday 14 March 1998 at 10.30hrs
at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh*

PRESENT: Mr W Clement (Convenor), Mr D Watson (Finance Convener), Mrs J Harper, Mr J T Healy, Dr A MacFadyen, Mr A Mair, Mrs C Munro, Mrs A Murphy, Dr J Reinstein, Mrs R Wilson.

APOLOGIES: Mrs L Gaul (Vice-Chairman), Mrs I Rae, Miss G Parker (Secretary).

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J Dick (Assistant Secretary).

GP98/23. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

GP98/23.1. Strategic Planning Sub Committee.

Mr Clement informed the Committee that Mr Brian Harry had been invited to join the Strategic Planning Sub Committee and had accepted.

GP98/23.2. Licence Agreements.

Mr Clement confirmed that RSCDS Edinburgh Branch had now signed a Licence Agreement. (*all Branches have now signed a licence agreement.*)

GP98/23.3. YSDA.

The Convenor was asked to clarify whether this was a Working Party or a Sub Committee. The Convenor confirmed that it is a Sub Committee.

GP98/23.4. 75th Anniversary.

Mr Clement advised the Committee that Lord Mansfield had indicated that it may be possible for two people to be presented to Her Majesty. The Committee agreed that, if possible, it would be preferable if the two people chosen were not also going to the President's Reception.

GP98/23.5. Local Association Badges of Merit.

Concern was expressed regarding an award for recognition of services to the Society whether it is purely within the Branch or not. It was agreed that the impact of an award was far greater when it came from the Society rather than the Branch.

GP98/23.6. In this respect, it was agreed to consider whether the criteria for the present Scroll can be more clearly defined or whether a new form of Scroll should be designed specifically for Branches. The Committee were asked to consider this further before the next meeting.

GP98/23.7. Executive Council Meeting - New Start Time.

The Committee were advised that no

further letters had been received regarding the early start time of the meeting and it was confirmed that the Executive Council Meeting in May will begin at 10.30hrs. The Council will be advised if any Representatives have difficulties with the early start.

GP98/23.8. The Minutes of the Meeting of 10 January were approved.

MATTERS ARISING

GP98/24. AUSTRALIAN TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

(GP97/19) Despite further correspondence from ATA a decision has not yet been reached regarding the non payment of fees. Mr Clement will be visiting Australia in the near future and agreed to discuss the matter further with the Secretary and advise the Committee of the outcome at the next meeting.

GP98/25. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL RESTRUCTURE

(GP97/30) The Committee had met on 14 February to discuss the submissions regarding the restructuring of the Executive Council. All those who submitted ideas were thanked. Mrs Murphy was asked to summarise the submissions and produce further thoughts.

GP98/25.1. Mrs Murphy's submission was discussed with great enthusiasm and the Committee agreed that Mrs Murphy should present a brief outline of the matter to the Executive Council.

GP98/25.2. The Committee agreed that the Strategic Sub Committee should take this on board and Dr Reinstein agreed to liaise with Mrs Murphy.

GP98/25.3. The Committee further agreed that the Report on General Purposes meetings which was to be submitted to the Executive Council representative should only mention that this meeting had been held to discuss proposals regarding the restructure of the Executive Council.

GP98/25.4. Mrs Murphy was thanked for the effort she had put into her report.

GP98/26. SCROLLS

It was agreed to recommend to the Executive Council that eleven nominees be presented with the Scroll of Honour. Subject to ratification, and where possible, the Scrolls would be presented at the 1998 AGM in Glasgow.

GP98/26.1. The Committee discussed the criteria for the Award of Scroll and agreed that the format of the present form should be clarified in order to assist the Committee and those who recommend a nomination.

GP98/27. JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

Mr D Watson (Finance Convener) advised the Committee that he intended asking the investment broker how to get the best of the fund without locking it up.

GP98/27.1. Promotional Leaflet

The Committee had each received a copy of the new promotional leaflet for the JMMF and, with a slight amendment, agreed the concept.

GP98/27.2. Application from Summer School

The Summer School Committee had applied for funding for the hire of three pianos at Summer School this year.

GP98/27.2. 1. The Committee considered this in detail and agreed that in this instance it was not appropriate to fund the expense from the Fund. The Summer School Committee will be advised of this decision.

GP98/27.2. 2. Kitty McLauchlan Bequest

The Committee agreed that a decision was required as to how the income from the capital bequeathed to the Fund by Miss McLauchlan should be spent.

GP98/27.2. 3. As Miss McLauchlan was involved with festivals and teaching piano it was felt that the Publications & Research Committee and the Music Sub Committee should be given the opportunity of expressing their opinions. Therefore this will be presented to the next meeting of the Publications & Research Committee for consideration.

GP98/27.3. Co-Founders Ball

The Committee were advised that RSCDS Glasgow Branch were prepared to host and organise the above ball with the Society underwriting the event (up to a limit £3,000).

GP98/28. SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Miss Parker had produced a paper showing the

composition of the standing committees and their remit from the original minutes.

The committee agreed:

- The first Committee meeting after the AGM would:
 - confirm the composition of the sub-committees
 - confirm their remit and make clear the term of the sub-committee.
- The Committee would decide how long members could continue after the 5 year term.

The Committee confirmed the current composition and remit of each of the sub-committees.

GP98/28.1. YSDA Sub Committee

The Committee congratulated the YSDA Sub Committee for all its good work. Mrs C Munro confirmed that future plans will be submitted shortly.

GP98/28.2. Public Relations Sub Committee

The Committee were advised that the Public Relations Firm Playfair Walker had now finished their contract. Rosemary Walked had indicated that she would be willing to continue to carry out promotional projects on behalf of the Society for any special event.

GP98/28.2. 1. The Committee were informed that the Web page was ongoing and should be fully operational in the foreseeable future.

GP98/28.2. 2. Because of the necessity for exact timing at the 1998 AGM it was agreed that the idea of releasing helium balloons should be dropped.

GP98/28.3. 75th Anniversary Sub Committee
Mr Clement informed the Committee that Her Majesty had accepted an invitation to a reception at the City Chambers on 2 July.

GP98/28.3. 1. The Committee were advised that invitations had gone out and that the number of people attending would be limited to 160.

GP98/28.3. 2. The Committee agreed that the 75th Sub Committee should actively seek media coverage possibly in Children's Television. It was agreed to ask the advice and guidance of Angela Young, who worked in the BBC in London, to provide contact information.

GP98/28.3. 3. Minutes of 75th Anniversary Sub Committee - 27 February 1998

It should be noted that Muriel Johnstone was to be

asked to play at the reception in the City Chambers with her fiddler Keith Smith.

GP98/28.3. 4. It was noted that the Commemorative Book will be co-edited by Mr Alan MacPherson and Dr Alastair MacFadyen.

GP98/28.4. Constitution Sub Committee
The Committee approved the amendments and additions to the Constitution requested by the Inland Revenue subject to confirmation by Mr Reith of Messrs Lindsays WS.

GP98/28.5. Tattoo Sub Committee
Mr Clement advised the Committee that he and Mrs Gaul were keeping in touch with the Tattoo Director.

GP98/28.6. Strategic Planning Sub Committee
Dr Reinstein reported on the first meeting of the Sub Committee and advised that the members of the Committee were beginning to work well together and that there was a lot of creative dialogue.

GP98/28.6. 1. Dr Reinstein reported that there was a lot of work to do and requested that agreement be given that they do not need to wait for approval of their report from General Purposes before they meet again.

GP98/28.6. 2. It was agreed that the sub-committee should continue to keep the General Purposes Committee advised of progress but they should continue to carry out the task set down in their remit. Any such progress reports would in turn be reported to the Executive Council.

GP98/28.6. 3. Dr Reinstein advised that future meetings would be held on 2 May, and 27 June in Edinburgh and 5 September in London.

GP98/29. APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS
Approval was given to the following applications for affiliation to the Society:

- Jackson Country Dancers, Jackson, Mississippi, USA
- Aberystwyth Scottish Country Dancers, Aberystwyth, W Wales

GP98/30. LETTERING ON DOOR/BRASS PLAQUE
The Committee were pleased to note that the gold lettering had been painted on the fanlight. The Committee agreed to erect a brass plaque at a cost of £120.

GP98/31. ARCHIVIST

The Committee were advised that Mr Alan MacPherson wished to stand for a further term as Society Archivist.

GP98/32. SUMMER SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Mrs M MacRae had notified the Committee that she would not be taking up the option of a further term of office as Director of Summer School.

GP98/32.1. Nomination forms will be sent to all Branches requesting nominations for this position together with the draft Agenda for the AGM. The election will take place at the November Executive Council Meeting.

GP98/33. SOCIETY COAT OF ARMS

Correspondence had been received suggesting that the Society should commission its own coat of arms. This was discussed and it was agreed not to proceed at this time.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

GP98/34. SCOTTISH TRADITIONS OF DANCE TRUST

It was confirmed that Mr J Healy will continue to be the Society representative on the Liaison Committee.

GP98/35. CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR PHYSICAL RECREATION (CCPR)

The Committee confirmed Marie Jamieson should continue to act as the Society representative to the above body.

GP98/36. PRESIDENT'S BADGE OF OFFICE

It had been suggested that it might be appropriate if there was an official badge for the President. The Committee approved this and proposed that the style could be a badge of office on a blue ribbon. This proposal is to be presented to the Finance Committee for approval.

GP98/37. LP RECORDS

Mr Clement proposed that as there were still a large stock of LP records in Headquarters, it might be appropriate to provide all Branches with a box of each of the remaining LPs, (carriage to be paid by the Branch). It was agreed that a complete set should remain in the Archives. The Committee agreed this proposal should be presented to Finance for approval.

GP98/38. HEADQUARTERS

Mr Clement suggested there was a lack of space in Headquarters. As there are a number of Architects within the Society it was proposed that Mr Clement should invite someone to inspect the interior of the building and give advice on how the

space could be utilised to the best advantage

GP98/39. "LOCAL ASSOCIATION" OR "BRANCH"

It was agreed that there is a great deal of confusion between the use of the term "Local Association" and "Branch" and the Committee confirmed that as there was no legal requirement for either, the term "Branch" should be used.

GP98/40. CHAIRMAN'S EXPENSES

The Committee agreed that while the Chairman was abroad he was on official business for the Society. He should on such occasions not be out of pocket and therefore any expenses incurred while on official business should be covered by the Society.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be 26 September at 10.30hrs.

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Minutes Of Meeting Of General Purposes Committee

Held on Saturday 26 September 1998 at 10:30 hrs

at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh

PRESENT: Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mr D Watson (Finance Convenor), Mrs J Harper, Mr J T Healy, Dr A MacFadyen, Mr A Mair, Mrs C Munro, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs I Rae, Dr J Reinstein, Mrs R Wilton

APOLOGIES: Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman)

IN ATTENDANCE: Miss G Parker (Secretary).
Mr Grant Bulloch and Mrs Carol Bulloch joined the meeting to discuss the designs for the HQ Basement.

GP98/41. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

GP98/41.1. The Minutes of the meeting of 14 March were approved by the Committee.

GP98/42. MATTERS ARISING

GP98/42.1. YSDA (GP98/23.3)

It was agreed that the YSDA was a sub committee of this Committee, and as such the remit, members, and Convenor, would be considered annually with the other sub-committees. Any recommendations from the sub-committee would be considered by the General Purposes Committee at their first meeting following the AGM.

GP98/42.2. Australian Teachers Association (ATA) (GP98/24)

It was noted that the Teachers Association Fees for ATA were paid up to date. The question of the nature of the long term status of the ATA was discussed. As the ATA were to have an AGM on Tuesday 29 September, a letter would be sent reminding them of the options.
Affiliated Group Status paying £20
Teachers Association Status paying £100
and setting out the restrictions on remaining a Teachers Association, which were laid out the Society constitution.

GP98/42.3. Executive Council Restructure

It was noted that there was an error in the Executive Council Minutes, as it was not reported that Mrs Murphy had given a report of the Committee's proposals regarding the Executive Council Restructure. These suggestions had been issued to the Strategic Planning Sub-Committee for consideration.

GP98/42.4. President's Badge of Office

Mr Clement confirmed that funding was available for the President's badge of office. The badge would resemble the medallion on the Chairman's badge, with the addition of a bar with the word "President". It was expected to be ready in the first week of November.

GP98/42.5. LP Records

All the LP records had now been given away.

GP98/43. JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

GP98/43.1. Use of Kitty McLauchlan Income
The Committee agreed that part of the money should be invested in activities to support youngsters.

GP98/43.1.1. It was therefore agreed to set aside £1,000 to assist branches towards costs in hosting dancing events for children.

GP98/43.1.2. An application form would be sent to all branches. This would have to be submitted together with a budget of projected costs, as part of the application.

GP98/43.1.3. The Publications Committee had also been requested to submit some suggestions as to suitable projects for this part of the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund income. (Approx. £3-3,500)

The following suggestions were put forward

- All suitable RSCDS recordings to be put onto CD

The estimated production costs for a Society CD were in the region of £5,000. It was therefore agreed to ask the Publications Committee to investigate this further and provide costs

- Extend music course

It was agreed that this was a very suitable project and suggested that a course held at Summer School should also be considered. Details of the sort of course were requested.

- **Invest in music publications for use by musicians as a reference (music library)**
It was suggested that this might include publishing alternative tunes to help upcoming musicians. The archivist already had a budget for the purchase of suitable material for the archives, and the archives were intended to be available to musicians and therefore further information was requested.

- **Purchase a computer to allow archive index to be available at HQ.**
It was noted that the Society already had a 486 laptop which could be used for this purpose. It was agreed that the archives should be more accessible to the members. As a more long term project suitable equipment would be purchased as an ongoing upgrade. This equipment would allow suitable items from the collection to be scanned onto the computer for access by members either at HQ or via the Internet.

- **Establish a music course for teachers**
- **Produce a CD of music for teaching (with both male and female voices)**
It was thought that this sort of CD would have a limited market and therefore the Committee agreed not to proceed.

GP98/43.2. Co-Founders Ball
RSCDS Glasgow Branch had gone ahead with arrangements for the forthcoming ball to be held on the Friday prior to the AGM.

GP98/43.3. Examiners Seminar
The Examinations Committee are making arrangements for the Examinations Seminar which will take place in October 1999. It is expected that all examiners will attend the seminar which will be held from Friday evening through to Sunday lunchtime. The Society currently has 23 Examiners from the following countries: 1 S Africa, 3 USA, 1 Canada, 2 New Zealand, 2 Australia, 9 Scotland, 3 England, 1 N. Ireland.

GP98/43.3.1. The Finance Committee had already agreed funding of £4,500, to cover all board and accommodation for the examiners, hire of room, audio/visual hire.

GP98/43.3.2. The General Purposes Committee agreed that the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund would sponsor 75% of the examiners travel to the Seminar

GP98/43.4. Funding for Training Courses

GP98/43.4.1. It was agreed that funding of £250 would be available for the Tutors and Potential Tutors courses to cover room hire, Tutor and musician's fees, lunch, coffee and tea.

GP98/43.4.2. Funding of £500 was also approved on the same basis for the musicians course. It was noted however that £300 had been granted from the Scottish Arts Council for the 1998 Music Course.

GP98/43.5. Teaching Tour of Spain

A request had been submitted for funding for a musician and teacher to visit Spain. The trip would start in Madrid, and travel to Malaga, Alicante, Barcelona, Lisbon and return to Madrid.

GP98/43.6. It was agreed that funding equivalent to return airfares, UK-Madrid for a teacher and musician would be available in 1999.

GP98/43.7. If the groups were prepared to provide accommodation and internal travel within Spain, the Examinations Committee would be asked to appoint a suitable teacher.

GP98/44. APPLICATION FOR BRANCH STATUS.

It was agreed to recommend that RSCDS Central Iowa Branch be admitted as a branch of the Society.

GP98/45. AFFILIATED GROUP APPLICATIONS

The following groups were accepted as affiliated groups:

Japan
Ageo SCDC
Katsushika SCDC*
Kitakyushu SCDC
Kitamoto SCDC *
Hiroshima SCDC
Scottish Country Dance Group Iris, Sakato
Winds, Noshiro
Yokohama SCDC
Yono Scottish Country Dance Club

USA
Emerald Coast SCD, Florida
Mobile SCD, Alabama
Middleton SCD, Connecticut

The Bangalore St. Andrew Society, India
The Rose of Barcelona, Spain

Princes Street Gardens Dancers, Edinburgh *

* applications approved subject to receipt of letter of support from nearest branch

GP98/46. SOCIETY SCROLL OF HONOUR

A draft of a revised nomination form for scroll recipients having been sent to the Committee was discussed. A revised version, including procedures and notes for guidance was agreed, and would be issued to branches for use in 2000.

Grant Bulloch (an Edinburgh architect), and his wife Carol (who regularly applies for funding) joined the committee for the next item.

GP98/47. SOCIETY HEADQUARTERS

Mr Bulloch explained that he and Mr Bob Grant had been approach to consider ways in which the HQ could be better utilised. They had prepared three scenarios, one which was a furniture shuffling, another which allowed the rooms to be used for more functions and the third which was more extensive.

GP98/47.1. Members, he said had nothing to see and by creating an attractive and informative space for visitors it could attract people to Scottish Country Dancing.

GP98/47.2. The plan was that the ground floor be left as administrative and the rear portion of the basement be left over to storage and archives. The whole front of the basement could be changed into three spaces: a world members room, a members reading room, and a shop. The members room could be adapted in its uses for dancing, exhibitions, audio visual and meetings.

GP98/47.3. Any display would have to make use of specialist designers. Building warrants and planning consent would also be required and it was suggested that disabled access should also be provided by way of a new metal staircase (with disabled lift) leading from the Walker Street corner straight into the basement area. Additional staff would have to be available for visitors to the members areas, which may have restricted opening hours. Alternatively the area could be serviced by Society members.

GP98/47.4. Costs were estimated at approx. £150,000, and it was understood that any lottery funding would require the Society to guarantee funds for up to 25%

GP98/47.5. Mr Clement advised that he had spoken to the Scottish Sports and Arts Councils regarding the possibility of Lottery Funding. There was no bar to the Society applying to both bodies for funding.

GP98/47.6. The Arts Council had indicated that it may be necessary to have a feasibility study carried out before any funding could be considered, but funding may be available for the feasibility study.

GP98/47.7. The Committee agreed that the project should be extended to incorporate the refurbishment of the whole of the HQ building.

GP98/47.8. Mr Clement agreed to make enquiries as to the costs of a professional feasibility study, and how to apply for funding through the Arts Council lottery funding.

GP98/48. SUB-COMMITTEES

GP98/48.1. Strategic Planning

Dr Reinstein reported that the results of the questionnaires issued to Executive Council Representatives and AGM Delegates had been printed in the RSCDS London Branch "Reel".

GP98/48.1.1. It was agreed that in future any reporting from the sub-committee would be directed through the standing Committee and Society publications.

GP98/48.1.2. It was agreed to issue a copy of article together with a copy of the first draft of the strategic plan and a covering letter to all AGM Delegates. Copies would also be available for members attending the Discussion Group prior to the AGM.

GP98/48.2. YSDA

The reports of the meetings were accepted. Funding of £3,500 was approved for the year 1998/9. This to cover the "Dance Scottish World-wide" publicity, the event taking place in St. Andrews, children's badges etc. It was noted with regret that Mr Alastair Aitkenhead had decided to withdraw from the sub-committee. A letter of appreciation would be sent to Mr Aitkenhead for his many years of service. It was further noted that Anne MacKenzie-Smyth had been co-opted.

GP98/48.3. Marketing

The notes of the meetings were accepted. A proposal for a membership drive was also accepted. This would be in the form of a letter from the Chairman (published in the Newsbrief) asking members to suggest two people that could be members of the Society. If both people took up the invitation to become members then the sponsors name would be put into a draw.

The prize for the draw would be one week full board and accommodation at Summer School. Mrs Gaul was asked to revise the draft letter so that this was clear.

GP98/48.4. 75th Anniversary

The notes of the meeting were accepted. Sincere thanks were expressed to Mr MacPherson and Dr MacFadyen for the 75th anniversary display which was at Summer School and would be available at the AGM.

GP98/49. CONVENORS MEETING

It was noted that the Convenors had met on 20 September. One item discussed was from a South African branch which had requested that their subscriptions be waived this year due to the dire financial situation with rates of exchange.

GP98/49.1. It was agreed to write to the branch and advise them that the Society cannot waive their fees.

- They could raise funds by twinning with a large branch and having fund-raising activities
- They could disband (according to the terms laid down in their constitution) and become an affiliated group, thereby paying less. (This would mean that their annual members would no longer need to be full members of the Society)

GP98/50. TIMING OF EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

A letter had been received from RSCDS Bedfordshire Branch expressing their displeasure at the new start time for Executive Council meetings.

GP98/50.1. It was agreed that the new start time was a majority decision. This had been reconfirmed by the overwhelming responses received by representatives completing the questionnaire.

GP98/51. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL PROCEDURE

A letter received from Fiona Grant had laid out various suggestions for improvements to the Executive Council. These would be implemented where possible. It was further agreed that the Secretary would issue the full Minutes of all standing committee meetings to the Executive Council, and all Convenors.

GP98/52. CONVENORS MEETING

It was noted that there had recently been another Convenors Meeting, and the Chairman would report to the Executive Council on this meeting.

GP98/53. INVESTMENT ADVISORY PANEL

Mr Watson advised the Committee that the Finance Committee had agreed to appoint an Investment Advisory Panel to act as an interface between the Society and the Brokers.

GP98/53.1. Mr Barry Rose, The Hon. Peregrine Moncreiffe of Moncreiffe and Mr Jim Healy had been asked to do this.

GP98/54. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL LUNCH

The Committee reconfirmed their earlier decision that the branch hosting the AGM was no longer required to provide a lunch for Executive Council members.

GP98/55. RSCDS VANCOUVER BRANCH

A letter had been received from Vancouver Branch requesting that the Executive Council seek the advice of an independent cost accountant regarding whether there was an unfair split between overseas and UK branches. If so, the Executive should be asked to consider a different fee structure for overseas branches.

GP98/55.1. The Committee agreed that members who joined the Society did not do so for what they could get out of it. The Society is a charity, based in Scotland and if there was a benefit of membership it was the Society. It was inappropriate to pay for such an investigation. The Finance Committee were already investigating the possibility of providing global insurance cover for branches. The matter would be presented to the Executive Council for its consideration.

GP98/56. RSCDS UPDATE:

The Committee were advised that the RSCDS Update was issued to all branch Secretaries quarterly to remind them of deadlines, new releases etc. (*The Marketing Committee hoped to include this in a "News" section on the Website*) Miss Parker was congratulated on the latest issue.

GP98/57. UPGRADE COMPUTERS

The Finance Committee were asked to consider whether an improved computer system would assist the HQ staff in providing better information.

GP98/58. STDT LIAISON GROUP

Mr Jim Healy is the Society representative on the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust liaison panel. He advised the Committee that there is to be a liaison meeting on Wednesday 21 October which he hopes to attend.

GP98/59. KEYS TO HEADQUARTERS

Mr Clement suggested that keys for Headquarters should be available to the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Archivist.

GP98/59.1. The Committee agreed with this, provided the building security was maintained, and the Secretary was informed prior to any visit. The Secretary was asked to look into the matter with the insurance brokers.

GP98/60. SOCIETY NOTEPAPER

Mr Clement suggested that Society notepaper should be available to the office bearers, for their use. The Committee agreed, provided copies of all correspondence were sent to the Secretary.

GP98/61. ACCESS TO HEADQUARTERS

Mr Clement asked the Committee to reconsider the decision by the Finance Committee to refuse access to the Society for any branch meetings. The Committee had been concerned that if one branch was allowed access then other groups may also request access. There was also the question of security. Mr Clement asked that Edinburgh branch be allowed to hire the Committee Room at HQ for their meetings.

GP98/61.1. The Committee agreed that RSCDS Edinburgh Branch would be allowed to hire the room at a commercial rent, provided the keys were collected and returned on the day of the meeting.

GP98/62. RETIRING MEMBERS

Mrs Isobel Rae, and Mrs Rachael Wilton advised the Committee that they would not be standing for re-election next. Mr Bill Clement advised that he would demit office as Chairman at the AGM. He thanked the retiring members for their years of service to the Society.

GP98/63. BUDGETS

Mr Watson advised the Committee that there was now a greater need than ever to ensure accurate long-term budgeting and each of the committees were being asked to provide accurate figures of projected expenditure.

GP98/64. CONVENORS TERM OF OFFICE

Mr Clement asked that the Committee consider extending the term of office of Committee members to avoid a Convener being appointed in their last year on a committee. The Committee rejected the proposal as it was up to each of the committees to plan ahead when choosing a convener.

GP98/65. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates of the meetings in 1999 were agreed as follows:

- February 6
- April 10
- September 25

The meeting closed at 1740 hrs

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
Minutes Of Meeting Of General Purposes Committee
Held on Saturday 6 February 1999 at 10:30 hrs
at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh

PRESENT: Mrs Linda Gaul (Convenor), Mr A Mair (Vice Chairman), Mr W Clement (Past Chairman), Mr D Watson (Finance Convenor), Mr B Grant, Mrs J Harper, Mr J Healy, Dr A MacFadyen, Mrs C Munro, Mr A Reid, Mr A Smart.

APOLOGIES: Mrs A Murphy

IN ATTENDANCE: Miss G Parker (Secretary)

GP99/1. WELCOME

Mrs Gaul welcomed all the members to the meeting, those returning, those continuing and those attending for the first time. There was much to be discussed and the members should consider carefully each matter and ensure that their decisions were for the greater good of Scottish Country Dancing. Matters should be considered confidential until the Executive Council had ratified the decisions.

GP99/2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETINGS

The Minutes of the meeting of 26 September 1998 having been approved and ratified at the Executive Council were confirmed. The Minutes of the meeting of 21 November 1998 were approved by the Committee.

GP99/3. STDT LIAISON GROUP

Mr Healy advised the Committee that although a meeting of the liaison group had been planned it was cancelled at the last moment due to a lack of people willing to attend. It was not known when a new meeting would be arranged. Mr Healy agreed to continue as the Society's Representative on the Group

GP99/4. ATA

Following the last meeting of the Committee the Secretary had written to the Australian Teachers Association to advise them that some form of decision was required to the question of their status with the Society. They had now agreed to become the Australian Teachers Alliance – an affiliated group of the Society.

GP99/5. HEADQUARTERS PREMISES

GP99/5.1. At the last Executive Council meeting Mr Clement had raised the question of the Society considering the purchase of a

new HQ building, as an alternative to major alterations at Coates Crescent. The Territorial Army had premises at East Claremont Street which could be suitable. Mr Grant and Mr Bullough had been asked to inspect the premises and to report to this meeting. Mr Clement had also been to see the property independently.

GP99/5.1.1. Mr Grant explained that the building was approximately ¼ mile North of Princes Street in a mainly residential area. The property comprised a three storey stone building forming two wings over a central entrance, and a large brick-built hall behind. It appeared to be in very good condition.

GP99/5.1.2. The property was approximately three times the size of the current HQ building and the two wings at the front could be separated. The hall at the back (approx. 65 ft²) could be sub-divided with sliding doors to allow for more flexible use. It had its own entrance at the side or could be entered via the central archway. (The floor was woodblock on concrete and was therefore hard, but a sprung floor could be laid).

GP99/5.1.3. A feasibility study would have to be carried out before any lottery funding could be considered and this was likely to cost approximately £10 – 15,000. A partial grant to fund the study could be applied for. The property would lend itself to becoming the Centre for Scottish Dancing if other bodies such as Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust (STDT) and the Highland Boards were to establish their headquarters in one of the sections of the building as well.

GP99/5.1.4. It was agreed that an informal meeting would be arranged with the above to establish whether they would be interested in setting up a Traditional Dance Company to purchase the building. The TA and Scottish Arts Council would be kept advised of any developments.

GP99/5.2. In the short term, Mr Grant agreed to consider how the current HQ building could be refurbished with new storage so that an additional meeting room could be established in the basement.

GP99/5.2.1. Mr Healy agreed to investigate the costs of shipping a large conference table (which was available in Milan) for such a room.

GP99/5.3. SCROLLS (Confidential)

It was agreed to recommend the following for the Society's Scroll of Honour:

Heather Byres
John Drewry
David and Betty Grant
Ian Hall
Bernard Kaiman
Elizabeth Kemp
Noreen McLennan
Elma See

GP99/6. JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND (for estimated income and expenditure see attached seet)

GP99/6.1. Kitty McLauchlan Bequest

GP99/6.1.1. Computer for Archives

It was agreed to discuss with the Archivist the purchase of an additional computer, networked to the system, with a scanner and printer, which could be made available for use with the archives. This to be included in the 1999/2000 budget. It was also agreed to provide the archivist with keys for access to HQ outwith office hours, provided it was convenient and the Secretary was advised in advance.

GP99/6.1.2. Music Course at Summer School

The proposal outlined by Ms Johnstone at the last meeting of the Publications and Research Committee was considered. The Committee agreed that should the Summer School Committee approve the project, that funding equivalent to £600 would be available (being £50 subsidy for 12 attendees)

GP99/6.1.3. Application for Children's Event

An application for funding from the Kitty McLauchlan Children's Fund had been received from South Argyll Branch. Funding of £150 was approved. It was agreed that should other sponsors not come through, the branch could reapply for further funding.

GP99/6.2. Potential Tutors Course and Tutors Course 1999.

It was noted that there had been insufficient applications for the Potential Tutors Course to warrant proceeding this year. The two applicants would however be included in the

Tutors Course which was to proceed. It was noted that the request for funding from the Examinations Committee had included an increase for the 2000 courses. This was approved.

GP99/6.3. Teaching Tour of Spain

The previous meeting had approved that the Society would fund a teacher and musician to travel to Spain provided the groups requesting the tour fund the internal travel and accommodation. This had been agreed by the organiser and therefore the tour was likely to go ahead in May 1999. It was agreed that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Examinations Convenor would select the teacher and musician to attend.

GP99/6.4. Teaching Tour of Budapest

A request had been submitted by the Budapest Scottish Dance Club – an affiliated group of the Society – for a teaching visit in May 1999. This was approved and the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Examinations Convenor would select the teacher and musician to attend.

GP99/6.5. Melbourne Winter School

It was noted that RSCDS Melbourne Branch were sponsoring children's attendance at their Winter School. It was agreed to give a grant to the branch on the basis that they were supporting children dancing. The grant would match their sponsorship up to Aus\$1,100 (Approx. £350). A report on the School would be requested.

GP99/6.6. Spending Capital from Fund

It was noted that the JMMF had been established without a formal Trust Document. Therefore, any desire to amend the current policy of spending only the revenue from investments could be changed on approval by the Executive Council. The Fund now had almost as much capital as the Society and therefore should a suitable project require funding this may be considered.

GP99/6.6.1. The Committee agreed not to amend the current policy

GP99/7. AFFILIATED GROUP APPLICATIONS

It was agreed to recommend that the following groups become affiliated groups of the Society:

- Abernethy Scottish Country Dance Club, Inverness-shire, UK
- Chaffcombe and Chard Scottish Country Dance Club, Somerset, UK

- Highland Heritage Society, Argentina
- Kalamazoo Scottish Country Dancers, Michigan, USA
- Kuban Scottish Country Dancers, Russia
- Scottish Country Dancers of Hamburg, Germany

GP99/8. TOKYO BRANCH AREA

A letter had been received from Mr Miyakawa indicating that the Society's Rule III 3 was restrictive. The Rule stated that only one Local Association should be formed in a district or area which is a homogenous one. At present the RSCDS Tokyo branch covers the Tokyo Kanto (region) which includes 7 prefectures (districts). RSCDS Tokai Branch covers 3 prefectures. This was very restrictive for other groups wishing to form a branch in the area.

GP99/8.1. The Committee agreed to reconsider the matter if the two branches and the group were prepared to agree to appropriate boundaries. (As there was no restriction as to the number of branches to which a member could join, more than one branch may be able to cover the same Kanto.) It was agreed to write to each of the branches and the group for their proposals.

GP99/9. APPOINTMENT AND REMIT OF SUB COMMITTEES.

GP99/9.1. AGM (re-appointed annually)

Remit:

- where deemed appropriate, to clarify the wording of motions.
- where several branches have submitted similar motions to agree a consolidated motion.

GP99/9.2. **Constitution** it was agreed that the work of this committee had been completed. The sub-committee was disbanded

GP99/9.3. **Marketing** (est. May 1995) Mr A Mair (Conv.) Mrs L Gaul, Mr W Clement, Mr A Begg, Mrs H Cochrane, Mr N Fairhead, Miss A Hodgson, Mrs P A Walker, Mr J Walker

- Remit:
- To encourage awareness of the Society
 - To continue to revitalise the image of the Society
 - To improve communications (by communicating effectively with influential bodies, and members) and thereby encourage new membership.

GP99/9.4. **Tattoo** it was agreed to disband this sub-committee but to continue to liaise with the Tattoo Director. Mr Clement was asked to introduce Mr Mair to Brigadier Jamieson. Mr Mair agreed to keep the Marketing sub-committee informed of progress. X

GP99/9.5. **YSDA** (est. Feb 1993) Mrs F Tumbull (Conv.) Miss I Bennett, Mrs L Gaul, Miss A Grant, Mrs C Munro. X

Remit:

To formulate the plans for the Association, in order to introduce SCD into schools

(It was noted that there were no men on this sub-committee and it was suggested that Mr Sinclair Barbour be asked to join).

GP99/9.6. **Strategy** (est. Jan 1998) Dr J Reinstein (Conv.), Mr A Boode, Mr J Carswell, Mr B Harry, Mr J Hill, Ms M Johnstone, Mr A Kellett, Miss L Ogilvie

Remit:

to fulfil the terms of the following AGM motion: "... to examine the aims and objects of the Society (as set out within its Constitution) and to produce, within 24 months, a strategic plan setting out in detail how the Society intends to further these aims over the next five years."

GP99/9.7. **Under 16s** (est. Nov 1998) Mr A Mair (Conv.), Mr Sinclair Barbour, Mrs Jennifer Blair, Mrs Stella McCraw, Mrs Marilyn Watson

Remit

- To consider and put forward amendments to the Society Constitution to allow for members under the age of 16, and in so doing, to propose suitable terms and conditions.
- To consider and put forward similar amendments to the Model Constitution for Local Associations and to the Approved Standard Constitution for Local Associations in England and Wales with, or applying for, Charitable status.

GP99/9.8. **Northern Ireland Co-Ordinating Committee** (1998-1999) Mr B Greer, Mr C McCausland, Miss M Rooney, Miss P Lowther, Miss I Thompson, Mrs H Meban

GP99/10. STRATEGIC PLAN

The draft strategic plan was tabled. As the document was lengthy it was agreed that any further comments on the Plan should be submitted to Dr Reinstein as soon as possible. The final document would have to be issued to the branches and Executive Representatives in March to allow them sufficient time to consider the document before the May Executive Council meeting. Dr Reinstein

agreed to submit the final document to Miss Parker by the end of February. The final submission would include the complete plan and a summary containing the Mission Statement, Society Vision, and each of the objectives.

GP99/10.1. It was noted that there had been a letter submitted to "The Reel" expressing concern over the initial results. Dr Reinstein agreed to provide a copy to the Secretary and to try to include a response in the same edition. He further agreed to write an article for the June issue of the Newsbrief to explain the final Plan to members.

GP99/11. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION FOR UNDER 16s

Mr Mair, as Convenor of this sub-committee was concerned that members under 16 years of age would receive far less benefits of membership than adult members. It was agreed however that the AGM motion had agreed that membership would be open to all and the sub-committee had been established to draft the necessary changes to the constitution. The Finance Committee would consider the appropriate subscription levels and the Summer School Committee would consider whether or not to restrict admittance to the Summer School.

GP99/12. RSCDS NORTHERN TERRITORIES BRANCH

A letter had been received showing that the branch had been advertising an event which allowed non-members to attend as spectators only. (This was presumably not due to a lack of space as non-members were advised that if they became members they would be able to attend as dancers). It was agreed to seek comments from the branch and to advise them that the Society wished to encourage everyone to dance whether they were members or not. Discounted dance tickets for members were often available at various branch events.

GP99/13. RSCDS MOFFAT BRANCH

It was noted with concern that the Branch had only one member, a life member, and therefore there was little or no income. Next year was to be the Branch's 50th anniversary and therefore it was hoped that a viable class could be established and members encouraged to participate in SCD. The matter would be reconsidered at the next meeting but should the branch remain unviable it may be necessary to suspend representation on the Executive Council, pending disbandment.

GP99/14. AFFILIATED GROUPS

It was agreed to consider further whether the affiliated group secretaries should receive the Secretaries Updates, Marketing Updates and a Publication List. The Secretary agreed to provide costs to the next meeting.

GP99/15. PAST CHAIRMEN

It was agreed that the Past Chairman, and Honorary Vice Presidents should receive the Agenda and Papers in advance of the AGM, and the Minutes thereafter.

GP99/16. LONG SERVICE MEDAL

A request had been received from Mr J Taylor that the Society consider issuing a long service medal to those members who had been members for 50 years or more. The Committee agreed that this would be too difficult to confirm and administer and suggested that individual branches could consider such a proposal

GP99/17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Saturday, 10 April 1999, at 10:30 hrs.

*Proposed Income and Expenditure Figures
for JMMF 1998/9 and 1999/2000*

	<u>Income</u>	
Investment Income (estimate)		12250
YSDA Sales Income (estimate)		<u>2000</u>
Total Income		14250

	<u>1998/9 Expenditure</u>	
South Argyll Children's Events		150
Grant to Melbourne Summer School		350
Video of Manual		3000
AGM co-founders Ball		3000
YSDA		3500
Potential Examiners Travel to SS 7/98		420
Teaching Tour of Spain (x2) 5/99		500
Missionary Tour of Budapest (x2) 5/99		600
SS Scholarships 1998		
Five Scholarships @ £488 each	2440	
Junior Scholarship (20 x £50)	<u>1000</u>	3440
Courses in 1999		
Tutors 03/990	250	
Music 04/99	<u>500</u>	750
Total Expenditure		<u>15710</u>
Suplus/Deficit		<u>-1460</u>

	<u>1999/2000 Expenditure</u>	
Kitty Projects		
Children's Events 7/99 - 6/00	1000	
Archives Computer, Scanner, Printer, Network	<u>1500</u>	2500
YSDA (7/99 - 6/00)		2400
Exam Seminar (10/99)		3000
SS Scholarships 1999		
Five Scholarships @ £498 each	2490	
Junior Scholarship (20 x £50)	<u>1000</u>	3490
Courses in 2000		
Potential Tutors 02/00	380	
Tutors 03/00	380	
Music 04/00	<u>650</u>	1410
Total Expenditure		<u>12800</u>
Suplus/Deficit (based on estimate of income)		<u>1450</u>

	<u>2000/2001 Expenditure</u>	
Summer School 2000 Music Course(12 @ £50)		600
Total Expenditure		<u>600</u>
Suplus/Deficit		

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
MINUTES OF MEETING OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD ON SATURDAY 10 APRIL 1999 AT 10:30 HRS
AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH

PRESENT: Mrs Linda Gaul (Convenor), Mr A Mair (Vice Chairman), Mr W Clement (Past Chairman), Mr D Watson (Finance Convenor), Mr B Grant, Mrs J Harper, Mr J Healy, Mrs C Munro, Mrs A Murphy, Mr A Reid, Mr A Smart.

APOLOGIES: Dr A MacFadyen

IN ATTENDANCE: Miss G Parker (Secretary)

GP99/18. WELCOME

Mrs Gaul welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for all their time involved in the Committee and for their help in furthering the work of the Society.

GP99/19. MATTERS ARISING

GP99/19.1. Computer for Archives

It was noted that the Archivist had received keys to HQ building in February with access to the security code. At the same time he was given access to HQ computer system with backup and his own access password. It was not thought that he had used the system yet. (GP99/6.1.1)

GP99/19.2. Teaching Tour of Spain

Having made the initial arrangements for the tour, we have just been informed that there is no piano. It is hoped to appoint an accordionist soon. The tour is to take place between 21-30 May. Helen Frame will be the teacher. (GP99/6.3)

GP99/19.3. Teaching Tour of Budapest

Jean Martin (Aberdeen) and James Gray (Manchester) are doing this tour. Classes will take place on 5 and 6 June. Expected costs £900 (although James Gray may be eligible for student discount on travel) (GP99/6.4)

GP99/19.4. Melbourne Winter School

The actual cost was slightly more than estimated due to the rates of exchange. The cost had actually been £442 instead of £350. The School was a financial success the Branch Committee having decided to refund all the fees paid by 11 children and half fees for 4 aged 16-30. They also agreed to set aside funds to offer some form of Scholarship for children to attend Canberra Winter School

in 2000. The JMMF grant had been a welcome addition to the fund. (GP99/6.5)

GP99/19.5. Tattoo

Mr Clement had not yet introduced Mr Mair to Brigadier Jamieson, but agreed to do so shortly. (GP99/9.4)

GP99/19.6. YSDA

Anne Grant and Sinclair Barbour have still to be invited onto the sub-committee. (GP99/9.5)

GP99/19.7. Affiliated Groups

The Secretary had investigated the costs and time implications of producing the Publications lists, marketing updates and secretaries updates for each of the 450 Affiliated Groups. This would involve a considerable amount of extra staff time and she indicated that this was not possible, given the pressures the staff were already under. (GP99/14)

GP99/19.7.1. It was noted that the Affiliated Groups paid an affiliated group fee which provided the Group with an entry in the list of secretaries, one copy of the Bulletin, Newsbrief and subscription copy, and members discount on Society products. It was also noted that Branches must continue to have more information and support the Affiliated groups.

GP99/19.7.2. The Committee felt that the Groups should be made aware of the Updates etc and be encouraged to establish contact with the branches, from whom they could receive information. Mr Watson suggested that without additional funding it would be impossible to provide more information to the Groups.

GP99/19.7.3. It was agreed to continue on the current basis at the moment

GP99/19.8. USE OF HQ

It was noted that RSCDS Edinburgh Branch had declined to use the Board Room at Headquarters for their Committee meetings due to the cost.

GP99/19.9. JAPANESE BRANCH BOUNDARIES

GP99/19.9.1. The first application from a group in Japan had been for a branch covering all of Japan. This had been rejected and the

first branch was named Tokyo, covering the Chiba, Gunma, Ibaraki, Kanagawa, Saitama, Tochigi and Tokyo Prefectures in the Kanto area. It was also noted that Tokyo Branch long term plans included the formation of Branches in other regions and other prefectures within Kanto region.

GP99/19.9.2. The second application had been from Tokyo Scottish Bluebell Club, an Affiliated Group, based in the area of Tokyo branch. This was rejected but Tokai Branch was established covering Aichi, Mie and Shizuoka Prefectures in the Tokai area. The Affiliated Group to continue to operate as before.

GP99/19.9.3. There were currently many affiliated groups operating in the Tokyo prefecture, and specifically in the Tokyo city boundaries. It also appeared that Tokai Branch was operating outwith its agreed boundary.

GP99/19.9.4. It was agreed that Rule III 3 stated:
"... the Executive Council shall adhere to the principle ... that only one Local Association should be formed in a district or area which is a homogenous one."

It was therefore agreed that the city of Tokyo should not be split into several branches, and under the terms of the constitution, a prefecture should be considered as a "homogenous district or area".

Mrs Gaul agreed to write to the Tokyo, and Tokai branches, and all Affiliated Groups in Japan to inform them of the following:

1. The Affiliated Groups within the Saitama and Gunma Prefectures will be encouraged to establish a new branch covering those prefectures. When any new branch is established, boundaries may have to be adjusted so that branch territories do not overlap.
2. Tokai Branch must operate and be run from within its agreed area.
3. Tokyo Branch and all the Affiliated Groups operating within its boundaries, will be encouraged to work together e.g. by having a representative from each of the Groups on the Management Committee of the Branch.
(note: any representative of a Group would have to be a member of the Group and of the Branch.

GP99/19.9.5. The Committee also agreed that it was against Society tradition and policy that dancers be restricted from joining a Group or Branch because of their dancing abilities or age. It was also noted that a member was free to join more than one branch if they chose to do so.

GP99/19.10. NORTHERN TERRITORIES BRANCH

GP99/19.10.1. It was agreed that, in future, in a case of a complaint, full information would be sought from both parties before the matter was discussed by the Committee.

GP99/19.10.2. It appeared from the comments received from Mr Henry that there had been a misunderstanding as to the nature of the function which had been advertised as an event which allowed non-members to attend as spectators only.

GP99/19.10.3. Mrs Gaul agreed to write to both parties

GP99/20. MOFFAT BRANCH

It was noted that the Branch had held a meeting and had agreed to place an article in the local newspapers; saturate the area with posters; make full use of the RSCDS publicity materials; and encourage other branches and groups to participate in events. There were 2 further meetings planned.

GP99/20.1. Given the attempts to resurrect the Branch, which currently had only 1 life member, the Committee agreed to allow the Branch to have representation on the Executive Council for a further year.

GP99/21. UNDER 16'S SUB COMMITTEE

Mr Mair reported that the sub-committee had approached the matter with an open mind. Six months had not been very much time to report to the standing committee.

GP99/21.1. The report of the sub-committee having been issued with the papers, was approved by the Committee.

GP99/21.2. Mrs Gaul thanked the members of the sub-committee for their hard work in dealing with the matter.

GP99/22. STRATEGIC PLAN

Mrs Gaul explained to the Committee that she had agreed to delay the distribution of Executive Council papers to the branches to ensure that the Committee was given an

opportunity to consider the Plan before it was issued. This had, unfortunately, meant that there was little time for the branches to consider the Plan prior to the Executive Council. Dr Reinstein presented the draft Strategic Plan

GP99/22.1. It was agreed that the Strategic Plan should be made available on the Society's website at the same time as it was distributed to the branches. Mr Healy agreed to have the document formatted into HTML prior to uploading the document. The professional design team would upload the document.

GP99/22.2. The appendices would be made available to branches after the Executive Council meeting.

GP99/23. YSDA

Mrs Munro reported that the Dance Scottish World-wide event had been very successful. It was difficult to pinpoint the exact number of participants but it was thought it was in the region of 40,000. A YSDA newsletter was to be issued this year.

GP99/23.1. A pilot scheme was to be initiated in 30 schools in Scotland in August or September 1999. The pack would include dance instructions, history, drama, and a tape; all in the current terminology of the curriculum. It was hoped that there would be a series of packs to correspond with the 5-14 curriculum. Sponsorship was already being sought and it was hoped that the first pack in the final format would be ready for the start of the school year in 2001.

GP99/24. MARKETING SUB-COMMITTEE
The Notes of the sub-committee meeting were noted.

GP99/25. AGM SUB-COMMITTEE

It was agreed that Mrs Gaul (Chairman), Mr Mair (Vice Chairman), Mr Healy, Mrs Murphy and Mr Smart would be appointed to the sub-committee.

GP99/26. CLARIFICATION OF SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

It was agreed that there were some sections of the Constitution (relating to the appointment of Executive Council Representatives, Delegates and nominations for the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Elected Members) which were currently unclear. Amendments to the constitution, clarifying the wording were approved. These would be presented to the

Executive Council for addition to the AGM Provisional Agenda. Following approval by the Executive Council, the Inland Revenue would be consulted.

GP99/27. HQ PREMISES

GP99/27.1. Territorial Army Premises

It was noted that a meeting had taken place between the Chairman and Secretary and members of the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust. At the meeting the question of the possibility of the establishment of a Scottish Dance Centre was discussed. The STDT board meeting was due to take place on 28 April and they had agreed to report back their discussions. It was not thought likely that they would have any capital to invest in any such building.

GP99/28. Refurbishment of Coates Crescent

Mr Grant had carried out an assessment of the work that was needed to be carried out to provide an additional meeting room in the current HQ building.

GP99/28.1. The Committee noted that the cost of carpeting, wallpaper, cornice work, paint work, wood work, lighting, wiring and ironmongery work was likely to be in the region of £3,000. In addition work to the fireplace, curtains and poles was also required.

GP99/28.2. The costs of moveable storage units, to accommodate the stock currently housed in the room in question, was likely to be in the region of £5,500.

GP99/28.3. 12 chairs, a table, sideboard fridge, crockery and coffee machine would also be desirable but not essential. The total cost of the refurbishment coming to approx. £13,000.

GP99/28.4. It was noted that the cost of transporting a table from Italy was likely to be in the region of £800. Mr Grant was asked to investigate costs of purchasing a modular table.

GP99/28.5. The Committee agreed that a minimum of £8,500 was required. Mr Watson agreed to present this to the Finance Committee at their next meeting.

GP99/29. INDEPENDENT COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS – Remit from Executive Council

After some discussion, the Committee sympathised with the view of some overseas members that they received fewer benefits than UK members. However, it was felt that the

extra costs incurred in administration balanced the additional benefits available to UK members. It was agreed that although the Society did represent members needs around the world, the HQ was in Scotland and the Society had to be run as a Scottish charity. It was noted that Mrs Gaul had discussed the concerns of the Vancouver branch with their Chairman and had written to the Winnipeg Branch addressing their concerns. It was also agreed that the views of overseas members should be taken into account.

GP99/29.1. The Committee remained in agreement that an independent cost benefit analysis would not be the best use of Society resources.

GP99/30. JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

The Finance Convenor advised the Committee that the Finance Committee were, at their next meeting, to consider the possibility of applying for funding from the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund to cover the administration costs of administering the Fund. (If approved by the Finance Committee an annual application would be made on the basis of 5% of the total staff costs.)

GP99/30.1. Kitty McLauchlan Bequest

GP99/30.1.1. Funding was approved in the amount of £300 for a "fun camp" for dancers up to the age of 19 to take place in New Zealand.

GP99/30.1.2. Funding of £285 was approved for a Scottish country dance for children to be organised by East Angus Branch.

GP99/30.1.3. It was noted that South Argyll Branch had been most grateful for their grant and had also been the recipients of £1700 lottery funding.

GP99/31. AFFILIATED GROUPS

Applications were approved for the following:
Jabadao, Bruxelles
Munich Scottish Association, Germany
Skagit Scottish Country Dancers, Burlington, USA
Club de Danse Ecossaise de La Mure d'Isère,
Grenoble

GP99/31.1. With regret it was agreed that the following Affiliated Groups would be lapsed, due to non-payment of fees:

Arwon SCD Group
Bishops Stortford Caledonian Society
Carolina SCD Society
Manila Reel Club
Memphis SCDancers
Peterborough SCD Society
Pleydell Dance Group
Prince Edward Island SCDancers
Ramsey SCD Group
Ruthin SCD Society
St. Andrew Society of St. John SCDancers
Talahassee SCD
Taunton Caledonian Society
The Gambia Caledonian Society
The Highland Thistle Pipe Band Society
The Isle of Man SCD Group
Thistle CD Group

GP99/32. SPORTS COUNCIL TRAINING DAY Mr Grant had attended a training day run by the Scottish Sports Council. He agreed to provide a report to the Secretary.

GP99/33. AGM VENUES

It was noted that the 1999 AGM was to be held in Edinburgh and the 2000 AGM in Troon. No offer had yet been received for the 2001 AGM or beyond.

GP99/33.1. The number of venues that were a suitable size to accommodate 600-800 people at the social functions, was very limited. It was noted that if the proposals in the Strategic Plan were adopted the format of the AGM weekend would change. It was suggested that there might be several different types of dance / cultural event taking place in the evenings, rather than the traditional ball and dance. Members of the committee were asked to bring their suggestions to the next meeting.

GP99/33.2. It was understood that the Highland Branches were considering the possibility of hosting the 2001 AGM in Inverness and Perth and Perthshire Branch were also discussing possibilities. The matter was left to the next meeting.

GP99/34. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Saturday, 25 September 1999, at 10:30 hrs.

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
MINUTES OF MEETING OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD ON SATURDAY 10 APRIL 1999 AT 10:30 HRS
AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH

SEPT 25 99

PRESENT: Mrs Linda Gaul (Convenor), Mr A Mair (Vice Chairman), Mr W Clement (Past Chairman), Mr D Watson (Finance Convenor), Mr B Grant, Mrs J Harper, Mr J Healy, Dr A MacFadyen, Mrs C Munro, Mr A Reid

APOLOGIES: Mrs A Murphy, Dr J Reinstein, Mr A Smart.

IN ATTENDANCE: Miss G Parker (Secretary)

GP99/35. WELCOME

Mrs Gaul welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised for the considerable amount of paperwork that had needed to be table today, since it had not been received in time to be sent out to the members of the Committee.

GP99/36. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

As the Minutes of the meeting of 10 April had been approved at the last meeting of the Executive Council, they were accepted as a true record of the last meeting. They were signed by the Convenor.

GP99/37. MATTERS ARISING

GP99/37.1. Teaching Tours of Budapest and Spain (GP99/19.2 and 19.3)

It was noted that reports of both the tours had been received and both had been very much appreciated. The Committee expressed their thanks to all concerned. It was noted that one of the groups in Spain had donated £240 to the JMMF shortly following the tour.

GP99/37.2. Independent Cost Benefit Analysis (GP99/29)

Mrs Gaul advised the Committee that she was continuing to receive letters on value for money issues.

GP99/37.3. New Zealand Branch (GP99/30.1.1)

It was noted that the "One Fun Camp" now had 73 dancers registered to attend.

GP99/37.4. South Argyll (GP99/30.1.2)

Mrs Gaul advised the Committee that the South Argyll Children's festival, which had taken place, had been very well run and a most enjoyable and rewarding experience. It had provided an opportunity for all the primary

school children in the area to enjoy dancing. A video of the event was in the archives.

GP99/38. Northern Territories Branch (GP99/19.10)

An e-mail had been received from Mr Henry expressing the grave concern of the NT Branch regarding the wording of item GP99/12. The Branch requested an open retraction of the wording be published in the next Minutes. The Committee expressed their regret about the concern caused but agreed that the Minutes were a record of what actually happened at the meeting. However, the branch's comments were noted for future guidance.

GP99/39. Japanese Branch Territory

It was noted that a great number of submissions had been received from groups, branches and individuals interested in the matter. Some were happy with the Committee's previous decision while others were not. The Committee agreed that at the moment there should be no change to the Society constitution but the matter would be kept under review.

GP99/39.1. Given the great depth of feeling it was agreed to write to all parties involved. It was also agreed that, should it prove necessary and should funds be available, the Chairman and one other individual would travel to Japan and conduct an Open Meeting with all concerned. To ensure there was no bias, an independent translator would be appointed.

GP99/40. MOFFAT BRANCH

It was noted with regret that the attempts to encourage new members to the branch had been unsuccessful despite local advertising leaflet drops, and a free taster class. The branch committee had determined that a minimum of 16 regular dancers were required to make the class viable. The branch had written to advise the Society that it was now starting procedures to disband. The Committee very much regretted the need for this decision but expressed its thanks to Mr Rae for all his efforts. The sole life member of the branch would be asked to transfer his membership to another branch or HQ.

GP99/41. NEW SOCIETY STRUCTURE

Mrs Gaul introduced this matter by explaining that both she and Mr Mair (Vice Chairman) had presented a paper to members attending Summer School. They had been encouraged by the response to these proposals and had noted the many comments that had been submitted since. This was a major undertaking in response to the proposals indicated on the Strategic Plan. As such, it is necessary to ensure that they are well thought out, costed and supported by a reasonable number of people before proceeding further. Mrs Gaul proposed that a working party be established to collate and consider all the ideas including those presented at the Special Executive Council Meeting of May 1997.

GP99/41.1. The Committee members were asked to voice their views and a short discussion ensued regarding the need to be members of one family. It was noted that there were different levels of demand from members: from those who just want to dance to those who want to be fully involved. Mr Watson said that the Finance Committee had recognised that even if the Society had approx. 500 "full members" and the rest "associate members" the Society could still be financially robust.

GP99/41.2. It was noted that the life members could transfer to "associate membership" status, although they could be encouraged to convert their life membership to another membership category and thereby contribute to the finances of the Society.

GP99/41.3. The committee was asked to submit its thoughts to the working party and to encourage others to do likewise.

Several names were suggested for the working party and would include: representatives from the Finance Committee and the Strategic Planning sub committee; a member with legal expertise; a member representing youth issues; two members at large; the Chairman and the Vice Chairman.

GP99/42. AGM 2000

A letter had been received from RSCDS Ayr Branch raising questions about the start time for the Open Forum and the necessity to have a Grand March. It was agreed that it was not essential to hold a Grand March at the start of the ball.

GP99/43. AGM 2001

It was noted with regret that RSCDS Inverness Branch was unable to host the 2001 AGM due

to a lack of a big enough venue to host the various activities. RSCDS Perth Branch had agreed to host the 2001 AGM although Bells Sports Centre (the only suitable venue in Perth) was unable to confirm the booking at the moment.

GP99/43.1. It was suggested that, there were now only a small number of venues with large enough facilities suitable for the ball and dance. This meant that the task of hosting the AGM weekend fell to a small number of the bigger branches in Scotland. It was agreed however that until it was established what form the AGM might take in the future, discussions on venues were premature. It was noted that RSCDS Aberdeen branch would be approached to host the 2002 AGM.

GP99/44. Headquarters

Given the current finances of the Society, the plans to refurbish the HQ building had been delayed. It was understood that the TA building in East Claremont Street was now no longer on the market.

GP99/44.1. The notes of a meeting with the STDT to consider the possibility of establishing a National Centre for traditional dance and music were tabled. It was noted that there was to be an open meeting on 17 November with various organisations involved in traditional music and dance, the sports and arts councils and other interested bodies to look at the options.

GP99/44.2. It was recognised that there would need to be several other organisations interested in the project before any working party could be established. Should such support not be apparent then the RSCDS would need to consider what was most appropriate for the Society and member's needs.

GP99/44.3. Mr Grant agreed to investigate two properties, one in Glasgow and one in Edinburgh to see whether they might be suitable for such a National Centre.

GP99/45. JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

GP99/45.1. Administration Costs

An application for a grant, equivalent to 5% of the total staff costs, was submitted from the Finance Committee to offset the cost of administering the Fund. It was agreed that this was unacceptable, however a transfer of funds from the JMMF to the General Fund

equivalent to 10% of the actual annual expenditure was agreed. It was further suggested that if a separate bill could be provided for any accountancy fees in connection with the Fund, then this invoice would be met from the JMMF.

GP99/45.2. Kitty McLauchlan Fund Expenditure

Funding for the following projects was approved from the £1000 set aside from income received from the donation received from Miss Kitty McLauchlan.

Aberdeen (Children's Day School)	£100
Sacramento (Youth Workshop)	£170

GP99/45.3. Applications for Funding from JMMF

GP99/45.3.1.1. Toronto Music Course

Funding, equivalent to 50% of the cost of running a music course for 20 people was approved (Canadian \$ 550).

GP99/45.3.1.2. Australian Teachers Alliance

A retrospective application for assistance with a tutors' course held in Adelaide in June had been received. The Committee agreed that only requests that were submitted in advance could be considered. Should the ATA run a similar course in the future, and submit a limeous application for funding, this would be considered.

GP99/46. AFFILIATED GROUP

Applications for Affiliated Group status had been received from the following clubs:

- Ashbourne Scottish Country Dancers, Derbyshire
- Beckwith Scottish country Dance Group, Ottawa
- Caledonian Society of Cyprus, Limasol
- Colwyn Bay, Llandrudno & District Caledonian Society, N. Wales
- Dyffryn Clwyd Scottish Country Dancers, N. Wales
- Groupe de Danse Eccosasie de Carpentras, France
- Happy Scottish Country Dance Club, Japan
- Kanazawa Scottish Country Dance Club, Japan
- Pembrokeshire Group of Scottish Dance Clubs, Wales
- Pencaitland Junior Scottish Country Dancers, Mid Lothian
- Oxford University Scottish Dance Society
- Waverley, Kitakyushu city, Japan

- Yamato Scottish Country Dance Club, Japan

All of the above applications were approved.

GP99/47. SUB COMMITTEES

GP99/47.1. Marketing

It was noted with regret that the millennium mouse mats had proved too expensive. The millennium brooches were on sale.

GP99/47.1.1. It was suggested that the sub-committee consider stocking a pen holder for use by the telephone. The secretary agreed to look into costs.

GP99/47.1.2. The Convenor briefly outlined the business discussed at the last meeting. He indicated that Mr Fyfe of Edinburgh Branch had attended the meeting and it was hoped that a joint PR approach between Edinburgh Branch and the Society could be established.

GP99/47.1.3. Sales of the "Dancing at the Scores" postcards had been successful at Summer School this year and it had been agreed to stock a further 2 designs of postcards from a Fife artist. It was suggested that postcards depicting scenes relating to the dances should be considered.

GP99/47.1.4. Mr Rob Sargent had been invited to join the committee and was investigating means of increasing sales of RSCDS merchandise.

GP99/47.1.5. It had been agreed to stock 2 different coloured millennium T shirts with a simpler version of the millennium logo.

GP99/47.1.6. It was noted that the sub committee was investigating whether a student at St. Andrews University could be invited to carry out a computer based project for the Society. Two members of the Society had been invited to look at the current website.

GP99/47.2. YSDA

It was suggested that if the Youth standing committee is established at the next AGM there would no longer be a need for the YSDA sub-committee, although the brand name could be maintained.

GP99/47.2.1. The YSDA had issued 40 trial packs to a wide range of teachers in Scotland. These packs were designed to fit in with the 5-14 syllabus and included suggestions for related activities in other subjects including art

and drama. It was understood that the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust had issued a pack to local schools in Angus depicting how a few traditional dances had been danced in Angus.

GP99/47.3. Other sub-committees

It was noted that the Northern Ireland Co-ordinating Committee, the Under 16s and strategic planning sub-committee had no meetings to report.

GP99/47.4. Under 16s Mr Mair advised the committee that the Examinations Committee had agreed to reduce the age for candidates wishing to sit their Preliminary Test examination to 18 although the minimum age for candidates for the Teachers' Certificate was still 22.

GP99/47.5. AGM sub-committee

Mrs Gaul advised the Committee that an amendment had been received to the motion being presented to the AGM that a youth committee be established with the following functions:

" Functions – To consider all matters relating to youth issues and to assist the Director in the administration of residential schools for young people. "

The amendment was as follows:

" Functions – To consider all matters relating to youth issues. "

GP99/48. CORRESPONDENCE

GP99/48.1. Mr J Carswell

Following the last Executive Council Meeting, the Chairman had asked the Secretary to write to Mr Carswell as he had not had a real opportunity to state the points he had wished to raise under Any Other Business due to the late hour. He was invited to submit any constructive proposals. Mr Carswell had written stating that he was dismayed and frustrated with the overall management and lack of will to progress and indicating that he had given up being a branch delegate and representative and saw no point in attending future AGMs and Open Forums

GP99/48.1.1. The Committee agreed that many changes were being made and while they were not happening as quickly as everyone would like, matters were progressing. To walk away from the discussion would not resolve the issues and the Committee always welcomed suggestions from anyone. Mr Carswell had done a great

deal to interest people into Scottish country dancing and it was regrettable that he had decided to withdraw.

GP99/49. Mr R Mackay

A letter had been received from Mr Mackay suggesting that as there was some discontent, in overseas branches about the benefits they received for their membership, Society office bearers should be encouraged to visit the branches and discuss their concerns. The Committee noted the suggestions and recorded their appreciation to Mr Mackay for discussing Society matters with the Canadian branches when on a personal visit.

GP99/50. PAST CHAIRMAN

Mrs Gaul advised the Committee that this was the last time that Mr Clement would attend this committee as he had now completed his term as past chairman. She thanked him for all the work that he had done for the Society over the years and particularly during his term as Chairman and Past Chairman. Mr Clement replied that it had been interesting and fun.

(Mr Clement left the meeting)

GP99/51. SUBMISSION FROM HANS VAN ZON

A lengthy document had been tabled from Mr Van Zon setting out his suggestions for the Society. As there was insufficient time to read the whole document it was agreed that the new working party would review the document along with the other submissions when considering a new structure for the Society.

GP99/52. COMMITTEE MEMBERS

It was noted with concern that there were insufficient nominations for all the places on committees or for elected members to the Executive Council. Various reasons, including the need to provide background information, the need to provide a photograph, and the very heavy committee schedule and long committee meetings had contributed to this.

GP99/52.1. It was noted that there had not been sufficient nominations for the General Purposes Committee although a late nomination had been received from Mr Bob Grant. It was hoped that the Executive Council would accept the late nomination.

Note: following the meeting it was confirmed that there were sufficient nominations of members for the General Purposes Committee (one had been received on time but had been overlooked)

GP99/52.2. Of particular concern was the fact that insufficient nominations had been received for the Finance Committee. As this committee required specialist financial knowledge, it was agreed to ask the Executive Council to transfer authority to the Finance Committee to appoint sufficient members to the Committee to make up the short fall. Such members would retain full voting rights and this would in no way affect the Committee's ability to co-opt non-voting members, if required.

GP99/52.3. Thanks were expressed to all the Committee members for all their assistance throughout the past year and particularly to Dr MacFadyen who had indicated that he was now retiring from the Executive Council.

GP99/53. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The schedule of meetings for the 1999/2000 year was agreed, as follows

5 February 2000
8 April 2000
30 September 2000

The meeting closed at 3.15pm

Linda Gaul
5/2/2000

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
MINUTES OF MEETING OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD ON SATURDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2000
AT 10.30hrs AT 12 COATES CRESCENT EDINBURGH

PRESENT

Mrs Linda Gaul (Convenor), Mr Alan Mair (Vice Chairman), Mr John Fenningworth (Convenor of Finance Committee), Mrs Jessie Harper, Mr Brian Harry, Mr Jim Healy, Mrs Christine Munro, Dr Wilson Nicol, Mrs Susan Porter, Mr Alastair Reid, Miss Pauline Stewart.

APOLOGIES

An apology had been received from Ms Susan Carr.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs June Dick (Assistant Secretary)

GP00/1 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting and particularly to those who were attending for the first time. She thanked all the Committee for giving their time to further the work of the Society.

She pointed out that the Committee members were to be aware that some matters were of a confidential nature but others could be freely discussed and opinions brought back to meetings.

GP00/2 MATTERS ARISING

GP99/44/1&2 STDT

Mrs Gaul advised the Committee that together with Alan Mair, Brian Harry and other RSCDS members, she had attended the meeting organised by STDT in the Carlton Highland Hotel.

She informed the Committee that about 60 people, from a wide variety of backgrounds, also attended, several others had submitted their thoughts in writing and Evelyn Hood (Chairman of STDT) chaired the gathering.

There had been a general agreement that a National Centre for Traditional Dance and Music was desirable, but reservations were expressed about costs, property management and the status of participating organisations.

It had been agreed that a working party should be set up to explore the possibilities further. Mr Liam Paterson (STDT) had a list of names who were willing to serve on a working party. Dr Wilson Nicol kindly agreed to have his name put forward.

The Committee discussed the matter although they would want to know the remit before taking this further. They were informed that the remit had not yet been formally decided.

Mrs Gaul advised that Mr Liam Paterson (STDT) and she would meet in Headquarters to discuss the project further.

The Committee agreed that if all dance bodies were under one roof, it made it easier to use one voice rather than being fragmented.

The Committee agreed in principle to taking this project a step further.

GP99/44/3 Edinburgh & Glasgow Properties
The Committee had been advised that Mr Bob Grant had kindly agreed to inspect a property in Blackfriars Street, Edinburgh and one in Glasgow with a view to having our own National Dance Centre

The Committee had been advised that the property in Edinburgh would need a considerable figure spent to bring it up to standard, and the other was now in use as a business centre.

The Committee expressed their thanks to Mr Grant for all his work.

GP99/39 Japanese Territory

The Convenor advised the Committee that further correspondence had been received regarding the two Japanese Branches.

The Committee discussed the matter but were of the opinion that it had been dealt with fairly at previous meetings.

The Committee further agreed that the Chairman should write to both Tokyo and Tokai advising them that if they wish to hold functions in each other's areas, they should come to an amicable agreement. They would also be advised that the our position remains unchanged.

GP99/40 Disbandment

The Committee had been advised that Headquarters had received no further communication from Moffat Branch but they expected that the remaining funds would be returned to Headquarters in due course.

The Committee had been further advised that Mornington Peninsula were in the process of disbanding because of lack of members. It was expected that this would commence at the end of March.

GP99/37/3 New Zealand Branch
A letter had been received from New Zealand Branch thanking the General Purposes Committee for their support for their "One Fun Camp" for junior dances.

The Committee were delighted that this had gone so well and agreed that it should be considered in this country. Mrs Gaul advised the Committee that this was a matter for the new Youth Committee.

GP00/3 APPOINTMENT OF NEW SECRETARY

This was discussed in detail by the Committee. (Paper Apart)

GPO0/4 JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

Applications For Funding

GPO0/4/1 Tutor's Course
The Committee had been advised that this course had now been cancelled. They were also advised that the Potential Tutor's Course is now an additional class at Summer School (week 4 only).

GP00/4/2 Canberra & District Branch
A request had been received for financial support to provide activities for a Winter School in 2000. The Committee approved a grant in the sum of £350.00.

GP00/4/3 North West Craven
An application had been received requesting funding to assist a Teachers' certificate class during 2000. The Committee confirmed the previous amount agreed of £350.00.

GP00/4/4 ATA
A request for financial assistance to hold a Teacher's Residential Training Course had been received. The Committee agreed to provide £250.00.

GP00/4/5 Publications & Research Committee
The Committee considered a request from Publications & Research Committee in respect of a CD to be produced by Peter Knight for Music for Teaching. The Committee agreed to fund this project in the sum of £810.00 and the CD is to be sold through Headquarters at £5.00.

It was further agreed that the Society should contact Mr Knight and request ownership of the Master.

GP00/4/6 Examiner's Seminar

The Committee had been informed that the final figures had now been received from The Treasurer and that £3,000 had been used from the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund to support the Seminar.

GP00/5 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

GP00/5/1 Troon - 2000
Headquarters will contact The Secretary of Ayr Branch and provide a copy of the AGM Application form for amending. The Assistant Secretary will contact the Branch offering any assistance.

The Convenor asked the Committee to consider the topic for a Discussion Group. Suggestions will go to the AGM Sub Committee

GP00/5/2 Perth - 2001
The Committee had been advised the Bell Sports Centre was now confirmed. The Assistant Secretary will contact the Branch offering the assistance of Headquarters.

GP00/5/3 Aberdeen - 2002
The Committee had been advised that Aberdeen Branch will be delighted to host the Annual General Meeting in 2002. The Assistant Secretary will write thanking the Branch.

GPO0/6 APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS

Applications had been received from the following clubs:

- Ericht Scottish Country Dance Club
- Mitaka TS Scottish Country Dancers
- Stratherrick Hall Dance Class
- St Nicholas Buccleuch Country Dance Club
- Terrace Scottish Country Dancers

All of the above applications were approved.

GP00/7 SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

GP00/7/1 Marketing Sub Committee
The Committee agreed the remit and current membership of the Marketing Sub Committee.

Mr Mair (Convenor of Marketing) advised the Committee that more merchandise and promotional sales were being considered and that they had been given more responsibility from the Finance Committee to review and reorder.

A Society shop - The Committee had been advised that Mrs Gaul's enquiries about suitable shop premises in Perth had proved unsuccessful. The Marketing Committee were considering how well

placed Headquarters was as far as a shop was concerned, although the committee were hesitant about considering the purchase of new premises as this stage.

Web Site - Mr Mair pointed out that this was an important media for shopping, although the content would be changed regularly.

Mr Healy advised the Committee that he had taken over the role of web master and was in the process of updating information. There was a lot of work to be done and he planned to request help to get information out to people.

Mr Healy advised the Committee that he hopes eventually to automate shopping on line. The present format of the Publications List was causing problems.

He hoped to have the web page updated by the end of March.

Beginners Pack - It had been suggested that a pack should be made available to hand out at classes. This should include information about the Society and also whatever the Branch would like to include.

It was felt that beginners should not be asked for a full subscription immediately, although individual Branches are responsible for their own decisions.

Mr Mair suggested to the Committee that Mrs Judith Maccoll take on the role of Convenor of the Marketing Committee. The Committee agreed the proposal. The Assistant Secretary will write and invite Mrs Maccoll to take on this role.

The Committee had been advised that Mr Fairhead had resigned from the Marketing Sub Committee although he may still be consulted when necessary.

GP00/7/2 YSDA
All members of YSDA had been invited to attend the first meeting of the Youth Committee to advise on work in hand.

The work of the YSDA had now been taken over by the new Youth Committee and therefore the YSDA had now been disbanded.

GP00/7/3 Co-Ordinating Committee of Northern Ireland.
Minutes of their meetings and notice of their events schedule had been received, and appreciation of their work was noted.

GP00/7/4 Under 16's
The work of this sub committee had again been taken on by the new Youth Committee and

therefore the Under 16's Sub Committee was disbanded.

GP00/7/5 Strategic Sub Committee
The Strategic Plan had been accepted by the Executive Council, and implementation begun. It should be noted that the plan should be assessed by the General Purposes Committee on an annual basis.

GP00/7/6 AGM Sub Committee
The Committee was advised the remit is to consider the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting and decide on a topic for the discussion group.

The AGM Sub Committee will be made up with the following members:

- Linda Gaul
- Alan Mair
- Susan Carr
- Jim Healy
- Wilson Nicol

GPO0/7/7 Management & Membership Working Party Report

The Committee agreed the remit and current membership of the Management and Membership Working Party.

Mrs Gaul reported that the working party has had two meetings and this report represents a summary of the thoughts and proposals to date.

The following topics were as follows:

• **Management**
The Committee discussed the proposal to reduce the existing Executive Council and agreed to propose that 17 members make up the Council to include Chairman, Vice-Chairman Convenors and 12 ordinary members.

• **Standing Committees**
The Committee agreed to propose to the Executive Council that there should be 3 Standing Committees to be named as follows:

*General Purposes & Finance
Education and Training
(Examinations, Summer School,
Music, Research & Youth)
Membership Services (Marketing,
Trading, Publications).*

Three areas of operation and the Committees would be interdependent, they would delegate where necessary.

Each Committee should have 6 members.

- **Branch Representatives at Council**
- **Motions to AGM**
- **Membership of the Society**

The structure of the membership was discussed in detail and it was decided that the Committee would consider this matter further and speak with members of their respective branches, so that the proposal can be put in place for the Executive Council.

- **HQ to maintain a membership database**
- **Long Term Membership discontinued.**
- **Status of Branches and Affiliated Groups to be redefined**

The majority of the Committee agreed the proposal in principle, but asked that the Management Working Party refine the document and bring it to the next General Purpose meeting in April.

Mr Brian Harry expressed his disagreement of the proposal.

GP00/7/8 Other Bodies

CCPR At the moment Marie Jamieson is our representative to the CCPR. The Committee have not received any reports and Mr Wilson was asked to approach Mrs Jamieson.

STDT Mr Jim Healy agreed to remain liaison officer.

Dance Scotland Mrs Pia Walker is our representative.

Mr Brian Harry agreed to do some research into Community Dance Scotland and report back to this Committee.

SOBHD It was agreed to speak to the Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing and ascertain if they would be prepared to liaise with a representative of the RSCDS.

GP00/7/9 The Convenor would like to co-opt Mr Bob Grant to this Committee to assist with building matters. The Committee approved.

GP00/8 SCROLL NOMINATIONS (Confidential)

It was agreed to recommend the following for the Society's Scroll of Honour:

- Erica Archer
- Betty Lee Barnes
- Brenda Burnell
- Frances Gray
- Mary Jamieson
- Anselm Lingnau
- Mary Murray
- Evelyn Murray
- Beatrice Nairn

- Susan Nedderman
- Margaret Ross
- Fife Council Physical Education Visiting Teacher Service

GP00/9 CORRESPONDENCE

Dust on Floors

A letter received from Peter Knight about the problem of dust being created in halls whilst dancing.

The Committee discussed this matter and agreed that a questionnaire should be sent to all Branches to ascertain the various problems they had encountered in halls used for dancing and other functions.

Dr Wilson Nicol volunteered to produce a suitable questionnaire and provide the Committee with a copy for the next meeting.

RSCDS Kirkcudbright

A letter had been received from the above advising the Committee that they wished to change their Constitution to allow them to appoint an Assistant Secretary and to ask that they now be known as Kirkcudbright Branch.

The Committee could see not problems with this request, and the Assistant Secretary would advise the Branch accordingly.

GP00/10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

GP00/10/1 HQ Refurbishment

Mr Fenningworth (Finance Convenor) advised the Committee the basement at Headquarters was badly in need of refurbishment. He proposed that racking be installed in place of the existing shelving units, thereby creating more space so that one of the rooms may be refurbished and made into an alternative committee meeting room.

The cost of this exercise would probably be in the region of £13,000, although this estimate is probably now out of date.

He advised that the Finance Committee had agreed and would now like the approval from this Committee.

The Committee approved in principle, although would like to see up to date figures.

The Assistant Secretary will contact Mr Bob Grant and ask for a revaluation of his original estimate.

GP00/10/2 Report from Open Forum Mrs C Munro

Mrs Munro reported a summary of the discussion at the Open Forum on the question of representation of HQ members. It was agreed that these

comments should be passed to the Management and Membership Working Party for their consideration.

GP00/11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will commence at 10.3hrs on Saturday 8 April 2000.

Linda Gault

PAPER APART

GP00/3 APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY

Before Mrs Gaul began the discussion Mr Healy and Mr Fenningworth had been asked to leave the room, as they had advised the Committee of their interest in the position.

The Committee agreed this was the correct procedure and that they should have no knowledge of the discussion.

It was further decided that anyone could apply for the position through the proper channels and being a Convenor of an existing standing committee would not disqualify an application. Although if the application was to be considered it was thought appropriate that the Convenor should retire from the relative Committee.

Mrs Gaul thanked the staff for the extra work taken on board.

She advised the Committee that the Convenors had met and invited to give their view on what their criteria would be for a new Secretary.

She informed the Committee that she had contacted various employment agencies and had drawn up a proposal indicating the following criteria:

The Committee discussed the proposal and with a few amendments agreed the following:

- General Administration of the Society Affairs reporting directly to the Chairman, whom failing the Vice Chairman.
- Responsible for the day to day administration of the Society, within an agreed budget.
- Responsible for providing support to the Committees, Branches and Members.
- Responsible for overseeing the production of high quality publications.
- Responsible for the bringing forward of ideas to enhance the development of the Society

The Committee stipulated that this position would remain full time.

It was agreed that the interview panel would consist of Mrs Gaul, Mr Mair, Miss Dorothy Hamilton and the Recruitment Consultant.

The Committee agreed that for the purpose of the advertisement, the position should be advertised as "Administrator".

Mrs Gaul was advised to go ahead and contact the Recruitment Consultant and place the advertisement.

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
MINUTES OF MEETING OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD ON SATURDAY 8 APRIL 2000
AT 10.30hrs AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH

PRESENT

Mrs Linda Gaul (Convenor), Mr John Fenningworth (Convenor of Finance Committee), Mr Alastair Reid, Dr Wilson Nicol, Mrs Sue Porter, Mrs Christine Munro, Mrs Jessie Harper, Miss Pauline Stewart, Ms Susan Carr.

APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Mr Alan Mair, Mr Jim Healy and Mr Brian Harry.

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms Elspeth Gray (Secretary/Administrator)

GP00/12 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and particularly Elspeth Gray as the new Secretary/Administrator. The Committee members present introduced themselves to Ms Gray.

A contact list was circulated for all present to confirm or correct their contact details. This will be updated and circulated with the minutes.

Papers to be tabled were circulated.

GP00/13 MINUTES OF MEETING OF 5/2/00

Mr Brian Harry had sent a letter raising a number of points regarding the previous minutes. Mrs Gaul wished to make two amendments first, and suggested then dealing with Mr Harry's letter point by point. She also requested that in future, Committee members raise any points concerning the minutes as soon as possible after they are circulated.

Present 5 February 2000

It was noted that Mr John Fenningworth's name was omitted from those present.

GP99/39 Japanese Territory

Mrs Gaul wished to amend the wording of the 3rd paragraph to "...hold functions in *each other's* areas". This was agreed.

GP99/44/1&2 STDT

Mr Harry understood that the discussion between Mrs Gaul and Dr Nicol regarding possible representation on the working party had been personal, and should not have been minuted. The Committee agreed that it had been an open conversation, and that the minute should stand.

Mr Harry also pointed out there was a reference in this item to "all dance bodies", when he believed discussion had concerned all dance and music bodies. The Committee agreed that the reference to dance bodies only was correct, and that the minute should stand.

GP99/39 Japanese Territory

Mr Harry believed it had been agreed that Mrs Gaul would write to the two branches to say that this topic would not be discussed again unless a joint proposal was sent in, and that the minute did not make this clear. Mrs Gaul read out the letter she had sent to both branches, and it was agreed that the minute should stand, with the amendment noted above.

GP00/4/5 Publications & Research Committee

Mr Harry believed that ownership of the IP was required, not just the Master. The Committee agreed that the minute was correct in reflecting what was said at the meeting. It was however agreed to ask the Publications & Research Committee to ensure that Mr Knight has transferred both the copyright as well as the Master.

GP00/7/7 Management & Membership

Mr Harry believed that the final statement was incorrect, in that he agreed in principle that something should be done, but did not agree with the proposal. It was agreed that the minute be changed to "The majority of the Committee agreed the proposal in principle...".

GP00/7/8 Other Bodies

Mr Harry had pointed out at the meeting that at one time there was a representative on the Official Board of Highland Dancing, and that efforts should be made to reinstate this contact. It was agreed to change the minute to add the following:

"SOBHD

It was agreed to speak to the Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing and ascertain if they would be prepared to liaise with a representative of the RSCDS."

GP00/7/9 Building Matters

Mr Harry felt that the minute was not clear that Mr Grant had been co-opted to assist solely with building related matters. The Committee disagreed and felt that the minute was clear, and should stand.

GP00/14

MATTERS ARISING

GP99/44/1&2

STDT

A paper had been circulated describing the outcome of the meeting in January. Mrs Gaul relayed the content of the discussion to the Committee. The Working Party consisted of John Drysdale as Chairman, Liam Paterson as secretary, two members each from RSCDS, Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust, and the Board of Highland Dancing, and three others. Mrs Gaul had offered some secretarial assistance, but none had so far been requested. The Committee agreed the Working Party should now be left to get on with it.

Mr Harry suggested that contact should be made with Traditional Music & Song Association of Scotland. The Committee felt this was best done through the STDT.

GP00/9 Correspondence – Dust on Floors

Dr Nicol had produced a questionnaire, in conjunction with Peter Knight, regarding dusty floors, which had been circulated. It was agreed that space for any other comments, a return address and a return date of end of May should be added to the questionnaire, and it should be circulated to branches with the papers for the Executive Council meeting.

GP00/10/1

HQ Refurbishment

Mr Bob Grant had written to suggest that Mr Grant Bulloch be co-opted in his place. It was agreed that Mr Bulloch should be formally invited to assist the Committee with building matters only.

Ms Gray outlined some initial thoughts on changing the use of the current stock room to an equipment room. The Committee agreed that such activity fell within the Administrator's job description, and would need only the Chairman's approval and that of the Finance Committee should there be any financial implication.

GP00/7/8

Other Bodies

Mr Harry had passed information for interest regarding Community Dance Scotland, now Dance Scotland, to Mrs Gaul. Mrs Gaul confirmed that Mrs Pia Walker was now on the Executive of Dance Scotland, and has also been appointed to the Dance Committee of the Scottish Arts Council.

GP00/15 JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

GP00/15/1

Financial Report

Dissatisfaction was expressed regarding the content of the report. It was not clear whether expenditure agreed at the previous meeting had gone through, and therefore the amount available to end June was not known. It was agreed that Mrs Gaul and

Mr Fenningworth should investigate the amount and format of information provided. The Committee agreed to evaluate applications for funding which had been circulated, and if they were approved, it would be on the basis of confirming that funds were available.

There was discussion as to whether, given that the Kitty McLauchlan bequest was to the JMMF, the fund name should be changed, and how requests for KM funding should be handled. It was agreed that the fund name should not be changed, but that in order to keep Kitty McLauchlan's name alive, it could be stated that certain amounts are spent in her name, eg "a musicians course funded in memory of Kitty McLauchlan from the JMMF".

GP00/15/2

Youth Committee Request

This application was for a scholarship to the value of one week's residential fee at Summer School in 2001, to be shared by two full time students who are members of a university SCD club.

It was agreed to award one week's residential fees for 2001 and also to include one year's membership, if necessary.

The Committee asked for clarification from the Youth Committee as to whether this request was for one year only, or on an annual basis.

GP00/15/3

Kitty McLauchlan Fund Request

This application was for funding towards an SCD event for Angus schoolchildren aged 8-16 years, from East Angus Branch.

It was agreed to provide £150 for the musicians, specifically in memory of Kitty McLauchlan. It was also agreed that it should be pointed out to the Branch that this was the 3rd year funding had been applied for, and it was not the policy of the Committee to provide funding on an ongoing basis.

GP00/15/4

Donations

Mr James Taylor of Stirling has bequeathed £1,000 to the JMMF. This donation has been acknowledged.

GP00/16

AGM – DISCUSSION GROUP

Mrs Gaul suggested that John Drysdale could be asked to give a presentation about the proposed Traditional Dance Centre. While this suggestion was welcomed, the Committee felt that issues about membership status and changes to the structure might be of more interest. It was agreed to leave this to the AGM Sub-Committee to take forward.

GP00/17 AFFILIATED GROUPS
GP00/17/1 Applications for Affiliation

Applications had been circulated from the following groups:

- Bridport Scottish Dancers
- Lady Lake Scottish Country Dancers
- Tokyo Scottish Dancers

A further application was tabled, from:

- Fortrose Scottish Country Dance Group

All of the above applications were approved.

GP00/17/2 Status of Affiliated Groups

Copies of the note by Miss Gibson in the 1983 Bulletin regarding affiliated groups had been previously circulated. Mrs Gaul introduced this item by stating that at the end of this year, there would be fewer branches than at the beginning of the year but an ever increasing number of affiliated groups, and questioned whether there was a need to change affiliated group and/or branch status.

There was a wide-ranging discussion about the ways in which affiliated groups and branches function, and about members' expectations. It was agreed that it was a difficult area, and one where consensus could be hard to achieve.

It was agreed that this issue should be taken back to the Membership & Management Working Group, with no specific recommendations, but with encouragement to take a radical review of the Society and its members.

GP00/17/3 Non-payment of Fees

It was noted that 14 groups had not paid their affiliation fees, despite the usual reminders. It was agreed to write a final letter, informing them of the facility to pay by credit card and asking for reasons for non-payment. If no response is received, the groups will be removed from the Directory of Secretaries.

GP00/18 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS
GP00/18/1 Marketing

Mr Alan Mair wishes to hand over convenorship of this sub-committee to Mrs Judith Maccoll. Mrs Gaul explained that as Mrs Maccoll is a non-elected member, the GP Committee had a duty to approve this appointment. The Committee duly approved.

It was also noted that there were two other nominations to the Marketing Sub-Committee, Mr Tom Notman and Mr John Fyffe. Both nominations were approved.

The GP Committee was also asked to bring forward other suitable names.

The Sub Committee continued to monitor the sales of Society branded merchandise and to investigate other suitable products.

A database of press contacts was being compiled and information on all new products would be sent to the press, as appropriate.

The press release for the Winter School resulted in the Director being interviewed for BBC on-line.

An information pack for all new members, to be available to all branches, is being investigated.

The committee approved the work of the Marketing Sub Committee.

GP00/18/2 Co-ordinating Committee of N Ireland

There was no report to consider.

GP00/18/3 Management & Membership

At the last meeting, it had been hoped to have firm proposals for the next Executive, but this has now been put back for one year, and it is planned to have firm proposals for the Executive in May 2001. Mr Fenningworth pointed out that the report contained no reference to interim arrangements, but that it was proposed that the Executive would elect an interim Management Board until the proposals started properly. He stated that it was hoped that the questionnaire could be circulated between the Executive and the AGM, and that the branches, groups and individuals to whom it would be sent had already been selected. They had been chosen to represent a variety of size of group, location in the UK and world-wide, and there was a balance of branch and headquarters members.

There was general discussion and clarification of a number of points in the report. It was agreed that the report be amended in Point 1, Introduction, to stress that it is a report, not a proposal, and that numbers and amounts are examples only. It was also agreed to add that other well-structured proposals or suggestions would be welcomed.

It was agreed to change the wording of the sentence introducing the table on page 3 of the report to read: "The following table illustrates possible differences between each of both types of membership." It was also agreed to add "and events" to "Access to RSCDS courses" and show both Voting and Branch Members as receiving discount to these. The Committee agreed a return date of 30 September for the questionnaire.

It was agreed that the report and questionnaire, with the latter clearly marked as draft, should be submitted to the Executive.

GP00/18/4 **AGM Sub-Committee**
There was no report to consider.

GP00/19 **SCROLL NOMINATIONS**
The Committee considered a nomination which had previously been overlooked, in respect of Mrs Frans Ligtmans-van Tooren. The nomination was approved and will go forward to the Executive in May.

GP00/20 **STRATHSPEY TARTAN**
Mrs Gaul reported on the outcome of her correspondence. Mr Bill Clement and Mr Kenneth Dalgliesh retain ownership of the design. Mrs Gaul had sought clarification and to ask for retrospective permission for its various uses. She had received a letter from both parties giving permission for the tartan's use on any publicity material or artefacts, but stating that with respect to tartan material, Mr Dalgleigh must be asked to quote. If he declines to quote or supply, permission is given for its use so long as appropriate acknowledgement is made.

It was noted that this issue highlighted the need for clarity with regard to copyright issues. It was also noted that the Society ought to clarify whether the copyright remains with Mr Clement and Mr Dalgliesh in perpetuity, and would pass to their heirs.

GP00/21 **CHANGES TO BRANCH CONSTITUTIONS**

GP00/21/1 **Ayr Branch**
Notification of proposed changes to the Branch constitution had been previously circulated. Mrs Gaul pointed out that strictly legally, the Society has no right to interfere, but she felt that there is a duty to guide.

It was agreed to suggest that they change:
16.1) 3 - to omit "who receive Society publications through the Branch", and
16.2) (b) - to add "as defined by paragraph IV, section 2 of the model Constitution for Scotland (Appendix I of the Constitution)".

GP00/21/2 **York & North Humberside Branch**
The Committee agreed that the Society should write to the Branch and inform them that they cannot support the proposed changes as, in the opinion of the GP Committee, they would be undemocratic.

GP00/22 **CORRESPONDENCE**
GP00/22/1 **Mr N Cole**

It was agreed that the Archivist should be asked to clarify his possible interest in the Mornington Peninsula records, and that the officers of this now disbanded Branch be consulted. The matter will be brought back to the next meeting.

GP00/22/2 **Mr R Taylor**
Mr Taylor has written to clarify the responsibilities of branches towards life members who had joined the Society through a different branch.

It was proposed that all services to life members be taken into headquarters, which would have little difference in cost to the Society, and would be an improvement for branches in service and costs. It was agreed that this proposal would be taken to the Finance Committee to consider the financial implications. If approved by them, the proposal would to the Executive Council

After discussion, it was also proposed to put to the Finance Committee that they consider suspending long-term membership until the new management structure is in place.

GP00/23 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
GP00/23/1 **SAC Funding**

Mrs Gaul reported that an application for funding for a musicians course had been made to the Scottish Arts Council, and would be considered at their Music Sub-Committee on 18 April 2000.

GP00/23/2 **Ms Gray as signatory**
Approval was given for forms to be completed making Ms Gray an authorised signatory for the Society.

GP00/24 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
The next meeting will be held on Saturday 30 September 2000, at 10.30am.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Minutes of Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on Saturday 30 September 2000 at 10.30am at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh

PRESENT: Mrs L Gaul (Chairman), Mr A Mair (Vice Chairman), Mr J Fenningworth (Convenor, Finance Committee), Ms S Carr, Mrs J Harper, Mr B Harry, Mr J Healy, Dr W Nicol, Mrs S Porter, Mr A Reid, Miss P Stewart.

APOLOGIES: Mrs C Munro

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms E Gray (Secretary/Administrator)

GP00/25 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
The minutes of the meeting of 8 April 2000 were approved at the Executive Council meeting on 13 May 2000.

GP00/26 MATTERS ARISING
GP00/7.8 Other Bodies
A letter was sent to the SOBHD on 27 April, but to date no response had been received. Mr Harry will inform Ms Gray of a personal contact, which may provide another approach.

GP00/14 STDT
Progress on the feasibility of a Traditional Dance Centre has been slow. However, a letter had recently been received from John Drysdale, Chairman Elect of the Working Party to take this project forward. He reported that early estimates of timescales, resources etc had been optimistic, but that preparatory work has been continuing. He hoped to hold a progress meeting soon to present a range of realistic options as a basis for further discussion, and Liam Paterson would be in touch regarding the details of this meeting.

GP00/9 Dust on Floors
A number of responses to this questionnaire had been received, and Dr Nicol volunteered to undertake their analysis.

GP00/10.1 HQ Refurbishment
Ms Gray reported that she had been in touch with Grant Bulloch, who was happy to provide advice and support with regard to any refurbishment. Her priorities had been firstly to make better use of the space on the ground floor, and secondly to clear out unwanted stock and other items from the basement so that the required amount of storage was clearer.

Staff had begun on the former, and would continue to assign occasional days to continue. Progress had been made regarding the second priority in that outdated stock had been identified and permission obtained from the relevant committees for its disposal. Volunteer help would be sought to clear this stock.

She proposed displaying a photograph of the current Chairman in the hallway at HQ. Once their term of office is complete, these could be displayed in the meeting room to be formed in the basement. It is already planned to take photographs of all committee members and convenors at their first meetings after the Executive, and these would be displayed on the website and retained for archival purposes. An 'honour board' listing all past Chairmen was also suggested.

The committee agreed to go ahead with the photographs, and investigate the cost of an 'honour board'.

GP00/23.1 SAC Funding
The application for funds from the Arts Council for the Musicians Course at Summer School was approved and once the final accounts and report are submitted, the money will be forthcoming.

GP00/27 REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PLAN
Mrs Gaul believed that now was an appropriate time to review the Strategic Plan, after its first year, and proposed that this committee's views would form a report to the Executive Council in November 2000. It was pointed out that the Plan was difficult to review, as the original document had not identified priorities, figures, or targets. It was clear that there were three types of goals: some would cost nothing to aim for; some goals contained ideas that were agreed but would require substantial finance to implement; and some would require changes to the Constitution. The Management and Membership Working Party had been considering most of the third group.

There was a wide-ranging discussion covering all areas of the Strategic Plan.

It was agreed that a paper would be prepared on the basis of this discussion to go as a paper to the Executive Council in November.

It was also agreed that the General Purposes Committee should appoint a Working Party next year to produce an update of the Strategic Plan by Year 3 of the plan.

A copy of the report to go to the Executive Council is attached.

GP00/28 JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

GP00/28.1 Financial Report
The balance sheet as at 30 June 2000 had been distributed, and Mr Fenningworth tabled a paper showing the commitments made by this committee, as taken from minutes. Approximately £9,500 was carried forward at the beginning of this financial year. There was approximately £7,500 unspent income as at 1 July, and with further income to come this year, the total available to spend was just under £20,000. It was confirmed that the fund was designated for extension and development work and to support good ideas where there were no other resources, but not to run the Society. Mr Fenningworth was thanked for his efforts in producing clearer information as the basis for committee decisions regarding funding.

It was agreed that the existing, annual commitments of Summer School scholarships and Tutors' Courses would total approximately £3,500.

GP00/28.2 Youth Committee Request

The Committee agreed to fund one week's Summer School fees, to be shared by two full-time students, on an annual basis, and to include two annual memberships if necessary.

GP00/28.3 Day of Dance for Children, Thornhill

The Committee agreed to provide a grant of £50 towards the costs of live music for this event.

The Committee also discussed the issue of the Society's legal position in terms of the Child Protection Act when contributing funding to such events.

It was agreed that although such events are the Branch's responsibility, investigation should be made as to the appropriate wording of a 'disclaimer' statement to be provided with such funding.

GP00/28.4 Teaching Trip to Moscow, Moira Stacey

It was agreed that more information should be sought regarding how many students will be taught and how much teaching will take place.

It was agreed that a selection of books and tapes would be offered. It was also agreed that, conditional on more information being provided, the committee would fund the cost of fares and visas for one teacher and one musician, a total of £690. It was agreed that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary/Administrator would have the authority to make this decision, rather than wait until the next committee meeting.

GP00/28.5 Leicester Branch

It was agreed to provide £200 to support candidates from other branches to ensure the viability of the Preliminary Test and Full Certificate Courses.

GP00/28.6 New Zealand Branch

It was agreed to provide \$NZ1,000, to be transferred, towards the proposed Weekend School. The award should state that it is being given in memory of Kitty MacLauchlan, and should also include the information that Miss MacLauchlan's first trip abroad, her first ever flight, was in fact to New Zealand in 1978.

GP00/28.7 Bristol Branch

It was agreed to provide £110 towards the proposed 'Tea Dance' for pupils aged 7-11 and former pupils, the award to stipulate that it is being given in memory of Kitty MacLauchlan.

GP00/28.8 Youth Committee, Schools Pack Project

The Finance Committee had considered funding for this item at its meeting in August. They had agreed that although it would be included in the budget, funding should be sought from other sources such as JMMF or sponsorship.

It was agreed to provide £5,000 towards the project, but to make clear that this was a 'pump-priming' initiative and should be understood to be a one-off.

GP00/28.9 East Angus Branch

Following the previous meeting, a letter had been received from East Angus Branch pointing out that minute GP00/15/3 of the General Purposes Committee was in error, and that this was not the third year that funding had been applied for. It was noted that the Committee apologised for mis-reporting the situation and that the Branch's hard work and support were appreciated.

GP00/28.10 ATA
A letter of thanks had been received from the Australian Teachers Alliance for the grant of £250 from JMMF for their residential teacher training course in April 2000.

Ms Gray would clarify whether a report had been received.

GP00/28.11 Donations

The following donations to JMMF were reported:

In memory of Susan Nedderman	£285
Summer School raffles	£1,338.50
Sale of returned Bond crib books	£1.60
Total	£1,625.10

It was noted that the proceeds from the raffles at Summer School at not restricted to the JMMF, and that they could be donated towards a specific project, as long as this is clearly stated.

It was agreed to ask the Summer School Committee to consider at its April meeting how the raffle proceeds should be used and to recommend sponsorship for a CD transfer, as that would benefit most members.

GP00/29 APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS

GP00/29.1 Cirencester Scottish Country Dance Club and

GP00/29.2 Lakes Scottish Country Dancing Club

It was noted that no newsletter or annual report had been submitted with either application. After discussion, it was agreed that since nearest Branch approval was always sought, it was not necessary to request this.

It was agreed that the application form should be amended to read: "This application may be supported by a copy of your Group Newsletter and/or Annual Report, if any."

Both applications for affiliation were approved.

GP00/29.3 West Michigan Scottish Ceilidh Dancers

It was noted that no letter of support had been received from the nearest branch, Detroit. It was also agreed that the distance from Detroit to Grand Rapids is considerable and the impact on Detroit Branch will be nil.

It was agreed to write to Detroit Branch informing them that if no response is received by a given date, it will be assumed that they have no objection to this Group becoming affiliated.

It was agreed that if no objections are received, the application for affiliation would be approved.

GP00/29.4 Tarbert Loch Fyne Scottish Country Dance Club

A letter had been received from this club notifying the Secretary of their intention to dis-affiliate.

It was agreed that Mrs Porter would contact Mid-Argyll Branch to discuss whether they could provide any help or support to the group in order to maintain the link with the Society.

GP00/30 BRANCHES GP00/30.1 Application for Branch Status

After full examination and discussion of all documentation included with the submission, it was agreed that because of some inconsistencies in the application, it should be remitted for further information.

Mrs Gaul would undertake a dialogue with the group and with the nearest Branch, Sheffield, in order to clarify these issues.

GP00/30.2 Amendments to Branch Constitutions

Six notifications of amendments to Branch Constitutions had been received for consideration at this meeting.

Mrs Gaul pointed out that as the Branches are autonomous bodies, they are responsible for their own decisions. However, according to the terms of the Licence Agreement, they must "notify the Society in writing of the proposed changes to the Constitution of the Local Association prior to any such change being approved by the Local Association".

It was agreed that all Branch Constitutions must comply with the "law of the land". It was also agreed that the sections relating to the name, objects, disbandment and representation must not be changed. Any proposed changes must be checked with the relevant authorities, and must be submitted to the Society for information only, not approval.

It was agreed that the Office Bearers and HQ administration should deal initially with such notification, and bring to the General Purposes Committee only such notified changes as cause concern.

GP00/31 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

GP00/31.1 Marketing Sub-Committee

Mrs Gaul reported that the Convenor of this sub-committee, Mrs Maccoll, had expressed concerns regarding the direction of the committee. She suggested that the remits from Marketing Sub-Committee and Finance Committee also be considered with this item. Finance Committee had recommended that General Purposes should review the Marketing Sub-Committee's brief, and that there should be a member of the Finance Committee on this sub-committee. Marketing Sub-Committee had put forward proposals regarding terms of service for its members.

It was agreed that the precise number of members of the Marketing Sub-Committee would not be specified, but should be no more than nine (this to include the Convenor, Chairman, Vice Chairman and Past Chairman), and that five years should be the maximum term. This will be retrospectively effective.

It was also agreed that there should be representation from the Finance Committee on the Marketing Sub-Committee, this to be on the agenda for their October meeting.

The brief of the sub-committee will be reviewed along with all committee remits after the Executive Council meeting.

GP00/31.2 Co-ordinating Committee for N Ireland

It was agreed that Ms Gray should contact the committee to clarify the timetable for reports.

GP00/31.3 Management & Membership Working Party

There was full and wide-ranging discussion of the proposals contained in the update from the Working Party.

It was agreed to report to Management & Membership Working Party that the Committee is broadly in favour, but does not like the inclusion of 'buying a vote'. They propose that individuals become members of the Society when they join a branch, for which a capitation fee is charged to the branch. Individuals can then choose to receive additional member services, including voting rights, by becoming a direct member of the umbrella organisation via HQ. There should be no reference to charitable status.

It was noted that member services were not set in stone, that this detail would need to be added once the principle had been agreed.

There was discussion on the outline proposals attached to the report as Appendix A, and a number of changes were agreed, some by majority.

It was agreed that this paper, with amendments as agreed by this Committee, would be put into a report for the Executive Council.

Mr Mair proposed that Mrs Gaul should continue to be Convenor of the Management & Membership Working Party, and this was agreed.

A copy of the report to go to the Executive Council is attached.

GP00/31.4 AGM Sub-Committee

No motions have been received, and only one question for the Open Forum, which relates to subscription fees. It was agreed that at the Discussion Group, where Management & Membership issues would be discussed, there would first be a short presentation to "set the scene". It was noted that it would be important to include a proposed timetable in the presentation, ie that final proposals would go to the AGM in 2001 for members to be elected in 2002.

In response to a query from Ayr Branch, Ms Gray had investigated the position regarding babies and young children at the AGM. In conformity with advice from our insurers, children under the age of eight will not be permitted in AGM proceedings and functions. She would both inform the Branch of the outcome and include an item in a Secretary's Update regarding this issue.

GP00/31.5 Executive Council

Mrs Gaul acknowledged that this item should have been addressed some time ago. John Carswell had asked at an Executive Council meeting if a voluntary code of practice regarding a finite term of office could be considered for Executive Council members.

It was agreed that the Committee recommended that Executive Council representatives should serve no more than five years at one time, but it is appreciated that this situation may change if any new structure is implemented.

GP00/31.6 Examinations Committee

Mr R Taylor had raised a question with the Examinations Committee, which had then been remitted to this Committee. He was concerned whether, if candidates for the Preliminary Test were allowed to teach classes as part of their training, there was a conflict with the Branch's insurance cover. Ms Gray had investigated this, and the

insurers' view is that as long as the Society (in this case the Branch) is happy with the arrangements, this would be acceptable. It would be understood that a potential teacher is undergoing a period of training.

Ms Gray would inform Mr Taylor and Examinations Committee of this view.

GP00/32 DATES OF MEETINGS 2001

The dates of meetings in 2001 were agreed as 3 February, 7 April and 29 September.

It was suggested that a draft list of dates should be issued one year earlier.

It was agreed that confirmed 2001 dates and draft dates for 2002 would be circulated in the next Branch output.

GP00/33 WEBSITE UPDATE

Mr Healy reported that there had been two major problems with the website initially. The first related to the format chosen by the company that set it up, and had now been rectified. The second was the price list, which operated very slowly and made no use of the technology. He had decided to make this more interactive, which had taken longer than planned. However, it had now been uploaded on to the site, and once a minor technical problem has been rectified, should be available by next week. The news section and other sections had been rewritten and should be available on the site shortly. Mrs Gaul and Ms Gray were in the process of establishing clearly who is responsible for what, and identifying systems and procedures for ensuring that all areas are updated regularly.

Mr Healy's view is that once this is complete and running satisfactorily, the next phase will be to make the non-member site more interesting and attractive, and he plans to use the Strathspey "net" to ask for help in doing this. The final phase, which he views as being at least one year away, would be to provide electronic shopping on the site.

There was discussion regarding whether Affiliated Group secretaries should be listed on the website.

It was agreed that such a listing would not be appropriate, but if an Affiliated Group has a website, a link would be provided.

GP00/34 DIRECTORY OF SECRETARIES

Ms Gray proposed that email addresses be included in the Directory when next produced. This data is already gathered, and it was agreed that it would not be necessary to specifically request permission to

include it. However, given that it would add substantially to the size and therefore cost of the Directory, estimates would be required nearer the time and a decision made on a cost basis.

GP00/35 CORRESPONDENCE

GP00/35.1 Mr J Carswell

Mr Carswell's letter of 20 April related to membership and subscriptions, and had therefore been passed to the Management & Membership Working Party for consideration, and a response had been sent by Mrs Gaul.

His second letter referred to the programmes of dances in the Gardens in Edinburgh. Mrs Gaul read out her proposed response, saying that the Society is not responsible for dictating what dances organisers choose for their programmes, and that he should contact the organisers directly.

Mrs Gaul's proposed response was agreed.

GP00/35.2 Mr J Dalkin

Mr Dalkin had suggested that cover for PPL should be extended to Affiliated Groups. While the Finance Committee had discounted this possibility at their meeting in April, it had recently been reported to HQ by a Branch that PPL have become more lenient in their demands upon small groups.

It was agreed that Ms Gray should pursue this further and clarify the situation.

GP00/35.3 C Wiggins

Ms Gray had been contacted by Ms Wiggins of Cambridge Branch regarding the award of scroll to Susan Nedderman. Ron Nedderman had agreed to receive the scroll, and it had been agreed that a Charity Dance in memory of Susan, to be held in January 2001, would be an appropriate occasion.

GP00/35.4 Ms H Beattie

Ms Beattie, of Belfast Branch, had requested clarification regarding the posthumous award of a scroll. Ms Gray had responded that an application must have been received at HQ before the death of the person concerned in order to be considered. However, it was clarified that at a previous meeting, it was agreed that any application must have been considered by the General Purposes Committee before the individual's death in order to be considered.

GP00/35.5 Mrs A Murphy

It was noted that the detail that Mrs Murphy requests with regard to changes in management and membership structure is not yet available. Mrs Gaul will compose an appropriate reply.

GP00/36
GP00/36.1

ANY OTHER BUSINESS
Possible 'Missionary' Tour

Information was circulated about a dancing group in Krakow, which had expressed an interest in having a visit from a teacher. Mrs Gaul proposed sending a teacher and a musician for a weekend.

The Committee agreed in principle that a 'missionary' trip should be organised, and that they should have input as to who should go. The Committee gave authority to the Chairman and Vice Chairman to try to arrange a trip, using a young teacher and a young musician.

GP00/36.2

Executive Council

Ms Gray reported that a thorough search had been carried out for an alternative venue for the Executive Council, but without success. All options, if available on the date, were either not big enough to take the number required, or were much more expensive. The Learmonth Hotel had therefore been confirmed.

It was suggested that it might help matters at lunchtime if members could order lunch at registration in the morning. This would be investigated with the hotel.

GP00/37

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Saturday 3 February 2000 at 10.30am, with Mr Mair in the Chair.

GP00/38

THANKS

Mrs Gaul concluded the meeting by noting that Mr Healy and Mrs Carr would be stepping down from the Committee, and thanked them for all their hard work and support.

Mr Mair thanked Mrs Gaul for her excellent chairmanship of the Committee.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

**Minutes of Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
held on Saturday 3 February 2001 at 10.30am
at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh**

PRESENT: Mr A Mair (Chairman), Mrs J Martin (Vice Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Past Chairman), Mr J Fenningworth (Convenor, Finance Committee), Mrs J Harper, Mr B Harry, Dr W Nicol, Mrs S Porter, Mr A Reid, Dr J Reinstein, Miss M Ross, Mr A Smart, Miss P Stewart.

APOLOGIES: There were no apologies.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms E Gray (Secretary/Administrator).

GP01/1

WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all members, particularly those sitting on the committee for the first time or after some time. He especially welcomed Jean Martin to her first meeting as Vice Chairman. He reminded members that some issues must be treated in confidence, but others may be freely discussed outwith the meetings. He asked all members to restrict their comments in discussions to the matters in hand.

GP01/2

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of 30 September 2000 were approved at the Executive Council meeting of 18 November 2000.

GP01/3

MATTERS ARISING

GP01/3.1

SOBHD

A reply had been received from the Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing, agreeing that it would be useful for a nominated person from both organisations to meet on an informal basis, and asking what "information and ideas" the RSCDS wished to share. The kinds of issues that could be discussed included Highland steps; joint ventures; dancing at the Tattoo; seeking opportunities to co-operate; and simply maintaining an ongoing dialogue.

It was agreed that Mr Harry would be the nominated person from the committee and would take this forward.

GP01/3.2

STDT

Ms Gray had been trying for some time to speak to Liam Paterson, and had also tried to contact John

Drysdale, but without success. There was therefore nothing further to report.

Mrs Martin reported that a planned STDT event in Aberdeen, in memory of Bobby Watson, had been cancelled. There was discussion regarding whether this could be taken forward by RSCDS, and also whether a memorial event to Jimmy Shand could be considered, perhaps by St Andrews Branch.

It was agreed that Mrs Martin would investigate the possibility of an Aberdeen event with the Elphinstone Institute, and that Mr Mair would follow up with St Andrews Branch on a Shand memorial event.

It was also agreed that it was important to keep talking to STDT.

Post meeting note: We have been informed that a meeting of those who volunteered to be involved with the Scottish Dance Centre Working Party will be held on 27 February 2001 at 6.30pm at the Quaker Meeting House, Edinburgh.

GP01/3.3

Dust on Floors

Dr Nicol was thanked for all his hard work in analysing the responses received and producing a report.

It was agreed that this should be sent to branches and put on the website, with a disclaimer to the effect that referring to any particular product or company does not constitute an endorsement, and that the report was merely a reflection of information gathered. It should be stated that further information would be welcomed.

It should be added that anyone knowing of a chemistry student looking for a research project should be asked to contact the Society.

GP01/3.4

Honour Board

Quotes had been received from 3 potential suppliers, ranging from £355 to £595 (both excluding VAT). Mrs Harper reported that her Branch had been considering putting funding towards this, either solely or in conjunction with other Argyll branches.

It was confirmed that if funding were given, an appropriate plaque would be attached to the board. Mrs Harper would pursue this further. It was felt that a logo should not be included in any design.

It was agreed that Ms Gray would view samples of the work of each supplier and would provide some photographs for the next meeting.

GP01/3.5 West Michigan Scottish Ceilidh Dancers

It was agreed at the last meeting to write to the nearest Branch, Detroit, to ask if they had any objection to the group affiliating. It was stated that if no reply were received by a stated date, it would be assumed they had no such objection. No reply had been received, and the application for affiliation was therefore being processed.

GP01/3.6 Tarbert Loch Fyne Scottish Country Dance Club

Discussions had taken place at the end of 2000 regarding this club operating under the wing of the Mid Argyll Branch. However Mrs Porter reported that the club's financial situation had improved, and that they were now planning to remain independent, although they may not affiliate. Mrs Porter was thanked for her efforts to facilitate an arrangement between the club and the Branch.

GP01/3.7 Email from Mr B Harry

Mr Harry had submitted a paper raising a number of issues. Some would be considered under the relevant points of the agenda, and Mr Mair proposed to respond to the remainder at this point.

Finance Committee minutes, references to the video with IVP and the letter from Doncaster Branch - the video was not dealt with by Finance, but was reported to them by Publications & Research because there were financial implications. The potential situation in Doncaster Branch was raised because there was a Doncaster Branch member on the Finance Committee and, if there had been no resolution, there would have been financial implications.

Membership of the Management & Membership Working Party - it would be reported later in the meeting that two people had stepped down from the Working Party. One person had been invited to attend the most recent meeting to give advice and assistance, and the committee would be asked today to formally appoint him to the Working Party.

Past Chairmen receiving copies of Standing Committee minutes - this is not current practice.

GP01/4 JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND GP01/4.1 Financial Report

The Committee appreciated the revised format of this report. It was noted that there was approximately £9,500, less the cost of the Youth Committee Summer School scholarship, still available to be disbursed.

GP01/4.2 Teaching Trip to Moscow, M Stacey

This grant had been conditional on further information being received, particularly with regard to how many students would be involved and how much teaching would be carried out. Moira Stacey had provided some details, but not yet the information requested.

It was agreed that this grant was still provisional, but for the purposes of deciding on funds to be allocated, it would be assumed to be approved.

GP01/4.3 Glasgow Branch

It was agreed to provide £450 towards the Day of Dance for children.

GP01/4.4 Queensland Branch

It was agreed, with one abstention, to provide £200 towards the Children's Class at the Australian Winter School.

GP01/4.5 Summer School

It was agreed to provide £300 towards the cost of a member of staff for the Musicians' Course at Summer School 2001.

GP01/4.6 Teaching Skills Course

Committee members expressed disappointment at the way this project had been costed and dealt with. As the course was going ahead, it was clearly a decision as to whether the funding was going to come from the General Fund or from the JMMF.

It was agreed to meet the cost of the course, £1,736, from the JMMF.

The Committee noted that this did not imply a commitment to any future subsidy. There was some agreement that a charge should have been made to those attending the course.

It was suggested that a set of guidelines for costing courses should be produced, to include approval by the Finance Convenor.

GP01/4.7 Marketing Sub-Committee, Beginners' Packs

Sponsorship was being sought for this project, and if gained, this grant may not be needed. The Committee had sympathy and encouragement for the project, but felt that it needed clarification.

It was agreed to refer this application back to the Marketing Sub-Committee to come up with a more detailed proposal, to review the size of the print run, and to be aware that this would need to be included in the budget if it were planned for each year.

GP01/4.8 Donations

Between the last meeting and end of December 2000, the following donations had been received:

Frimley Green SCD Class	£150
Scottish Arts Council (Music Course 99)	£270
Total	£420

Since that date, a further £40 had been received which would appear in the next set of quarterly accounts.

GP01/5 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2001 AGM will be in Perth and the 2002 AGM will be in Aberdeen.

It was agreed to write to the new Inverness Branch Chairman and to suggest that they might consider hosting the AGM in 2003, in conjunction with other Highland branches.

Mr Harry had prepared a paper, which was circulated, proposing that the AGM be held in the same place each year, with Branches sponsoring different elements of the event. It was recognised that this would have many benefits. The proposal would be considered with the AGM Sub-Committee remit later in the meeting.

GP01/6 APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS

GP01/6.1 North Esk Scottish Country Dance Group

This application for affiliation was approved.

It would be pointed out to East Lothian Branch that the affiliation is to the Society, not to the Branch, as stated in their letter of support.

GP01/6.2 Comhlan Group, Krakow

This application for affiliation was approved.

It was reported that no arrangements had yet been made for a "missionary tour" to Krakow, and Mrs Gaul would follow this up.

GP01/6.3 West Michigan Scottish Ceilidh Dancers

As noted in GP01/3.5 above, this group would also be included for approval at the Executive Council meeting in May.

GP01/7 BRANCHES

GP01/7.1 Applications for Branch Status

There was no progress to report on the application considered at the last meeting.

It was agreed to write to the Branch in question expressing disappointment that no progress had been made. It was agreed that Mrs Gaul would continue negotiations.

A further Branch application form had been requested from Japan, but had not yet been returned.

GP01/7.2 Amendments to Constitutions

Notification had been received from Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch of some proposed changes to their Branch constitution. As agreed at the last meeting, these were considered by the Chairman and the Secretary, found acceptable, and were now simply being notified to the Committee for information.

GP01/8 SCROLL NOMINATIONS (Confidential)

It was agreed to recommend the following for the Society's Scroll of Honour:

- Elizabeth Cathcart
- Roy Goldring
- Peter Knight
- Dorothy Leurs
- Grace Lofthouse
- Jeanetta McColl
- Muriel More

Mrs Harper requested that a hard copy list of Scroll nominees be given to representatives at the Executive Council meeting in May.

GP01/9 SUB-COMMITTEES: REVIEWS AND REPORTS

A paper detailing the current sub-committees, their personnel and remits, was circulated.

GP01/9.1 Marketing

A report and a proposed revised remit from the Convenor of the Marketing Sub-Committee were tabled.

It was recognised that the idea of this sub-committee was to take some more basic issues from General Purposes and Finance, who have more strategic issues to deal with. It was confirmed that information regarding sales went to the Finance Committee. However, it was felt that it would be beneficial for more information on the sub-committee's activities to come to General Purposes.

It was therefore agreed to circulate Marketing Sub-Committee minutes as a paper for GP.

The proposed remit was accepted, with the following changes:

- Add a paragraph 2(d) "actively seek sponsorship where appropriate".
- Point 3 – take out "the Society".
- Point 4 – amend to read "to prepare a budget for the above activities, to monitor performance and to take any appropriate action".

GP01/9.2 Co-ordinating Committee for Northern Ireland
Minutes of the meeting of 27 November 2000 had been received. No changes to the composition or remit of the committee were proposed.

GP01/9.3 Management & Membership Working Party
Mrs Gaul tabled a paper on a possible new management structure and gave a verbal report following the AGM Discussion Group and the last Executive Council meeting. Papers prepared by Mr Fenningworth outlining the level of subscription needed to break even were also circulated.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Working Party should focus on producing three clear options for the next meeting, that could then be put to the Executive in May to make a choice. It was proposed that the three would be finite options, ie complete packages with no "cherry-picking". It was also proposed that the Executive should first be asked to vote on a motion for change; if this is agreed, voting could then take place on the options.

- The three options to be fleshed out would be:
- Option 1: AGM delegates vote for Board on proportional representation basis, similar to current arrangements.
 - Option 2: OMOV, all full members entitled to vote.
 - Option 3: Differential membership (full membership and local membership), full members entitled to vote.

It was proposed that in Option 1, the number of ordinary members on the Management Board should be increased from 6 to 18. Also, nominations could come from any member, including present HQ members, with a proposer and seconder and 10 additional members supporting. For Options 2 & 3, the management structure would remain as outlined.

It was proposed that the vote should be a paper vote, not a show of hands. It was also agreed that there should be an exhaustive vote – ie after the first round of voting, discard the option that comes last and have a further vote between the remaining two options.

It was agreed that a first draft should go to General Purposes as soon as possible so that comment can be made, and a second draft with amendments can be prepared for the next meeting.

It was agreed that the Executive Council papers would be sent out on the Monday after the General Purposes meeting of 7 April.

Representatives would have to be apprised of the options before the Executive in order to make an informed choice. It was stressed that a representative is elected by their Branch to be a representative member of the Society, not merely to represent their Branch. It was agreed to put "advance warning" in the Secretaries' Update that a decision will be involved at the Executive Council, outlining the timescale, and that Branches may wish to consider holding an EGM or whatever else may be necessary to allow their representatives to make an informed decision.

It was noted that Stella McCraw and Alasdair Brown had both resigned from the Working Party.

It was agreed that Colin MacKay would be formally asked to become a member of the Working Party.

GP01/9.4 AGM Sub-Committee
It was agreed to add to the remit "to liaise with organising Branches", and to ask the sub-committee to review the paper submitted by Mr Harry.

It was agreed that the sub-committee should comprise Chairman, Vice Chairman, Immediate Past Chairman, one person from this committee, one representative from the previous AGM host Branch and one from the forthcoming host Branch.

It was agreed that Mr Harry should serve as the additional member from GP committee.

GP01/9.5 Strategic Plan Working Party
Mr Mair suggested that, as Mrs Martin would be likely to have to implement the next plan, she should be asked to convene this Working Party and to bring forward proposals for the next meeting. This was agreed.

GP01/10 REMITS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES
GP01/10.1 Finance Committee
Mr Fenningworth reported on the situation regarding New Zealand Branch, who had submitted subscription fees minus what was calculated as being the equivalent of VAT. The Finance Committee had agreed that according to the current Constitution, the subscription for the year has been set at £8.00 per member, regardless of geographical

location, and that the only way that this could be varied is through a motion to an AGM. An appropriate response would be sent to the New Zealand Branch. Mrs Jeffcoat will be approaching Customs & Excise to seek clarification regarding the current agreement on VAT.

GP01/10.2 Summer School
Summer School Committee proposed that the money from raffles at Summer School this year be put towards the purchase of a piano for the School, to be stored at University Hall.

This was agreed, as long as it is clearly stated what the purpose of the raffles will be.

GP01/10.3 Executive Council
The question of the deadline for return of nomination forms had been raised at the Executive Council in November 2000. It was felt important to allow representatives to attend, even if the form arrived after the deadline. However, it was recognised that one of the difficulties would be in sending out papers.

It was agreed that the deadline would remain at 8 weeks before the Executive Council meeting (this year, Saturday 22 September). Any representative nomination forms received after this deadline would be accepted, but the representatives will be told that they must get the relevant papers from their Branch Secretary. No nominations for committee would be accepted beyond the deadline. It was also agreed to send the forms out earlier in the year.

GP01/11 WEBSITE UPDATE
It was agreed to circulate the paper on website responsibilities with the minutes of the meeting.

It was confirmed that overall control of the website rested with the General Purposes Committee.

It was reported that Jim Healy had stepped back from involvement in website development, but Ian Brockbank was still involved in updating it when given information. It was felt important to continue to have someone involved who would be able to contribute to the development of the site.

It was agreed to approach Gillian Mackintosh in the first place.

It was agreed to ask either Ian or the host to re-direct hits on the "scottishdance" website to the "rscds" site, and that references to the latter being a members' site should be removed.

GP01/12 CORRESPONDENCE
Mr Mair reported briefly on correspondence from a lady who had some criticism of the standard of dancing in the televised clip of the Primary Schools Dance Festival. Both he and David Maiden had responded, and Mr Mair had invited the lady concerned to the Festival next year.

GP01/13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS
GP01/13.1 Keys to Headquarters
It was agreed that the Chairman and Vice Chairman should both have keys for the building.

GP01/13.2 Scrolls of Honour
It was agreed that consideration would be given to Mr Harry's proposals regarding scrolls (paper circulated at meeting), and this would be brought to the next meeting.

GP01/13.3 Past Chairmen at AGM
Mr Harry had proposed that Past Chairman be supplied with information in the form of minutes of meetings before the AGM. There was a proposal that Past Chairmen should not be on the stage at the AGM, but should be seated in the front row.

It was agreed to pass these issues to the AGM Sub-Committee for consideration.

GP01/13.4 Committees/Information
Mr Harry felt that more information needed to be passed round, particularly between the Finance and General Purposes Committees. It was noted that Finance Committee now has a standing item on every agenda of items/remits from other committees. Mr Mair felt that there was strength in having some members on the committee not overloaded with information from other committees. It was recognised that part of the issue was that Finance met 4 times a year, and General Purposes only 3.

GP01/13.5 Committees 2002
It was agreed to circulate the schedule of meetings for 2002 to Branches along with the nomination forms, so that those potentially standing for committees can ensure they will be available to attend the meetings.

GP01/13.6 South Argyll Branch
Mrs Harper reported that the Branch hoped to be hosting "Take the Floor" on 14 March.

GP01/13.7 Corporate Identity
Dr Reinstein felt that there ought to be more consistency in how the RSCDS name appeared, both internally and in the Branches.

It was agreed to ask the Marketing Sub-Committee to review what was happening now and to prepare recommendations for Branches.

GP01/14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING
The next meeting will be held on Saturday 7 April 2001 at 10.30am.

The meeting closed at 4.40pm.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Minutes of Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
held on Saturday 7 April 2001 at 10.30am
at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh

PRESENT: Mr A Mair (Chairman), Mrs J Martin (Vice Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Past Chairman), Mr B Harry, Dr W Nicol, Mrs S Porter, Mr A Reid, Dr J Reinstein, Mr A Smart, Miss P Stewart.

APOLOGIES: Mr J Fenningworth (Convenor, Finance Committee), Mrs J Harper, Miss M Ross.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms E Gray (Secretary/Administrator).

GP01/15 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
Minutes of the meeting of 3 February 2001 were discussed in detail but, by omission, were not formally approved.

GP01/16 MATTERS ARISING
GP01/16.1 (GP01/3.1) SOBHD

Ms Gray had written to Marjory Rowan at SOBHD on 14 February 2001 to inform her that Mr Harry was the nominated representative to liaise with them, and outlining the kinds of issues that could be discussed. Mr Harry confirmed he had a meeting arranged at the end of April.

GP01/16.2 (GP01/3.2) STDT
The meeting scheduled for 27 February 2001 was cancelled due to bad weather. It has been re-arranged for 17 April, and Mr Mair, Mrs Gaul, Mr Harry and Ms Gray would attend.

Mrs Martin had contacted the Elphinstone Institute. STDT had first raised the idea for the planned event connected with Bobby Watson, and viewed it as postponed, not cancelled. Mrs Martin felt it was a hybrid concept, with no clear market, but would co-operate with any plans.

Mr Mair reported that St Andrews Branch had suggested that their two Saturday dances in St Andrews would run as usual, and the proceeds would be divided between the Dalgairn Centre, Cupar (with Jimmy Shand connections) and a Motor Neurone Disease charity.

GP01/16.3 (GP01/3.3) Dust on Floors
Dr Nicol's report would be circulated to Branches with the April output.

GP01/16.4 (GP01/3.4) Honour Board
Ms Gray had been unable to get photographs of samples from the potential suppliers previously discussed. It was suggested that a more useful approach would be to contact clubs or schools known to have the type of board being considered for a recommendation.

Mrs Porter reported that the Argyll Branches will be discussing the possible funding of a board in May, and might well put something towards it.

GP01/16.5 (GP01/8) Scroll Nominations
It was noted that the request previously made for a hard copy list of Scroll nominees for Executive Council representatives was unnecessary, as the list was contained in the minutes.

GP01/16.6 (GP01/5) AGM 2003
Inverness Branch had declined to host the AGM in 2003.

GP01/16.7 (GP01/13.4) Committees/Information
Mr Harry recognised the point made at the previous meeting regarding not overloading members with information from other committees, but stated again that he believed it was important that General Purposes Committee members should be aware of discussions held at Finance Committee.

It was agreed that the minutes of the Finance Committee would be circulated to members of General Purposes Committee at the same time, by email to those who have this facility, and hard copy to those who do not.

It was noted that Mrs Gaul felt it was unfortunate that this decision had been made in the absence of the Finance Committee Convenor.

GP01/17 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS
GP01.17.1 Marketing Sub-Committee
Minutes of the Marketing Sub-Committee meeting of 22 March 2001 were tabled. It was

noted that in future, their meetings would be timed to enable advance distribution of the minutes with the General Purposes agenda.

It was pointed out that the reference in MK01/11.4, Badges, to "staff" at Summer School included members of the Summer School Committee.

Clarification was given regarding the Legacies booklet that was being prepared. It was considered this was a very good idea, and a good potential source of income.

It was noted that further work was being done on costing the Welcome Packs, and seeking sponsorship.

It was agreed to suggest to Marketing Sub-Committee that they consider including a very short questionnaire for inclusion in the Welcome Packs, to be completed at the end of the first year, to give genuine feedback where members decide not to renew their membership.

GP01/17.2 Co-ordinating Committee of N Ireland

There was nothing to report.

GP01/17.3 Management & Membership Working Party

Following the Management & Membership Working Party meeting on 18 February, a paper was circulated to Committee members. Some feedback had been received; several revisions had been made and a further version circulated with the agenda. A Special Edition Newsbrief had also been printed, for circulation to all members.

The objective now was to finalise the paper and to discuss how to take it forward to the Executive Council. Mr Mair stressed that the most important issue was the principle of the proposals, and details such as the number of members on the Management Board could be dealt with at a later date.

It was suggested that the "NB" paragraph at the foot of the Management Structure section (p.5) should be moved to below the Management Board section.

It was suggested that since a possible full membership cost was stated in Option 3, this should be done for all the Options, as some felt that this was what members would want to know. It was recognised that it was impossible to predict membership numbers, and therefore what the

subscription fee, would be. Mr Mair had some illustrative figures, based on an assumption that 20% of the membership might choose to become full members. The Committee considered these and concluded that the income from subscriptions (the "net income") was of less significance than many members might imagine. It was thought that this kind of analysis was very important in helping Branches make a decision.

It was agreed to amend Option 3, para. 3, 2nd sentence under "Membership" as follows: "A local member will pay Branch Subscription and will receive an Annual Report and Accounts plus any other membership services to be decided by their Branch". It was also agreed to include an indication that a proportion of the Branch fee would be passed to HQ; wording should be to the effect that "the local member will pay a subscription, which will include a contribution to the work of the Society".

There was lengthy discussion with regard to the requirements outlined for Life and Long Term members. It was agreed to amend the relevant sections in Options 2 and 3 as follows: "Life and Long Term members who wish to take part in voting procedures will be asked to pay at least £3.00 to cover the costs of maintaining the database and administering the voting procedures. It is hoped that those Life Members who wish to stand for election will wish to pay the Annual Subscription."

Option 1, disadvantages 3 and 4 were discussed; Mr Mair felt strongly that, whatever its drawbacks, the advantage of the current position is the network of communication created by having a large number of members from different branches on the Executive. It was agreed to amend disadvantage 4 to "Most Branches will not have a member on the governing body", and to delete disadvantage 3.

It was agreed to amend the Methods of Nomination, 2nd point on all Options, to read "A member may stand for two posts but may be elected to only one".

Following the discussions regarding membership figures and income referred to above, it was agreed that the second sentence of Option 3, disadvantage 2, should be deleted. The Committee recognised that some members of the Management & Membership Working Party thought that this Option carried greatest financial risk, but in the Committee's view, if Option 3 were chosen, the Society would be no worse off

financially. Mr Mair stressed again the prime importance of retaining members above finances.

It was agreed to amend the introductory para. of Option 3, Membership, to read "Members of the Society will be able to choose full membership and/or local membership of the Society at Branch level".

There was lengthy discussion regarding the proposed voting procedures. It was agreed that it would remain as outlined, with the following amendment to para. 1, page 3: "Representatives will be asked to mark their first ballot paper with their preferred Options in order 1-3, with 1 being the most popular/favoured". The second sentence should be deleted. It was suggested that the Options should be re-labelled A, B and C, to avoid confusion with numbered rankings.

It had been suggested that Dr Nicol be asked to introduce the paper at the Executive Council meeting. Dr Nicol responded that he felt the General Purposes Committee had to show leadership by recommending an Option, and he would only be prepared to introduce the paper if that were the case. It was noted that the M&M Working Party had very particularly not wished to put forward a recommendation. However, the paper as it would be presented to the Executive Council was not the Working Party's paper but rather General Purposes Committee's. All members present were asked to identify their favoured option. On a vote that "This Committee recommends Option 3", a majority of those present voted in favour. It was agreed that the recommendation and reasons behind it should be included in the paper to be distributed.

GP01/17.4 AGM Sub-Committee
This Sub-Committee would meet soon.

GP01/17.5 Strategic Plan Working Party
Mrs Martin tabled a paper outlining her suggestions for future progress. She paid tribute to the amount of work that had gone into producing the very comprehensive Strategic Plan. The Strategic Objectives had been endorsed at AGM in 1999, although there were members who were reluctant to accept those principles. She believed the Strategic Plan provided a framework for activities, and should not simply be a "wish list". It should contain achievable objectives, and consideration should be given to financial and other resources available. She proposed that a small group be set up to review the original document. Each Standing Committee should be asked for specific information on what they could contribute to the achievement of all objectives.

Plans from Committees would be submitted by November 2001, and the small group would then present an updated plan for the Executive Council meeting of May 2002, with input from Standing Committees, Office-bearers and the Secretary. She suggested that the group should be made up of herself plus: one member from the original group (Jerry Reinstein had already volunteered); one member from Finance Committee; one member from Examinations Committee; and one member with experience of writing development plans.

It was noted that it was essential to have a timetable within which things may be achieved, and also that the objectives identified must be SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, reasonable and timebound).

It was stressed that the purpose of the working party was to update and develop the Strategic Plan.

It was agreed that the working party should be set up, and that Mrs Martin, Mr Mair and Mr Reinstein should identify three individuals to join the group as soon as possible.

GP01/18 JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

Approximately £6,991 remained to be disbursed. Further information had been received from Moira Stacey and, as agreed at the previous meeting, this had been taken forward by Mr Mair and Ms Gray.

Mr Mair had tried to communicate with the Polish group by email, without success. It was agreed that Ms Gray should write again to clarify their needs before Mr Mair does anything further on possibly arranging a "missionary" visit.

Ms Gray would check whether any of the group had applied to attend Summer School.

It was noted that the amount to be transferred from the JMMF for the Teaching Skills course should have been £1,736, not £1,000.

GP01/19 AGM MOTIONS
Mr Mair wished the Committee to consider how the proposals regarding management should be dealt with. He proposed that it be moved that General Purposes should be mandated to implement the changes in the name of the Executive Council.

As noted in GP01/16.6 above, Inverness Branch had declined to host the AGM in 2003, and there were no other volunteers. The AGM Sub-Committee would discuss this, as well as the suggestion for a single, central venue to be used each year, when they meet.

GP01/20 BRANCHES
GP01/20.1 Derbyshire North East
After further consideration, Sheffield Branch supported the formation of this Branch.

It was agreed to approve the formation of the Derbyshire North East Branch, subject to ratification by the Executive Council.

GP01/20.2 Japan
A meeting of those involved in establishing a new Branch was to have been held on 25 March 2001, following which the application form would be sent to HQ, but it had not yet been received.

GP01/20.3 Gatehouse-of Fleet,
Amendments to Constitution
Minor changes to the local constitution had been approved, although Mr Mair had pointed out the potential difficulties connected with using the term "fully paid-up member of the Society".

GP01/21 APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION

The application from Soka Scottish Country Dance Club, accompanied by a letter of support from Tokyo Branch, was approved.

GP01/22 AWARD OF SCROLLS
Mr Harry had submitted a paper at the previous meeting, suggesting that two types of scrolls should be produced; one for service to the Society, and one for service to a Branch. It was proposed that the scroll should remain as it is, each nomination considered on its merits, and that it would be suggested to Branches that they can produce their own scrolls if they wish.

This proposal was seconded, and agreed by a majority vote.

It was stressed that members of the Committee have to be very clear in their own minds why an award is agreed.

GP01/23 REMITS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

GP01/23.1 Finance Committee
There had been little progress regarding the situation with New Zealand. The VAT position

was being established, and would be for the Finance Committee to consider.

Mr Fenningworth had suggested that Elisabeth Hunter, the New Zealand representative, should be invited to the next Finance Committee meeting. This was agreed.

It was noted that a decision could be made to exclude the representative from the Executive Council, or to insist that she did not vote. It was agreed that this should not be done.

GP01/23.2 Examinations Committee
Bruce Frazer had requested an additional meeting for the Examinations Committee in 2002 and beyond. A particular difficulty was the gap between meetings in January and June, at a time when many issues and actions need to be resolved quickly.

While it was appreciated that the timings could cause difficulties, it was felt that it was up to the Convenor to adjust resources, both human and financial, to achieve the Committee's objectives.

It was suggested that some of the Committee's work could be done on a sub-committee or working group basis. Mrs Martin suggested that the June meeting could be brought forward to March or April, and an additional meeting could be scheduled on the middle weekend, between courses 1 and 2, at Summer School, which would not be an additional cost.

It was agreed to suggest that the Examinations Committee change meeting practices rather than have another meeting, but accepted that the June meeting could be brought forward to before the Executive Council in May.

(Post meeting note: Mr Frazer's preference is for 13 April 2002)

GP01/24 WEBSITE UPDATE

It had been suggested to Ian Brockbank that he form a working party to take forward development of the website. His suggestions had included Alan Paterson, Anselm Lingnau, Lara Friedman-Shedlov, Eric Ferguson, and Gillian McIntosh. All would be delighted to contribute, and the group will generate no meeting costs, as all contact will be by email.

The formation of the Working Party as outlined above was agreed.

It was noted that General Purposes would still have responsibility for deciding policy in relation to the website.

The meeting closed at 3.50pm.

It was agreed that the request from Marketing Sub-Committee regarding the cost of possible links on the RSCDS website should be passed to the Website Working Party for consideration.

GP01/25 CORRESPONDENCE

GP01/25.1 Doncaster & District Branch
The Secretary of the Branch had responded to the proposed changes regarding nomination forms, which they welcomed and appreciated.

GP01/25.2 Mr J Carswell
Mr Carswell's letter was discussed and noted.

GP01/25.3 Mr O Thinius
Mr Thinius had commented on the approval of AGM minutes and the timing of their publication. It was suggested that they could be posted on the website, clearly labelled "not approved".

It was noted that the original intention of the January Newsbrief was to report the AGM and list committee members, and a return to this practice would solve the problem.

It was agreed to recommend the above to Publications & Research Committee.

GP01/26 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

GP01/26.1 Contact List
Mr Harry noted that an updated list had not been circulated. Ms Gray undertook to send this out with the minutes.

GP01/26.2 SORP 2000
Mr Fenningworth and Ms Gray had attended a seminar on this new accounting standard. A copy of Mr Fenningworth's synopsis report was circulated. There were initial concerns that the Society would be required to instigate a number of changes very quickly, but it appeared that this would not necessarily be the case. While the Finance Committee will be looking into the details, it was important for members of this Committee to be aware of the changes. Ms Gray reported that the major implications seen by Mr Fenningworth were in relation to the accounts that are debated at the AGM, which should be full accounts, and the Trustees' report, which may be very different from the current Annual Report.

GP01/27 DATE OF NEXT MEETING
The next meeting will be held at 10.30am on Saturday 29 September 2001.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Note of Meeting of the AGM Sub-Committee
held on Thursday 17 May 2001 at 5.30pm
at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh

PRESENT: Alan Mair (Chairman), Jean Martin (Vice Chairman), Linda Gaul (Past Chairman), Brian Harry, Jim Healy.

Conference Centre
Signet Library
and would speak to City of Edinburgh conference adviser.

IN ATTENDANCE: Elspeth Gray (Secretary)

Mr Mair welcomed all to the meeting, which would involve discussions about AGM 2001, but also about the AGM in the longer term.

2 **PAST CHAIRMEN**

Papers

It was agreed that previous AGM minutes and both Executive Council minutes would be sent to Past Chairmen prior to the AGM.

On platform

There will be insufficient space on the platform at Perth, therefore Past Chairmen will be seated in the front row.

1 **BRIAN HARRY'S PAPER**
There was lengthy discussion regarding Brian Harry's proposal that a small number of venues or single venue be considered for future AGMs, and where that venue or those venues might be.

Any venue must be large enough for 500-600 people to dance (Perth had 750 last time).

It was agreed to recommend to GP that this practice is more appropriate and should continue.

Since there is no volunteer host Branch for 2003, a recommendation was needed soon.

It was agreed that Past Chairmen would still process into the hall with current office-bearers.

It was agreed to recommend one venue to GP. It was also agreed to suggest that HQ organise the AGM in 2003, to be held in Edinburgh.

3 **PIPER**
It was agreed that Perth & Perthshire Branch will organise the piper, as it was felt that a local piper or one with connections to the Branch would be preferred.

Possible venues
Not Meadowbank.
Assembly Rooms would be good.

4 **FUTURE AGMs**
It was agreed to prepare a list of items/parts of AGM that could be sponsored by Branches, with a cost, and make this available to Branches.

Assembly Rooms - year + 1 day booking. May have to limit numbers, or ask people to choose between 1 night and the other. Has space/ additional rooms for other small groups or events.

It was agreed also to contact companies, banks etc for sponsorship of parts of the event.

It was suggested there should be no food - tea & biscuits only (but it was noted that if there was no food, it would not be a ball).

5 **AGM 2001**
Venue
It was agreed that Perth City Hall would be preferable as a venue for the meeting, with dancing in Bell's. Jim would take this back to his committee.

It was suggested the same 2 bands should be used both nights, one room first night, other room the second. There would be different programmes each night.

Bell's is booked, bands are booked, awaiting a quote for catering.

It was agreed that Elspeth would investigate:
Assembly Rooms

Raffle

It was agreed to have a £1 per ticket raffle, with 3 good prizes (eg gallon whisky, du Pont pen, £100 voucher from MacNaughtons). It was agreed this should be done by the Society rather than the Branch.

It was agreed people would be needed to:

- take money
- sell tickets
- buy prizes.

It was agreed to take this to the Marketing Sub-Committee to ask for help, and to inform Finance Committee. The raffle would be drawn on the Saturday night after the interval.

Grant

Jim would be applying to the Common Good Fund for a grant for a complimentary glass of wine.

Sound system

5 mikes would be required for the top table, plus 3 roving and 1 free-standing.

It was agreed that people who we know are speaking (proposing, seconding etc) would be asked to be ready to move forward to speak immediately they are called, and to use the standing mike at the front of the hall.

Times

Open Forum	9.30 - 10.15
Discussion Group	11.00 - 12.00
Class	10.45 - 12.00

Lunch will be provided for top table and Scroll recipients. Staff lunch at 12.15pm.

It was agreed to inform delegates and attendees that the meeting will start promptly at 2.30pm, and that delegates must be registered and seated by 2.20pm at the latest. Registration to start at 1.30pm.

Shop

The shop will be in the main hall, so there will be plenty of space. Volunteers from Perth & Perthshire Branch would help with staffing the shop, particularly to cover staff lunch and registration.

Discussion Group

It was agreed that the topic should be "The Future of Society AGM Weekends". This will be

recommended to GP on 16 June. Brian and someone else (possibly Wilson Nicol) would give a presentation and facilitate discussion.

Open Forum

No questions received to date.

Children

The advice from last year regarding children at AGM still stands. It was agreed that Elspeth would put a reminder in the Secretaries' Update.

6

FUTURE MEETINGS

The Sub-Committee would communicate primarily by email. If there was a need for a further meeting, a suitable date would be arranged.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Minutes of Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on Saturday 16 June 2001 at 10.30am at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh

PRESENT: Mr A Mair (Chairman),
Mr J Fenningworth (Finance Committee Convenor),
Mrs J Harper (part), Mr B Harry, Mrs S Porter, Dr J
Reinstein, Miss M Ross, Mr A Smart.

APOLOGIES: Mrs J Martin (Vice Chairman), Mrs
L Gaul (Past Chairman), Dr W Nicol, Mr A Reid,
Miss P Stewart.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms E Gray (Secretary/
Administrator).

GP01/28 PURPOSE OF MEETING

This extra meeting had been called in order to
prepare the motion relating to Management and
Membership at the AGM as instructed by the
Executive Council meeting in May 2001.

All other business resulting from the meeting of 7
April 2001 would be dealt with at the next
scheduled meeting of the Committee on 29
September 2001.

GP01/29 CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO PROCEDURE AT MAY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Letters had been received from John Hutton and Bill
Clement suggesting that the procedure at the May
Executive Council meeting had been incorrect.
These, and Mr Mair's response to John Hutton, were
circulated.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the
procedure at the meeting had been in order.

GP01/30 AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

A revised constitution (v2, blue), based on reviews
by both Mrs Gaul and Dr Nicol, was circulated prior
to the meeting. A paper was tabled with collated
responses from some not attending the meeting.

It was agreed that the Committee had been
mandated by the Executive Council only to make
changes to the Constitution to align with the Option
chosen by the Executive Council. Any changes
beyond that would not be considered at this stage,
and this meeting would focus on essential changes
only.

It was stressed that the final document would have
to go to Inland Revenue/FICO for approval.

It was noted that a separate decision on the number
of elected members to the Management Board
would have to be made now or at the AGM. The
paper voted on at the Executive Council had stated
6, with a note that this number may be raised to 18
if this Option was chosen. A vote was taken on the
preferred number within the Committee. There were
seven votes for 18 members, and one for 6
members.

After much discussion and deliberation, a number of
changes to the document were agreed.

The Committee considered carefully the points
raised following the selection of Option A at the
Executive Council, but believed none could be put
into practice at the current time. To set up a HQ
"branch" would create a great deal of extra work for
HQ. A postal vote was acceptable if "one person,
one vote" was available to all, but not otherwise. To
allocate votes rather than delegates based on the size
of the Branch was a major change, and would have
to be considered at a future stage.

GP01/31 AGM DISCUSSION GROUP
The AGM Sub-Committee had recommended that
the topic for the 2001 Discussion Group should be
"The Future of Society AGM Weekends".

The Committee agreed this would be appropriate.

GP01/32 MOTIONS AT AGM
The AGM Sub-Committee would not be able to
decide on the order of motions until after the end of
June, as other motions may be submitted by
Branches. Mr Fenningworth requested that the
motion regarding subscription fee be placed first.

GP01/33 NEXT MEETING
A provisional additional meeting was scheduled for
Saturday 7 July 2001; this will be confirmed or
otherwise as soon as possible. The next formal
meeting would be on Saturday 29 September 2001.

The meeting closed at 4.00pm.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

AGM SUB-COMMITTEE

NOTE OF MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2001

Present: Jean Martin, Brian Harry, Jim Healy, Elspeth Gray

Apologies: Alan Mair, Linda Gaul

- 1 Item 8 on the draft Agenda to be deleted – this is an Executive Council matter.
- 2 Motions re subscriptions:
When Finance Committee agreed on 1 September to recommend the £10 amendment, the £12 amendment had not been received. It is hoped that they will decide at their meeting on 27 October to recommend £12 rather than £10.

The Executive Council motion will be first on the Agenda, to be followed by first the Leicester Branch amendment for £10 then the Aberdeen Branch amendment for £12.

Heading for this item on Agenda to be "Subscriptions 2002-03".
- 3 Item 12.2 on the draft Agenda to be relocated to a separate heading, to be taken after both the subscription and constitutional motions.
- 4 Motions re management and membership:
 - (a) Cape Town – agreed that this was not appropriate/competent. What they propose is a major change to the constitution, which would have to be a separate motion, and it was not received in time for it to be treated as such. Elspeth to write to them.
 - (b) New Zealand – agreed that this was in effect a new motion. Their original amendment was to Edinburgh Branch proposal, which has now been changed. A "remit" is not acceptable. Agreed that carefully worded letter should be written, and should come from Alan.
 - (c) Covering note or footnote to Agenda required noting the change to Edinburgh Branch motion.
 - (d) Bristol – agreed that should circulate their version of the revised Constitution as paper enclosed, and not include the paper that was enclosed with the draft Agenda.
 - (e) Leicester – Elspeth to check if they wish the same amendments to be put to the Bristol Branch motion.
- 5 Elspeth to circulate a revised Agenda as soon as possible.
- 6 There was some discussion regarding the proposing of motions, which was not finalised. The question was whether a member of the Executive can propose a motion or amendment which is counter or an amendment to an Executive Council motion.
- 7 Ayr Branch had volunteered to host the 2003 AGM.

13 September 2001



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

**Minutes of Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
held on Saturday 29 September 2001 at 10.30am
at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh**

PRESENT: Mr A Mair (Chairman), Mrs J Martin (Vice Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Past Chairman), Mr J Fenningworth (Finance Committee Convenor), Mrs J Harper (part), Mr B Harry, Dr W Nicol, Mrs S Porter, Mr A Reid, Dr J Reinstein, Miss M Ross, Miss P Stewart.

APOLOGIES: Mr A Smart.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms E. Gray (Secretary/Administrator).

INTRODUCTION

The Committee observed one minute's silence in respect for those who had been involved in or affected by the terrorist attacks in the USA.

**GP01/40 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
GP01/40.1 16 June 2001**

The final sentence of paragraph 2, column 2 to be amended to read "... and one for 12 members."

At the meeting of 7 July, it was agreed to delete the final sentence of GP01/32.

With the above amendments, the minutes were approved as an accurate record.

GP01/40.2 7 July 2001
The minutes were approved as an accurate record.

**GP01/41 MATTERS ARISING
GP01/41.1 (GP01/16.4) Honour Board**

Mrs Porter had contacted a woodcarver, based in Fasnacloch, who had produced an initial design, and quoted £435 to produce the honour board. He would be able to start after the New Year.

It was agreed that the stylised dancers should be removed, and that the foundation date and names of the co-founders should be added. With these changes, the design was acceptable, and it was agreed to place the order. It was agreed that lettering would be arranged locally in Edinburgh.

It was noted that a plate naming the 3 sponsoring Branches (Mid-Argyll, South Argyll and Lorn, Argyll) would be placed at the foot of the board.

Grateful thanks were expressed to all three Branches for agreeing to sponsor the board.

GP01/41.2 (GP01/16.1) SOBHD
Mr Harry was still trying to arrange a meeting with the new Chairperson of the SOBHD, which was proving difficult.

**GP01/41.3 (GP01/29) Correspondence re
May Executive Council Procedure**

Mr Clement had sent a further letter to Ms Gray. It was noted that both Mr Hutton and Mr Clement had corresponded with Lord Mansfield, but neither of them had informed the Chairman or the Secretary that they were doing so, and indeed Mr Clement had at no stage written directly to the Chairman.

It was agreed to respond to Mr Clement that "the General Purposes Committee has reviewed correspondence on this matter, and the minutes, and agrees unanimously with the actions taken at the Executive Council meeting."

**GP01/42 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS
GP01/42.1 Marketing Sub-Committee**

It was noted that the minute should be amended to read "Mr Rob Sargent".

The Committee agreed to over-rule the Sub-Committee's decision regarding the cost of the raffle tickets at the AGM, and that they should be sold at £1 per ticket.

It was noted that the Sub-Committee have proposed an extra meeting to focus on promotion. Mr Mair informed the Committee that Mrs Maccoll had indicated that she wished to stand down after the next meeting.

The Committee agreed that Tom Notman should be invited to take on the role of Convenor of the Sub-Committee.

Ms Gray informed the Committee that she had been contacted by the PR representative of Hamlyns Oatmeal, who were interested in providing some sponsorship to the Society, and a meeting would be arranged to take discussions forward.

GP01/42.2 Co-ordinating Committee of N Ireland

The minutes circulated were noted. The Committee was pleased to see that funding had been made available this year, despite doubts.

GP01/42.3 Management & Membership Working Party

The work of this sub-committee had been completed and it was therefore disbanded.

GP01/42.4 AGM Sub-Committee

It was felt that it may be worth defining what the Society means by the terms "ball" and "dance"; this would be taken forward pending the outcome of discussion on future AGM weekends at the AGM Discussion Group this year.

It was agreed to include the New Zealand Branch motion as an amendment to the Edinburgh Branch motion, as originally requested.

With regard to venues, it was agreed to carry on with the status quo until such time as a decision is made to change. A decision on the offer from Ayr Branch would be made after the AGM, at the February meeting.

It was agreed not to circulate details on the questions submitted so far for the Open Forum, but to have details available for delegates on the Friday night and Saturday morning. A reminder of the cut-off date for submission of questions would be put on the website and included in the Branch output.

GP01/42.5 Strategic Plan Working Party

No submissions had been received from committee members prior to the meeting.

Some ideas were discussed:

- Encourage Branches to include simple dances in programmes
- Set fixed (quarterly) publications dates for the Newsbrief, to be made available via email/web

- Review/investigate membership fees
- Provide guidelines to Branches re seminars for teachers on using the "Dance Scottish" pack, and help in getting it into schools (eg make list of local authority addresses available to Branches)
- Review status of Branches, Affiliated Groups and Licences

It was noted that progress on the Strategic Plan was essential, whether or not structural changes were introduced at the AGM.

It was agreed to circulate a copy of the Year 1 Review with the minutes. A copy of all the material would be sent to Mrs Ross.

It was agreed that all Committee members would consider the areas highlighted as most important for General Purposes Committee and pass their comments to Mrs Martin before the Working Party meet on 18 November.

GP01/43 JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

GP01/43.1 Status

The balance of the income has been reduced. Approximately £10,000 income was still realistic. In the current year, there was around £19,000 available for disbursement. After deduction of the standing commitment to Summer School scholarships, around £16,000 remained.

Post-meeting note: The figure of £1,412 was the actual amount disbursed for the Teaching Skills Course; £1,736 had been the revised estimate.

GP01/43.2 Moscow Trip

Moir Stacey reported that the visit to Moscow had been very successful, and expressed grateful thanks to the Committee for the grant towards her travelling expenses and for the gifts of RSCDS tapes and books to the group, which were much appreciated.

GP01/43.3 Sydney Branch

The Committee was supportive of the proposed project, but felt insufficient detail had been provided, and that the amount requested was excessive.

It was agreed to grant £1,000, but also to ask for a clearer breakdown of the figures

GP01/43.4 North West Craven Branch

It was agreed to grant £375 towards the proposed Teachers' Course October 2001-May 2002.

GP01/43.5 Examinations Committee
An application had been made for funding towards the Tutors' Course to be held in February 2002. It was the view of the Committee that, while recognising the value of such courses, they should not be subsidised to the extent requested, and that a greater contribution should be sought from participants.

It was agreed, by a majority, to grant all costs relating to the tutor and musician up to a maximum of £600, and to provide a subsidy of £20 per delegate, the total therefore being a maximum of £880.

GP01/43.6 Moffat Branch (re-forming)
It was agreed to request that a formal application be submitted, with clarification as to whether classes had started and how many potential members were involved. The Committee would then look favourably on any application for funds.

GP01/43.7 South Africa
Due to the shortage of candidates, it appeared that the Examiners Tour of South Africa would not be practical. A "missionary tour" had been suggested by Johannesburg Branch, and Examinations Committee will be following this up. It was noted that the budget was allocated in Examinations, and if no candidates materialised, the purpose of the tour will have changed.

GP01/43.8 Perth Day of Dance
It was noted that last year, Perth & Perthshire Branch had acquired lottery funding to help finance the Children's Day of Dance in Perth. There had been suggestions that the event would not happen this year, but Mrs Gaul had now been informed that it would take place on 28 October, but that no application for funding had been made.

GP01/43.9 Donations
In the year July 2000 - June 2001 a total of £2,181 was donated to the JMMF. Since July 2001, £519 had been received.

GP01/44 BRANCHES
GP01/44.1 Royal Tunbridge Wells Branch
It was agreed to advise the Branch against amending their local constitution as suggested.

GP01/44.2 Saitama Branch
A copy of the Branch constitution had now been submitted for the file.

GP01/44.3 Tokyo and Tokai Branches
Correspondence had been received from Tokyo Branch suggesting that Tokai Branch had been acting improperly in holding classes in Tokyo.

The issue concerned what activities Branches were "allowed" to do outwith the geographical area mentioned in their Licence Agreement. The Committee was in agreement that Branch events not advertised to the public could be held outwith "their" area. In the case of Tokai, it is understood that classes are held in Tokyo because a number of their members live and work in Tokyo. There were many examples where the geographical area "rule" was not strictly adhered to, eg London and Croydon Branches both operate within Greater London but both work amicably together. The rule was intended to be applicable where the general public was involved. It was pointed out that the License Agreement was not an exclusive agreement.

If there was concrete evidence that Tokai Branch was advertising to the general public within Tokyo, it would be appropriate for the Chairman to express concern to Tokai Branch, but as the Branches are autonomous bodies, guidance and advice only could be given.

It was agreed that the best solution would be for both Branches to communicate with each other and agree a mutually acceptable course of action.

It was agreed that a letter would be sent to Tokyo Branch confirming that there had been no change in policy and that the General Purposes Committee would not discuss the matter further.

The letter would be copied to Mr Reinstein, who indicated that he might be able to meet with representatives of the Branch when he visited Tokyo in November, if such a meeting was considered helpful.

GP01/45 AFFILIATED GROUPS
GP01/45.1 Applications
The following applications for affiliation were approved:

- Brecon Scottish Country Dance Group, Wales
- Funabashi Central Scottish Dance Club, Japan
- Horsham Scottish Country Dance Club, England
- Koganei Scottish Country Dance Group, Japan (subject to amending the statement re encouraging membership)
- Silver State Scottish Country Dancers, USA
- Birmingham Scotia Country Dancers, USA

- Komorebi Scottish Country Dance Club, Japan
- Highlands of Durham Scottish Country Dance Club, Canada (subject to receipt of formal signature and letter of support from nearest Branch).

GP01/45.2 Harare Caledonian Society
The group had written to inform the Society of the difficulty and the high cost of obtaining foreign currency in Zimbabwe, and that the group was struggling to meet affiliation fees. The Committee felt that on principle, a reduction of the affiliation fee was not possible. However, it was suggested that a UK or European Branch might wish to "sponsor" the group.

It was agreed to include a request for the above in the next Branch mailing.

GP01/46 CERTIFICATION
Mr Harry had requested discussion of this topic, as he felt that the Teacher's Certificate was similar to a professional qualification which, like any other, should be kept up to date. It was noted that one of the problems was that a central register was not held, and that Examinations Committee was addressing this. Examinations Committee had also suggested that, at some point in the future, there could be a stipulation for, say, Summer School teachers to have completed a Teaching Skills or other recent course.

It was agreed that this was an issue for Examinations Committee. It was suggested that "good practice" guidelines could be issued in the first instance.

It was noted that on the Summer School form for next year, those selecting the Fully Certificated class would have a choice between focusing on teaching or on dancing. It was important that opportunities for teachers' development continue to be offered at both Society and Branch level.

GP01/47 REMITS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

GP01/47.1 Finance Committee
The Finance Committee minutes had been circulated to General Purposes for information, as agreed. Several issues were clarified briefly by the Finance Convenor.

GP01/47.2 Youth Committee
It was agreed to approve the suggestion of a discussion group at the 2002 AGM to give an opportunity for teachers and other interested

dancers to exchange ideas about teaching dancing to children.

GP01/47.3 Examinations Committee
The Committee's concern regarding the timing of the Bulletin was noted. It was suggested that the Secretaries Update could be emailed to Branch Secretaries, wherever possible.

GP01/48 WEBSITE UPDATE
Ian Brockbank had issued an update on the Working Party's discussions, with a list of proposals. The Committee agreed to all the principles outlined, with the exception of point 1.3, where the Committee felt there was a need to define what is and is not "public". It was felt there needed to be a distinction, until such time as a password-protected section was available, and that therefore items such as the Bulletin and Newsbrief should not be included yet. There should not be a members' section unless it was password-protected.

With regard to content, it was agreed that all Branches should be listed, and that Affiliated Groups could be listed subject to reviewing the affiliation fee, but that other groups should not be listed. It was noted that the Finance Committee would discuss the affiliation fee in October.

Other suggestions were also considered, and a full response would be given to the Working Party.

There was discussion regarding the provision of books online. It was noted that at this stage, there were still a substantial number of members who do not have internet access, and they would be at a disadvantage if required to pay for something available free online.

It was agreed that the Working Party should be asked to address the email issue, to ensure consistency with the organisation name. If EdNet could not do it, then BT Connect should be used. Ian Brockbank would be asked to re-assess the situation.

It was agreed to remove non-current material from the website. It was also agreed to purchase FrontPage and Adobe Creator software and organise training as soon as possible.

GP01/49 DATES OF MEETINGS 2002

It was agreed that Ms Gray would investigate the costs and practicalities of tele-conferencing.

It was noted that the outcome of the AGM may put a substantial extra burden on this committee.

The dates for 2002 were noted.

GP01/50 **CORRESPONDENCE**

GP01/50.1 **H van Zon**
Mr van Zon's comments were noted, and a full response had already been sent from Mr Mair.

GP01/50.2 **Jean Baker, Liverpool Branch**
Mrs Baker's comments were noted, particularly her reference to the possibility of some Branches in future perhaps not insisting on people becoming members.

GP01/50.3 **K Baird**
Mr Baird's letter to the New Zealand Branch Secretary was noted.

GP01/50.4 **N American Branches**
Keith Bark of Toronto Association had written an open letter to all US Branches, mentioning the possibility of "breaking away" from RSCDS if the subscription fee was raised. Mr Mair had responded, recommending not taking any precipitate action. A website had been set up, and Mr Mair's letter had been displayed there.

GP01/51 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

GP01/51.1 **Scottish Arts Council**
Mrs Gaul and Ms Gray had attended a SAC consultation meeting, held in the new DanceBase premises, regarding their 5-year plan. Much of the discussion had not been directly relevant to the RSCDS. However, it was agreed at the meeting that traditional dance should be part of the SAC "vision and aims", and that dance generally should be on the school curriculum.

GP01/51.2 **Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust**
It was noted that the STDT were about to move their premises to Stirling. Evelyn Hood had stood down as Chair, there were two temporary joint chairpersons, and two trustees were retiring. A Trust Director post will shortly be advertised. It was noted that the Liaison Committee had only ever met once.

GP01/51.3 **Past Chairman's Badge**

As there were no further badges held, it was agreed that Ms Gray would investigate styles, costs and lead times, and would report back to the next meeting.

GP01/51.4 **Mr Miyakawa Donation**
Mr Mair met with Mr Miyakawa during Summer School, when he gave a donation of £300 to the Society.

It was agreed to purchase a mantelpiece clock for the Committee Room, to replace the one broken. A suitable inscription would be included.

With a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting closed at 4.15pm.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Minutes of Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
held on Saturday 29 September 2001 at 10.30am
at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh

2 February 2002

PRESENT: Mr A Mair (Chairman), Mrs J Martin (Vice Chairman), Mr D Watson (Finance Committee Convenor), Mrs J Harper, Mr B Harry, Mr J Hill, Mr R McLachlan, Mrs C Munro, Dr W Nicol, Mr A Reid, Dr J Reinstein, Miss P Stewart.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms E Gray (Secretary/Administrator).

APOLOGIES: There were no apologies.

INTRODUCTION: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the start of what promised to be a busy year for the Committee. Much work would be required before the AGM, and it was important that the Committee focussed on the most important issues.

GP02/1 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
The minutes of the meeting of 29 September 2001 were approved and ratified at the Executive Council meeting of November 2001.

GP02/2 MATTERS ARISING
GP02/2.1 (GP01/41.1) Honour Board
Mrs Harper circulated a revised design for the honour board, which was approved. Ms Gray would finalise quotes for the lettering. The exact founding date would also be checked.

Mr Mair recorded the Committee's grateful thanks to Mid Argyll, Lorn (Argyll) and South Argyll Branches for their very generous donation of the board.

GP02/2.2 (GP01/51.3) Past Chairman's Badge
Quotes had been received from the supplier of the current badges.

It was agreed to approach one or two silversmiths with a view to designing a more attractive badge, possibly in different styles for men and women.

GP02/2.3 (GP01/41.2) SOBHD
Mr Harry had been unable to arrange a meeting with the Chairperson of the SOBHD.

GP02/2.4 (GP01/43.8) Perth Day of Dance
It was confirmed that the Perth Day of Dance did take place, in November 2001.

GP02/2.5 (GP01/47.2) Youth Committee/AGM
Aberdeen Branch would need to be informed of General Purposes' approval of a discussion group at AGM 2002 for those interested in teaching dancing to children.

GP02/3 JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

The financial report was circulated.

It was agreed that there was a need to formalise the principles of grant disbursement from the JMMF and to produce a pro-forma application. Dr Nicol agreed to undertake this for the next meeting.

GP02/3.1 Dunfermline Branch
It was agreed to grant £50 towards the Certificate Class currently being held in Fife.

GP02/3.2 Examinations Committee
It was agreed to grant £650 towards the Teaching Skills Course to be held in Glasgow in October 2002, to cover the costs for tutor and musician.

GP02/3.3 Edinburgh Branch
It was agreed to grant £650 towards the Teaching Skills Course to be offered by Edinburgh Branch, to cover the costs for tutor and musician.

GP02/3.4 Australian Winter School 2003
It was agreed to grant £400 towards the Children's Class.

GP02/3.5 Summer School, Musicians' Course
It was agreed to grant £600 towards the cost of two musicians to tutor on the course.

GP02/3.6 Summer School Scholarships
Mrs Martin reported that there was a particularly high number of applications for Summer School scholarships this year, and that many were from

young people. She asked the Committee to consider making more funding available so as to offer some assistance to those who did not receive scholarships.

It was agreed to make available, in addition to the usual scholarships, a further £1,500 to be available to other applicants, at the discretion of the Summer School Director, the Chairman and the Vice Chairman.

GP02/4 BRANCHES
GP02/4.1 New Zealand

Mr Mair reported that both he and New Zealand Branch members felt that his visit had been very successful. He had been able to gain insight into a number of issues that the Branch viewed as problematical. For example, the value of currency was very important – it meant they simply could not afford to come to Summer School.

A resolution was passed at their AGM to renegotiate the contract/Licence Agreement with headquarters. Mr Mair noted that they had also voted for restructuring within the Branch, which was very similar to what the Society had done. As formal notification of the AGM resolution had not yet been received, it was not felt necessary to take any immediate action.

While he appreciated that exchange rates go both ways, and could prove difficult to resolve, Mr Mair felt that if the Society did not react when the rates were as extreme as they currently were, the Society would lose members.

He noted also that the Branch did not want examiners to come every third year, but want to run examinations themselves every two years. They would be happy for the money spent on sending an examiner to fund an office-bearer visit instead.

Mr Mair stressed the importance for the new Management Board, but also for members of this Committee, to make contact with overseas Branches wherever possible when travelling abroad.

GP02/4.2 Tokyo and Tokai Branches
It had been agreed that there would be no further discussion of this issue; Mr Mair wished simply to keep the Committee informed. He and Mrs Martin had met with Atsuko Clement, who had subsequently provided a translation of the newsletter referred to at the Executive Council.

GP02/4.3 Tokyo Branch Proposals
Along with a submission for the 2001 AGM agenda, Tokyo Branch had submitted some cost-reducing proposals.

The Committee felt it was unfair for some members and not others to receive Bulletin, Newsbriefs etc. It was also pointed out that, apart from HQ members, nothing was sent to individual members.

Member mailings were still distributed via the Branches, no change had been made.

Regarding the suggestion that Branches pay for examiners' airfares, it was felt that it was wrong to insist that one examiner must be UK-based.

A registration fee for teachers cannot be considered until the Society holds a full and up-to-date register of teachers, and work has now started on compiling this.

GP02/5 SCROLL NOMINATIONS
(Strictly Confidential)

It was agreed to recommend the following for the Society's Scroll of Honour:

- Renee Campbell
- George Cooper
- Susanna Hegel
- Muriel Johnstone
- Patricia Kent
- Jim South
- Phyllis South

GP02/6 SUB-COMMITTEES
GP02/6.1 Composition and Remits

The paper previously circulated outlining Sub-Committee composition and remits was noted.

GP02/6.2 Marketing Sub-Committee

This committee was currently short of one member, but given that its structure and personnel may change in November, it was not proposed to seek to fill the post.

Sponsorship of £2,000 had been secured from Hamlyn's Oatmeal, and Marketing had proposed that this be put towards Public Relations activity.

It was agreed to use the £2,000 to buy PR time, but it was stressed that an individual with a good track record in organisations similar to the RSCDS must be used.

It was noted that if the Beginner's Pack was to be ready for Summer School, speed was essential.

GP02/6.3 Co-ordinating Committee of Northern Ireland

It was noted that the Ulster Scots Agency had made it known that funding may possibly be available if applied for.

GP02/6.4 AGM Sub-Committee

It was agreed to approach Aberdeen Branch to suggest that Paul Anderson be invited to join the Sub-Committee.

It was agreed to recommend to the Executive Council in May that the 2003 AGM be held in Perth, primarily because it was felt that the meeting may be too large for the Troon venue.

It was also agreed to write to Ayr Branch to thank them for their offer and to explain the position.

GP02/6.5 Strategic Plan Working Party

Mrs Martin circulated the latest version of the GP Objectives, together with a list of Strategic Objectives common to all Committees. She would welcome emailed or written comments or feedback. She felt the document's greatest strength was that all the objectives had come from the committees themselves. Mr McLachlan suggested including the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme in 4.2.

It was noted that the next refinement for the Plan was to amend the goals, as not all would continue to be appropriate, eg the current Management goals will have been overtaken.

GP02/6.6 Website Working Party

The number of "hits" on the website would be checked, and Ian Brockbank would be asked if a history was available, to monitor usage.

GP02/7 REMITS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

GP02/7.1 Finance Committee

The October Finance Committee minutes had been circulated to GP for information, those for January 2002 were not yet available.

The Finance Committee had put forward a proposal for training with regard to SORP requirements for Finance and General Purposes Committee members, and some others, a total of 25 people. The estimated cost would be approximately £2,725. Mr Watson noted that the

requirements would need to be met for the accounts covering the period July 2001-June 2002.

Mr Mair felt that it was a large number of people to train to solve a small problem. The Society had a Treasurer to advise, and much of the information required was available but not gathered together. Mrs Martin felt that it was generally better for one or two people to write policy statements, and that possibly the Treasurer, Finance Convenor and Secretary would benefit from training.

It was agreed to research whether or not the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund was a restricted fund in legal terms. It was understood that the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund is an unrestricted fund, but is managed in such a way that the capital is preserved.

It was agreed that the training proposed by Finance Committee would not be undertaken, but that the SORP checklist prepared by Keith Oughton would be circulated with the minutes for General Purposes Committee members to familiarise themselves with the requirements.

GP02/7.2 AGM Discussion Group & Open Forum

It was noted that no clear steer had been received regarding the format of future AGMs, but that overseas Branches had expressed an interest in helping with or sponsoring elements of the AGM weekend.

GP02/7.3 Accounts Working Party

The Working Party, consisting of Richard Turnbull, Jim Healy and John Douglas, had been given a large remit and had put in much work already. Mr Mair believed the decision not to present the accounts as they were would be justified. The Working Party will report to the Chairman and Vice Chairman. It was expected that their work would be completed in time to report to the Executive Council in May.

GP02/8 MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE & CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

GP02/8.1 Introduction

Mr Mair reported that some work had been done on the various issues identified, but the Committee had not really started the debate. He proposed to look at each element, and leave it with the named person to develop further.

GP02/8.2 Remit for Management Board

The following amendments were agreed:

- delete introductory paragraph
- amend point 2 to "To set and review the policy....".

Further comments to Mr Mair.

GP02/8.3 Remits for Standing Committees

The following amendment was agreed:

- delete introductory paragraph
- add a 5th point to Membership Services Committee, "To encourage Branch development".

It was noted that there should be a policy statement that "supporters of the charity shall be known as members".

Further comments to Dr Nicol.

GP02/8.4 Constitution

Mr Harry had contacted the new Scottish Charities Office established within the Inland Revenue. He understood that a Scottish charity must be formed, managed and run in Scotland, and that two-thirds of its managing body must be resident in Scotland.

It was agreed that Ms Gray would seek to clarify this issue.

GP02/8.5 Licence Agreement

A number of amendments were agreed, and the revised version would be circulated.

It was suggested that the final revised Agreement would be for new Branches only.

GP02/8.6 Voting Procedures

It was noted that in 2002, there would also have to be a vote for Chairman.

It was felt that voting should be stated as "at" General Meeting, not "in", as the only way voting on nominations could be managed is by post. Proxies could not be used for voting on motions.

It was suggested that Branches should be encouraged to discuss problems or difficulties with the Management Board, rather than necessarily put motions to the AGM.

Mr Hill would revise the paper as a formal proposal; further comments to him.

GP02/8.7 Nomination Procedure

It was noted that there would be a need to call for people willing to serve on sub-committees, in addition to inviting people to stand for election to the Management Board and Management Committees. This should be included in a Newsbrief to be circulated to all members, not just Branches.

Mr Reinstein would also prepare a candidate manifesto for sub-committees. Further comments to him.

GP02/8.8 Voting Papers

These drafts were approved. Further comments to Mrs Martin.

GP02/8.9 Vote Counting at AGM

Mrs Martin proposed the appointment of a Presiding Officer to manage the count. It would be preferable if delegates could register earlier than usual, so that the count could be started early. Further comments to Mrs Martin.

GP02/8.10 Draft Schedule of Meetings 02-03

Further comments to Mrs Martin.

GP02/8.11 HQ Meeting Room

Mrs Martin confirmed that it would be possible to fit 23 people into the ground floor room at HQ. The layout with the table width-ways was preferred.

GP02/8.12 Special Meetings

The Reconvened AGM, for presentation of the accounts for 2000-01, would be held on the same day as the May 2002 Executive Council.

The need for an Extraordinary General Meeting would only arise if essential changes to the Constitution were required in advance of the 2002 AGM.

Approval had been given for the Executive Council to meet on the Saturday morning of the 2002 AGM.

With regard to AGM timings, it was agreed:

- not to hold an Open Forum
- to hold the Executive Council meeting at 9.30am
- to hold Discussion Group/s and class at the usual time

People would have to make a choice as to which they would attend.

GP02/9

CORRESPONDENCE

GP02/9.1

Dr W Nicol

Dr Nicol had submitted a paper outlining some thoughts on the future of the Society. Rather than deal with it in detail at the meeting, he confirmed he was happy to let discussion carry on in the background.

GP02/9.2

Gatehouse of Fleet Branch

Mrs Gilbey, Secretary of the Branch, had passed on various suggestions regarding timing of AGM events, which had been acknowledged and would be passed to the AGM Sub-Committee.

GP02/9.3

Mr R Sargent

Mr Sargent had prepared suggestions regarding a Day of Dance in 2003. This was being dealt with by the Marketing Sub-Committee.

GP02/10

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

GP02/10.1

Headquarters Basement

It was noted that creation of the second meeting room in the basement was now a matter of urgency.

GP02/10.2

Voting at AGM

Mr Harry believed many people had objected about the voting procedure at the AGM, believing they had not had the opportunity to vote for the status quo. Mr Mair responded that the voting procedure followed was at the Earl of Mansfield's discretion, and had been perfectly proper.

GP02/11

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Saturday 6 April 2002 at 10.30am.

The meeting closed at 4.50pm.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Minutes of Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
held on Saturday 6 April 2002 at 10.30am
at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh

PRESENT: Mr A Mair (Chairman), Mrs J Martin (Vice Chairman), Mr D Watson (Finance Committee Convenor), Mrs J Harper, Mr J Hill, Mrs C Munro, Dr W Nicol, Mr A Reid, Dr J Reinstein, Miss P Stewart.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms E Gray (Secretary/Administrator).

APOLOGIES: Mr B Harry, Mr R McLachlan.

GP02/12 AGENDA
Mr Mair indicated that there would be an additional item on the agenda, after item 4, to deal with the response from Inland Revenue regarding the Constitution.

GP02/13 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
The minutes of the meeting of 2 February 2002 were approved as an accurate record.

GP02/13 MATTERS ARISING
GP02/13.1 (GP02/8.4) Constitution
Mr Mair wished to raise the issue of the matter brought up by Mr Harry at the previous meeting, of which Mr Mair had no prior knowledge. Members were entitled to ask questions of the Inland Revenue as private individuals, but Mr Harry had not been asked to do so and was not acting on behalf of the General Purposes Committee. The letter Mr Harry sent to the Inland Revenue was sent the day before the last GP meeting.

At the meeting of 2 February, it was agreed that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary would deal with the issue, and that it would be kept confidential. It was clear that Mr Harry had subsequently contacted Inland Revenue, and it was also known that he had copied information to members outwith GP. Mr Mair felt it was important to clarify that GP had no knowledge of what was being done. Mr Mair considered that Mr Harry's behaviour was not acceptable.

The Committee agreed that proceedings of the Committee must be kept confidential, and Mr Harry had contravened that practice.

GP02/13.2 (GP02/2.1) Honour Board
Mrs Harper circulated a photograph of the honour board, which had now been completed and would be delivered to HQ in the next week. It was noted that, if possible, it would be taken to the Executive Council meeting for display.

Sincere thanks were expressed to the contributing Branches for their generosity. Mrs Harper would inform Committee members when their fund-raising dance was being held.

GP02/13.3 (GP02/3.6) Summer School Scholarships
All of the funding from JMMF for scholarships had been disbursed.

GP02/13.4 (GP02/10.1) HQ Basement
There had been no further information from Grant Bulloch.

GP02/14 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS
GP02/14.1 Marketing Sub-Committee
The minutes of the meeting of 14 March had been circulated.

A draft proposal for a public relations training day was tabled. It was felt that while some staff and office-bearers might benefit, it would also be of interest to Branches.

It was agreed to approve the organisation of the training day, probably in autumn. The Secretary and Deputy Secretary should attend, and each Committee would be invited to nominate an attendee. Places would then be offered to Branches, at a recommended cost of £25 per person.

The Committee agreed that the proposed Day of Dance to coincide with the 2003 AGM was a good idea, and the Marketing Sub-Committee should develop it further.

The Committee agreed to the request for a budget of £2,500 for the purposes of advertising and for supporting costs of the New Members pack.

GP02/14.2 Co-ordinating Committee of Northern Ireland

Minutes of the meeting of 14 January 2002 had been circulated. It was noted that future funding from the Sports Council for Northern Ireland was uncertain.

GP02/14.3 AGM Sub-Committee
AGM forms were distributed, to confirm the final timetable and other details of the AGM weekend.

GP02/14.4 Strategic Plan Working Party
A revised copy of the plan had been circulated. It was noted that there were gaps, most obviously at 12.2. Mrs Martin reported that the Working Party would meet again on 12 May to start work on reviewing the objectives.

It was agreed to circulate the Strategic Plan to the Executive Council for its May meeting.

GP02/14.5 Website Working Party
It was noted that the website was in need of updating, and that it was important for the Secretary and Deputy Secretary to undergo appropriate training as a priority.

GP02/15 INLAND REVENUE SCOTTISH CHARITIES OFFICE

It was agreed that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary should negotiate the issue further with the Scottish Charities Office, through the Society's lawyer, before any change to the Constitution was considered.

It was agreed that those who were involved in the original negotiations regarding the Society's charitable status would also be consulted for their views.

A statement outlining the situation would be made to the Executive Council in May.

GP02/16 JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

GP02/16.1 Financial Report
It was noted that some of the commitments listed on the financial report would not be actioned until the following financial year. Approximately £8,000 therefore remained to be disbursed.

GP02/16.2 Inter Varsity Folk Dance Festival

It was agreed to provide £350 towards the costs of this year's festival's SCD sessions. IVFDF would also be informed that the Society wished to

continue to be involved and would welcome requests for other forms of assistance.

GP02/16.3 Lynne Scott, New Zealand

It was agreed to contribute £600 towards Ms Scott's Musicians' Course fees and travel from New Zealand.

It was agreed that New Zealand Branch should be informed, and that the Committee would look forward to hearing feedback after the course.

GP02/16.4 Ilona Gumenyuk, Krasnodar

It was agreed to write to Bristol Branch suggesting that it might be better if Branches and individuals were to donate goods and equipment to support the group. However, JMMF would provide one copy of each RSCDS CD for the group's use.

GP02/16.5 Elisabeth de Groot, Cape Town

It was agreed in principle to provide the cost of Musicians' Course fees, if the student still wished to be considered.

GP02/16.6 JMMF Guidelines/Form

It was suggested that the guidelines should be separated from the form. Following some discussion, Dr Nicol agreed to develop the guidelines and form further.

GP02/17 2000-01 ACCOUNTS

The final, audited, revised Accounts had been circulated to Finance and General Purposes Committees immediately they were available.

It was agreed that the full Accounts, Working Party report, summary of differences and Abstract Accounts would be sent to Executive Council representatives and to Branch secretaries. It was agreed that the Abstract Accounts would be sent to AGM 2001 delegates, who could consult the full Accounts through their Branch secretary.

GP02/18 RECONVENED AGM

It was agreed that on 11 May, the Executive Council meeting would start at 10.30am and the reconvened AGM at 2.00pm. The Executive Council would continue its business after the AGM was over.

Lord Mansfield had indicated that he was willing to chair the reconvened AGM.

Any questions relating to specifics of the revised Accounts should be directed to the Finance

Convenor via the Secretary for discussion at the Finance Committee meeting of 27 April.

Richard Turnbull would be invited to attend the Finance Committee meeting to answer queries. All three Working Party members would be invited to attend the Executive Council, and Richard Turnbull had agreed to deal with any queries raised then.

It was agreed that the Letter of Representation to the Auditor should be signed as discussed.

GP02/19 BRANCHES

GP02/19.1 Gatehouse of Fleet Branch
Changes to the Branch Constitution were noted.

GP02/19.2 Reports from Overseas Trips

Mrs Gaul had submitted reports on her trips to Japan and to Canada, which were read to the Committee, and Mr Mair reported on his visit to Toronto. The Committee felt it was important that they heard these reports.

The issue of insisting on a UK examiner had been raised several times, and many overseas Branches were unhappy with the situation.

GP02/20 MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

After full discussion, various amendments were agreed to the draft papers circulated.

It was agreed that the appropriate papers, when amended, would be circulated to Executive Council members for the May meeting.

Mr Mair left the meeting at this point to attend a Branch event, and Mrs Martin took over in the chair.

GP02/21 REMITS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

GP02/21.1 Examinations Committee
The Committee agreed that, since it was only a few years since there was a teaching tour to South Africa, another teaching tour for this year should not go ahead.

It was suggested that if there were likely to be sufficient candidates next year, an examination tour could be re-scheduled then. If, however, examinations were not to be held in the near future, the possibility of a South African teacher undertaking a tour within the country could be considered.

GP02/21.2 Remit from Summer School Committee to Finance Committee

Mr Watson wished to make GP aware of a remit

to Finance from Summer School Committee regarding the payment of teachers and musicians at Easter School. There was a concern that if this became a precedent, it would have an enormous effect on Summer School. The Committee thanked Mr Watson for bringing this to their attention.

GP02/22 CORRESPONDENCE

GP02/22.1 Miss M Brander
Miss Brander had suggested that the Society present Her Majesty with a gold quach to mark her Golden Jubilee.

The Committee did not feel this would be appropriate, but would consider alternative ways of marking the Golden Jubilee.

GP02/22.2 Sir Jimmy Shand Sculpture Project

An update had been received on the Project; over £11,000 had been raised to date, but as around £25,000 was required, there was still a lot of work to do. The Project Secretary had expressed gratitude to the Society for their efforts to promote the Project. Several Branches had responded to the original request

In response to a letter from Mr D Sturgeon, Branches would be reminded again about the Project, and the Committee would consider other possibilities to support the fundraising.

GP02/23 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

GP02/23.1 Golden Jubilee Garden Party

It was agreed that the 16 members balloted to receive invitations to the Garden Party on 25 May would be invited to receive hospitality at HQ beforehand.

GP02/23.2 Past Chairman's Badge

Mr Reid was to investigate possible silversmiths, and Miss Stewart would try to identify one based in Dundee.

GP02/23.3 Reconvened AGM

As Mr Watson was not in attendance at the November 2001 AGM, having been selected as an Elected Member during that meeting, it was agreed to invite him to attend the reconvened AGM on 11 May.

GP02/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Saturday 28 September 2002 at 10.30am.

The meeting closed at 4.30pm.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

**Minutes of Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
held on Saturday 28 September 2002 at 10.30am
at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh**

PRESENT: Mr A Mair (Chairman), Mrs J Martin (Vice Chairman), Mrs J Harper, Mr J Hill, Mr R MacLachlan, Mrs C Munro, Dr W Nicol, Mr A Reid, Dr J Reinstein, Miss P Stewart.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms E Gray (Secretary/Administrator).

APOLOGIES: Mr B Harry, Mr D Watson.

GP02/27 INTRODUCTION
The Chairman welcomed everyone to the last meeting of the "old-style" General Purposes Committee.

Mr Mair noted that 10 days previously, he had attended an inaugural Children's Workshop in Oban, organised by Lorn (Argyll) Branch. Three days previously he observed and helped at a recording of Take the Floor in Dunfermline, which featured 240+ children, co-ordinated jointly by the BBC and the Fife Visiting Teacher Service. Both events had been very successful.

GP02/28 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
Minutes of the meeting of 6 April 2002 had been ratified by the Executive Council in May.

Minutes of the meeting of 20 July 2002 were approved as proposed by Roderick McLachlan and seconded by Wilson Nicol.

GP02/29 MATTERS ARISING
GP02/29.1 Mr W Clement
Mr Clement's response to the Secretary's letter of 31 July 2002 was circulated. It was noted that he had not withdrawn his comments.

It was agreed that the Committee now considered this matter closed and that a letter would be sent to Mr Clement to that effect.

GP02/29.2 Past Chairman's Badge
It was agreed to delegate the task of obtaining new badges as discussed to Alistair Reid, Christine Munro and the Secretary.

GP02/29.3 Honour Board
Ms Gray had not been able to progress this matter.

GP02/29.4 Basement
There had been little progress, but all items to be discarded had now been identified.

GP02/29.5 Inland Revenue
A note of the meeting held on 22 August 2002 between the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and the Society's lawyer, David Reith, was circulated.

It was agreed that the Chairman would report to the Executive Council that negotiations were continuing, but that for the coming year, there would be a majority of the management body who were resident in Scotland.

GP02/30 SUB-COMMITTEES
GP02/30.1 Marketing
The Day of Dance proposal was approved, although it was pointed out that Affiliated Groups should be added to the final paragraph. It was also noted that Ken Mutch of the BBC should be kept informed.

Ms Gray would discuss the proposal of having a specific email address for the project with Mr Sargent.

GP02/30.2 Co-ordinating Committee of Northern Ireland
The minutes of the previous meeting were noted.

GP02/30.3 AGM Sub-Committee
Following discussion, it was confirmed that the voting procedure previously agreed for the AGM in November 2002 still stood.

Letters from Dr C Smyth, Iain Hale and Nea MacCulloch, regarding aspects of the new management structure, nomination and voting procedures, were discussed and responses noted.

A list of nominations received was circulated.

It was agreed to contact Pia Walker and Chris Jones in advance of the meeting to ask their preference, should they be elected to both committees for which they were nominated.

A letter from Wirral Branch proposing a motion on Branch accounts for the AGM was discussed, and it was agreed to pass it to Finance Committee for their view. However, it was felt that this matter was one of interpretation and an amendment was not necessary.

GP02/30.4 Strategic Plan Working Party
Performance was reviewed against objectives for which General Purposes Committee was responsible.

GP02/30.5 Website Working Party
There was no report from the Working Party, but several updates had been made recently.

It was agreed to recommend to Branches that they include an email address, where appropriate, as well as a live website link.

With regard to the contact from Barry McCann of Scottish Towns Ltd, it was agreed that their website should be viewed before agreeing to a link.

GP02/31 JEAN MILLIGAN MEMORIAL FUND

GP02/31.1 Financial Report
It was noted that donations were slowing down. As the 'backlog' was used up, only the current interest would be left, and the Committee would soon find it difficult to meet as many requests as at present.

The donation from Chipping Norton club should not have been entered into the JMMF, as there was a stipulation that it be used for a one-off scholarship for Summer School.

GP02/31.2 Applications

GP02/31.2.1 Youth Committee - Website

It was agreed to encourage the proposal but to request more information. This is not to say that funding will not be given, but it was felt that this project might attract outside funding. It would be recommended that the Scottish Arts Council be approached.

GP02/31.2.2 Hunter Valley Branch

It was agreed to ask the Branch to reapply for funding towards the Children's Class at Winter

School 2004, based on the guidelines agreed at this meeting, as more information was required.

GP02/31.2.3 Youth Committee - Easter School

It was agreed to underwrite the School up to a maximum of £578.60, ie if the School breaks even this support would not be required.

Jimmie Hill suggested that a letter could be sent to UK Branches urging them to consider funding at least one young person to attend Easter School.

GP02/31.2.4 New Zealand Branch

It was agreed to provide £1,000 to assist with a Musician's Course. It will be suggested that the airfare would be less if arranged from here, and the only other thing the Committee felt could be underwritten was the room hire.

GP02/31.2.5 Glasgow Branch

It was agreed to contribute £200 towards the Day of Dance for Primary Schools, to match the Branch contribution. The Branch would be given a copy of the guidelines and reminded that funding will not generally be given for recurring events.

GP02/31.2.6 Toronto Branch

It was agreed to fund four under-18 places for the Branch annual workshop, costing \$280.

GP02/31.2.7 Aberdeen Branch

It was agreed that on this occasion, the Committee did not feel able to help fund a Teacher's Certificate course.

GP02/31.2.8 Pat Harrower

It was agreed to underwrite one third of any loss, as 3 organisations were involved, to a maximum of £75. Ms Harrower would be asked to provide details of the accounts after the St Andrew's Day Dance for primary schools in the Borders.

GP02/31.3 Reports

Reports had been received from Cape Town Branch and from Sydney Branch. Both recipients were very grateful for the support they had received from the Fund.

GP02/31.4 Bristol Branch Letter

It was agreed to respond to the Branch that the Committee received a number of requests for support but had a finite amount of money to disburse. It would also be pointed out to them that, as a charity, while the Branch can only spend

their own money in their own area, they can raise money for anyone.

GP02/31.5 JMMF Guidelines
The draft guidelines previously circulated were agreed, with minor amendments. These would be circulated to Branches with the next mailing, and would be posted on the website.

GP02/32 BRANCHES
GP02/32.1 TAC
The Chairman circulated a report on his visit to TAC Summer School in August 2002.

It was agreed that this report should be forwarded to both the Management Board and Education & Training Committee for their first meetings.

The General Purposes Committee endorsed the Chairman's report unanimously.

GP02/32.2 Moffat
It was hoped that an application to re-form Moffat Branch would have been received for consideration at this meeting, but nothing had been forthcoming.

GP02/32.3 Ardbrae Dancers of Ottawa
This group, affiliated for over 25 years, was considering becoming a Branch. Discussions would continue, and they would be urged to inform Ottawa Branch of their plans.

GP02/32.4 Wisconsin
Mr Mair reported that two affiliated groups in Wisconsin were considering joining together and forming a Branch.

GP02/32.5 St John's (Newfoundland) Branch
GP02/32.6 New Zealand Branch
These items were taken together, as they raised similar issues. Letters had been received from both regarding the Licence Agreement. The Committee recognised the importance of the issues raised.

It was agreed that this was a constitutional matter and would be passed to the Management Board for their consideration.

GP02/33 AFFILIATED GROUPS
The following applications were approved and will go to the Executive Council for ratification:

- Thistle & Shamrock Dancing Club, Germany
- Scéalta-Sí Scottish Dance, Italy
- Nottingham Scottish Association, England

- Cumbrae Scottish Country Dancing Association, Scotland

GP02/34 REMITS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

GP02/34.1 Examinations
No actual remit had been received from Examinations Committee, although it was reported that there would likely be one candidate for the Teacher's Certificate examination in South Africa.

GP02/35 CORRESPONDENCE
The Manager of the Fife Council Visiting Teachers Service had again invited participation from RSCDS members in the Fife Schools' Scottish Country Dance Festival from 20-29 November 2002. Liz Gardiner of Dunfermline Branch had agreed to co-ordinate volunteers for all sessions.

GP02/36 ANY OTHER BUSINESS
Mrs Yasumuro had donated a large amount this year, as it may be her last attendance at Summer School.

It was agreed to suggest to her that the donation be put towards either (1) a CD transfer, or (2) purchase of a laptop computer and colour printer for use in HQ, and leave the choice to her.

Mrs Martin thanked the Chairman for steering the Committee through some challenging times. Mr Mair responded that he had enjoyed the experience. This had been a very good committee, and as it was its last meeting, he wished everyone well for the future.

The meeting closed at 4.00pm.

