THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

10 MAY 1986 - 11 MAY 2002

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May 2011

Minutes 10 May 1986 – 2 November 2002

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 33 MELVILLE STREET, EDINBURGH ON
SATURDAY, 10 MAY 1986, AT 1.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Dr A MacFadyen (in the Chair), Mrs M G Parker, Miss I Bennett, Miss M M Brown, Mrs N Dunn, Miss L C Martin, Miss D Paterson, Miss A Hutchison, Miss I Paton, Mrs R Dickson, Mrs J Bain, Dr A Paterson, Miss F I Galway, Mr B Frazer, Miss A Johnstone, Miss B Fawdry, Mrs N McLaren, Mr D Gray, Mrs S Nedderman, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs A MacDougall, Miss M McCartney, Mrs M H Hopkins, Miss E Price, Mr J Hutton, Mr J Fyfe, Mr B Hamilton, Miss E M C Ferguson, Mr K Sharp, Mrs I Cruickshanks, Mrs A Couper, Miss A W Miller, Mrs M Martin, Mr A Smart, Mrs A Holden, Mrs M S Baikie, Miss M M Ross, Mr T W Steele, Miss G Wyper, Mrs L Gaul, Mrs F C Inglis, Mrs M Linklater-Shirras, Mr D Campbell, Miss A Allan, Mr G Stephens, Mrs D E Christie, Mrs M R Duffield, Mr D Kendall, Mrs H Wilson, Mrs P Moore, Mrs J Taylor, Mr J Laurie, Miss M Brander, Dr I M Hall, Mrs M Killeen, Mr J B Dickson, Mr J Wilson, Mr J C Douglas, Mr I Bothwell, Mr W Clement, Mrs M Devlin, Miss J Yeats, Mr G Davie, Mrs R Brodie, Miss B A Nairn, Mr R Purcell, Miss L Carson, Mr S McMillan, Mr R Turnbull, Mrs M C Gudger, Mrs J Hewat, Mr J Scahill, Mr A Mair, Mrs C Mair, Mr A E Dewdney, Mr W A Gray, Mr J Taylor, Miss F Martin, Mr R Sutherland, Mr W I Thomson, Miss M Duffield, Mrs M. Corson, Mr M L Brown.

(83)

ATTENDING: Miss M M Gibson (Secretary), Mrs M A Jeffcoat (Treasurer)

EC86/1 APOLOGIES

Mr A S Aitkenhead, Mr A Boode, Mr G Burnett, Miss J P Brown, ~~Mr A R Dewdney~~, Mr I M Birnie, Miss A Mann, Mr D Macleod, Mr G Mechan, Mr C McDougall, Mr D Ross, Dr J Reinstein, Miss N Rintoul, Mrs M Stacey, Mr R B Osborne, Mr K L Smith, Mr R J Taylor, Mr B Taylor, Miss K McLauchlan, Mr I G R Zobel, Mrs W Wadsworth

The Chairman explained that Mr Macleod and Mr Mechan were absent on a teaching/examining tour in Africa and that Mr Aitkenhead and Miss McLauchlan were on an official visit to New Zealand as teacher and pianist. He welcomed Mrs Holden to the platform.

It was agreed that a message of good wishes should be sent to Mrs Wadsworth who had just entered hospital to undergo an operation.

EC86/2 MINUTES

On a motion by Mr J Wilson (Nairobi Branch), seconded by Mr Hamilton (Detroit Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 16th November, 1985 were approved unanimously.

EC86/3 BUSINESS ARISING

EC85/15 (c)(ii) The Secretary reported that the track times for dances were now included on the Society's records from this year's releases.

EC86/4 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) Summer School Committee

- Minutes of Meeting on 16th November, 1985

On a motion by Mrs L Gaul (Hamilton-Ont) seconded by Mr W A Gray (South Wales) the Minutes were approved.

Referring to minute SS85/22 Dr Paterson (Bath) said some of his members saw the Highland dancing class as one of the attractions of Summer School. He suggested that it might be acceptable to have an elementary class in Highland steps for men and women together with an intermediate class for men (Highland) and an intermediate class for women (Step). In this he was supported by Mr D A Gray (Bournemouth).

Dr Hall (Manchester) suggested that there were some who required reasonably advanced instruction and that the Summer School Committee should bear that in mind.

Miss Galway (Belfast) considered the mixed class useful.

Miss Martin (Elected Member) suggested that if the Step classes were to be retained two grades would be necessary. In this she was supported by Mrs Holden (Florida) who thought it essential to continue the ladies' step dancing otherwise it would die out.

The Chairman said that these points would be put before the Summer School Committee when they considered the matter at their next meeting.

On a motion by Mrs Parker, seconded by Dr Hall, the Minutes were ratified.

(b) Examinations Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 14th December, 1985

The Minutes had already been approved.

Referring to Minute EX85/38 Mr W A Gray (South Wales) asked what the benefits were of membership of the Scottish Council for Dance. Mrs Holden (as Convener of the Examinations Committee) explained the various reasons for joining - Scottish Country Dance had been the only type of dance not represented - we would receive more publicity by membership - and there might be possible financial benefits also in regard to grants.

Mr Brown (York and North Humberside) referring to EX85/35 asked how every candidate could be seen by the two examiners throughout the examination. Mrs Holden said that the experiment with three examiners proved to be wasteful in time and it was better for the examiners to see two candidates, or even four, then break for separate discussions with candidates. In this way both examiners could give their full attention to the candidates when the practical part of the examination took place.

On a motion by Mrs M Corson (Winnipeg) seconded by Miss L Martin (Elected Member) the Minutes were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 15th February, 1986

On a motion by Miss L.Martin (Elected Member) and Mrs M Corson (Winnipeg) the Minutes were approved.

In reply to Dr Paterson (Bath) the Secretary said that eight applications had been received so far for the pianists' Course (EX86/6)

Referring to Minute EX86/14 Mr M L Brown (York and North Humberside) asked why, in the syllabuses drawn up for the IDTA, the age for examination in Strathspey dancing had been made 14. Mrs Holden replied that in the Society we had always advocated that children should be 16 before doing the Strathspey but as the children undertaking IDTA examinations would be doing other forms of dance it had been thought reasonable to suggest 14 as the age. However, she agreed with Mr Brown that it was a debatable point.

After hearing various points of view from members the matter was left since the reactions of the IDTA to the suggested syllabus had yet to be received.

On a motion by Mrs M Duffield (Leamington Spa) seconded by Mrs A Couper (Dunfermline) the Minutes were approved.

(c) General Purposes Committee

The Chairman suggested that Minute GP86/4 and Minute GP86/19(a) be left for discussion after all other business in both Minutes had been dealt with. This was agreed.

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 18th January, 1986.

The Minutes had already been approved.

Miss L Carson (Portrush) spoke to Minute GP86/11. She considered that the dinner was not the prime concern of those attending the A.G.M. Ball and Dance; catering gave rise to much work and worry on the part of the host Branch and she advocated a light meal only at both dances.

Mrs Gaul (Hamilton-Ont) suggested that in winter (the time the A.G.M. was held) hotels offered attractive package terms which would include dinner. Members could then take advantage of these special terms while the cost of the Ball/ Dance ticket could possibly be reduced.

Mr K Sharp (Dunbartonshire West) considered that an instruction should be issued by the Executive Council to the Branches concerned and Miss Carson then moved

> "that Branches be instructed that only light refreshments be provided at the A.G.M. functions and not a formal meal and that this instruction be issued for the A.G.M. 1987 onwards.
> The interpretation of a light meal would be left to the host Branch"

Mr K Sharp (Dunbartonshire West) seconded the motion and their being no objections the proposal was CARRIED.

Miss M Brown asked what progress had been made regarding the suggestion in Minute GP86/15(c). The Chairman said that the front door was now kept open and that while the matter of displaying goods was kept in mind, a suitable display case had not yet been found.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 12th April, 1986

Mr T W Steele (Glasgow) seconded by Mr J Laurie (London) moved acceptance of the Minutes which were unanimously approved.

The Chairman, drawing attention to Minute GP86/23 said that arrangements for the Centenary Weekend were proceeding satisfactorily. Miss Duffield (West Lothian) reported that 452 applications had been received in total. Everyone should now have received their tickets with the exception of those for the Civic Reception which would go out directly from the Lord Provost's office in Glasgow. The Chairman thanked members of the sub-committee for giving up so much time for the extra meetings and Miss Duffield for the work she had done in processing the applications. He also thanked members of Council who had brought from their Branches Tombola Prizes which were very much appreciated.

Mrs Cruickshanks (Dundee) complimented Dr MacFadyen on his recording at "Take The Floor".

Referring to Minute GP86/22 Dr Hall (Manchester) said he would support the affiliation of the Clitheroe and District Caledonian Society which was reasonably near Manchester Branch.

The Executive Council approved the award of the Society's Scroll to:

Mrs J Bain	Banffshire	Mr G Mechan	Dundee
Miss W M Carnie	Glasgow	Dr R Smith	Hamilton (Ontario)
Mrs I Cramb	Headquarters	Mr and Mrs M Thomson	Mornington Peninsula
Miss A O Cumming	Aberdeen	Mrs E M West	Headquarters
Miss P M Gale	New Zealand	Mr R Watson	Aberdeen
Miss B K Lawlor	Belfast	Mrs K Willberg	Headquarters

In reply to Mr Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne) the Chairman said that the panel (GP86/25) would announce the result of the Essay Competition shortly.

(iii) Minutes GP86/4 and GP86/19 (a) were now considered.

The Chairman said that everyone would realise from the precis they had been given of the case that this was a very serious matter. Never before had a Branch expelled a Life member. He commended the patience of the General Purposes Committee for their willingness to spend so much time on this particular problem.

Dr MacFadyen said we had suggested to the Los Angeles Branch a reasonable way out of the quandary and had hoped to see an end of the matter. While Los Angeles Branch Committee had the right to expel a member the General Purposes Committee felt that the procedure had been followed in an unjust way. The position now is that a Branch of the Society is rejecting the advice and instruction from a Committee of the Society, which was the reason for bringing the matter to the Executive Council.

In reply to a query the Chairman said that the person concerned had not been given the reason for his expulsion and that Headquarters had not received the reasons from the Branch Secretary but were directed to a letter from a Branch member.

Miss M Brander (Los Angeles) said she had been in telephone contact in the past week with Mr Rennie (Los Angeles Branch Chairman) who had said that the new Branch Committee discussed this very thoroughly and decided by 9-1 that they would not include it on the A.G.M. for further consideration; they were in favour of the expulsion standing.

It was not however the rights or wrongs of expulsion that were under consideration but, as the Chairman pointed out, the procedure involved. The Executive Council was much concerned that natural justice did not appear to have been done nor the spirit of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society observed and various suggestions regarding action which might be taken were discussed.

Mr D A Gray (Bournemouth) moved

> "that Los Angeles Branch should for the cohesion of the Society, reconsider their decision and allow Mr Goss to make his appeal".

Dr Hall seconded the motion with the addition that it be coupled with an instruction that it goes to the Branch A.G.M. with a copy to Mr Goss. This addition was accepted by the proposer.

The result of voting was:

For.....	28
Against	41
Abstentions	8

The motion was DEFEATED.

From ensuing discussion it appeared that Council wished a firmer instruction to be forwarded to Los Angeles Branch. Mrs A Murphy (Carlisle and Border) seconded by Mr J Wilson (Nairobi) moved:

> "that this Executive Council, concerned for the cohesion of the Los Angeles Branch and of the Society as a whole, instructs Los Angeles Branch that Mr Richard Goss be allowed to appeal at the 1986 Annual General Meeting of the Branch against his expulsion and that prior notice of the Executive Council's instruction should be given in writing to every Branch member before the A.G.M."

The result of voting was:

For the motion	74
Against	1
Abstentions	8

The motion was CARRIED.

The Secretary was directed by Council to despatch this instructions immediately by international telegram and to send a copy to Mr Goss also. The Secretary was also instructed to send an extract of the relevant Minute by air mail to the Branch, to Mr Goss, and to all concerned.

The General Purposes Committee Minutes of 18th January and 12th April 1986, on a motion by Mrs Duffield (Leamington Spa), seconded by Miss M Brown (Elected Member), were ratified.

(d) Publications Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 8th February, 1986.
The Minutes had already been approved.

Concern was felt that the leaflet dances had not yet been put into book form. Mr W A Gray (South Wales) moved:

> "that the pocket edition in 1987 should include all the leaflet dances and however many full books from Book 32 can be included within the general cost range of pocket editions".

This motion was seconded by Miss Galway (Belfast) and CARRIED by a substantial majority.

Referring to Minute 86/8 Mr J Hutton (Delaware Valley) said he considered the three new records were not satisfactory regarding the sound and that there was too much bass. His comments were noted. Mr K Sharpe (Dunbartonshire West) said that some records appeared dimpled.

The Minutes were ratified on a motion by Mr Hamilton seconded by Mr Clement.

(ii) Minutes of the meeting on 8th March 1986.
The Minutes had already been approved.

The Chairman drew Council's attention to the fact that we were providing a Teacher's Tape as requested at the last Executive Council Meeting.

The Minutes, on a motion by Miss Brown (Elected Member), seconded by Mrs Murphy (Carlisle and Border), were ratified.

(iii) Minutes of the meeting on 5th April, 1986.

On a motion by Mr W. Clement (North Virginia), seconded by Miss Brown (Elected Member) the Minutes were approved.

Dr Hall (Manchester) asked of what did the Plan of Work at Minute PR86/29 consist. The Secretary said it was a list of the tasks falling to the Publications and Research Committee e.g. production of books of dances and of records, revision of books for reprinting, production of videos of new book dances, provision of teaching aids, research, glossary of accepted terminology, publication about Mrs Stewart and consideration of means of increasing the practice of Scottish Country Dancing by young people, etc.

In reply to Mr Frazer (Berks, Hants Border), Mr Hamilton (Detroit) said that the Teacher's Tape was not instructions by the teacher but music for the practice of steps, etc.

Mrs Corson (Winnipeg Branch) queried the ruling in Minute PR86/32 stating that it could be difficult to implement and Miss Martin (Elected Member) thought that the Committee should leave as much to the discretion of the teacher as possible. The Chairman said that when responding to requests for rulings the Publications Committee did try to avoid being too rigidly prescriptive.

On a motion by Mr Hamilton (Detroit) seconded by Mr Fyfe (Cheshire) the Minutes were ratified.

(e) Finance Committee

(i) Minutes of the Meeting on 18th January, 1986.
The Minutes had been approved.

Commenting on Minute F86/6(b) Mr Taylor gave the reasons for not increasing the Affiliation fee at the present time-principally the number of members the Society (Headquarters and Branches) gained through affiliated groups. He also emphasised the advantages - financial and others - which the Branches had over the groups.

As regards F86/7 the Secretary detailed the new accounting procedure but said that as the 1st June 1986 would see the last of the Statements the new procedure would have to commence on 2nd June, 1986 and not 2nd July as stated in the Minute.

Mr Brown (York and North Humberside) asked why the Strathspey Sales had to pay interest on the loan from the Society. Mrs Jeffcoat said that the Company had to be seen in the proper relationship to the Charity (the Society). A charity could not issue free loans to anyone.

The Minutes on a motion by Miss Miller (Duns & District) seconded by Miss M Ross (Forres) were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of the Meeting on 12th April, 1986.

On a motion by Mr J C Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne) seconded by Miss Galway (Belfast) the Minutes were approved.

The Minutes were ratified on a motion by Mr T W Steele (Glasgow) seconded by Mrs L Gaul (Hamilton-Ont).

EX86/5 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

Mr M L Brown (York & North Humberside), seconded by Mr G Stephen (Kirkcaldy) moved:

"that the Finance Committee appoint a small working party to determine whether, and if so, how, the Financial Accounts of the Society could be presented in a more easily understood way. Further, that at least two members of the working party should have no financial experience whatsoever".

Mr A Smart (Edinburgh) supported by Mr D A Gray (Bournemouth) moved against the motion.

Mrs Linklater-Shirras (Inverness and District), while accepting that accounts had to be presented in a prescribed way, suggested a very short class-room statement explaining the figures.
Mr Taylor said he generally endeavoured to explain the accounts when presenting them at the Annual General Meeting.

Mrs Jeffcoat (Treasurer) said that members had to be informed and had the right to know what was going on and should they not understand they should write to say so. However accounts have to be presented in conformation with general standards. She said that more complicated measures were being introduced for charities and we may have more complex accounting because of them. If members have any specific queries we could answer them and perhaps produce a guide for Treasurers.

Miss D A Paterson (Elected Member) suggested that we might look at the National Trust system of pictorial presentation of accounts.

Mr Dickson (Montreal) found that a simple convenient guide was to look at the balance in the bank and compare it with the previous year and then look at the expenditure and income columns for an explanation.

Voting: For the Motion....3
Against An overwhelming majority

The motion was DEFEATED

EX86/6 OTHER BUSINESS

Mr W Clement (North Virginia) seconded by Mr J Hutton (Delaware Valley) moved:

"that the General Purposes Committee be instructed to make the necessary arrangements to place a plaque bearing Mrs Ysabel Stewart's name, similar to that commemorating Dr Milligan, at Headquarters".

Mr Clement said that Dr Milligan had acknowledged that it was Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich who first conceived the idea to form a Scottish Country Dance Society and it would be only fitting in the year in which we celebrated Dr Milligan's birth to procure a memorial plaque for Mrs Stewart.

The motion was CARRIED unanimously.

Dr MacFadyen said that he had in mind to have a portrait of Mrs Stewart at Headquarters when he could obtain a suitable one.

EX86/7 NEXT MEETING

15th November, 1986

The Meeting closed at 4.20 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD AT UNIVERSITY HALL, ST. ANDREWS, ON SATURDAY, 9TH AUGUST, 1986, AT 2 P.M.

PRESENT: Dr. A. MacFadyen (in the Chair), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead, Mrs M.G. Parker, Mr D. Macleod, Miss I. Bennett, Miss M.M. Brown, Mrs N. Dunn, Miss A.B.W. Mann, Miss L.C. Martin, Miss D.A. Paterson, Mr J. Drewry, Mr I.G.R. Zobel, Miss I. Paton, Dr. A. Paterson, Miss F.I. Galway, Mr B. Frazer, Mrs N. McLaren, Mr D.A. Gray, Mrs S. Nedderman, Mrs A. Murphy, Mrs A. MacDougall, Mrs M.H. Hopkins, Mr J. Hutton, Mrs I. Fyfe, Mr A.L.M. Boode, Mr W. Hamilton, Mr K. Stacey, Miss E.M.C. Ferguson, Mr K. Sharp, Mrs I. Cruickshanks, Mrs A. Couper, Miss A.W. Miller, Ms. M. Martin, Mrs R. Brodie, Mrs M.S. Baikie, Miss M.M. Ross, Mrs W. Wadsworth, Miss G. Wyper, Mrs L. Gaul, Mr G. Mechan, Mr G. Stephens, Mrs D.E. Christie, Mrs M.R. Duffield, Mr D. Kendall, Mrs A. Green, Mrs J. Taylor (Lochaber), Miss M.G. Brander, Dr. I.M. Hall, Mrs J. Taylor (Moffat), Mr J.B. Dickson, Miss K. McLauchlan, Mrs M. Devlin, Miss J. Yates, Dr. J. Reinstein, Miss B.A. Nairn, Miss H. Downie, Miss L. Carson, Mr S. McMillan, Mr R. Turnbull, Mr A. Mair, Mr N. Flori, Mr W.A. Gray, Mr J. Taylor, Miss F. Martin, Mr R. Sutherland, Mr W.J. Thomson, Mr D. Ross, Miss M. Duffield, Mrs M. Corson, Mr R.J. Taylor, Mr A. Greenyer, Mr A.S. Highet. (72)

ATTENDING: Miss M.M. Gibson (Secretary)

EX86/8 APOLOGIES

Mrs J.B. Bain, Miss J.P. Brown, Mr C. Burnett, Mr J.C. Douglas, Miss B.N. Fawdry, Mr G. Davie, Mrs J.E. Hewat, Mrs A.H.T. Holden, Miss A.E. Johnston, Mrs F.C. Inglis, Mrs E. Kemp, Mrs M. Killeen, Mrs M. McCartney, Mrs C.A. Mair, Mr R.B. Osborne, Mrs R.F. Purcell, Miss N. Rintoul, Mr T.W. Steele, Mrs H. Wilson, Mr W. Clement.
MR. DEWDNEY.

EX86/9 MINUTES

The extract of the Minute 86/4(c)(iii) was before the meeting. Mr J. Taylor (Stirlingshire) seconded by Mr K. Sharp moved that the extract be approved as an accurate statement of the resolution carried at the meeting on May 10th. Council unanimously approved the extract as accurate.

EX86/10 CONSIDERATION OF THE SITUATION IN LOS ANGELES BRANCH

The Chairman said that he was sorry to have had to call the meeting but he had considered that the matter was urgent and could not be left until the next meeting in November. For those attending as substitute representatives he said that during discussion on this matter of the expulsion of the Los Angeles Branch member, we had been at pains to make clear that we were not discussing the rights or wrongs of expulsion. What concerned the Executive Council at the last meeting was the lack of due process in carrying out the expulsion. He then went on to explain that where there might be any doubt in the Los Angeles Branch Constitution Roberts Rules of Order applied. Because of concern regarding the lack of due process the Executive Council had issued to the Los Angeles Branch the instruction now on the Agenda.

He then asked the Secretary to read out the various items of correspondence received since the date of the last meeting.

The Secretary reported that the following correspondence had been sent/received since the Executive Council on 10th May.

(a) A telegram had been sent to Los Angeles Branch, with a copy to Mr Goss, as stated in the Agenda for this meeting.

(b) A letter dated 28th May from the Branch asked for a copy of the handout given to Executive Council members on 10th May. (Letter received at Headquarters on 10th June).

(c) On 14th June a letter was sent enclosing the paper requested and informing the Branch that a copy had been given to their representative at the Council meeting. In this letter the Branch were asked to let us know the outcome of the appeal and to let us have a copy of their A.G.M. Minutes by 18th July (the Los Angeles A.G.M. was understood to be on 7th June.

(d) On 8th July a letter was received from Mr Goss dated 2nd July forwarding a letter from Los Angeles Branch addressed to him and dated 4th June. He also sent the envelope postmarked 7th June and he received the letter on 9th June. The letter stated that his letter had been received (presumably requesting the opportunity to appeal against his expulsion) and he was advised that the Branch By-laws precluded action on his request.

(e) On 15th July a letter dated 7th July was received from Los Angeles Branch indicating that to hear Mr Goss's appeal would abrogate the By-laws under which the Los Angeles Branch is incorporated in the State of California. The Branch stated that the question was raised at their A.G.M. on 7th June and the rules of order suspended to permit the question to be put "Does the Membership support the action of the Branch Committee in expelling Richard N. Goss?" Speakers for and against were heard and the conclusion was a vote of 59 for upholding the Branch Committee decision with 20 against.

The Branch Committee considered that they had responded to the request of the General Purposes Committee and the Executive Council within the constraints of the Branch By-laws and hoped that this compromise course of action would satisfy the spirit of the Executive Council instruction. The Branch Secretary in her letter stated that the Minutes of the A.G.M. would be forwarded.

Miss Brander (Los Angeles) said that the Branch had not had the intention of defying the Executive Council. They had raised the matter at their Annual General Meeting and had allowed those who wished to speak to do so. The position was put to the whole of their General Meeting with the resultant voting as notified in the Branch letter to Society Headquarters. This had seemed the simplest way of resolving the situation since Mr Goss had not taken the opportunity of submitting an appeal to the Annual General Meeting in 1985 which was the next after his expulsion and to have accepted the appeal at the 1986 A.G.M. would have abrogated their By-laws.

In reply to a question by Mr D.A. Gray (Bournemouth) Miss Brander confirmed that Mr Goss had not been allowed to speak at the Branch A.G.M.

After a great deal of discussion Miss D.A. Paterson (Elected Member) seconded by Mr W. Hamilton (Detroit) moved -

> "that the Executive Council regrets that the Los Angeles Branch did not carry out Council's instruction of the 10th May. However, in the interests of the cohesion of the Society, and while expressing concern with the spirit in which the expulsion was carried out, the Executive Council is now prepared to accept the explanation of the legality of the actions taken by the Los Angeles Branch".

Miss Galway (Belfast) moved that "regrets" should be deleted and "is disturbed" substituted. She was seconded by Mr Sharp (Dunbartonshire West).

As the voting was 43 for the original and 21 for the amendment, the motion fell.

Mr Kendall (Leeds) seconded by Dr. Reinstein (Paris) moved against the motion since he considered that Council should not say that they accepted the situation when the Branch did not obey Council's instruction.

A vote was taken with the following result:

In favour of the motion ...	43
Against ...	22
Abstentions ...	5

The motion was therefore carried.

In closing the meeting the Chairman thanked members for attending this additional meeting and for the time necessarily spent on considering this matter.

The meeting closed at 3.40 p.m.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 33 MELVILLE STREET, EDINBURGH ON
SATURDAY, 15TH NOVEMBER, 1986, AT 1.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Dr. A. MacFadyen (in the Chair), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead, Mr D. Macleod, Miss I. Bennett, Miss M.M. Brown, Mrs N. Dunn, Miss A. Mann, Miss L.C. Martin, Mr George Lawson, Mr J. Drewry, Mr I. McDiarmid, Mr I.G.R. Zobel, Miss I.C. Paton, Mrs J. Bain, Dr. Andrew Paterson, Miss Freda Galway, Mr B.D. Frazer, Miss B.N. Fawdry, Mrs Nancy Maclaren, Mr D. Gray, Mr I.M. Birnie, Mrs S. Nedderman, Mrs A. Murphy, Mrs A. McDougall, Miss M. McCartney, Mr J.B. Dougal, Mr J. Fyfe, Mrs M. Grant, Miss E. Price, Mr J. Hutton, Mr A.L.M. Boode, Mr W. Hamilton, Mr K. Stacey, Miss E.M.C. Ferguson, Mr K. Sharp, Mrs I.C. Cruickshanks, Mrs A. Couper, Miss W. Miller, Miss C. Menmuir, Mrs M. Martin, Mr A.M. Smart, Mrs A. Martin, Mrs A. Holden, Mrs M.S. Baikie, Miss M.M. Ross, Mrs W. Wadsworth, Mr T.W. Steele, Mrs L. Gaul, Mrs F.C. Inglis, Mrs Linklater-Shirras, Mr D. Campbell, Mrs O.C. Cameron, Mr G. Stephens, Mrs D.E. Christie, Mrs M.R. Duffield, Mr D. Kendall, Mrs A. Green, Mrs J.M. Taylor, Mr J. Laurie, Miss J. Brown, Mrs M. Brander, Dr. I. Hall, Mrs M. Killeen, Mr H. Barnes, Mr R. Osborne, Mrs C. Taylor, Miss N. Rintoul, Mr J.B. Dickson, Mr J. Wilson, Mr J.C. Douglas, Miss K.H. McLachlan, Mr W. Clement, Mrs M. Devlin, Miss J. Yeats, Mr J. Reinstein, Mrs B.A. Nairn, Mrs Rhoda Purcell, Miss L. Carson, Mr D.A.S. McMillan, Mr R. Turnbull, Mrs M.C. Gudger, Mr Blackwood, Mr A. Mair, Mr R. Mackay, Mrs C. Mair, Mr A.E. Dewdney, Mr A. Gray, Mr J. Taylor, Miss F. Martin, Mr R. Sutherland, Mr W. Thomson, Miss M. Duffield, Mrs M. Corson, Mr R.J. Taylor, Mr M.L. Brown.

(95)

ATTENDING: Mrs M.A. Jeffcoat (Treasurer), Mrs R. Brodie

EC86/11 APOLOGIES

Mr K.L. Smith, Mr W. Thomson, Mrs H. Wilson, Mr G. Mechan, Miss M.M. Gibson (Secretary).

EC86/12 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman explained that the Secretary's absence was due to an accident the previous evening when she had badly broken her arm. Council recorded their regret and asked that a message be sent wishing Miss Gibson a speedy and full recovery. Mrs Brodie had kindly agreed to take the Minutes of the meeting.

It was also agreed to send a message of good wishes to Mr George Mechan who was presently in Ninewells Hospital, Dundee, following a serious car accident.

The Chairman welcomed representatives to the first meeting of Council for 1986-87, with a special welcome to those attending for the first time and to Mrs Gudger attending for the first time as our Honorary Vice-President.

Dr. MacFadyen then thanked Miss Elaine Greenslade and her assistants for organising the very pleasant luncheon prior to the meeting and also asked Miss Duffield to convey to West Lothian Branch the Executive Council's thanks for providing the wine.

EC86/13 BALLOT PAPERS

(a) The Chairman announced that the names of the six elected members should be added to the Composition of the Executive Council for 1986-87 viz: Miss I. Bennett, Miss M.M. Brown, Mrs N. Dunn, Mr G. Lawson, Miss A.B.W. Mann and Miss L. Martin.

(b) Members were asked to delete the name of Mr D. Haynes from the Voting Paper for the Publications and Research Committee and the name of Mr B. Harry from the Voting Paper for the Summer School Committee.

The voting papers were then collected for counting.

EC86/14 MINUTES

(a) Minutes of the Executive Council Meeting on 10th May 1986.

With the amendment in EC86/6 of Mrs Stewart's name to "YSOBEL" the Minutes were approved on a motion by Mr J.C. Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne) seconded by Mrs L. Gaul (Hamilton (Ontario)).

(b) Minutes of the Meeting on 9th August 1986.

Miss Brander (Los Angeles) pointed out that the Minute EC86/10(e) fourth paragraph was inaccurate. She had said that Mr Goss, present at the beginning of the Los Angeles A.G.M. had left the hall after the Chairman's announcement that the meeting was prepared to hear both those supporting Mr Goss and those in favour of the decision to expel him. Mr Gray to whom she had been replying agreed that he had the impression that Mr Goss would have been allowed to speak but, by leaving, had chosen not to do so.

With this correction, Mr Sharp (Dunbartonshire West) moved, Mr Gray seconded and the meeting approved the adoption of the Minutes.

EC86/15 MATTERS ARISING

Referring to Minute EC86/10 the Chairman told Council that the Minutes of the Los Angeles A.G.M. had not been received until 13th October, prior to the meeting of the General Purposes Committee Meeting on 18th October. While it substantially confirmed Miss Brander's account to the Executive Council Meeting on 9th August it did indicate that Mr Goss had requested to be allowed to speak but the opportunity was denied him the reason given being that he was out of order, not being a Branch member. Thereafter he left the hall. Dr. J. Reinstein (Paris) asked whether this altered the record. The Chairman explained that at the time in question the statement by Miss Brander had been made and accepted in good faith and the record would stand. He had now explained the situation so that Council would have the accurate details which would also be recorded in this Minute.

EC86/16 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) General Purposes Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 18th October 1986.

On a motion by Mr J. Laurie (London) seconded by Miss Nairn (Perth & Perthshire) the Minutes were approved with the amendment to Mrs Stewart's Christian name (Ysobel) in GP86/35.

(i) Referring to Minute GP86/30(d) the Chairman reiterated the gratitude of the Society to those involved in the hard work both before and during the Centenary celebrations.

(ii) Miss Brander (representing Los Angeles Branch) said that the Branch objected to approval being given to the endeavour to form the San Gabriel Branch and feared it would fragment Los Angeles Branch. The Chairman stated that the request for approval to endeavour to form the San Gabriel Branch had been considered very seriously and debated thoroughly by the General Purposes Committee to which the Executive Council had some years ago delegated their powers in this respect. Mr Smith (Edinbugh) considered the General Purposes Committee had reached a correct decision. Mr Clement (Northern Virginia) seconded by Miss Brander moved that affiliation be granted rather than Branch formation but after the Chairman pointed out that the request had not been for affiliation Mr Clement withdrew his motion.

After further discussion the Executive Council ratified the decision of the General Purposes Committee to grant approval for the endeavour to form a San Gabriel Valley Branch.

(iii) Mrs Linklater-Shirras (Inverness & District) referring to Minute GP86/41 queried the arrangements for teachers for the Aviemore S.C.D. holiday. Mr Aitkenhead (Vice-Chairman) explained that as far as the Society was concerned only a preliminary approach had been made and should assistance with teachers be required local Branches would be approached.

(iv) On Minute GP86/37 Dr. Paterson asked if Branches could be be circularised to see whether a suitable poster was already in existence.

(v) Additional applications for affiliation were approved on a motion by Mr R Taylor (Wirral) seconded by Miss Brander:-

Bendigo St. Andrews S.C.D. Group (Australia)
Abingdon S.C.D. Club (Berks)
Dallam S.C. Dancers (Lancs.)

With the additions listed above, on a motion by Mr I. Zobel (Atlanta) seconded by Mr D. Gray (Bournemouth) the Minutes were ratified.

(b) Finance Committee

(i) Minutes of the Meeting on 2nd August, 1986.

These Minutes had already been approved and on a motion by Mrs Dunn (Elected Member) seconded by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton(Ont)) the Minutes were duly ratified.

(ii) Minutes of the Meeting on 18th October, 1986.

On a motion by Mr Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne & District) seconded by Miss Ross (Forres) the Minutes were approved.

F86/31(d) Mr Dewdney (Southport) offered advice, if necessary, regarding word processing as he was in that line of business.

On a motion by Miss Galway (Belfast) seconded by Miss Brown (Elected Member) the Minutes were ratified.

(c) Report on Strathspey Sales Ltd

Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire) presented the Chairman's Report on behalf of Strathspey Sales Ltd for the first full year, 3rd May 1985 (date of incorporation) to 30th June 1986.

"The year saw a settling down period as a trading company, improving the selection of goods on offer and profitability. The gross profit of £4,488 is lower than the same period last year and the position is being studied with a view to increasing sales. It was recommended that Branches should acquire stocks from Strathspey Sales and set up Branch shops (e.g. as in Newcastle Branch and Edinburgh Branch). The Directors hope to achieve gradual growth while restricting total turnover to under £20000 p.a. to avoid becoming involved in V.A.T."

Under the Terms of the Articles of Association of Strathspey Sales Ltd the present Directors (Mr J.C. Douglas, Miss M.M. Gibson, Mrs M.A. Jeffcoat, Miss A.W. Miller and Mr J. Taylor) offered their services for a further year, which were accepted by the Executive Council.

A query was raised regarding an apparent discrepancy between the figures given by Mr J. Taylor and those appearing in the Society Bulletin. Mrs Jeffcoat (Treasurer) said that the difference of £1324 covered the item of expenses - postage, bank charges, printing, meeting expenses, company formation, audit fee. She reiterated that all profits were covenanted back to the R.S.C.D.S., Strathspey Sales itself making neither profit nor loss.

The report was accepted by Council.

(d) Publications & Research Committee

(i) Minutes of the Meeting on 14th June 1986.

The Minutes of this meeting had already been approved.

(ii) Minutes of the Meeting on 20th September 1986.

The Minutes of this meeting had already been approved.

(iii) Minutes of the Meeting on 11th October 1986.

On a motion by Mr Clement (Northern Virginia) seconded by Mr Drewry (Aberdeen) the Minutes were approved.

Replying to Dr. Paterson (Bath) Mr Macleod explained that the Society were preparing the MacNab Dances (Sets 1-9) for republication. The TAC had intended to publish them until we had pointed out that the Society held the copyright and as there had been requests for these dances to be made available the Publications & Research Committee had begun their review of the dances concerned.

In reply to Dr. Reinstein (Paris) (PR86/44(g)) Mr Macleod explained that when a deviser gives a dance to the Society for publication he assigns the copyright to the Society and relinquishes his right to publish it elsewhere. In addition the dances concerned were to be published in our next year's pocket edition.

Mr Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border) suggested consideration should be given to the impact of compact discs on the records market when the next recordings were planned.

On a motion by Mr Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border) seconded by Miss Brander all three Minutes were ratified.

(e) Examinations Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on 2nd August 1986.

With the insertion of Mrs Holden's thanks to the Committee for their work, which had been omitted prior to the close of the Meeting the Minutes were approved on a motion by Miss Martin (Elected Member) seconded by Mrs Corson (Winnipeg).

Mr Stacey (Doncaster & District) said that from all reports the Pianists' Course (EX86/17) appeared to have been very successful and hoped further courses would be held. Mr Mackay (San Fransisco) one of the instructors gave, on invitation a short report on the course and Mrs Holden (South Florida) as Convener of the Examinations Committee said there had been over thirty applicants of whom sufficient remained for further courses.

On a motion by Mr Hamilton (Detroit) seconded by Mr Fyfe (Cheshire) the Minutes were ratified.

(f) Summer School Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on 9th August 1986.

On a motion by Mr W.A. Gray (South Wales) seconded by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton(Ont)) the Minutes were approved.

Dr. Paterson (Bath) felt that teachers of the Men's Highland classes might benefit from greater direction on requirments. Mr W.A. Gray (South Wales), himself a qualified Highland dancing teacher, agreed that teachers could not be expected to teach advanced Highland dancing to Scottish Country Dancers as they would to advanced Highland dancers. Mr Clement (Northern Virginia) thought that a teacher from within the ranks of the Society could well overcome the problems which had been voiced.

On a motion by Mr Stacey (Doncaster & District) seconded by Miss Brown (Elected Member) the Minutes were ratified.

EC86/17 TIMETABLE FOR MEETINGS (1987 unless otherwise stated).

Dates and times for Committee Meetings were decided as follows on a motion by Mr Hamilton (Detroit) seconded by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton(Ont)):

(a) Executive Council

9 May	(Edinburgh)	at 1.30 pm
14 November	"	"

(b) Finance Committee

24 January*	(Edinburgh)	at 2.00 pm
11 April*	"	"
1 August	(St. Andrews)	"
10 October	(Edinburgh)	"

*(Note: The original dates proposed - 24 January and 18 April were to be reconsidered. It was not feasible to alter the January date but the April date was altered to 11th).

(c) General Purposes Committee

24 January*	(Edinburgh)	at 10.30 am
11 April*	"	"
10 October	"	"

*(Note: The original dates proposed - 24 January and 18 April were to be reconsidered. It was not feasible to alter the January date but the April date was altered to 11th).

(With sub-Committee meetings as necessary for Scroll Awards).

(d) Examinations Committee

28 February	(Edinburgh)	at 10.30 am
1 August	"	at 5.00 pm

(e) Publications & Research Committee

29 November 1986	(Edinburgh)	at 10.00 am
17 January	"	"
14 February	"	"
14 March	"	"
23 May	"	"

(With sub-Committee meetings as necessary for recordings).

(f) Summer School Committee

8 August	(St. Andrews)	at 2.00 pm
14 November	(Edinburgh)	at 5.00 pm

(With sub-Committee meetings as necessary for scholarship awards).

(g) Annual General Meeting

31 October	(Edinburgh)	at 2.30 pm

EC86/18 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Committees were appointed as follows:

(a) Finance Committee

Dr. A. MacFadyen (Chairman), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Vice-Chairman), and the following appointed members:

Mr J.C. Douglas	(Newcastle upon Tyne and District Branch)
Miss F.I. Galway	(Belfast Branch)
Mr G. Lawson	(Elected Member)
Miss A.W. Miller	(Duns & District Branch)
Miss M.M. Ross	(Forres Branch)
Mr J. Taylor	(Stirlingshire Branch)
Mr R. Turnbull	(Richmond (N. Yorks) Branch)

On a motion by Mr Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne & District) seconded by Miss F.I. Galway (Belfast) Mr J. Taylor was elected Convener.

(b) General Purposes Committee

Dr. A. MacFadyen (Chairman and Convener), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Vice-Chairman), Mr J. Taylor (Convener Finance Committee) and the following appointed members:

Miss M. Duffield	(West Lothian Branch)
Mrs N. Dunn	(Elected Member)
Dr I. Hall	(Manchester Branch)
Mr J. Laurie	(London Branch)
Mrs A. Murphy	(Carlisle & Border Branch)
Miss B.A. Nairn	(Perth & Perthshire Branch)
Mr A. Mair	(St. Andrews Branch)
Miss I.C. Paton	(Ayr Branch)
Mr A. Smart	(Edinburgh Branch)

(c) Examinations Committee

Dr. A. MacFadyen (Chairman), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Vice-Chairman), and the following appointed members:

Mrs M. Corson	(Winnipeg Branch)
Mrs A.H.T. Holden	(South Florida Branch)
Miss L.C. Martin	(Elected Member)
Mr G. Mechan	(Hawaii Branch)
Miss J. Yeats	(Ottawa Branch)

On a motion proposed by Mrs W. Wadsworth (Gatehouse of Fleet) seconded by Miss McLauchlan (New Zealand) Mrs A.H.T. Holden was elected Convener.

(d) Publications & Research Committee

Dr. A. MacFadyen (Chairman and Hon. Archivist), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Vice-Chairman), and the following appointed members:

Miss I. Bennett	(Elected Member)
Miss M.M. Brown	(Elected Member)
Mr J. Drewry	(Aberdeen Branch)
Mr W. Hamilton	(Detroit Branch)
Mr D. Macleod	(Director, Summer School)
Mr T.W. Steele	(Glasgow Branch)

On a motion by Mr Hamilton (Detroit) seconded by Mr Stephens (Kirkcaldy) Mr D. Macleod was elected Convener.

(e) Summer School Committee

Dr. A. MacFadyen (Chairman), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Vice-Chairman), Mr D. Macleod (Director of Summer School and Convener) and and the following appointed members:

Mrs L. Gaul	(Hamilton(Ont) Branch)
Mr W.A. Gray	(South Wales Branch)
Miss A.B.W. Mann	(Elected Member)
Mrs S. Nedderman	(Cambridge & District Branch)

EC86/19 OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Mr J. Wilson (Nairobi) expressed concern that organisations abroad such as the British Council appeared to be ignorant of the existence of Society Branches. The Chairman agreed that the Society would endeavour to increase its publicity towards such organisations.

(b) Mr Wilson (Nairobi) also pointed out that children in places like Nairobi were able to participate in Scottish Country Dancing through the dedication of their primary school teachers yet when they returned to secondary schools in the U.K. there was no facility to continue their dancing and he cited St. Leonard's School as a particular example.

It was agreed that a further approach should be made to the Scottish Education Department.

(c) In reply to Mrs Taylor (Lochaber) the Chairman agreed that her request to send a teacher and pianist round Branches in the north of Scotland would receive consideration.

(d) Mr Boode (Delft) asked if it would be possible for a complete list of books with their latest reprint date to be included in the Bulletin.

(e) Dr. MacFadyen agreed that more publicity might be given to new acquisitions to the archives.

He had taken archival articles whenever he was asked to talk to Branches on his work as Hon. Archivist and of course there had been a large exhibition incorporating items from the archives at the Centenary Weekend.

(f) Concern was voiced regarding the same bands being used for the recordings and Mr Macleod (Director, Summer School) said the bands were varied as far as possible.

(g) First Lady of the Dance: Whilst approving of the content of the video Mr Hutton criticised the quality of the technical production. The Chairman, replying, made two points:

(i) Since much of the contents was in fact archival it had posed problems for the producers.

(ii) The producers had had to work within a limited budget.

EC86/20 NEXT MEETING

Saturday 9th May, 1987.

The Chairman thanked all members for attending and the Committee Conveners for their support.

Mr Macleod proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. MacFadyen (as Chairman) and to Mrs Brodie for their work during the afternoon.

The meeting closed at 1555 hrs.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 33 MELVILLE STREET, EDINBURGH ON SATURDAY, 9TH MAY, 1987, AT 1.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Dr. A. MacFadyen (in the Chair), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead, Mr D. Macleod, Miss I. Bennett, Miss M.M. Brown, Mrs N. Dunn, Miss A. Mann, Miss L.C. Martin, Mr G. Lawson, Mr J. Drewry, Mr I. McDiarmid, Mr I.G.R. Zobel, Miss I.C. Paton, Mr C. McDougall, Mrs J. Bain, Miss F. Galway, Mr B.D. Frazer, Miss B.N. Fawdry, Mrs N. Maclaren, Mr D. Gray, Mrs R. Hills, Mrs S. Nedderman, Mrs A. Murphy, Mrs A. McDougall, Mr J. Fyfe, Mrs M.H. Hopkins, Miss E. Price, Mr J. Hutton, Mr A.L.M. Boode, Mr W. Hamilton, Miss E.M.C. Ferguson, Mr K. Sharp, Mr D. Hallings, Mrs A. Coupar, Miss W. Miller, Miss M.C. Menmuir, Mrs M. Martin, Mr A.M. Smart, Mrs A. Martin, Mrs A. Holden, Mrs M.S. Baikie, Miss M.M. Ross, Mrs W. Wadsworth, Mr T.W. Steele, Miss G. Wyper, Mrs L. Gaul, Mr G. Mechan, Mrs F.C. Inglis, Mrs Linklater-Shirras, Mr D. Campbell, Mrs O.C. Cameron, Mr G. Stephens, Mrs D.E. Christie, Mrs M.R. Duffield, Mr D. Kendall, Mrs H.J. Wilson, Mrs A. Green, Mrs J.M. Taylor, Mr J. Laurie, Dr. F. Ibbott, Dr. I. Hall, Mrs M. Killeen, Mr R. Osborne, Mr J. Rae, Mr J. Hair, Mr J.B. Dickson, Mr J. Wilson, Mr J.C. Douglas, Miss K.H. McLauchlan, Mr W. Clement, Mrs M. Devlin, Miss J. Yeats, Mr G. Davie, Mrs R. Brodie, Mrs B.A. Nairn, Mrs R. Purcell, Miss L. Carson, Mr D.A.S. McMillan, Mr R. Turnbull, Mrs M.C. Gudger, Mrs J. McKinven, Mr J. Scahill, Mr A. Mair, Mrs M. Power, Mrs C. Mair, Mr A.E. Dewdney, Mr W.A. Gray, Mr J. Taylor, Mr R. Sutherland, Mr W. Thomson, Mr G. Burnett, Mr D. Ross, Miss M. Duffield, Mr M.L. Brown.

(94)

ATTENDING: Miss M.M. Gibson (Secretary), Mrs M.A. Jeffcoat (Treasurer).

EC87/1 APOLOGIES

Mr R. Taylor, Mr H. van Zon, Miss J.P. Brown, Dr. A.A. Paterson, Mr H. Barnes, Miss M. McCartney, Mrs I.M. Birnie, Miss E.A. Johnston, Miss F. Martin.

EC87/2 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed all members to the May Executive Council Meeting and said members would be glad to see that Mr Mechan and Miss Gibson had made a good recovery from their respective injuries. He also welcomed Mr Macleod and Miss Martin on their return from a strenuous examination tour of North America and said the Society was indebted to them for undertaking this task. Dr. MacFadyen gave a special welcome to Dr. Frank Ibbott, the Chairman of Los Angeles Branch, who was representing his Branch at this meeting.

EC87/3 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting on 15th November 1986 were approved on a motion by Mr Wilson (Nairobi Branch) seconded by Mr T. Steele (Glasgow Branch) after the following amendments had been made:

EC86/16(a)(ii), line 9 Mr Smart (Edinburgh) substituted for Mr Smith (Edinburgh).
EC86/16(a)(v) After Abingdon Club delete "(Berks)" substitute "(Oxfordshire)".

EC87/4 BUSINESS ARISING

(a) EC86/19(a) - British Council. The Secretary had been in touch with the British Council and had supplied the London Office with a Bulletin giving details of Branches etc. worldwide. A trip to Yugoslavia had just been completed under the aegis of the British Council by a team provided by Edinburgh Branch and another tour by a group from the Borders was being arranged to Brunei, Malaysia and Indonesia.

(b) EC86/19(b) While the original complaint was that St. Leonard's School was not teaching Scottish Country Dancing a further comment from Forfar Branch said St. Leonard's School was teaching Scottish Country Dancing incorrectly. These matters would be considered by the Publications Committee as soon as feasible.

(c) EC86/19 Mrs Taylor (Lochaber) asked if any decision had been made to send a guest teacher to the smaller Branches. The Chairman said no decision had been made but the matter was being borne in mind.

EC87/5 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) Summer School Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 15th November 1986.

On a motion by Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Vice-Chairman), seconded by Mr A.W. Gray (S. Wales) the Minutes were approved.

In reply to Mr Dewdney (Southport) it was confirmed that Mrs McQueen's name was on the list of pianists who might be invited to play at Summer School.

On a motion by Mr Dewdney (Southport) seconded by Mr Gray (Bournemouth) the Minutes were ratified.

(b) Publications and Research Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 29th November 1986 were already approved.
(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 31st January 1987 were already approved.
(iii) Minutes of Meeting on 14th February 1987 were already approved.
(iv) Minutes of Meeting on 14th March 1987 on a motion by Miss I. Bennett (St. Andrews) seconded by Mr J. Drewry (Aberdeen) the Minutes were approved.

In reply to Mr Burnett (Toronto) it was stated that the LP RSCDS 10 (Music for Book 8) would be available in another week's time.

Referring to PR86/65(a) Mr Boode (Delft) enquired if there was any suggestion as to what publications a Branch could sell. Miss Brown (Elected Member) pointed out that the following meeting (PR87/3(b) had made it clear that no instructions were to be laid down at present though it was hoped that Branches would give priority to R.S.C.D.S. publications.

Mr Dewdney (Southport) referring to PR86/61 and PR87/3(a) asked if it was the case that the Publications and Research Committee would accept a Band only if it included a violin. Mr Macleod (as Convener of the Publications Committee) stated that the Committee had decided that there should always be a violin in any band used for our recordings.

Dr. Hall (Manchester) asked what was special about "Tir Nan Og" (PR87/8(d)) that it was not included with the MacNab dances. Mr Macleod explained that it was not one of Mrs MacNab's dances and therefore could not be included in the forthcoming reprint.

In reply to a query from Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire) regarding the recording sub-committees Mr Hamilton (Detroit) said that they were made up usually of two members from the Committee and two musicians.

The Chairman, replying to Mr Burnett (Toronto) said it was the intention to publish a book on Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich in 1988 and he was working (as Hon. Archivist) to that end.

Mr D.A. Gray (Bournemouth) asked what was the outcome of Dr. MacFadyen's letter to the B.B.C. (PR87/15(a)). The Chairman said the B.B.C. were unwilling to accept the points he had made and it had been decided that to pursue the matter would serve no useful purpose.

In response to queries from Mrs Dunn (Elected Member) and Mr Boode (Delft) it was confirmed that rulings such as that in PR87/22 would, as usual, be published in the Bulletin and if necessary would be included in the next reprint of the books concerned.

Mrs Wadsworth (Gatehouse of Fleet) considered that the review of the MacNab dances had unjustifiably occupied too much of the Committee's time. Mrs MacNab, she said, had been more interested in competitions, festivals and demonstrations rather than social dancing. She asked that there should be an explanation at the beginning of the publication stating that the dances were for demonstration and should not be included in programmes for social dancing. This suggestion would be passed to the Publications Committee for their consideration at the next meeting.

Mr Hamilton (Detroit) proposed and Mr Mechan (Hawaii) seconded the ratification of all four Publications Committee Minutes which was agreed.

(c) Examinations Committee

On a proposal by Mr Mechan (Hawaii) seconded by Miss Martin (Elected Member) the Minutes were approved.

Mrs Holden (as Convener of the Committee) confirmed that the first application for music courses had been invited from U.K. Branches only as the scheme had been experimental.

Mr Brown (York and North Humberside) asked if the I.D.T.A. and S.D.T.A. were similar organisations. Mrs Holden (Florida South) said that we were assisting the I.D.T.A. to formulate syllabuses for children. We did not yet know what the S.D.T.A. wanted.

The Minutes were ratified on a motion by Mrs Murphy (Carlisle and Border) seconded by Mr Fyfe (Cheshire).

(d) Finance Committee

(i) Minutes of the meeting on 24th January 1987 were already approved.
(ii) Minutes of the meeting on 11th April 1987 were approved on a motion by Miss Miller (Duns and District) seconded by Mr Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne and District).

Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire and Convener of Finance Committee) drew the attention of members to the gift by Dr. MacFadyen and his family of a splendid chandelier for the Member's Room at Headquarters and on behalf of the Society he thanked the Chairman.

Mr Taylor informed the meeting that the bequest from Miss Laurel Gray (a former pianist) was to be used to finance the next music course. Dr. Hall (Manchester) wondered if Miss Gray had left any manuscripts of her own compositions. It was suggested that any such should be sent to the Publications Committee.

In reply to Miss Brown (Elected Member) Mrs Jeffcoat (Treasurer) explained why certain books had had to be increased this year and detailed other expenses over and above actual cost of printing.

Mr Brown (York and North Humberside) raised the question of covenanted subscriptions (F87/7(b)). Mrs Jeffcoat (Treasurer) said she was following a ruling from the Inland Revenue but agreed to look into the matter yet again. He also asked if progress was being made regarding the statuette and Mr Taylor confirmed that the work was progressing.

On a motion by Mr Wilson (Nairobi) seconded by Mr Dewdney (Southport) the two Minutes were ratified.

(c) General Purposes Committee

(i) Minutes of the meeting on 24th January, 1987 - already approved.
(ii) Minutes of the meeting on 11th April, 1987, approved on a motion by Mr Laurie (London) seconded by Miss Nairn (Perth and Perthshire).

The Chairman informed the meeting that the plaque in remembrance of Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich was now in place at the front door of Headquarters.

Minute GP87/6(a) was amended to show the Havant Reel Club in Hants and not West Sussex.

To elucidate the statement in GP87/12(f) for Mr Brown (York and North Humberside) the Chairman said that the Edinburgh Branch plans were already far advanced and with the halls at their disposal they could not have the Open Forum and the class running consecutively. At Glasgow next year the two would run consecutively and the Committee would then review the situation.

Miss Carson (Portrush) queried the matter of a letter to which they had had a reply but which they wished to go before the General Purposes Committee. The Secretary undertook to look into this.

The Executive Council approved the award of the Society's Scroll to:

Mrs Nan Allan	Aberdeen
Mrs Mary S. Brandon	Hawaii
Mr & Mrs Howard Booth	London
Mrs E.C. Broome	Leamington Spa & District
Mr D.J.T. Henderson	Dundee
Mrs M.V. Kersley	Belfast
Miss K.H. McLauchlan	East Angus
Miss M.A. Rae	Duns & District
Miss J. Stewart	Stirlingshire
Miss E. Watson	Glasgow

The Chairman said that it would have been seen from Minute GP87/8(b) and GP87/19 that the General Purposes Committee had decided to re-open the case of the member expelled from Los Angeles Branch. Following an initiative taken by a member of the Los Angeles Branch there had been received from California an opinion which was critical of the procedural aspects of this case. He reminded the meeting that our concern has only been for those procedural aspects and at no time in the General Purposes Committee or at the Executive Council have we been drawn into the debate as to whether or not Mr Goss merited expulsion.

Mr J.B.C. Brown who was very willing on occasions to give us the benefit of his advice, a former Chairman of the Society and a lawyer, had in fact endorsed the opinion that came from California. Since the meeting of the General Purposes Committee on 11th April we had also received a legal view from the Society's own lawyers and they also supported the opinion from the Parliamentary Services California and that of Mr Brown. At the meeting on 11th April those members of the General Purposes Committee who were present came to the conclusion that the gulf which existed between the opinion we had now received and the interpretation of the Los Angeles Branch Constitution still upheld by the Los Angeles Branch was so wide that we were never going to be able to bridge it: there was no possibility of reconciling the two sides. Having come to that conclusion and, although very aware of the serious implications of what they were proposing, the members on the 11th April decided unanimously to make the recommendation under GP87/19 and the Committee was looking for acceptance and ratification of those recommendations. He then invited Dr. Ibbott (Los Angeles) to speak.

Dr. Ibbott said he was the Chairman of Los Angeles Branch, one of the largest in North America, having around 300 members. It had been in existence for 21 years and had continuously promoted the aims of the Society. He had come on short notice having only recently been alerted to the item on the Agenda.

Dr. MacFadyen ruled at this point that Dr. Ibbott should not (as he proposed to do) go into details regarding Mr Goss since he was not being judged here. Dr. I. Hall (Manchester) supported Dr. MacFadyen's opening statement regarding the General Purposes recommendation.

Dr. Ibbott accepted that it was not what was done but how, that was at issue. He considered that it might have been the ambiguous nature of the Branch 'By-Laws' (Constitution) which was at fault; the Branch had considered that they had acted in good faith and Dr. Ibbott produced a letter from a firm of lawyers in Los Angeles which he read to the meeting, in which they stated that having reviewed the Branch 'By-Laws' they considered the expulsion to be consistent with the procedures set forth therein. They had pointed out that Parliamentary Services was a private organisation in California and that Dr. Cameron was not licensed to practice law and therefore his opinion was a private one with no legal force.

With regard to the present problem Dr. Ibbott said that the General Purposes Committee had introduced the possibility of disbanding the Branch. He thought this would impose a wrong on an already difficult situation depriving some 300 people - many of whom did not know Mr Goss - of having a Branch.

He said it must be generally realised that Mr Goss would not be welcomed in Los Angeles Branch. In fairness to those on the receiving end the Branch might start the expulsion once again, this time in the proper manner. When the San Gabriel Branch was formed most of Mr Goss's friends transferred their membership to that Branch and the possibility of a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote to reinstate him was unlikely. If it was considered that Mr Goss should be reinstated the Branch would do so reluctantly but it would devote itself to a resolution of the problem.

Dr. MacFadyen, on behalf of members, said everyone appreciated the trouble Dr. Ibbott had taken in coming to the meeting and thanked him for his statement. As the legal opinions were very contradictory he considered there was no point in taking them in detail.

Mr Dewdney (Southport) asked what were the procedures for terminating a membership. The Chairman said that, briefly, under the Los Angeles Branch Constitution it was possible to expel a member by a ¾ majority of the Branch Committee but in addition their Constitution made mention of Roberts Rules which every organisation in North America recognised, and these set out the process for termination of membership. Among these was the list of charges against someone and opportunity for defence. The legal advice was that those rules should have applied but the Branch had affirmed that their By-Laws were sufficient and had adhered to them.

Mrs Holden (Florida South) said that both the Los Angeles Law firm and the Parliamentary Services had put their own interpretation on the legal situation and she felt they should be set aside. She asked Dr. Ibbott if Mr Goss had had properly put to him why he was being expelled from the Branch and was there any time when he had had a fair hearing to defend himself.

Dr. Ibbott said it was up to the person expelled to ask for a hearing (i.e. at the next Branch A.G.M.) and Mr Goss had not made application at that meeting (1985). At the last A.G.M. (1986) there was a hearing in an unplanned way; it was not on the Agenda. When at one point it was decided to have such a hearing Mr Goss had asked the Chairman of the A.G.M. if he would be allowed to speak. At that moment the Chairman said Mr Goss was not a member and it would be out of order for him to speak. However, just before this happened Dr. Ibbott said they had had a caucus and everyone realised that the right thing to do was to allow Mr Goss to have the right to speak and it had been the Chairman's intention to let Mr Goss speak when the supporters and accusers were all there. In fact shortly after the Chairman had told him he would not be allowed to speak, Mr Goss had left the hall so the opportunity passed to follow the intention through. Everyone for or against spoke and the vote was 59:20 in favour of the decision to expel.

Mr Hamilton (Detroit) said he understood that the reason why Mr Goss did not appeal was that he had not been given reasons for his expulsion.

Dr. Ibbott confirmed that no reasons had been given to Mr Goss.

Dr. Hall (Manchester) felt this whole affair had been bothered by a lack of communication. From the information provided we were under the impression that Mr Goss was given an expulsion order with an A.G.M. only a short time later; again, any response to letters seemed to take a long time between California and here; every time the General Purposes Committee had met there seemed to be no reply to letters. He personally had no interest in what was said in Roberts Rules but having been involved in expulsions in other spheres he was concerned that there was no proper appeal procedure.

Mr Sharp (Dunbartonshire West) said he had tried to put himself in the place of the expelled member and felt at no time did he know what the charges were. If he did not know, how could he provide a defence when even at the judgment the accusations might be different from the defence he had prepared. Had he been the person expelled neither would he have put forward a case to defend himself.

Mrs Holden (Florida South) said that even if Mr Goss had known, it was in the spirit of this Society that the way in which expulsion was carried out should have given him as much chance as possible to say what he wanted - apart from the legal aspect of this.

Miss Brown (Elected Member) moved that the recommendation set out in GP87/19(a) be adopted:

Mr J. Taylor (Stirlingshire) seconded the motion.

Mr D.A. Gray (Bournemouth) moved the direct negative.

Dr. Ibbott then made the request that the General Purposes Committee's recommendation Part (1) only be considered, and gave the meeting the assurance that Mr Goss would be reinstated immediately as a member of Los Angeles Branch. He confirmed that he was able to give this assurance on behalf of his Committee having consulted his members before leaving Los Angeles.

In view of this assurance Mr Mechan (Hawaii) seconded by Mr Hamilton (Detroit) moved that the recommendations of the General Purposes Committee be withdrawn.

Miss Brown (Elected Member) and Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire) agreed to withdraw their motion with the consent of Council in view of Dr. Ibbott's assurance of the immediate reinstatement of Mr Goss.

That 'the question be now put' was moved by Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire) seconded by Miss Miller (Duns & District) and the vote taken was :

In favour of Mr Mechan's motion	82
Against	3
Abstentions	6

With the amendment of the withdrawal of para (1) and (2) of Minute GP87/19 the two General Purposes Committee Minutes were ratified on a motion by Mr Laurie (London) and Mr Rae (Moffat).

EC87/6 AFFILIATIONS

The following affiliations were approved:

Dubai Caledonian Society - United Arab Emirates
Qatar S.C.D. Group - State of Qatar
Heron Hill S.C. Dancing Club - Cumbria

EC87/7 OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Mr Clement (Northern Virginia) had received from Mr Peter Knight Tunbridge Wells Branch for the Society archives, a video made from an old black and white film showing Scottish Country Dancing in the Borders early in the 1930s, a WRI team dancing about the same period, dancing by members of the Society at a Folk Festival in London in 1935 and 'Dancie' Reid teaching at Summer School. The meeting expressed appreciation of this gift from Mr Knight.

(b) Mr Laurie (London) moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, Dr. MacFadyen, especially on behalf of the General Purposes Committee. It was appreciated how much extra work he has had on the Los Angeles case and thanked him for all the guidance given over this difficult period. Mrs Dunn (Elected Member) expressed thanks also to Miss Gibson (Secretary) for the extra work occasioned by this matter.

(c) Mr Dickson (Montreal) suggested that the Society should encourage the use of the term "Assembly". The Annual Balls were important occasions. If our dancers used this description for them it would add to the occasion and keep a tradition alive.

EC87/8 NEXT MEETING

14th November, 1987.

The meeting closed at 16.15 with the Chairman again expressing Council's gratitude to Dr. Ibbott for attending the meeting.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 22 MELVILLE STREET, EDINBURGH, ON
SATURDAY, 14TH NOVEMBER, 1987, AT 1.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Dr. A. MacFadyen (in the Chair), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead, Mrs A.H.T. Holden, Miss I. Bennett, Mr J. Drewry, Mrs N. Dunn, Mr G. Lawson, Miss D. Leurs, Miss A.B.W. Mann, Miss L. Martin, Mr I. McDiarmid, Mr I.G.R. Zobel, Miss I.C. Paton, Mrs J. Bain, Mr A.R. Paterson, Miss F.I. Galway, Mr B. Frazer, Miss A. Johnston, Mrs N. MacLaren, Mr D. Gray, Mrs S. Nedderman, Mrs A. Murphy, Mrs A. McDougall, Miss M. McCartney, Mr J.B. Dougal, Mr J. Fyfe, Mrs M.H. Hopkins, Miss E. Price, Mr J. Hutton, Mr A.L.M. Boode, Mr W. Hamilton, Mr K. Stacey, Miss E.M.C. Ferguson, Mrs N. McIntosh, Mr D.S. Hollings, Mrs A. Couper, Miss A.W. Miller, Miss M.C. Menmuir, Mrs M. Martin, Mr D.A. Ross, Mrs A. Martin, Miss M.M. Ross, Mrs W.J. Wadsworth, Mr T.W. Steele, Mrs E. Barr, Mrs L. Gaul, Mr G. Mechan, Mrs F.C. Inglis, Mrs Linklater-Shirras, Mr D. Campbell, Mrs O.C. Cameron, Mr G. Stephens, Mrs D.E. Christie, Mrs M.G. Longair, Mrs M.R. Duffield, Mr D. Kendall, Mrs H.J. Wilson, Mrs A. Green, Mr J. Laurie, Miss J. Brown, Miss M.G. Brander, Dr. I.M. Hall, Mrs M. Killeen, Mr H. Barnes, Mr R. Osborne, Mr J. Rae, Mr J. Hair, Mr J.B. Dickson, Mr J. Wilson, Mr J.C. Douglas, Miss K. McLauchlan, Mr W. Clement, Mrs M. Devlin, Miss J.C. Yeats, Mr G. Davie, Dr. J. Reinstein, Miss B.A. Nairn, Mr D.R. Warburton, Miss L. Carson, Mr D.A.S. McMillan, Mr R. Turnbull, Mr D. France, Mrs J. McKinven, Mr J. Scahill, Mr A. Mair, Mrs M. Power, Mr R.H. Mackay, Mrs J. Harper, Mr W.A. Gray, Mr J. Taylor, Miss F. Martin, Mr R. Sutherland, Mrs E. Kemp, Mr B. Harry, Miss M. Duffield, Mrs M. Corson, Mr R.J. Taylor, Mr M.L. Brown.

(98)

ATTENDING: Miss M.M. Gibson (Secretary), Mrs M.A. Jeffcoat (Treasurer)

EC87/9 APOLOGIES

Mr Dewdney, Mr Greenyer, Mr Lyons, Mr Willetts, Mrs Gudger, Mrs Boode-Gould, Mr H. van Zon, Mr Burnett, Mrs Baikie, Mr Birnie.

EC87/10 COMPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 1987/88

The Chairman called upon the Secretary to announce amendments to the list of Council members which had been distributed with the Agenda. The amendments consisted of the following additions:

Bath Branch	Dr. A. Paterson
Inverness & District Branch	Mrs M. Linklater-Shirras
Kingston (Ont.) Branch	Mrs M.J. Boode-Gould
Los Angeles Branch	Miss M.G. Brander
Manchester Branch	Dr. I. Hall
Moffat Branch	Mr J. Rae

EC87/11 BALLOT PAPERS

(a) Referring to the ballot paper for Director of Summer School the Chairman announced the withdrawal of Mr Ireland's name. This left Mrs Anna Holden as sole nominee and, with the agreement of Council, she was declared elected as Director.

(b) There were no changes to the other ballot papers and members were asked to complete them. Thereafter the voting papers were collected for counting.

EC87/12 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Welcoming members, the Chairman said that we had achieved the largest attendance ever at today's meeting. He hoped that everyone would find their work on the Council enjoyable and rewarding.

Dr. MacFadyen told Council that we were indebted to the St. Andrews Branch for the wine which had accompanied our lunch. This was part of the celebration of their Golden Jubilee and Council added congratulations to their thanks to the Branch.

The Chairman said he was very conscious that we were meeting today without Duncan Macleod and he felt it would be proper before proceeding to any other business that Council should record its appreciation of the great contribution which Duncan gave to this Council. He first became a member in 1952 as one of the six Elected Members and from that time his membership of the Council was virtually unbroken. After such a long association he had a tremendous fund of knowledge and experience of the Society. In recent years especially, we had come to rely very heavily on the advice he was able to give us and on all sorts of matters, not just those in his immediate concern, Publications and Summer School. For that advice and for himself as well, he would be very greatly missed.

Branches had been enquiring how they might demonstrate their appreciation of his work. Dr. MacFadyen thought the matter could be discussed at this meeting and suggested that an appropriate place on the Agenda might be after the discussion of the General Purposes Committee Minutes.

There was one other addition - the Remit of a motion from the A.G.M. which he proposed to take into the Agenda after the discussion of the Finance Committee Minutes and report on Strathspey Sales Ltd.

EC87/13 MINUTES

On a motion by Mr B. Frazer (Berks /Hants /Surrey Border Branch) seconded by Mr J. Wilson (Nairobi Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 9th May 1987 were approved.

EC87/14 BUSINESS ARISING

Referring to Minute EC87/5(b) Mrs Linklater-Shirras (Inverness & District Branch) asked if the Publications Committee had acceded to Mrs Wadsworth's request regarding the MacNab dances. The Chairman confirmed that the note regarding their suitability for demonstrations rather than as social dances had been included in the books.

EC87/15 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) Finance Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 1st August, 1987.

The Minutes had already been approved.

In reply to Mr Brown (York & North Humberside Branch) Mr J. Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch) said that while the estimates were not always proved accurate they served as a necessary guide line for the Finance Committee.

Mr Brown asked for further information on covenanted subscriptions and particularly what the difference was between the National Trust and the RSCDS. The Treasurer said it had something to do with the fact that the National Trust Members only receive something in return for their subscriptions at their own discretion. She said she was sending out a paper on covenanted subscriptions to all Home Branches (it does not apply to Overseas Branches) and it was hoped to include the paper with mail going out from Headquarters on Monday.

Mr Brown said that in view of the fact that our aim was to promote Scottish Country Dancing he wondered if it was wise to refuse others permission to publish our dances. The Chairman said that in order to avoid competition with our own publications, the Committee was unwilling to give approval for all requests for republication. The Chairman's view was supported by other speakers.

Mr Stacey (Doncaster & District Branch) suggested that all Branches be reminded that the Society publications of dances are copyright (i.e. while traditional dances in their original state are not now copyright, the Society's interpretation of them, as published, is).

On a motion by Miss Ross (Forres Branch) seconded by Mr Turnbull (Richmond, N. Yorks Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 10th October, 1987.

On a proposal by Miss A.W. Miller (Duns & District Branch) seconded by Mr J.C. Douglas (Newcastle & District Branch) the Minutes were approved.

Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch) said that a paper on VAT would go out to Home Branches on Monday. VAT is not applicable to Overseas Branches. Mrs Jeffcoat (Treasurer) said that Edinburgh Branch appeared to be the only Branch liable to pay VAT. Mr Steele (Glasgow Branch) said his Branch might have problems next year when they were hosting the A.G.M. The Treasurer said she would bear that in mind. The paper on VAT would give Branches a summary of what has happened over the last year or so; though it is unlikely that any other Branches would be affected it would keep everyone in the picture.

On a Motion by Mr H. Barnes (Mid-Somerset Branch) seconded by Mr G. Lawson (Elected Member) the Minutes were ratified.

(b) Strathspey Sales Limited

Mr J. Taylor, as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Strathspey Sales Ltd, presented the report for the year ended 30th June, 1987.

He said that the Directors had set out to achieve gradual growth. They have done that, increasing the turnover to £17,400, an increase of £969 over last year - 6% growth, and keeping it under the £22,000 ceiling to avoid VAT.

The Gross Profit is up from £4488 to £5452, an increase of £964 (21%).

After paying the Society Management Charge, equivalent to half a full-time salary of an employee (£2766), repaying the loan interest amounting to £1125 and other chargeable expenses we finished the year with no taxable profit.

It was considered that last year's stock value of £10,951 was too high and it has been reduced by £2717 to £8184, a more realistic figure.

The amount shown in the Society Balance Sheet in the Revenue account of £3891 is made up of management charges and interest on the loan.

Strathspey Sales made neither a profit nor loss, although they did in total contribute to the Society £4550 including re-charged expenses.

At the A.G.M. of Strathspey Sales it was proposed and agreed that the Management Charge payable to the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society should be paid at more frequent intervals than annually so that surplus funds could be used to best advantage. It was decided that a quarterly payment would be made.

Under the Terms of the Articles of Association of Strathspey Sales Ltd. the present Directors (Mr J.C. Douglas, Miss M.M. Gibson, Mrs M.A. Jeffcoat, Miss A.W. Miller and Mr J. Taylor) offer their services for a further year and in addition it was decided that the Chairman of the Society (for the time being) should be appointed to the Board and Dr. MacFadyen was duly appointed a Director.

Mr J. Wilson (Nairobi Branch) asked if a set of the accounts could be provided for the Executive Council members. It appeared that the cost of producing the accounts would be out of proportion to the value of having them. However, Mr Wilson then moved, seconded by Mr Brown (York & North Humberside Branch) that accounts be produced for members of the Executive Council.

On a vote being taken the result was:

For producing sets of accounts for members of the Executive Council 20
Against 50

The motion therefore did not succeed.

Mr Taylor confirmed to Dr. Paterson (Bath Branch) that the report which he had given would be in the Minutes, though Mr Gray (South Wales Branch) considered it would be more useful to have it before the meeting, along with the other papers.

Dr. Hall (Manchester Branch) thanked everyone who had put a great deal of work into Strathspey Sales and moved that the report be accepted. Mr Gray (South Wales) seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

The Council now considered the resolution remitted from the A.G.M.:

CONSTITUTION AND RULES
RULES (a) III(3)(c)p.16 line 3 Delete "audit" substitute "certification".
(b) III(6)(e) Delete text substitute:-

"Branch Accounts shall be prepared at the end of each financial year and shall be reported on by a qualified accountant or, if a qualified accountant is not available, another person with appropriate qualifications may be appointed with prior approval of Headquarters. A certified copy of the Branch Accounts in the form prescribed by the Finance Committee shall be sent to the Secretary of the Society as soon as possible thereafter but not later than two months after the Branch Annual General Meeting."

Mr J.C. Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne Branch) whose Branch had originally put forward the motion said the object of the motion was to remove the word "audit" from the Constitution. The Branch had thought further about the matter and considered they could put forward a simpler amendment and he therefore proposed that the Rule III should be amended thus:

Section (3)(c)p.16 line 3 Delete "audit" substitute "examination"
Section III(6)(e) Delete "audited" substitute "examined"

Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch) seconded the motion.

Mr Boode (Delft Branch), seconded by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton, (Ont.)) moved that it should be stated how many people should examine the accounts.

Mr Taylor then proposed that Section 6(e) should be amended to read:

"Branch Accounts shall be examined at the end of each financial year by one or more persons authorised by the Branch at its Annual General Meeting and a certified copy thereof in the form prescribed by the Finance Committee sent to the Secretary of the Society as soon as possible thereafter but not later than two months after the Branch Annual General Meeting."

His motion was seconded by Mr R. Turnbull (Richmond, N. Yorks Branch) and with an overwhelming majority this amendment was approved.

The motion was then unanimously adopted.

(c) General Purposes Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 10th October, 1987.

On a motion by Miss Nairn (Perth & Perthshire Branch), seconded by Mr Laurie (London Branch) the Minutes were approved.

Referring to GP87/27(i) Mr Stacey (Doncaster & District Branch) said that the Branch did not now wish to have the section deleted of the Branch Constitution since they had intended their amendments to be taken together. The Chairman asked Mr Stacey to write to the General Purposes Committee who would reconsider the matter.

Dr. Paterson (Bath Branch) enquired if he should draw his Branch's attention to the situation regarding ex-officio appointments of teachers to Branch Management Committees. Dr. MacFadyen explained that the General Purposes Committee considered that the Management Committee should be composed of members elected by the Branch and it was because "ex-officio" teachers were non-elected members that the General Purposes Committee was concerned.

In the light of recent experience troubles could arise from Teachers' Committees some of which have extensive powers. The Committee felt that they must take the matter to Council for guidance.

Dr. Paterson (Bath Branch) said the Committee of elected people was in charge and could appoint teachers to classes and to have a representative of the teachers on the Committee. Mr Gray (South Wales) said if advice was required of instructors they could be co-opted to the Committee. Mr Lawson (Elected Member) considered that members elected to the Branch Committee should be chosen for their ability to manage Branch affairs. Mr Brown (York & North Humberside Branch) made the point that the Society Constitution stated that "The Branch Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Branch...."

Mr D.A. Gray (Bournemouth Branch) suggested that when the Society Constitution was being reviewed that the question of Teachers' Committees should be considered. (GP87/32)

The General Purposes Committee would take note of the opinions voiced.

At this point the Chairman referred to Minute GP87/29 and thanked those teachers and pianists who had just completed teaching tours in Norway, (Miss Miller and Mr Mackay), Ireland (Mr Grant and Mrs Reekie) and Sweden and Denmark (Mrs Murphy and Miss Sim). Mr Steele (Glasgow Branch) suggested that consideration should also be given to Scotland and the UK. Commenting, the Chairman said there had been visits to Branches and affiliated groups in the UK, which would continue in the future.

Mr D.A. Gray (Bournemouth Branch) queried GP87/33(b) regarding the statement that it was the Society's policy not to hold examinations nor to issue certificates. It was explained that in this context it was in relation to children or anyone other than those taking the teaching examinations.

The Minutes were ratified on a motion by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton (Ont.)) seconded by Mr Steele (Glasgow Branch).

The Chairman now turned to the request by several Branches to perpetuate Duncan Macleod's memory in some way. One suggestion had been that donations in his memory could be made to the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund and that the General Purposes Committee would make allocations from that fund to finance annually, or when appropriate, a project in the name of Duncan Macleod. Mr J. Taylor, speaking as Finance Convener advised against opening a separate Fund.

Mr Frazer (Berks/ Hants/ Surrey Border Branch) suggested a "junior" scholarship and was seconded by Mr Gray (South Wales Branch). Mr Zobel (Atlanta Branch) suggested that the scholarship should go to a student in Physical Education Training. Mr Fraser felt we should keep the association with Summer School as it was principally through the Summer School Mr Macleod would be remembered most.

There was a general agreement for "junior scholarships" and the matter would now go to the General Purposes Committee. Branches and individuals who wished to perpetuate Duncan's memory could now donate to the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund in his name.

(d) Examinations Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 1st August, 1987.

On a motion by Miss L.C. Martin (Aberdeen Branch) seconded by Mr Mechan (Hawaii Branch) the Minutes were approved.

On a motion by Mr Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) seconded by Mrs H. Wilson (Leicester Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(e) Summer School Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 8th August, 1987.

On a motion by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton (Ont.) Branch) seconded by Mr W.A. Gray (South Wales Branch) the Minutes were approved.

On a motion by Mr Kendall (Leeds Branch) seconded by Mrs N. Dunn (Elected Member) the Minutes were ratified.

(f) Publications and Research Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 23rd May, 1987.

The Minutes had already been approved.

On a motion by Mr W. Hamilton (Detroit Branch) seconded by Mr T.W. Steele (Glasgow Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 20/21st June, 1987.

The Minutes had already been approved.

Referring to Minute PR87/37(c) Mrs N. Dunn (Elected Member) asked if the Committee would consider issuing a tape of Ladies' Step Dances. She felt that the video would be a good teaching medium for that.

Mr Mechan (Hawaii Branch) proposed that a vote of thanks from this meeting should go to Mrs Isobel Cramb for what she has done for the Society. Miss Brander (Los Angeles Branch) seconded the motion which was agreed.

On a motion by Mr J. Wilson (Nairobi Branch) seconded by Mr B.G. Harry (Twin Cities Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(iii) Minutes of Meeting on 25th July, 1987.

The Minutes had already been approved.

After discussion on PR87/43(d) initiated by Dr. Reinstein (Paris Branch) it was agreed that so far as requests for the publication by other individuals or organisations for permission to reprint Society dances the status quo would be maintained i.e. each application would be looked at individually and a decision reached appropriate to the circumstances.

On a motion by Mrs Murphy (Carlisle & Border Branch) seconded by Miss A.W. Miller (Duns & District Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(iv) Minutes of Meeting on 19th September, 1987.

On a motion by Miss Bennett (St. Andrews Branch) seconded by Mr J. Drewry (Elected Member) the Minutes were approved.

Mr Boode (Delft Branch) said he would prefer to see the name of the dance the same as the original tune and asked if some pressure on the deviser of the dance and the composer of the music could be exerted to this end. The Chairman said this was obviously not always possible but the request would be borne in mind by the Publications and Research Committee.

Dr. MacFayden drew the attention of members to the fact that at this particular meeting of the Committee they had said goodbye to Miss Susan Inglis, pianist, who had served the Committee for a very long time.

On a motion by Mr W. Hamilton (Detroit Branch) seconded by Mr R. Mackay (San Francisco Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

EC87/16 TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 1987/88

On the schedule before members the Scroll Sub-Committee had appeared under the Finance Committee and it should have been under General Purposes. The Summer School Committee Meeting in November, 1988 should have been on the 19th November (not 5th as shown).

With these amendments the schedule of meetings for 1987/88 was approved on a motion by Mr A. Mair (St. Andrews Branch) seconded by Mr D.A. Gray (Bournemouth Branch).

EC87/17 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES FOR 1987/88

Committees were duly appointed as follows:

(a) Finance Committee

Dr. A. MacFadyen (Chairman), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Vice-Chairman), and the following appointed members:

Mr J.C. Douglas	(Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch)
Miss M. Duffield	(West Lothian Branch)
Mr G. Lawson	(Elected Member)
Miss A.W. Miller	(Duns & District Branch)
Miss M.M. Ross	(Forres Branch)
Mr J. Taylor	(Stirlingshire Branch)
Mr R. Turnbull	(Richmond, N. Yorks Branch)

On a motion by Miss A.W. Miller seconded by Mise M. Duffield Mr Taylor was elected Convener.

Mr Taylor took this opportunity of thanking Miss Galway, a past member of the Committee, for the years of service she had given to the Finance Committee and to the Society in general.

(b) General Purposes Committee

Dr. A. MacFadyen (Chairman and Convener), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Vice-Chairman), Mr J. Taylor, (Finance Committee Convener) and the following appointed members:

Mrs N. Dunn	(Elected Member)
Miss E.M.C. Ferguson	(Dumfries Branch)
Mr B.G. Harry	(Twin Cities Branch)
Mr J. Laurie	(London Branch)
Mrs J. McKinven	(Roxburgh, Selkirk & Peebles Branch)
Mr A. Mair	(St. Andrews Branch)
Mrs A. Murphy	(Carlisle & Border Branch)
Miss B.A. Nairn	(Perth & Perthshire Branch)
Miss I.C. Paton	(Ayr Branch)

(c) Examinations Committee

Dr. A. MacFayden (Chairman), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Vice-Chairman), and the following appointed members:

Mrs M. Corson	(Winnipeg Branch)
Mrs A.H.T. Holden	(Director Summer School)
Miss D. Leurs	(Elected Member)
Miss L.C. Martin	(Aberdeen Branch)
Miss J. Yeats	(Ottawa Branch)

On a motion by Mrs W. Wadsworth (Gatehouse of Fleet Branch) seconded by Mrs A.H.T. Holden, Miss L.C. Martin was elected Convenver.

(d) Publications and Research Committee

Dr. A. MacFadyen (Chairman and Hon. Archivist), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Vice-Chairman) and the following appointed members:

Miss I. Bennett	(Elected Member)
Mr W. Clement	(Northern Virginia Branch)
Mr J. Drewry	(Elected Member)
Mr W. Hamilton	(Detroit Branch)
Mr D. Hollings	(Dundee Branch)
Mr T.W. Steele	(Glasgow Branch)

On a motion by Mr Steele (Glasgow Branch) seconded by Mr Zobel (Atlanta Branch) Mr W. Hamilton was nominated as Convener while on a motion by Mr Mechan (Hawaii Branch) seconded by Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch) Mr W. Clement was nominated as Convener. The resultant vote elected Mr W. Clement as Convener.

(e) Summer School Committee

Dr. A. MacFadyen (Chairman), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Vice-Chairman) and Mrs A.H.T. Holden (Director of Summer School and Convener) and the following appointed members:

Mrs L. Gaul	(Hamilton (Ont.) Branch)
Mr W.A. Gray	(South Wales Branch)
Miss A.B.W. Mann	(Dundee Branch)
Mrs S.M.D. Nedderman	(Cambridge & District Branch)

EC87/18 APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATION

Approval was given for the following affiliations:

The Sault Ste. Marie Scottish Country Dancers	(Ontario)
Surbiton & District Caledonian Society	(Surrey)

EC87/19 OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs Gaul (Hamilton (Ont.) Branch) asked what was to happen to suggestions made at the Open Forum. The Chairman said that in the first instance it would be up to the Committees concerned to decide.

Mr R. Taylor (Wirral Branch) had a query about a lady who had slipped and fallen at a Ball, and he was concerned about insurance. The Secretary said that only if the accident was caused by negligence on the part of the organisers could a claim be made. Mr R. Taylor suggested that the Health and Safety Executive might be prepared to allot responsibility for a slippery floor if the organisers were not allowed to put Slip Stop on it. It was agreed to investigate further.

Mr Campbell (Isle of Islay Branch) moved that our A.G.M. Balls should be preceded by a Grand March. Mr Mackay (San Francisco Branch) said there had been no Grand March at Edinburgh this year because the new arrangements made it very problematical that everyone would be there for the start.

Mrs Harper (South Argyll Branch) seconded the motion.

Mr Steele (Glasgow Branch) considered this could not be imposed on the organising Branch because of varying circumstances and moved that it be left to their discretion. Mrs Gaul (Hamilton (Ont.) Branch) seconded Mr Steele's motion.

The overwhelming majority of members present were in favour of having a Grand March but that it should be left to the organising Branch to decide.

Mr Harry (Twin Cities Branch) considered that dress at Balls should be formal.

The meeting closed at 4.20 p.m.

14.5.88

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 22 MELVILLE STREET, EDINBURGH, ON
SATURDAY, 14TH MAY, 1988, AT 1.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Dr. A. MacFadyen (in the Chair), Mr A.S. Aitkenhead, Miss I. Bennett, Mr J. Drewry, Mrs N. Dunn, Mr G. Lawson, Miss D. Leurs, Miss A.B.W. Mann, Miss L. Martin, Mr I.G.R. Zobel, Miss I.C. Paton, Mr C. McDougall, Mrs J. Bain, Dr. A.R. Paterson, Miss F.I. Galway, Mr B. Frazer, Miss A. Johnston, Mr D. Lyons, Mrs N. MacLaren, Mrs S. Nedderman, Mrs A. Murphy, Mrs A. McDougall, Mr J.B. Dougal, Mr J. Fyfe, Mrs M.H. Hopkins, Miss E. Johnson, Mr A.L.M. Boode, Mr W. Hamilton, Mr K. Stacey, Miss E.M.C. Ferguson, Mrs M. McIntosh, Mr D.S. Hollings, Mrs A. Couper, Mrs M. Patterson, Miss M.C. Menmuir, Mrs M. Martin, Mr D.A. Ross, Mrs A. Martin, Mr A.M. Smart, Mrs M. Baikie, Miss M.M. Ross, Mrs W.J. Wadsworth, Mr T.W. Steele, Mrs E. Barr, Mrs L. Gaul, Mrs F.C. Inglis, Mrs Linklater-Shirras, Mr D. Campbell, Dr. I.P. Gormley, Mrs O.C. Cameron, Mrs M.J. Boode, Mr G. Stephens, Mrs D.E. Christie, Mrs M.G. Longair, Mrs M.R. Duffield, Mr D. Kendall, Mrs A. Green, Mr J. Laurie, Miss J. Brown, Miss M.G. Brander, Dr. I. Hall, Mrs M. Killeen, Mr R. Osborne, Mr J. Rae, Miss N. Rintoul, Mr J.C. Douglas, Miss K. McLauchlan, Mr W. Clement, Mrs M. Devlin, Miss J.C. Yeats, Mr G. Davie, Mrs R. Brodie, Miss B.A. Nairn, Mr D.R. Warburton, Miss L. Carson, Mr D.A.S. McMillan, Mr R. Turnbull, Mrs M.C. Gudger, Mr Blackwood, Mr J. Scahill, Mr A. Mair, Mrs M. Power, Mr R.H. Mackay, Mrs J. Harper, Mr A.E. Dewdney, Mr W.A. Gray, Mr J. Taylor, Miss F. Martin, Mr R. Sutherland, Mrs A.A. Rose, Mr G. Burnett, Mr B. Harry, Miss M. Duffield, Mrs M. Corson, Mr R.J. Taylor, Mr M.L. Brown.

ATTENDING: Miss M.M. Gibson (Secretary), Mrs M.A. Jeffcoat (Treasurer).

EC88/1 APOLOGIES

Mr I.M. Birnie, Mr D. Gray, Mrs A. Holden, Miss M. McCartney, Mr J.B. Dickson, Mr H. Barnes, Mrs H. Wilson, Mr J. Wilson, Mr J. Hutton.

EC88/2 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Dr. MacFadyen said that he had to open the meeting on a sad note as several members of the Society had died very recently: Jean Reid, a teacher in Perth Branch; Miss Muriel Hadden, who had been the longest serving Secretary with the Society (1942-67); Miss Nancy Arnott, Secretary of Kirkcaldy Branch for 30 years who had served on the Council and many of its Committees for many years; Miss Nan Main who would be long remembered for her music; Mrs Janet McKinven the representative on the Council for Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles Branch who had joined the General Purposes Committee this year. Added to the list was news only received at the start of the meeting of the death of Mr Howie, the Chairman of Hamilton and Clydesdale Branch.

Council recorded their sorrow at their passing and their appreciation of the work these members had carried out on behalf of the Society.

EC88/3 MINUTES

On a motion by Mr Fyfe (Cheshire Branch) seconded by Mrs Corson (Winnipeg Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 14th November, 1987 were approved.

EC88/4 BUSINESS ARISING

Referring to Minute EC87/15(f)(ii) Mr Boode (Delft Branch) asked whether or not the Publications Committee had considered the suggestion of producing a tape for Ladies' Step Dances. The Chairman said that owing to pressure of other more urgent business the matter had not been discussed as yet but the suggestion had not been forgotten and would be discussed in due course.

EC88/5 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) General Purposes Committee

(i) Minutes of meeting on 23rd January, 1988

The Minutes had already been approved.

Mr Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch) said he thought a "simultaneous" dance world wide was a good idea in principle but he was surprised that 1989 had been suggested as most Branches would already have their plans made up to, if not beyond, that date. He also considered that 30th November would not be a suitable date, were that to be decided, as most Caledonian Societies and other ex-patriot Scottish Associations outwith Scotland would be celebrating St. Andrew's Day on that date or near to it, and it would be difficult to get really large numbers to a Society dance. He also pointed out that the date chosen was a Thursday night - members would have work the next day, students might have classes that evening. He felt a Friday or Saturday would be a better choice.

The Chairman said that these points would be taken into account when firming up plans.

Mrs Linklater-Shirras (Inverness & District Branch) said that in her area the Branches were interdependent on each other and if all had a dance on the same date it would have an effect on all of the dances and reduce attendance. Dr. MacFadyen said there was no reason why Branches should not co-operate for the particular event.

Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch) informed members that there was a meeting with a BBC representative at the end of May and it would depend on what the BBC could do in regard to publicity as to final plans.

With reference to GP88/9 and GP88/18(c) (the latter Minute being in the meeting on 16th April) Council decided that the Scholarship concerned should be officially designated the "Duncan Macleod Scholarship".

On a motion by Mr A. Gray (South Wales Branch) seconded by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton (Ont.) Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of meeting on 16th April, 1988

On a motion by Mr Laurie (London Branch) seconded by Mrs Murphy (Carlisle & Border Branch) the Minutes were approved.

The Chairman drew attention to Minute GP88/19 (Scrolls), and said that two posthumous awards were recommended. The nomination for Mr Nixon had been received timeously but unfortunately he had later died.

With regard to the Open Forum (GP88/24) the Committee had recommended that there be no change in the format.

He also said, referring to GP88/20 that we were mounting a publicity campaign and were almost ready to produce leaflets, posters and hand bills.

Dr. Paterson (Bath Branch) suggested offering dancers to the Television authorities for Scottish programmes but it was suggested that there might be difficulties with Equity.

On a motion by Miss Nairn (Perth & Perthshire Branch) seconded by Miss Paton (Ayr Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(b) Finance Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 23rd January, 1988

The Minutes had already been approved.

Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch), Finance Convener, said that having decided to transfer recordings to Pinemarten Sounds studio he anticipated that records could be held at £6 to members.

With regard to the statuette Mr Taylor said that Mrs Clampitt had offered the statuette to the Society to mark the Diamond Jubilee but could not get it cast. At the time he had a foundry who agreed to take the work in hand for the Society at no cost. Unfortunately, the foundry passed out of his control and he recently contacted another foundry who quoted around £5,000 to go ahead with it. At the moment he was still endeavouring to see if he could find some means of casting the statuette around £1,000.

Mr Osbourne (Milton Keynes Branch) asked if our Public Liability would cover a M.C. who omitted to warn dancers that the floor was slippery if one had an accident. He was assured that the M.C. would not be sued as an individual. The Society would be responsible or not depening on circumstances.

The Minutes were ratified on a motion by Miss Ross (Forres Branch) seconded by Mr Turnbull (Richmond (N. Yorks) Branch).

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 16th April, 1988

On a motion by Mr Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch) seconded by Mr G. Lawson (Elected Member) the Minutes were approved.

In respect of F88/20 Mr Taylor detailed the reasoning behind the necessary increase in subscriptions. He pointed out that it would not be effective until 1st July 1989, by which date it would be five years since the last increase and he would hope to hold the increased subscription for the same length of time. Costs were rising all the time and covered all aspects of the Society's work.

Council agreed that the motion should go forward to the A.G.M.:-

"that with effect from 1st July 1989, the annual subscription be raised to £5, the subscription as at present being divided in proportion of 50% to be retained by the Branch and 50% to be forwarded to Headquarters. Where a Branch starts its financial year prior to, or later than 1st July, the increased subscription will be operative from the start of the Branch financial year in 1989".

While Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) wondered if consideration might be given to family subscriptions, associate subscriptions for non-dancing members, Mrs Murphy (Carlisle & Border Branch) evinced her surprise and delight that the increase in the subscription was so little. Mr B. Frazer (Berks, Hants, Surrey Border Branch) agreed with her but wondered if we should have a more modest increase once a year. Miss Rintoul (Monklands Branch) was concerned that an increase in the subscription would mean a fall in membership.
Mr Taylor confirmed that Long Term membership would obviously be affected as there was no change in the policy of making it ten times the cost of an annual subscription. In reply to Mr Brown (York & North Humberside Branch) Mr Taylor confirmed that Branches overseas paid the same membership subscription as all UK members and would have the same increase should it be approved by the Society A.G.M.

Mrs Linklater-Shirras (Inverness & District Branch) said that while all members of her Branch paid the same membership subscription class fees were adjusted for the benefit of their Senior Citizens. Mr Stacey (Doncaster & District Branch) supported the increase in the subscription and considered it was much less than in many other activities. He agreed with Mrs Linklater-Shirras that membership "perks" could be dealt with by Branches themselves.

Mr Ross (Edinburgh Branch) referring to Minute F88/26 said there appeared to be inconsistencies in the way the VAT authorities dealt with the Branch and with Headquarters. Mr Taylor did not know what these were but would be willing to discuss the matter with the Branch.

Mr Taylor informed Council that, at a special Finance Committee meeting prior to the Executive Council it had been recommended that £1500 be allotted for publicity posters, leaflets at "camera ready" stage and £1500 for a reconditioned piano. The Minutes of these decisions would be before the next Council meeting.

The Minutes of the meeting on 16th April, 1988 were ratified on a motion by Mrs Murphy seconded by Miss Duffield.

(c) Examinations Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 9th January, 1988

On a motion by Mrs Corson (Winnipeg Branch) seconded by Miss Yeats (Ottawa Branch) the Minutes were approved.

Referring to Minute EX88/4 (c)(i) Miss Martin (Aberdeen Branch) said that there had been an initial probe to ascertain the demand for a course for violinists and accordionists and the response had been extremely encouraging and the result would be before the Examintions Committee at their next meeting.

On behalf of the Examinations Committee and the Society she thanked the teachers and musicians who had undertaken the teaching tours this Spring. She knew a lot of hard work had gone into the preparation for the visits of:

Miss Miller and Mr Mackay to Norway
Mrs Murphy and Miss Sim to Sweden and Denmark
Mr Grant and Mrs Reekie to Ireland
Miss Catto to Belgium and
Mrs Gaul to France.

In reply to queries she had received she said that Mr Henry in Northern Territories, Australia had problems in attending classes and the Examinations Committee had put various suggestions to him none of which he could accept and the matter had been dropped.

Again in response to a query, she explained (EX88/8(c)) that the Examinations Committee felt that practical dancing was an integral part of the examination and asked Council to support this view.

To Mr Mackay (San Francisco Branch) she confirmed that the report on the Second Music Course had been circulated to all members of the Committee and thanked him for his report.

On a motion by Mr Steele (Glasgow Branch) seconded by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton (Ont.) Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(d) Publications and Research Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 28th November, 1987

The Minutes had already been approved.

The Convener of the Committee, Mr Clement (Northern Virginia Branch) said with reference to PR87/56 that the music on the video would be improved this year by recording the music prior to filming and feeding it into the video.

The Minutes were ratified on a motion by Dr. Gormley (Isle of Skye Branch) seconded by Mr Harry (Twin Cities Branch).

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 16th January, 1988

The Minutes had already been approved.

Mr Clement drew attention to the fact that certain videos now of historical interest had been deposited in the Society's Archives.

Mr Boode (Delft Branch) felt sorry the videos were only in the Archives as although old they might be of interest to members. Mr Clement explained that, as stated in the Minutes, the copyright was the property of the Scottish Central Film Library and the Chairman felt there were implications which we had to consider.

On a motion by Mr Steele (Glasgow Branch) seconded by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton (Ont.) Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(iii) Minutes of Meeting on 6th February, 1988

The Minutes had already been approved.

Referring to PR88/15(a) Mr Clement said that the sub-committee dealing with the "Listening Tape" had yet to meet. The first draft of "An Album for Mrs Stewart" (PR88/15(c)) had been received.

He thanked Mrs McKenzie (Independent Video Productions) Mr Freeland Barbour (Lapwing Records) and Mr Bryce Laing (Craighall Studios) for coming along to the Committee's meetings to give freely of their advice on videos and recording.

In reply to Mrs Murphy (Carlisle & Border Branch) Mr Clement said that while we did not sell sufficient videos to cover the cost of origination, they were of great benefit to teachers. To keep costs down at the moment dances were done twice through. Were we to include more the cost would rise.

Mrs Harper (South Argyll) said that in her Branch the video was shown at the A.G.M. and at the Annual School and was much appreciated by the members.

Mr Boode (Delft Branch) asked, referring to PR88/20(b) what the "Glossary" was to be. Mr Clement explained that it would be a glossary of the correct terminology for Scottish Country Dancing.

The Minutes were ratified on a motion by Mr Smart (Florida South) and Mr Rae (Moffat Branch).

(iv) Minutes of Meeting on 19th March, 1988

The Minutes had already been approved.

Mr Clement said that with Pinemarten Sounds Ltd. we would have a studio with good facilities and would be using multi-track recording and our next three records would be produced there.

On a motion by Mr A. Gray (South Wales Branch) seconded by Mrs Dunn (Elected Member) the Minutes were ratified.

(v) Minutes of Meeting on 30th April, 1988

The Minutes were approved on a motion by Mr Hamilton (Detroit Branch) seconded by Mr Steele (Glasgow Branch).

Mr Clement drew attention to the fact that in producing the new Manual there would be co-operation between the Publications and Research Committee and the Examinations Committee.

Mrs Boode (Kingston (Ont.) Branch) referring to PR88/35 and books with twelve dances said that her Branch suggested that two couple Strathspeys be recorded 6 times through. Mr Hamilton (Detroit Branch) very strongly disagreed with recording 6 times through, and Mr Clement emphasised the difficulty in getting all the twelve dances on to the one record. In reply to Mr Fyfe (Cheshire Branch) it was confirmed that the master copy of records/tapes was the property of the RSCDS.

Mr Brown (York & North Humberside Branch) asked what stocks were held of "Won't You Join The Dance?". The Secretary stated that approximately 2 years' stock was held judging by present demand. Dr. Hall (Manchester Branch) hoped that a scholarly manual would be produced. Mrs Murphy (Carlisle & Border Branch) hoped there would not be separation of the parts but that history, theory, etc. would all be incorporated in one volume.

On a motion by Mr Hamilton (Detroit Branch) seconded by Mrs Linklater-Shirras (Inverness & District Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(e) Summer School Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on 14th November, 1987.

The Minutes were approved on a motion by Mr A. Gray (South Wales Branch) seconded by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton (Ont.) Branch).

In reply to a query as to what had been discussed at the Open Forum the Chairman stated that grading of classes and children's classes were among topics discussed at the Forum.

Mrs Gaul (Hamilton (Ont.) Branch) who was organising the coach tours in the middle Sunday of each course said that there had been a tremendous response from members who were to attend Summer School and it was obviously a popular event which the Director of Summer School had proposed.

The Minutes were ratified on a motion by Mr Steele (Glasgow Branch) seconded by Mr Zobel (Atlanta Branch).

EC88/6 OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Mrs Duffield (Royal Leamington Spa & District Branch) asked on behalf of the Branch that "and District" should be dropped from the designation of the Branch. The Executive Council gave unanimous approval to this request.

(b) Mr Hamilton (Detroit Branch) who had kindly set up the public address system said that he had put the loudspeakers at the back of the hall on this occasion and asked whether or not this a arrangement was satisfactory. Members confirmed that it was.

(c) Miss Galway (Belfast Branch) informed the meeting that this was her last appearance as representative of Belfast Branch and she wished to thank and to say goodbye to her colleagues on the Council. The Chairman thanked Miss Galway for her work on Council and the Finance Convener thanked her for the many years she had served on the Finance Committee.

(d) Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) said he was sorry Miss Gibson was retiring and asked what the position was regarding replacing her. The Chairman said there had been a great interest shown in the advertisement and forty applications had been received from which a short leet of nine had been selected. Interviewing would take place in a week's time.

(e) Dr. MacFadyen said that it was also his last Executive Council Meeting as Chairman and he would like to thank a number of people especially those who had assisted him on the platform and helped him through meetings - Conveners of Committees, the Vice-Chairman, and the Treasurer. He felt it had helped to expedite the meetings of Council. He also thanked members of Council for being so supportive and patient and he congratulated them on their attendance at meetings which compared very favourably with other organisations. The Chairman said that he should not conclude his thanks without mentioning Miss Gibson, the Secretary, who was to retire in November. He told members there would be an opportunity at the A.G.M. to show their gratitude to her and their appreciation of what she has done.

EC88/7 NEXT MEETING

19th November, 1988

The meeting closed with a warm vote of thanks to the Chair.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 33 MELVILLE STREET, EDINBURGH ON
SATURDAY, 19 NOVEMBER, 1988 AT 1.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (in the Chair), Miss A.W. Miller, Dr. A. MacFadyen, Mrs A.H.T. Holden, Miss C.M. Catto, Miss D. Leurs, Mr A. Mair, Miss A.B.W. Mann, Miss L.C. Martin, Miss I.C. Paton, Mr C. McDougall, Mrs J. Bain, Dr. A. Paterson, Mrs B. Smith, Mr B. Frazer, Miss A. Johnston, Mr D. Lyons, Mrs N. MacLaren, Mr R. Watson, Mr I.M. Birnie, Mrs S. Nedderman, Mrs A. Murphy, Mrs A. McDougall, Miss M. McCartney, Mrs J. MacLean, Mrs M.H. Hopkins, Miss E. Price, Mr J. Hutton, Mr A.L.M. Boode, Mr W. Hamilton, Mr K. Stacey, Miss E.M.C. Ferguson, Mrs M. McIntosh, Mr D.S. Hollings, Mrs A. Couper, Miss M.C. Menmuir, Mr D.A. Ross, Mr A.M. Smart, Mrs M. Baikie, Miss M.M. Ross, Mrs W. Wadsworth, Miss D. Hamilton, Mrs E. Barr, Mr G. Mechan, Miss F.C. Inglis, Mrs Linklater-Shirras, Mr C. Campbell, Dr. I.P. Gormley, Mrs O.C. Cameron, Mrs M.J. Boode-Gould, Mr G. Stephens, Mrs D.E. Christie, Mrs B.J. Burnell, Mrs H.J. Wilson, Mrs A. Green, Mr J. Laurie, Miss J. Brown, Miss M. Brander, Dr. I.M. Hall, Mr J. Rae, Mr W. Jardine, Mr J.B. Dickson, Mr J.C. Douglas, Miss K. McLauchlan, Mr W. Clement, Mrs M. Devlin, Miss J.C. Yeats, Mr G. Davie, Dr. J. Reinstein, Miss B.A. Nairn, Mr D.R. Warburton, Miss L. Carson, Mr D.A.S. McMillan, Mr R.J. Turnbull, Mrs M.C. Gudger, Mr D. Blackwood, Mrs M.R. Duffield, Mr J. Scahill, Mrs M. Power, Mr R.H. Mackay, Mrs E. Burling, Mrs J. Harper, Mr A.E. Dewdney, Mr W.A. Gray, Mr J. Taylor, Miss F. Martin, Mr R. Sutherland, Mr B. Harry, Mr T.W. Steele, Mr C.B. McCausland, Miss M. Duffield, Mrs M. Corson, Mr R.J. Taylor, Mr M.L. Brown.

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

EC88/8 APOLOGIES

Mr H. Barnes, Miss I. Bennett, Mr J.B. Dougal, Mr J. Drewry, Mrs L. Gaul, Mrs M. Killeen, Mr G. Lawson, Mrs M. Longair, Mr R. Osborne, Mr J. Wilson, Mr W. Zobel, Mr H. van Zon.

EC88/9 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman told the Council that they were indebted to Mr Ron Taylor of Wirral Branch for the wine which had accompanied the lunch. Mr Aitkenhead then welcomed members to the 1988/89 season, especially those who were there for the first time. Having introduced the new Secretary and the platform party he congratulated Miss A. Wilma Miller on her election as Vice-Chairman.

EC88/10 COMPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 1988/89

The Chairman called upon the Secretary to announce amendments to the list of Council members which had been distributed with the Agenda. The amendments consisted of the following additions:

Boston	Mrs N. MacLaren
Carnoustie	Mrs A. McDougall
Gatehouse of Fleet	Mrs W. Wadsworth
Hamilton & Clydesdale	Mrs E. Barr
Manchester	Dr. I.M. Hall
San Diego	Mrs M. Power

EC88/11 BALLOT PAPERS

(a) Referring to the ballot paper for the Finance Committee the Chairman announced the withdrawal of Miss A. Wilma Miller's name because of her election to Vice-Chairman leaving the names of seven members on the list, thus no ballot would be necessary.

(b) Referring to the ballot paper for the Publications and Research Committee the Chairman announced that one name had been omitted from the voting paper and that the name of Mr John Drewry (Elected Member) should be added to the list.

There were no changes to the other ballot papers and members were asked to complete them.

Thereafter the voting papers were collected for counting.

EC88/12 MINUTES

On a motion by Mr W. Hamilton (Detroit Branch) seconded by Mrs Linklater-Shirras (Inverness & District Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 14th May, 1988 were approved.

EC88/13 BUSINESS ARISING

Referring to EC88/4 Mr Boode (Delft Branch) said that although he had originally meant an audio tape for Ladies' Step Dances he had no objection to a video tape. Maybe they could both be issued at the same time. Mr Clement (Northern Virginia Branch) said that the new Publications Committee would keep this in mind.

Miss Martin (Aberdeen Branch) drew attention to the omission of Ms. Muriel Johnstone's name from the penultimate paragraph of the Examinations Committee Minutes which should read "and thanked Ms. Muriel Johnstone and Mr Mackay for their report".

On a motion by Mrs Duffield (Royal Leamington Spa Branch) and seconded by Dr. Gormley (Isle of Skye Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

EC88/14 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) General Purposes Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 15th October, 1988.

On a motion by Mr Laurie (London Branch) seconded by Miss Nairn (Perth Branch) the Minutes were approved.

Referring to GP88/29(a) Dr. MacFadyen reported that the Sub-Committee reviewing the Constitution had met on 12th November 1988 and would be meeting again on 21st January and that they were taking into account all the items submitted by the three Branches and that they should be ready to make recommendations to the next meeting of the Executive Council.

Replying to a question about a programme for Dance Round the World (GP88/31) Mr Aitkenhead said that one was being made up keeping in mind suggestions from those who were taking part. As a result a programme made up from place names would be going to Committee and thereafter to the Branches by early 1989. There was discussion concerning the suitability of the date for Dance Round the World. Mr Aitkenhead, replying to Mrs Christie (Kirkcudbright Branch) said that a proforma could be sent to Branches requesting details for circulation as to where the dances were to be held. Mr Aitkenhead also told the meeting that further meetings were planned with the B.B.C. to discuss the extent of their involvement. Mr Stevens (Kirkcaldy Branch), because of the difficulty in getting bands, suggested that a tape of the dances might be produced.

Mr Brown (York & N. Humberside Branch), referring to GP88/32 asked for clarification about the MacRowdie situation. Dr. MacFadyen, replying, said the problem arose when the Tidewater Group were not invited to renew their affiliation because of doubts about the MacRowdies who were outwith the Society but with some Society members and were closely linked to the Tidewater Group. We had received letters, tapes and photographs suggesting they participated in activities which we felt we would not wish to have associated with the R.S.C.D.S. We have said their application could be reconsidered but the General Purposes Committee would look for evidence that the MacRowdie group were not associated with the Tidewater Group.

Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) asked if the affiliation fee should be increased. Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch) said this could be looked at.

Dr MacFadyen, in response to a query, explained (GP88/35) that it had been agreed that there would be no report after the Open Forum but that Conveners present would take account of what had been said.

On a motion by Mr B. Harry (Twin Cities Branch) seconded by Mr A. Smart (Florida South Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(b) Finance Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 14th May 1988.

The Minutes had already been approved.

Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch) explained that this was an additional meeting called to authorise special publicity material, a replacement piano and to consider the question of a new fire extinguisher. Mr Taylor emphasised that this was not the only fire extinguisher but one of a number.

On a motion by Mr J. Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch) seconded by Mr W. Gray (South Wales Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 30th July 1988.

The Minutes had already been approved.

On a proposal by Miss A.W. Miller (Duns & District Branch) seconded by Mr A. Dewdney (Southport Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(iii) Minutes of Meeting on 15th October 1988.

On a proposal by Miss M. Ross (Forres Branch) seconded by Mr R. Turnbull (Richmond N. Yorks Branch) the Minutes were approved.

F88/52. Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch) pointed out that the fee for Summer School 1989 had increased by 5% because the University charges had increased by the same amount.

F88/58(j). Mr K. Stacey (Doncaster & District Branch) asked if there had been any progress regarding the royalties due from "Auld Lang Syne". Mrs Jeffcoat (Tresurer) replied that efforts were still being made to contact them but fortunately the amount of money involved was small.

On a motion by Miss M. Ross (Forres Branch) seconded by Mr T.W. Steele (Vancouver Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(c) Strathspey Sales Limited

Mr Taylor, as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Strathspey Sales Ltd, presented the report for the year ended 30th June 1988.

He said that the Directors, as reported last year, had set out to achieve gradual growth. This did not happen as turnover had dropped by £568 to £16,832. Various reasons were put forward for the decline - saturation, members having purchased what is available, lack of interest in the variety of items for sale although new items had been introduced, lack of money.

The gross profit is down by £1647 to £3805. He explained that the mark-up was to blame. It is too low, prices are adjusted once a year in January and we do not pass on the increase in suppliers costs on items purchased by the company during the year. This will be taken care of at our next meeting in January when prices are reviewed.

He said that the Society had repaid £1900 management charge and that £900 interest on the loan of £9,000 from the Society had also been paid. With other chargeable expenses taken into account, the year ended with no taxable profit.

Strathspey Sales made neither profit nor loss, although they did in total contribute £3805 to the Society including re-imbursed expenses.

Mr Taylor said the Directors would continue to try to generate income. They were investigating additional sales outlets outwith the Society, and, of course, new items would be introduced. The Directors would appreciate suggestions from members on articles suitable for sale.

Under the Terms of the Articles of Association of Strathspey Sales Limited, two Directors had retired, Miss Gibson on her retirement as Secretary of the Society and Dr. A. MacFadyen on vacating the Chair of the Society.

The present Directors, Mrs M.A. Jeffcoat, Miss A.W. Miller, Mr J.C. Douglas and Mr Taylor offered their services for a further year and in addition two new members of the Board were named, the new Secretary, Mrs J.A. Moore and the new Chairman of the Society, Mr A. Aitkenhead.

Mr Hamilton (Detroit Branch) asked if any thoughthad been given to more frequent price increases. Mr Taylor replied that this would mean re-issuing the price list and we try to keep it as a service to the Society. Mr Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch) said, that as a Director, he was disappointed to find so few bags of articles waiting for members to take away and he thought Branches could do more than they were doing.

On a motion by Mr Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) and seconded by Mr Rae (Moffat Branch) the report was accepted.

(d) Examinations Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 23rd July 1988.

On a motion by Miss Yeats (Ottawa Branch) seconded by Mrs Corson (Winnipeg Branch) the Minutes were approved.

Mr Taylor (Wirral Branch) asked for clarification about the Examiners' Seminar arranged for 16th September 1989. In reply Miss Martin (Aberdeen Branch) said the Seminar would take the form of a discussion which would be attended by all available examiners, including examiners from overseas.

Dr. Hall (Manchester Branch) asked for further information about the Music Course for Violinists and Accordionists, EX88/31. Miss Martin (Aberdeen Branch) said that the date for this course was now 24/26 February 1989 and that Miss Yla Stephen and Mr Bobby Crowe had agreed to be violin and accordion tutors respectively.

On a proposal by Mr Stacey (Doncaster & District Branch) seconded by Mr Mair (Elected Member) the Minutes were duly ratified.

(e) Summer School Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 11th June 1988.

The Minutes had already been approved.

In reply to a query about the questionnaire SS88/3 members were informed that the response had been good and Mr Gray (South Wales Branch) hoped to present the completed analysis to the meeting in January.

On a motion by Mr Smart (Florida South Branch) seconded by Dr. Reinstein (Paris Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 10th September 1988.

On a motion the Minutes were approved.

Referring to SS88/27(d) Dr. Reinstein (Paris Branch) commended the introduction of an official photographer but thought he could be more professional.

Mr Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch) referring to SS88/13 proposed that the final results of the questionnaire would be made known to the Executive Council as well as at Summer School. This was seconded by Dr. Paterson (Bath Branch).

On a motion by Mr Steele (Vancouver Branch) seconded by Mr Mackay (San Francisco Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(f) Publications and Research Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 11th June 1988.

The Minutes had already been approved.

There was lengthy discussion centred around recordings, the feeling amongst members being that R.S.C.D.S. dances should be recorded the correct number of times through. Mr Gray (South Wales Branch) seconded by Mrs Boode-Gould (Kingston, Ontario Branch) proposed that the Committee publish the full length of the dances and produce three records for the two books. This proposal was remitted to the Publications and Research Committee.

Referring to Minute PR88/53 Mr Clement (Northern Virginia Branch) said the second line should read Schottische Poussette.

Referring to Minute PR88/47(c) Mr Stacey (Doncaster & District Branch) said that his Committee had asked him to put forward the suggestion that new tapes should be listened to by a Listening Sub-Committee who were used to listening to tapes.

On a motion by Mr Gray (South Wales Branch) seconded by Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 17th September 1988.

On a motion by Mr Hamilton (Detroit Branch) seconded by Mr Steele (Vancouver Branch), the Minutes were approved.

Referring to PR88/58(d)(ii) Dr. Reinstein (Paris Branch) said that as an aide-memoire Pocket Editions are valuable but when preparing for a dance they leave much to be desired. For a quick review, diagrams would be useful and he suggested that the Committee should consider a book of diagrams.

On a motion by Mr Turnbull (Richmond N. Yorks Branch) seconded by Mr Laurie (London Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

EC88/15 TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 1988/89

The schedule of meetings for 1988/89 was approved on a motion by Mr J. Laurie (London Branch) seconded by Dr. J. Reinstein (Paris Branch).

EC88/16 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES FOR 1988/89

Committees were duly appointed as follows:

(a) Finance Committee

Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Chairman), Miss A.W. Miller (Vice-Chairman), Dr. A. MacFadyen (Immediate Past Chairman) and the following appointed members:-

Mr J.C. Douglas	(Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch)
Miss M. Duffield	(West Lothian Branch)
Mr G. Lawson	(Glasgow Branch)
Mr D.A. Ross	(Edinburgh Branch)
Miss M.M. Ross	(Forres Branch)
Mr J. Taylor	(Stirlingshire Branch)
Mr R. Turnbull	(Richmond N. Yorks Branch)

On a motion by Mr Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch) seconded by Miss Martin (Aberdeen Branch) Mr J. Taylor was elected Convener.

(b) General Purposes Committee

Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Chairman and Convener), Miss A.W. Miller, (Vice-Chairman), Mr J. Taylor (Finance Committee Convener), Dr. A. MacFadyen (Immediate Past Chairman) and the following appointed members:

Mr A. Mair	(St. Andrews Branch)
Miss B.A. Nairn	(Perth & Perthshire Branch)
Mrs A. Murphy	(Carlisle & Border Branch)
Mr J. Laurie	(London Branch)
Miss I. Paton	(Ayr Branch)
Miss E.M.C. Ferguson	(Dumfries Branch)
Dr. I.P. Gormley	(Isle of Skye Branch)
Mr A.M. Smart	(Florida South Branch)
Mr G. Stephens	(Kirkcaldy Branch)

(c) Examinations Committee

Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Chairman, Miss A.W. Miller (Vice-Chairman), Dr. A. MacFadyen (Immediate Past Chairman) and the following appointed members:

Mrs A.H.T. Holden	(Director Summer School)
Miss L.C. Martin	(Aberdeen Branch)
Miss D. Leurs	(Elected Member)
Mrs M. Corson	(Winnipeg Branch)
Mr G. Mechan	(Hawaii Branch)

On a motion by Mrs Wadsworth (Gatehouse of Fleet Branch) seconded by Miss Duffield (West Lothian Branch) Miss Mertin was elected Convener.

(d) Publications and Research Committee

Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Chairman), Miss A.W. Miller (Vice-Chairman), Dr. A. MacFadyen (Immediate Past Chairman and Hon. Archivist) and the following appointed members:

Mr W. Clement	(Northern Virginia Branch)
Miss I. Bennett	(St. Andrews Branch)
Mr R. Mackay	(San Francisco Branch)
Mrs J. MacLean	(Chicago Branch)
Mr J. Drewry	(Elected Member)

On a motion by Mr G. Mechan (Hawaii Branch) seconded by Mr J. Hutton (Delaware Valley Branch) Mr Clement was elected Convener.

(e) Summer School Committee

Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (Chairman), Miss A.W. Miller (Vice-Chairman), Dr. A. MacFadyen (Immediate Past Chairman), Mrs A.H.T. Holden (Director of Summer School and Convener) and the following appointed members:

Mr W.A. Gray	(South Wales Branch)
Miss A.B.W. Mann	(Dundee Branch)
Mr J. Rae	(Moffat Branch)
Miss S. Nedderman	(Cambridge & District Branch)

EC88/17 BUSINESS FROM THE A.G.M.

Regarding Resolution (b) "that with effect from 1st July, 1989, new Long Term memberships no longer be extended to Royal Scottish Country Dance Society members", it was agreed that this should go to both the General Purposes Committee and Finance Committee before being considered by the Executive Council next May, 1989.

Concerning Resolution (c) "that the Executive Council of the Society considers the effect that the present subscription book system has had and is having on the traditional dances of Scotland and recommend to next year's Annual General Meeting whether or not to retain it or substitute alternatives and that the Executive Council review their whole policy with regard to the publication of dances", it was agreed that the Publications and Research Committee should look at this in the first instance and their recommendations should then be put to the General Purposes Committee and possibly to the Finance Committee. Mr Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) referring to this resolution was asked to submit his comments in writing to the Publications and Research Committee.

Mr Taylor said that to give the Finance Committee some idea of what they were working towards, partly with family subscriptions in mind, it was necessary to know the ages of Branch members, in groups. The meeting agreed to the mailing to Branches of a questionnaire to obtain this information.

EC88/18 APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATION

Approval was given for the following affiliations:

Basildon Caledonian Society	(Basildon, Essex)
Lanchester Scottish Country Dance	(Lanchester, Durham)
Rocky River Group	(Ohio, U.S.A.)

EC88/19 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Approval was given for the following to represent their Branches on the North of Ireland Co-ordinating Committee for 1988-89 :-

Belfast	Miss Myra Beattie Mrs Marion Donaldson
Portrush	Mrs Agnes Hamilton Mr Charlie Shott
Whitehead	Mr Norman Brown Mr John Thompson

Miss Brander (Los Angeles Branch) asked that the General Purposes Committee might consider the question of R.S.C.D.S. representation on the Scottish Sports Council.

Mr Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch) asked if Headquarters would recommend or publish a paper pattern suitable for making a white dress for demonstrations.

Mr R. Taylor (Wirral Branch) referring to the 1990 Subscription Book for which Branches have been asked to submit dances, asked if the Publications and Research Committee would consider publishing in leaflet form those dances which were not accepted for the Book.

EC88/20 NEXT MEETING

13th May, 1989

The meeting closed at 3.45 p.m. with the request that a letter should go from the Council to Miss Gibson with good wishes for her retirement.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 33 MELVILLE STREET, EDINBURGH
ON SATURDAY, 13 MAY 1989 AT 1 30 P.M.

PRESENT: Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (in the chair), Miss A.W. Miller, Dr A. MacFadyen, Mrs A.H.T. Holden, Mr J. Drewry, Mr G. Lawson, Miss D. Leurs, Mr A. Mair, Miss A.B.W. Mann, Miss L.C. Martin, Mr I. McDiarmid, Miss I.C. Paton, Mr C. McDougall, Mrs J. Bain, Dr A. Paterson, Mrs B. Smith, Mr R. Watson, Mrs S. Nedderman, Mrs A. McDougall, Mr B. Frazer, Miss A. Johnston, Mr D. Lyons, Mrs N. MacLaren, Mrs A. Murphy, Miss B. McHaffie, Mr J.B. Dougal, Mr J. Fyfe, Mrs J. McLean, Mrs M.H. Hopkins, Miss E. Price, Mr J. Hutton, Mr W. Hamilton, Miss E.M.C. Ferguson, Mrs M. McIntosh, Mr D.S. Hollings, Mrs A. Couper, Mr R.J. Taylor, Mrs K. Skea, Mrs M. Martin, Mr D .A. Ross, Mr A.M. Smart, Mrs M. Baikie, Miss M.M. Ross, Mrs W. Wadsworth, Miss D. Hamilton, Mrs E. Barr, Mrs L. Gaul, Mr G. Mechan, Mrs Linklater-Shirras, Mr D. Campbell, Dr I.P. Gormley, Mrs O.C. Cameron, Mr G Stephens, Mrs D.E. Christie, Mrs M.G. Longair, Mrs B.J. Burnell, Mrs H.J. Wilson, Mrs A. Green, Mr J. Laurie, Miss J. Brown, Miss M. Brander, Mrs M. Killeen, Mr J.B. Dickson, Mr J. Wilson, Mr J.C. Douglas, Miss K. McLauchlan, Mr W. Clement, Mrs M. Devlin, Mr G. Davie, Dr J. Reinstein, Miss B.A. Nairn, Mr D.R. Warburton, Miss L. Carson, Mr D.A.S. McMillan, Mr R.J. Turnbull, Mr D. Blackwood, Mrs M.R. Duffield, Mr P. Knight, Miss I.R.J. Bennett, Mrs M. Power, Mrs E. Burling, Mrs J. Harper, Mr A.E. Dewdney, Mr W.A. Gray, Mr J. Taylor, Miss F. Martin, Mr R. Sutherland, Mr D.C.W. Willetts, Mr B. Harry, Mr C.B. McCausland, Miss M. Duffield, Mrs M. Corson, Mr M.L. Brown

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

EC 89/1 APOLOGIES

Mr Barnes, Mr Birnie, Mr Boode, Mrs Boode Gould, Miss Catto, Mrs Gudyer, Mrs Inglis, Mr Mackay, Mr Rae, Mr Steele, Mr Stacey, Miss Yeats, Mr Zobel.

The Secretary noted that Mrs M. Martin's name had been omitted from the names of those present at the meeting of 19 November 1988.

EC 89/2 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The chairman welcomed all members to the May Executive Council Meeting and introduced Miss Dorothy Walker, the new Assistant Secretary at Headquarters.

EC 89/3 MINUTES

On a motion by Mrs Linklater-Shirras (Inverness & District Branch) seconded by Dr Gormley (Isle of Skye Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 19th November 1988 were approved.

EC 89/4 BUSINESS ARISING

EC 88/17 The Chairman announced that Mr Clement, would be referring to the subscription book system when giving his report on the Publication and Research Committee meetings.

EC 88/19 The Chairman informed the members that the Publications and Research Committee had discussed and rejected Mr Taylor's suggestion for publishing in leaflet form the dances which had not been accepted for the 1990 Subscription Book. 93 Dances had been submitted from which 8 would be selected.

EC 89/5 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

a) Publication and Research Committee

On a motion by Mr Drewry (elected member) and seconded by Miss K. McLauchlan (New Zealand Branch) the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd and 23rd April were approved.

The Chairman drew attention to the inclusion of the additional Minute for the meeting on 4th March.

Mr Clement, Convenor of the Publications and Research Committee then highlighted the main points from all the minutes:-

PR 88/66 (b) The Committee decided to proceed with plans to record dances full length as suggested at the last Executive Council. Of the three records which were produced last winter, two have twelve dances each, recorded from Books 11 and 12, because it was too late to alter the arrangements which had already been made. However the third record has eight dances full length, from Book 13. There had been problems with the technical side of the productions and the Committee was indebted to Ms Johnstone and to the band leaders for their help in the completion of this work.

PR 89/3 (a) Listening Tape. This would be a cassette of Scottish Music and song intended not for dancing, but for listening pleasure. It was hoped that it would be available in time for Summer School.

PR 89/3 (d) The remit from the AGM had been discussed at length and the Committee was quite unanimous in recommending that books of newly devised and traditional dances should continue to be published. There is a comprehensive catalogue of published dances (about 5,000) of which approximately 500 are RSCDS and of these, about 100 are newly devised. It was not the Society therefore which was flooding the market with new dances.

PR 89/11 (d) Step Dances. A cassette of piano music for Step Dancing was planned and recording of the music for 12 (or more) dances would be undertaken shortly. The dances were all to be traditional, principally those collected by Mrs Cramb and including some from Mrs McNab's collection. Although it was hoped to publish an accompanying book of instructions this work cannot be undertaken at present.

PR 89/19 Feae A' The Airts. Mr Clement said the response to this competition had been good, 103 dances being submitted. It was hoped to complete the selection of the dances by 10th June. The recordings would take place later in the year after the music sub-committee had chosen the music for these dances and the bands had had time to select alternative tunes.

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 3rd December 1989.

The minutes had already been approved.

Referring to PR 88/65 (b) Mr Douglas (Newcastle - upon - Tyne Branch) asked what the Committee thought an ideal Tempo should be. Replying, Mr Clement said for a 32 bar reel danced eight times through, it was 4 minutes 34 seconds; a 32 bar jig danced eight times through, 4 minutes 34 seconds; a 32 bar strathspey danced eight times through, 8 minutes 12 seconds. Mr Clement pointed out, however, that there is a limit to the tempo at which bands can play depending on the degree of difficulty of the tune.

On a motion by Mrs L Gaul (Hamilton - Ontario Branch) seconded by Mrs A Murphy (Carlisle Branch) the Minutes of 3rd December were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 4th February 1989.

The Minutes had already been approved.

Referring to PR 89/3 (d) Mr Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) congratulated the Committee on their proposal to produce a Subscription Copy for beginners. He suggested that for the future, Subscription Books should contain dances already published. Mr Clement replied that this had been discussed but there were problems especially with copyright not only of the dance but of the music, however, it would be looked at again.

Mr Brown (York and North Humberside Branch) said that many new members were already dancers and would want popular dances.

Mr Mechan (Hawaii Branch) said he felt that the Society should look at dances which had been danced for a number of years.

On a motion by Mr Mair (Elected Member) seconded by Mr Smart (Florida South Branch) the minutes were ratified.

(iii) Minutes of Meeting on 4th March 1989

The minutes had already been approved.

PR 89/11 (e) The comment from Dr Reinstein (Paris Branch) that he hoped leaflets of the Ladies Step Dances would be published at a later date was noted.

PR 89/11 (d) Dr MacFadyen, reporting on the progress of the new manual, said it was the intention of the sub-committee to have the work completed before the end of this year and that the manual should be ready for 1990.

On a motion by Dr Reinstein (Paris Branch) and seconded by Mr Gray (South Wales Branch) the minutes were ratified.

(iv) Minutes of Meeting on 22nd April and 23rd April 1989.

They had been approved earlier (see above).

PR 89/17 (b) Mr Brown (York and North Humberside Branch) enquired if it was possible to produce a 'music only' publication to accompany the leaflet dances. Mr Clement thought it might be possible.

On a motion by Mr Turnbull (Richmond Branch) seconded by Mr Mechan (Hawaii Branch) the minutes were ratified.

(b) Examinations Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 10th December 1989.

On a motion by Mr Mechan (Hawaii Branch) and seconded by Miss Leurs (Elected Member) the minutes were approved.

Miss Martin, convener of the Examinations Committee said that the music course, 24th-26th February 1989, had been a great success.

EX 88/29 Mr Brown (York and North Humberside Branch) enquired about procedure for the appointment of examiners. Miss Martin replied that in the past Miss Milligan had made the appointments. More recently, however, names have been put forward by Branches and on some occasions individuals have submitted their own qualifications. The Examinations Committee are now considering drawing up guidelines for appointing examiners.

EX 88/27 On an enquiry from Dr Paterson (Bath Branch) about IDTA Examinations, Miss Martin said they were going well but in the main, the applications were from Scottish Country Dance Groups.

EX 88/32 (c) Mr Brown (York and North Humberside Branch) asked that at the forthcoming Examiners' Seminar the whole emphasis of dancing should be discussed, especially the part played by dancing in teaching.

On a motion by Mrs Corson (Winnipeg Branch) seconded by Miss Ross (Forres Branch) the minutes were ratified.

(c) Summer School

Minutes of Meeting on 7th January 1989.

On a motion by Mr Gray (South Wales Branch) seconded by Mrs Nedderman (Cambridge and District Branch), the Minutes were approved.

Referring to SS 89/8 Mrs Holden thanked the General Purposes and the Finance Committees for agreeing to fund these receptions.

SS 89/10 Because there could be a limit to the generosity of funding from Finance, Mrs Holden said the Summer School Committee had agreed that the cost of the Reel-Aid Dance in the Union Debating Hall should come from a voluntary contribution from those attending the dance.

SS 89/12 Mrs Holden apologised that the Questionnaire had not been available for mailing with the Executive Council Papers. This was due to considerable delays in the Postal Services.

SS 89/13 Mr Fyfe (Cheshire Branch) and Mr Knight (Royal Tunbridge Wells Branch) both offered to provide information about radio microphones.

On a motion by Mr Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch) seconded by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton Ontario Branch) the minutes were ratified.

(d) General Purposes Committee

Presenting the Minutes, the Chairman said that this had been a very busy season for the General Purposes Committee and it had been necessary to call an additional meeting for 17th June. Supplies of the publicity leaflets which had been suggested eighteen months previously were now available.

Attention was drawn to the error in GP 89/17 where it should read 5th August and not 5th May.

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 14th January 1989.

The Minutes had already been approved.

On a motion by Mr Ross (Edinburgh Branch) seconded by Miss Nairn (Perth and Perthshire Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 15th April 1989.

On a motion by Dr Gormley (Isle of Skye Branch) seconded by Mr Laurie (London Branch) the Minutes were approved.

Referring to GP 89/15 (b) Mrs Linklater-Shirras (Inverness and District Branch) thanked the Society for their assistance with publicity material to help the Branch take part at the International Clan Gathering. However, due to bad publicity by the organisers of this event it had not been a success.

GP 89/18 (d) Referring to the affiliation of the Aussie Scots Scottish Country Group, Mrs Gaul (Hamilton, Ontario Branch) asked if this was a suitable name for a group allied to the RSCDS. The Chairman said that her comment would be noted.

With reference to GP 89/21 Mrs Gaul said she was worried that Long Term membership would not be available in the future and asked that the General Purposes Committee should reconsider this idea.

The Executive Council approved the award of the Society's scroll to:

Mr Christopher W Blair (posthumously)	Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Mrs Nora G C Dunn	Dunbartonshire West
Miss Beryl Fawdry	Birmingham
Miss Freda Galway	Belfast
Mrs Margaret C Hunter	Edinburgh
Mrs Jean London	Sydney
Miss Alice B Mann	Dundee
Mrs Margot Monteith	Johannesburg

On a motion by Mr Harry (Twin Cities Branch) seconded by Miss Paton (Ayr Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(e) <u>Finance Committee</u>

(i) Minutes of meeting on 14th January 1989.

The Minutes had already been approved.

(ii) Minutes of meeting on 15th April 1989.

On a motion by Mr Turnbull (Richmond Branch) seconded by Mr Ross (Edinburgh Branch) the minutes were approved.

F 89/4 (d) Mr Taylor Convener of the Committee, stressed that if any Branch had a collective annual turnover approaching £20,000 or more they should contact the Treasurer for advice about V.A.T.
F 89/8 Referring to the installation of a computer at Headquarters, Mr Taylor said he hoped to get authorisation for the necessary money for this at the August meeting of the Finance Committee.
F 89/9 (j) and (o) Resulting from a meeting with our insurance broker, Mr Taylor informed the members that the Society's indemnity had been increased from £500,000 to £1,000,000 and that the annual Summer School at St Andrews University had also been covered to include all halls used, all the personnel attending Summer School and those on the bus trips. Children would also be covered in classes or on trips, provided they were made Junior Associate Members. All Branches were now covered for property when engaging halls. To achieve all of this, our premium had been increased by £300 plus an additional £100 for Summer School which would be paid by the Society.

In answer to a question from Dr Reinstein (Paris Branch) Mr Taylor said that the Society Insurance cover applied only to Branches in the U.K. It did not apply to overseas Branches nor to affiliated groups.

F89/15 Mr Taylor reported that the Finance Committee supported the General Purposes Committee over the proposal to abolish Long Term Membership but he would deal with this matter of membership later in the Agenda.

F89/17 In reply to Mrs Linklater-Shirras (Inverness and District Branch) who had asked what the procedure was for making children Junior Associates, Mr Taylor said it merely involved keeping a register of the names and addresses of the children. Mr Gray (South Wales Branch) wanted to know what would be the insurance cover for a children's festival. Mr Taylor replied that the event would be covered if organised by a Branch.

F89/14(c) Mr Clement (North Virginia Branch) said he hoped the Publications Committee would be asked to comment on the reported 40/50 years' supply of some RSCDS Books and on the recommendation to reduce these levels. Mr Douglas (Newcastle-upon-Tyne Branch) said that he had been asked to investigate the stock at Headquarters and it was felt that a 20 year supply would be acceptable. It was proposed to sell off the surplus books to a paper merchant who would dispose of them. Mrs Jeffcoat (Treasurer) said that to write off these surplus books would not affect finances more than already recorded.

F89/13(f) Mr Brown (York and North Humberside Branch) asked about the apparent large profit between the cost of producing the cassette of Ladies Step Dances and the selling price. Mr Douglas pointed out that the boxes for the cassettes, the inlay cards, pianist fees and Branch discounts were all additional costs which had to be taken into account when fixing the selling price.

F89/15 Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) said he was pleased that something was being done about Junior rates of subscription. He was thanked for his offer of help and advice in connection with the computer for Headquarters.

On a motion by Miss Ross (Forres Branch) seconded by Miss Bennett (St Andrews Branch), the Minutes of the meeting on 14 January 1989 were ratified.

On a motion by Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) seconded by Mrs Murphy (Carlisle and Border Branch) the Minutes of the meeting on 15 April 1989 were ratified.

EC89/6 REEL-AID

The Chairman reported that a small group had been appointed to organise this event. The response from Branches and Affiliated Groups had been magnificent. Over 10,000 dancers would be taking part during the 24 hours of Saturday 5 August, representing 180 groups and 18 countries. A radio programme would be pre-recorded at St Andrews on 26 July and would be transmitted on the Scottish wave-length from 18.05 to 19.00 hours on 5 August. A cassette of 18 dances to accompany the programme was now available.

EC89/7 MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch) thanked all the Branches for the information they had provided for the fact finding questionnaire.
The Membership, as reported in the survey, fell into four age groups:

16 - 25 years - 3%
26 - 60 years - 78%
61 -65 years - 12%
66 + years - 7%

Other facts to emerge from this survey showed that four Branches in particular need help to boost their membership: teachers were urgently required by four Branches and scholarships to attend the Teacher's Class at Summer School had been awarded to them.

It had been noted that 25% of the Membership was now-active. Mr Taylor said he thought these fell into the Life and Long Term Membership groups. The Finance of the Society however was dependent on the Annual Members.

The Survey showed that children's classes were disappointingly few.

Arising from questions related to music it had become obvious that overseas Branches were very dependent on records and tapes for their dancing.

Regarding subscriptions, the Finance Committee had agreed that there should be two levels of annual subscription rate (F89/15); the Annual Member rate of £5.00 and the Young Member rate for those aged 16 - 25 years which would be half the full Membership rate split 50/50 between Headquarters. This would go forward as a resolution to the A.G.M.

There was an extensive discussion about the new proposals for subscription rates. It was said that the 65+ years needed the reduced subscription; that there should be family membership; that Long Term membership be continued. Finally Mr Laurie (London Branch) moved that having already ratified the Minutes, the recommendation of the Finance Committee to offer young membership of the Society to all persons between the ages of 16 and 25 years, should go to the A.G.M. at which Branches could then put forward amendments. This was agreed by a majority vote.

EC89/8 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION
PROPOSALS FROM THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Branches felt there had not been sufficient time to consider the proposed amendments to the Constitution. On a motion by Mr Laurie (London Branch) seconded by Mrs Duffield (Royal Leamington Spa Branch) it was agreed to remit the proposals from the General Purposes Committee to the 1990 A.G.M. In the meantime Branches would be allowed to send in submissions to the proposed amendments which should arrive at Headquarters no later than 23 September 1989.

EC89/9 OTHER BUSINESS

Miss Nairn (Perth and Perthshire Branch) explained that the reason for switching the A.G.M. Ball from the usual Friday night to the night of Saturday 4 November was so that the Duke of Atholl's Pipers would be available to play for the Grand March.

Because live music is not always available, Mr Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) asked that some thought might be given to training our teachers to teach without a pianist but using recorded music. Mrs Holden, Summer School Director, replied that in the written part of the examination for prospective teachers, there is often a question on recorded music and how they would use it. In the past, afternoon sessions had been held on the use of recorded music, so this is something which they do keep in mind.

Mr Harry (Twin Cities Branch) asked if it would be possible to send out the Minutes of the Executive Council meetings sooner. His comment was noted.

Mr Knight (Royal Tunbridge Wells Branch) suggested that Branch Secretaries should be encouraged to provide newly qualified teachers with practical experience.

EC89/10 CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

The Chairman congragulated Dunfermline Branch on reaching their Sixtieth Anniversary. He then said he had been saddened to learn that Mrs Wadsworth (Gatehouse of Fleet) was attending the Executive Council for the last time. She had been a member of many committees and would be greatly missed, not only for her contributions and enthusiasm but also for her wit and humour.

Mr Aitken concluded by saying the last six months had been extremely busy. There had been ten standing Committee meetings and ten ad hoc Committee meetings all of which had put considerable pressure on the office staff.

EC89/11 NEXT MEETING

18 November 1989.

The meeting closed with the Chairman thanking the North West Ayrshire Brench for their generous offer to provide wine at the next Executive Council Meeting.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 33 MELVILLE STREET, EDINBURGH,
ON SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER 1989 AT 1.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Mr A S Aitkenhead (in the Chair), Miss A W Miller, Dr A MacFadyen, Mrs A H T Holden, Miss I Bennett, Miss C Catto, Mr J Drewry, Mrs N Dunn, Mr D Hollings, Miss D Leurs, Miss L C Martin, Mr I McDiarmid, Mr I G R Zobel, Miss I C Paton, Mr C McDougall, Mrs J Bain, Mrs B Smith, Mr B Frazer, Miss A Johnston, Mr D Lyons, Mrs N McLaren, Mr R Watson, Mrs S Nedderman, Miss A M Robertson, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs A McDougall, Miss M McCartney, Mr J B Dougal, Mr J Fyfe, Mrs J MacLean, Mrs M H Hopkins, Miss E Price, Mr J Hutton, Mr A L M Boode, Mr W Hamilton, Mr K Stacey, Miss E M C Ferguson, Mrs M McIntosh, Miss A Mann, Mrs A Couper, Miss J A Johnstone, Mrs K Skea, Mrs M Martin, Mr D A Ross, Dr R J J Simkins, Mr A M Smart, Mrs M Baikie, Miss M M Ross, Dr B Law, Miss D Hamilton, Mrs E Barr, Mrs L Gaul, Mr G Mechan, Miss F C Inglis, Miss I Whyte, Mr D Campbell, Dr I P Gormley, Mrs O C Cameron, Mrs M J Boode-Gould, Mr G Stephens, Mrs D E Christie, Mrs M G Longair, Mrs B J Burnell, Mrs A Green, Mr J Laurie, Mrs J Brown, Miss M Brander, Mr H Barnes, Mr J Rae, Mr J B Dickson, Mr J Wilson, Mr J C Douglas, Miss K McLauchlan, Mr W Clement, Mrs M Devlin, Mr G Davie, Miss R Gordon-Harvey, Miss B A Nairn, Mr D R Warburton, Miss L Carson, Mr D A S McMillan, Mr R J Turnbull, Mr D France, Mr D Blackwood, Mrs M Duffield, Mr P B Knight, Mr A Mair, Miss M Dow, Mr R H Mackay, Mrs J McAlister, Mrs E Burling, Mrs J Harper, Mr A Dewdney, Mr W A Gray, Mr J Taylor, Miss F Martin, Mr R Sutherland, Mrs E Kemp, Mr B Harry, Mr T Steele, Ms R Scott-Huxley, Miss M Duffield, Mrs M Corson, Mr R J Taylor, Mr M L Brown.

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

EC89/12 APOLOGIES

Miss J Bradley, Mr G Burnett, Dr I Hall, Mrs M Killeen, Dr A Paterson, Mr D C W Willetts, Mrs H Wilson, Miss J C Yeats, Mr H van Zon.

EC89/13 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed all members to the November Executive and gave a special welcome to those attending for the first time. He also referred to the unhappy situation whereby 18 Branches in the U.K. were not represented at the meeting.

EC89/14 COMPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 1989/1990

a) The Chairman announced amendments to the ballot papers and then called upon the Secretary to announce amendments to the list of Council Members which had been distributed with the Agenda. The amendments consisted of the following additions -

Castle Douglas	- Miss M McCartney
Florida South	- Mr A Smart
Gatehouse of Fleet	- Dr B Law
Manchester	- Dr I Hall
Moffat	- Mr J Rae
San Diego	- Miss M Dow
Vienna	- Miss S Mayr (New Branch)
Winnipeg	- Mrs M Corson

EC89/15 /

EC89/15 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13 MAY 1989

As the Minutes had been with Representatives for some time, the Chairman asked that they be approved as a correct record of the proceedings. However, there were several amendments.

EC89/10 The second paragraph should be altered to commence "Mr Aitkenhead ...".

PR89/3(i) Should be changed to read "Minutes of Meeting on 3 December 1988".

EC89/19 This paragraph should be changed to read "Mr R J Taylor's suggestion".

PR88/66(b) Should read "to record dances full length as agreed at the last Executive Council ".

F89/17 This paragraph should refer to Junior Associates and not to Junior Associate Members.

PR88/66(b) This paragraph should commence "It was recommended that these records be published full length and proposals would be submitted to the Committee".

With these amendments the Minutes of the Meeting on 13 May 1989 were proposed as a correct record of the proceedingsd by Mr J C Douglas (Newcastle-upon-Tyne & District Branch) and seconded by Mr J Fyfe (Cheshire Branch).

EC89/16 BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

EC89/17 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

a) General Purposes Committee

Before presenting the Minutes of the Meeting on 17 June 1989, the Chairman announced an omission from GP89/40(e) Belfast: the proposed addition to the Branch Constitution was agreed.

Presenting the Minutes the Chairman advised that this had been another very busy year for the General Purposes Committee. The following alterations were then made to the Minutes.

GP89/29 Affiliations. This heading should now have the number GP89/29(a).

GP89/31(a) Tour of Germany. Mr A L M Boode (Delft Branch) proposed that the word "Group" should replace "Branch". This was agreed.

GP89/31(b) Teachers for Society Tours. The Chairman explained in detail the purpose of this letter which was to give a fairer spread of the time spent by Teachers on behalf of the Society.

GP89/35 - Item 2

With regard to the Telethon, the Chairman was asked to explain what this would entail. He commented that he saw it as being similar to "Children in Need" and really an off-shoot of Reel Aid. The Chairman stressed that he had heard nothing further from Scottish Television but asked if Representatives agreed to a list of Branches being prepared to be used in this connection.

Mr /

Mr G Mechan (Hawaii Branch) asked if the Telethon would affect Overseas Branches but he was advised that this would not be the case. There was general agreement to this list of Branches being prepared.

GP89/35 - Items 3 and 4

At the last meeting the feeling had been that the Minutes of the Committee Meetings should be posted earlier from Headquarters. Mr Harry (Twin Cities) requested that the papers be posted some three weeks earlier thus avoiding expensive telephone calls. The Chairman advised that as there were Committee Meetings even the week before the Executive Council Meeting, earlier posting was very difficult but he said that Mr Harry had made a valid point.

GP89/34 - Item 5

Mr Stacey (Doncaster and District Branch) asked about correspondence from Danum Scottish Country Dancers. His Branch had only received one letter on this matter and he requested further information. The Chairman advised that the matter was under active consideration.

GP89/31(b) Teachers for Society Tours

Mr Brown (York and North Humberside Branch) asked for an explanation as to which Committee dealt with which tours. Dr MacFadyen explained that the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund looked after all tours of a development nature and that the Examinations Committee looked after teaching and examination tours abroad. The Jean Milligan Memorial Fund was administered by the General Purposes Committee and if money was required from this Fund to be made available for tours abroad then the General Purposes Committee appointed the Teachers.

Mr Harry (Twin Cities) asked if Headquarters' members would be considered as Teachers. The Chairman agreed that they would be considered.

On a motion by Mrs A Murphy (Carlisle & Border Branch) seconded by Mr A Smart (Florida South), the Minutes of this meeting were ratified.

Minutes of Meeting on 14 October 1989.

On a motion by Mr J Laurie (London Branch) seconded by Dr I P Gormley (Isle of Skye) the Minutes were approved.

EC89/48 The Chairman, showing to the meeting a sample of a possible design for a Coat of Arms for the Society, added that the whole question of a Coat of Arms for the Society will be further discussed at the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee.

On a motion by Mr W A Gray (South Wales) seconded by Mrs L Gaul (Hamilton, Ontario Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting of 14 October 1989 were ratified.

EC89/18 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Chairman asked Dr MacFadyen to speak to the meeting at this point of the Agenda rather than later. Dr MacFadyen advised that there had been 9 submissions from Branches on the proposed amendments to the Constitution. Unfortunately the Sub- Committee had only managed to have one meeting since 23 September and therefore in order to do justice to the amendments submitted by Branches, the Sub-Committee would be unable to report until January. The Sub-Committee's findings would be put to the General Purposes Committee and would be presented to the Executive Council as soon as possible.

EC89/17 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS /

BC89/17 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

b) Finance Committee

Mr Taylor advised that the Minutes of the Meeting of 14 October 1989 had been approved at an extra meeting of the Committee that morning.

F89/23(i) Radio Microphone

The Finance Committee had previously intimated that a radio microphone should be hired as and when required. However this had been discussed once again and at the next meeting of the Committee approval would be given for the purchase of a radio microphone.

F89/23(f) V.A.T.

The Treasurer once again stressed the vital importance of Branches looking at their turnover. If the turnover was approaching £20,000 then they were requested to contact the Treasurer immediately to avoid problems.

F89/24 Financial Statements

The Financial Statements had been reported on at the Annual General Meeting. Mr Taylor advised that to try and reduce the shortfall of £15,500 in the year ahead the Society would have to restrict funds on publicity; extension work overseas would be stopped in 1990, and a budget of £7,000 had been set for overseas travel. The financial situation was being closely monitored by the Finance Committee.

Mrs Jeffcoat commented that one of the factors contributing to the deficit was that the increase in Annual Subscriptions took some two years to filter through. A further factor was that the Society had had to write-off stocks of old books as there was an extremely large supply of some books.

Several suggestions were put forward and discussed on how the Society might reduce costs and these points have been noted.

F89/17 Insurance - Edinburgh Fancy

Mr A L M Boode (Delft Branch) asked why The Edinburgh Fancy, being an Affiliated Group, was covered by the insurance when other groups were not. Mr Taylor explained that Edinburgh Branch paid a fee to Headquarters for this insurance.

F89/30 Office Machinery

Questions were raised on the viability of the computer which had been purchased and on the amount spent. Mr Taylor reported that the equipment which had been delivered to Headquarters would at least familiarise staff on the workings but if in future it was felt that superior equipment was required then this would be dealt with.

Mr Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch) raised the matter of Long Term Membership which had been the subject of a vote at the Annual General Meeting. After lengthy discussion it was proposed by Mr Frazer and seconded by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton, Ontario Branch) that Long Term Membership should be re-defined under the Constitution.

F89/37(c) Refund of Summer School Fees

Mr Brown (York and North Humberside Branch) asked if the Society could not take out an insurance policy to cover any refund of fees. However it was agreed that this should be left to individuals as was stated in the application form.

On a motion by Mrs A Murphy (Carlisle and Border Branch) seconded by Mr Barnes (Mid Somerset Branch) the Minutes of the Meetings of 19 August and 14 October 1989 were ratified.

Mr /

Mr Taylor then detailed the fees for Summer School 1990 as follows:

Residents	One Week	£160
Non Residents	One Week	£ 45
Deposit		£ 30

BC89/17 c) Strathspey Sales

As Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr Taylor had pleasure in presenting to the Executive Council his report for the year ended 30 June 1989.

The Directors set out to increase both sales and profit; sales increased from £17,073 to £21,035 and our gross profit was up from £3,426 to £4,443, due not only to the increase in sales but the increase in mark-up on prices as reported last year and a revised price list will be issued in January 1990.

The repayment Management Charge to the Society increased from £1,900 to £3,034 and we repaid the interest rate of £900 on the loan of £9,000 from the Society. Strathspey Sales made neither profit nor loss and contributed to the Society £4,443, an increase of 35% over last year.

The policy on sales and pricing will continue to the benefit of the Society.

Under the terms of the Articles of Association of Strathspey Sales Limited the present Board of Directors offer their services for a further year. They are:

Mr A S Aitkenhead, Miss A W Miller, Mr J C Douglas, Mrs M A Jeffcoat and Mr J Taylor.

Mr Taylor then moved for the adoption of the report.

On a motion by Mr Mackay (San Francisco Branch) seconded by Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch) the Annual Report was ratified.

Discussion took place on ways of increasing sales at Summer School and one suggestion was that postcards might be added to the list of accessories.

BC89/17 d) Examinations Committee

The following amendments were noted to the Minutes of the Meeting on 22 and 29 July 1989.

EX88/2(b) should read EX88/26.
EX89/6 should read "from Branch Committees, from ".
EX89/6(4) should read "Training teams at festivals".

On a motion by Mrs M Corson (Winnipeg Branch) seconded by Mr Mechan (Hawaii Branch) the Minutes were approved.

EX89/3(b) Music Course

Miss Martin advised the meeting about the scheduled Music Course in 1990. This now would be a third pianists course and not a recall course as originally planned.

EX89/11 Examiners' Seminar

Miss Martin spoke of the very varied and full agenda at the Seminar and said that the Minutes would be issued as soon as possible.

EX89/12 /

EX89/12 Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) asked why it had been decided to post the examination results instead of distributing them at Summer School. Miss Martin replied that it was felt this would save embarrassment for all concerned if the results were posted from Headquarters.

EX89/6 Appointment of Examiners

In answer to a question on the correct procedure for the appointment of Examiners, the meeting was advised that this procedure had been minuted after the 1985 meeting.

On a motion by Mr R J Turnbull (Richmond, North Yorkshire) seconded by Mr J Fyfe (Cheshire Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 22 and 29 July 1989 were ratified.

EX89/17 e) Summer School

Before the Minutes were approved, Mr W A Gray (South Wales) advised that in SS89/11 the photographer had not in fact increased the prices but the Society had had to pay more because we had had to pay for the use of the staging.

On a motion by Mr Gray, seconded by Miss A Mann (Dundee Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 7 October 1989 were approved.

SS89/26 Halls

Mrs Holden explained that although there would be a change to the halls used in St Andrews because of another conference, she had been in contact with the University and hopefully the arrangements now in hand would ensure the smooth running of the classes.

SS89/21 Younger Hall Dance Tickets

Miss R Gordon-Harvey (Paris Branch) asked if a note of explanation about the Younger Hall Dances could be inserted in the Booklet for those attending Summer School for the first time. Mrs Holden said that her question would be noted.

SS89/25(ii) Regrading

Mr Brown (York and North Humberside Branch) asked how much re-grading had been necessary at Summer School this year. Mrs Holden explained the procedure used at Summer School to ensure that students were in the correct classes. She also explained that if classes were sub-divided any further it would involve extra costs for staffing, halls, pianos etc.

On a motion by Mr G Mechan (Hawaii Branch) seconded by Mr Zobel (Atlanta Branch), the Minutes were ratified.

EX89/17 f) Publications and Research Committee

Minutes of Meetings on 20 May, 10/11 June, 30 June and 29 September 1989 had all previously been approved.

On a motion by Mr R Mackay (San Francisco Branch) seconded by Mrs J MacLean (Chicago Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 21 October were approved.

PR89/24(c) /

PR89/24(c) Timing of Dances

Mr Clement commented that there had been problems with putting eight dances on a record, particularly if we recorded a 48 bar strathspey 8 times. It was suggested that the 48 bar strathspey only be recorded 4 times. He added that personally he would like to go ahead recording full length dances but it would take a long time. He would like permission to record all dances full length on a cassette and select eight to go on a record. He would like the Executive Council to consider this.

PR89/25 "Frae A' The Airts"

Mr Clement said that this was the best selection of dances ever presented to the Committee. Sixteen dances had finally been selected and "Frae A' The Airts" will be published in two volumes over 1990 and 1991.

PR89/39 Subscription Book for Beginners

It was hoped that the new Committee would proceed with the publication of this book in the near future. Mr Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) congratulated the Committee on this proposed publication.

PR89/41(b) Listening Tape

Mr Clement advised that he felt this was an excellent tape which was complete and now on sale.

PR89/49 Step Dances

Mr Clement also commented that this cassette, with the music played by Ms Muriel Johnstone, was now available.

Mr Mackay (San Francisco Branch) fully endorsed all that Mr Clement had said and commented that although finance was extremely important, we would lose a tremendous opportunity if all music was not put on to tapes and certain dances on records.

The Minutes were ratified as follows.

20 May 1989	Proposer Seconded by	Mr G Mechan (Hawaii Branch) Mr W Hamilton (Detroit Branch)
10/11 June 1989	Proposer Seconded by	Miss M Brander (Los Angeles Branch) Mr J Drewry (Elected Member)
30 June 1989	Proposer Seconded by	Mr T Steele (Vancouver Branch) Mrs L Gaul (Hamilton, Ontario Branch)
29 September 1989	Proposer Seconded by	Dr I P Gormley (Isle of Skye Branch) Mr A Smart (Florida South Branch)
21 October 1989	Proposer Seconded by	Ms R Scott-Huxley (Vienna Branch) Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch)

BC89/19 TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS

The following changes should be made to the list of Committee Meetings.

General Purposes Committee - date in March is the 31st.

Finance Committee - 20th October to be added.

BC89/20 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES FOR 1989/1990 /

BC89/20 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES FOR 1989/1990

Committees were duly appointed as follows:

a) Finance Committee

Mr A S Aitkenhead (Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Vice-Chairman), and the following appointed members:

Mr J C Douglas	(Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch)
Miss M Duffield	(West Lothian Branch)
Mr D A Ross	(Edinburgh Branch)
Miss M M Ross	(Forres Branch)
Mr K Stacey	(Doncaster and District Branch)
Mr J Taylor	(Stirlingshire Branch)
Mr R J Turnbull	(Richmond N Yorks Branch)

On a motion by Mr J Laurie (London Branch) seconded by Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) Mr J Taylor was elected Convener.

b) General Purposes Committee

Mr A S Aitkenhead (Chairman and Convener), Miss A W Miller (Vice-Chairman) Mr J Taylor (Finance Committee Convener) and the following appointed members:

Mrs N Dunn	(Elected Member)
Miss E M C Ferguson	(Dumfries Branch)
Dr I P Gormley	(Isle of Skye Branch)
Mr J Laurie	(London Branch)
Mr A Mair	(St Andrews Branch)
Mrs A Murphy	(Carlisle and Border Branch)
Miss B Nairn	(Perth and Perthshire Branch)
Miss I Paton	(Ayr Branch)
Mr G Stephens	(Kirkcaldy Branch)

c) Examinations Committee

Mr A S Aitkenhead (Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Vice-Chairman) and the following appointed members:

Mr W Hamilton	(Detroit Branch)
Mrs A H T Holden	(Director of Summer School)
Miss L C Martin	(Aberdeen Branch)
Mr G Mechan	(Hawaii Branch)
Miss D Leurs	(Elected Member)

On a motion by Mr G Mechan (Hawaii Branch) seconded by Mr Hamilton (Detroit Branch) Miss Martin was elected Convener.

d) Publications and Research Committee

Mr A S Aitkenhead (Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Vice-Chairman), Dr A MacFadyen (Honorary Archivist), and the following appointed members:

Miss I Bennett	(Elected Member)
Mr W Clement	(Northern Virginia Branch)
Mr J Drewry	(Elected Member)
Mr R Mackay	(San Francisco Branch)
Mrs J MacLean	(Chicago Branch)

On a motion by Miss M Brander (Los Angeles Branch) seconded by Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch) Mr Clement was elected Convener.

e) /

e) Summer School Committee

Mr A S Aitkenhead (Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Vice-Chairman), Mrs A H T Holden (Director of Summer School and Convener) and the following appointed members:

Mrs L Gaul	(Hamilton, Ontario Branch)
Mr W A Gray	(South Wales Branch)
Miss D Hamilton	(Glasgow Branch)
Miss A Mann	(Dundee Branch)

BC89/21 BUSINESS FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

There was discussion on the Resolution concerning Long Term Membership which had been voted on at the A.G.M. Some members felt that this vote had not been conducted properly and their comments were noted.

BC89/22 REEL AID

The Chairman commented that Reel Aid had been a great success and he congratulated all involved for the work which they had done. Over £33,000 had been raised for various charities in 22 countries throughout the world.

BC89/23 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr R J Taylor (Wirral Branch) asked that if a Group was given the status of affiliation, were they given direction as to what this status actually is. When anyone wished to become a member of the Society were they encouraged to become members through a Branch. He asked if directions on this could be put in the next Bulletin. The Chairman replied that these points had been noted and would be investigated.

There was discussion on correspondence received by several Branches from Phonographic Performance Limited. Branches should not reply to the correspondence at the moment but a letter would be sent to the PPL from Headquarters. Branches would be kept informed.

BC89/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 12th May 1990

BC89/25 CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

The Chairman thanked all attending for their attention throughout the day. He congratulated Newcastle-upon-Tyne and District Branch on its 40th Anniversary. Congratulations also went to London Branch on its 60th year. It was also noted that Doncaster and District Branch was now 10 years old.

The Chairman gave thanks to Perth and Perthshire Branch for hosting the Annual General Meeting and to Headquarters' staff for their assistance.

The Chairman commented that for quite some time there had been complaints on the lack of publicity. He referred to the various leaflets available to Branches and said that these leaflets had been available at the previous Executive Council Meeting but had not been uplifted by the Branches. The Chairman also said he deeply regretted what appeared to be a breakdown in communication between representatives attending the Executive Council and Branch Secretaries and Members. The dissemination of information from Headquarters to the Representatives was clear and explicit but from there on there was a need for better communication.

The Chairman then had to advise the meeting of the death of Mr Harry Draper who had been the Secretary of London Branch for over 20 years.

Finally the Chairman thanked North West Ayrshire Branch for providing the wine at the Executive Council lunch.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ST GEORGE'S WEST CHURCH, ON SATURDAY 12TH MAY, 1990, AT 1.30PM.

PRESENT: Mr A.S. Aitkenhead (in the Chair), Miss A.W. Miller, Mrs A.H.T. Holden, Dr A. MacFadyen, Miss C. Catto, Mr J. Drewry Mrs N. Dunn, Mr D. Hollings, Miss D. Leurs, Miss L.C. Martin, Mr I. McDiarmid, Mr I.G.R. Zobel, Miss I.C. Paton, Mrs J. Bain, Mrs B. Smith, Mr A. Timms, Mr R. Watson, Mr I.M. Birnie, Mrs S. Nedderman, Mrs A. Murphy, Mrs A. McDougall, Miss M. McCartney, Mr J.B. Dougal, Mr J. Fyfe, Mrs J. MacLean, Mrs M.H. Hopkins, Miss E. Price, Mr J. Hutton, Mr A.L.M. Boode, Mr W. Hamilton, Mr K. Stacey, Miss E.M.C. Ferguson, Mrs M. McIntosh, Miss A. Mann, Mrs A. Couper, Mrs M. Martin, Miss M.A. Johnstone, Miss M.C. Menmuir, Mr D.A. Ross, Mrs A. Martin, Mr A.M. Smart, Miss M.M. Ross, Dr B. Law, Miss D. Hamilton, Mr Cunningham, Mr G. Mechan, Miss F.C. Inglis, Miss I. Whyte, Mr D. Campbell, Dr I.P. Gormley, Mrs O.C. Cameron, Mrs M.J. Gould, Mr G. Stephens, Mrs D.E. Christie, Mrs M.G. Longair, Mrs B.J. Burnell, Mrs H.J. Wilson, Mrs A. Green, Mr J. Laurie, Miss M. Brander, Dr I.M. Hall, Mrs M. Killeen, Mr H. Barnes, Mr J. Rae, Mr W. Jardine, Mr J.B. Dickson, Mr J.C. Douglas, Miss K. McLauchlan, Mrs M. Devlin, Miss J.C. Yeats, Mr G. Davie, Ms R. Gordon-Harvey, Mr D.R. Warburton, Miss L. Carson, Mr D.A.S. McMillan, Mr D. France, Mr D. Blackwood, Mrs M.R. Duffield, Mr P.B. Knight, Mrs Ross-Colwell, Mr R.H. Mackay, Mrs E. Burling, Mrs J. Harper, Mr A.E. Dewdney, Mr W.A. Gray, Mr J. Taylor, Miss F. Martin, Mr R. Sutherland, Mr G. Burnett, Mr B. Harry, Mr T.W. Steele, Miss S. Mayr, Miss M. Duffield, Mrs M. Corson, Mr R.J. Taylor, Mr M.L. Brown, Miss A.M. Robertson.

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

EC90/1 APOLOGIES

Mrs M. Baikie, Miss I. Bennett, Miss J. Bradley, Miss M. Dow, Mr B. Fraser, Mrs L. Gaul, Mrs N. McLaren, Mr C. McDougall, Mr A. Mair, Miss B. Nairn, Dr R. Paterson, Mrs S. Porter, Mr R. Turnbull, Mr D. Willetts, Mr J. Wilson.

EC90/2 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Before calling upon the Committee Conveners to highlight any items within their respective Minutes, the Chairman introduced Mrs June Dick to the Council explaining that Mrs Dick had taken over as Assistant Secretary when Miss Walker had left at the end of April.
The Chairman then wished Mrs McLaren a speedy return to full health.
Finally the Chairman thanked the West Renfrewshire Branch for their generous offer to provide the wine at the Executive Council lunch in November 1990.

EC90/3 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting on 18 November 1989 were approved on a motion by Mrs Corson (Winnipeg Branch) seconded by Mr J. Rae (Moffat Branch) after the following amendments had been made:

PR89/25 Delete 1991 and substitute 1992
EC/15(3) EC89/19 should read EC88/19

EC90/4 BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising.

EC90/5 MINUTES OF COMMITTE MEETINGS

(a) General Purposes Committee

(i) Minutes of the Meeting on 20 January were already approved. On a motion by Mr G. Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) seconded by Miss I. Paton (Ayr) they were ratified.

With reference to GP90/3 Mrs Holden asked for clarification about the Teachers' List because it seemed to involve a change of procedure with regard to Summer School. The Chairman assured her there was no intention to undermine the Summer School's selection of teachers and that the List was intended as a reference list for overseas tours. It was agreed to amend the last sentence of GP90/3 paragraph 2 to read 'that all such Teachers should have been used if possible' etc.

Referring to GP90/8 the Chairman informed the meeting that no decision had yet been made concerning the idea of replacing the Bulletin with three newsletters.

GP90/ 3(c) incorrect spelling of Peregrin Moncrieffe and GP90/14(e) correction to Miss Sim noted.

GP90/8 Replying to a question from Mr Brown (York and North Humberside) the Chairman said there had been no progress on the matter of appointing a publicity officer.

GP90/11 In answer to Mr Brown (York & North Humberside Branch) Mr Aitkenhead outlined the project for 1991 "Let the Children Dance". The objective is to make every school in Scotland aware of Scottish Country Dancing and it is intended that there will be a Day of Scottish Country Dance - near to St Andrews Day 1991. The Council gave its support to this project and agreed that the sub-committee should commence its work.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 7th April 1990

GP90/25(e) It was noted that 1991 should read 1993 and that "deciding" should be deleted and "considering" substituted.

On a motion by Dr I.P. Gormley (Isle of Skye) seconded by Mrs Dunn (Elected Member) the Minutes were approved.

GP90/23(d) Replying to Dr MacFadyen who commented that the Bulletin had served the Society well, the Chairman said that a facsimile of the newsletter would be put before the Council before any decision was reached.

On a motion by Mr T. Steele (Vancouver) and seconded by Mr W. Hamilton (Detroit) the Minutes of the meeting of 7th April 1990 were ratified.

The Executive Council approved the award of the Society's Scroll to:

Miss Janet Banks	Forres
Mr James B.C. Brown	Edinburgh
Mr William Little	Castle Douglas
Mrs June Shore	Hamilton, Ontario
Mr George Wells	Sydney

(b) Finance Committee

(i) The Minutes of the Meeting on 20 January 1990 had already been approved.
On a motion by Mr K. Stacey (Doncaster) and recorded by Mr J. Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne) the minutes were ratified.

(ii) The Minutes of the Meeting on 21 April 1990 had already been approved.
In presenting these Minutes to the Council Mr Taylor, Finance Convener, referring to Long Term Membership, told the meeting that the annual loss on revenue on Long Term Membership is £14,000 and he thought that Long Term Membership should be reduced to give ten years membership for ten times the Annual Rate of Subscription ruling at the time and thus safeguard against inflation and increases to the Annual Subscription during the 10 year period. The Council agreed that this should go forward as a motion to the AGM.

There was considerable discussion about the percentage of the Annual Subscription which is returned to Headquarters. Suggestions were put forward that a higher percentage for HQ might be considered. It was proposed by Mr Taylor and seconded by Mr G. Stephens (Kirkcaldy) that a motion should be put to the AGM that the annual subscription should be divided 75% to Headquarters and 25% to the Branch (F90/7). Mr Smart (Florida South) seconded by Mr D. Campbell (Isla), proposed an amendment to the motion that the split should be 60% to Headquarters and 40% to the Branch. This was carried by 45 votes for the amendment and 41 votes against.

There was further discussion relating to measures which could make financial savings. Mr Douglas suggested that the General Purposes Committee might consider ending the Executive Council Meetings and thereby saving approximately £5-6,000 annually.

On a motion by Mr J. Fyfe (Cheshire) and seconded by Mr J. Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne) the Minutes of the Meeting on 21st April were ratified.

Mr Taylor then reported to the Council on the extra finance Committee Meeting held that morning for the purpose of setting the selling prices for the new records. Having taken into account the costs of producing records RSCDS 34,35 and 36 the selling price was fixed at £7 each for the records and cassettes. Mr Taylor also asked the Council to agree to his proposal to promote the sale of older records by selecting certain records from existing stock to be sold at a special price for a limited period from 1 July - 30 November 1990. These selected records would be for RSCDS Books 1-6 and Books 27-30 which would be sold at £3 each plus postage and no discounts. Mr Douglas seconded this proposal. The Council also authorised an additional expenditure of £2,500 for the double cassette for RSCDS 38.

(c) Publications and Research Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 2 December 1989 were already approved.
(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 10 February 1990 were already approved.
(iii) Minutes of Meeting on 19 March 1990 were already approved.
(iv) Minutes of Meeting on 10 April 1990 on a motion by Mr R. Mackay (San Francisco) seconded by Mr J. Drewry (Elected Members) the Minutes were approved.

In presenting these minutes Mr Clement thanked Miss Johnstone and Mr Drewry for their particular help with the new book, Frae A The Airts Vol 1. He informed the Council that the book for new members, Thirty Popular Scottish Country Dances, and cassette containing fifteen of the dances would be available at Summer School.

Dr MacFadyen, reporting on the new Manual said it was not progressing as quickly as expected but it is hoped that 1991 will see the task completed.

Mr W. Hamilton (Detroit) proposed and Mr J. Rae (Moffat) seconded the ratification of all four Publications Committee Minutes which was agreed.

(d) Summer School Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 24 February 1990

On a motion by Miss A. Mann (Dundee) and seconded by Miss D. Hamilton (Glasgow) the Minutes were approved.

On a motion by Dr Gormley (Isle of Skye) and seconded by Mr A. Gray (South Wales) the Minutes were ratified.

(e) Examinations Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 13 January 1990

On a proposal by Mr W. Hamilton (Detroit) and seconded by Mrs Holden (Director of Summer School) the Minutes were approved.

Miss Martin (Convener Examinations Committee) informed the Council that another very successful Music Course had been completed and she complimented the Tutors on the hard work and planning that had gone into the Course. Miss Johnstone asked that a note of thanks should be recorded to Miss Martin for standing in as the Teacher at short notice.

Miss Martin went on to say that candidates who were applying for the Preliminary Test and the Teacher's Certificate need not, in future, state their age unless under 25 years.

The Minutes were ratified on a motion by Mr J. Rae (Moffat) and seconded by Mr H. Barnes (Mid Somerset).

BC90/6 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The amendments recommended by the General Purposes Committee in the draft revised Constitution were accepted by the Council but with the following addition to:
Page 6, Section 6 g, line 2, after "be a" insert "an additional"

BC90/7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs Bain announced that she would be retiring after serving for twenty years as representative of Banffshire. The Chairman thanked her warmly for her attendances and services during this time.

BC90/8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

17th November 1990

11/90.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ST GEORGE'S WEST CHURCH, EDINBURGH ON SATURDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 1990 AT 1.30PM.

PRESENT: Mr A S Aitkenhead (Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Vice Chairman), Mrs A H T Holden (Director Summer School), Dr A MacFadyen (Honorary Archivist), Miss C Cotto, Mrs N Dunn, Miss A B Mann, Miss L Martin, Mr D Ross, Miss C P Traynor, Mr J Drewry, Mr B Zobel, Miss I C Paton, Mr C McDougal, Miss A McArthur, Mrs B Smith, Mr B Frazer, Miss A Johnston, Mrs G Jennings, Mrs N McLaren, Mr R Watson, Mr I M Birnie, Miss D Leurs, Mrs S M Nedderman, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs A McDougall, Mrs H Wemyss, Mr J B Dougal. Mr J Fyfe, Mrs J MacLean, Mrs M H Hopkins, Miss E Price, Mr J Hutton, Mr A L M Boode, Mr B Hamilton, Mr K R Stacey, Miss E Ferguson, Mrs M McIntosh, Mr D S Hollings, Miss A Couper, Miss M Johnstone, Miss C Menmuir, Miss M Martin, Mr S M Adam, Mr G M Brown, Mr A M Smart, Mrs P May, Miss M M Ross, Dr B Law, Miss D Hamilton, Mr H Van Zon, Mrs E Barr, Miss V Harris, Mr G Mechan, Mrs F C Inglis, Miss I Whyte, Mr D Campbell, Dr P Gormley, Mrs O C Cameron, Mrs M J Gould, Mr J Stephens, Mrs D E Christie, Mrs M E Longair, Mrs B Burnell, Mrs H Wilson, Mrs A Green, Mr J Laurie, Mrs B Porter Miss M Brander, Dr I M Hall, Mr H Barnes, Mrs A Howes, Mr J Rae, Mr W Jardine, Mr C Douglas, Miss K McLauchlan, Mr W Clement, Mrs M Devlin, Miss J Watkinson, Miss J C Yeats, Mr G Davie, Dr Reinstein, Miss B A Nairn, Mr Warburton, Miss L Carson, Mr D A McMillan, Mr R Turnbull, Mr D France, Mr D Blackwood, Mrs M Duffield, Mr P Knight, Miss I Bennett, Mrs M Priestley, Mr R MacKay, Mrs E Burling, Mrs J Harper, Mr A E Dewdney, Mr W A Gray, Mr J Taylor, Miss F Martin, Mrs Kemp, Mr G Burnett, Mr B Harry, Mr T W Steele, Miss M Duffield, Mrs M Corson, Mr M L Brown. 107

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

EC90/9 APOLOGIES

Mrs M Killeen, Miss S Mayr, Dr A R Paterson, Mr R Sutherland, Mr R J Taylor, Mr D C Willetts.

EC90/10 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed all members to the meeting especially those who were newly elected to the Council, and he stressed how important it was that Representatives should report back to their Branches with information from the meeting. He said communication was very important.

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EC90/11 COMPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 1990/1991

a) The Chairman announced amendments to the ballot papers and then called upon the Secretary to announce amendments to the list of Council members which had been distributed with the Agenda. The amendments consisted of the following additions:-

Gatehouse of Fleet	Dr B Law
Hamilton (Ontario)	Miss V Harris
Inverness	Miss I Whyte
Nottingham	Miss J Watkinson
Oxfordshire	Mr G Davie
Peterborough and District	Mr Warburton
Teeside	Mrs Kemp
Twin Cities	Mr B Harry

b) Members were asked to complete the ballot papers and thereafter the voting papers were collected for counting.

c) Referring to the ballot for Director Designate of Summer School, it was announced that Dr A MacFadyen was sole nominee and, with the agreement of the Council he was declared elected as Director Designate.

EC90/12 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 12 MAY 1990

On a motion by Mr Barnes (Mid-Somerset Branch) seconded by Mr Smart (Florida South Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 12 May 1990 were approved.

EC90/13 BUSINESS ARISING

Referring to EC90/5 (b) it was noted that RSCDS 38 should be RSCDS 40.

With reference to EC90/6, Dr MacFadyen said that following the invitation to Branches to make comment on the draft Revised Constitution, nine Branches had submitted observations and these were discussed at length by the Constitution Sub-Committee and this had resulted in further amendments to the original draft. However no further submissions could be considered.

EC90/14 MINUTES OF SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS

a) GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting on 20th October 1990. The Convener highlighted for the meeting the main points from the Minutes. He said that the teaching visit to South Argyll was arranged and would shortly be taking place (GP90/13).

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/ (GP90/13

Referring to Project 1991 the meeting was informed that all the Directors of Education (except in Fife) supported the Project and that the schools in Scotland had now received invitations to participate.

In reply to a question from Mr Brown (York & North Humberside Branch) the Convener said that he would be happy to have schools South of the Border participating in the Project, unfortunately Headquarters cannot afford to be in touch with schools outside Scotland.
GP90/37 The Convener said that a small sub-committee would be set up to consider future plans for the Bulletin and a newsletter. Finally, the Convener referred to GP90/38 concerning possible venues for the 1992 and 1993 Annual General Meetings.

On a motion by Dr Gormley (Isle of Skye Branch) seconded by Mr Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) the minutes were approved.

It was noted that the names of Miss Ferguson and Mr Laurie had been misspelled.

Mrs Murphy (Carlisle & Border Branch) asked about an earlier start to Executive Council Meetings (GP90/41 (c)) and Council members agreed that in future all Council meetings would commence at 1pm.
Mr B Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) said that he appreciated the new layout of the Bulletin.

On a motion by Mr Gray (South Wales Branch) and seconded by Mr Fyfe (Cheshire Branch) the minutes were ratified.

(b) FINANCE COMMITTEE

In presenting the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meetings the Convener said that the value of stock held was disturbing. This was because of over production and under selling. However in 1991 only one record would be produced and three cassettes. Also, the 1991 Subscription copy would be a free choice which would help to reduce existing stock. There was concern at the high cost of producing the Bulletin but General Purposes Committee would be looking at this. The Examinations Committee had been asked to consider one teaching/examining tour abroad each year.

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/year

Other points highlighted by the Convener included increased sales in the Summer School Shop in 1990; that cassettes of music for Preliminary Test Dances and for Teachers' Certificate were now available at £5 each. The Convener also pointed out the changed criteria for students attending Music Courses, namely that students would, in future, be responsible for their own accommodation and meals and that the Society would provide the travel within the UK, and teaching fees.

Finally, it had been confirmed that the Society would receive 2.5% commission on sale of shoes from James Senior of St Andrews dating from Summer School sales.

(1) The Minutes of the Meeting on 12th May 1990 had already been approved.

On a motion by Mr Douglas (Newcastle and District Branch) and seconded by Mrs Duffield (Royal Leamington Spa Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(11) Minutes of the Meeting on 25th August 1990 had already been approved.

Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) said it was disappointing that students attending a music course would have to pay for their accommodation. Mrs Murphy (Carlisle and Border Branch) said that Branches benefited from these music courses therefore Branches might consider financing their students. Finally Mr Taylor Convener of the Finance Committee, said the Committee would support the Society's normal overnight subsistence allowance, currently £15, for students attending a music course.

On a motion by Mr K Stacey (Doncaster and District Branch) and seconded by Mr R Turnbull (Richmond Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 25th August 1990 were ratified.

(111) MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 20 OCTOBER 1990

Referring to F90/50 Mr Taylor reported that The Jean Milligan Fund would support the Garden Parties which were planned as part of the Summer School Diamond Jubilee celebrations. This would ensure that Miss Milligan's name would be prominent during the celebrations. Because the 1990 Summer School had made a profit, which would go into the Summer School account. Only the fee increase from the University was being passed on to the 1991 students and other increases, including the costs of special celebration events, would be absorbed in the fee.

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/ fee.

On a motion by Miss M Ross (Forres Branch) and seconded by Mr J Douglas (Newcastle & District Branch) the Minutes were approved.

On a motion by Mrs M Gould (Kingston, Ontario Branch) and seconded by Mrs G Jennings (Birmingham Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(c) STRATHSPEY SALES LTD., REPORT

Mr Taylor, as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Strathspey Sales Ltd., presented the report for the year ended 30th June 1990.

He said that in spite of the low sales our gross profit was higher at £4,644 which showed the new pricing system was working.

The Administrative Expenses repaid to the Society were up to £3,744 and the interest rate of £900 on the Society Loan of £9,000 was repaid.

The Company is wholly owned by the RSCDS which is a charity. After the Management Charge is paid to the Society any Net Profit remaining is Covenanted to the Society which this year is £3,536, up by 30% on last year.

The policy, on sales and pricing would continue to the benefit of the Society.

Under the Terms of Articles of Association of Strathspey Sales Ltd., the present Board of Directors offered their services for a further year. They are Mr A S Aitkenhead, Miss A W Miller, Mr J C Douglas, Mr J Taylor, Mrs J A Moore and Mrs M A Jeffcoat.

On a motion by Mr Stewart MacMillan (Renfrewshire West Branch) and seconded by Mrs G Jennings (Birmingham Branch) the report was accepted.

(d) EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Presenting the Minutes of the Examinations Committee, Miss Martin Convener of the Committee, thanked Mrs Corson and Mr Wilkie for undertaking the recent very successful teaching/examinations tour to South Africa. Examinations had been held in four centres and there had been a total of twenty four candidates. Miss Martin then informed the Council that it had been decided to hold two brief meetings at St Andrews on 4th and 18th of August 1990 for the sole purpose of discussing the appointments of two potential examiners and that it had been agreed to add the names of Mrs McCausland and Mrs Napier to the official list of Society Examiners. /

/Examiners.

MINUTES OF MEETING ON 23 JUNE 1990

On a motion by Mr Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) and seconded by Mrs Holden (Director of Summer School) the Minutes were approved.

Replying to a question from Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) about a music course at Summer School, Miss Martin explained that this was still undecided and so far only one letter had been received expressing an interest in such a course.

There was extensive discussion regarding written reports for examination candidates (EX90/16c). Replying to requests for such reports Miss Martin said that on a remit from the Executive Council, this matter was thoroughly thrashed out by the Examinations Committee five years ago and the strong recommendation made to the Executive at that time was that the status quo should continue and this was ratified by the Council.

She added that this is not to say that what was considered advisable then is necessarily appropriate today, but the fact remains that after discussing the pros and cons at the Examiners' Seminar in September 1989, the Examiners were unanimous in their opinion that the discussion between the candidate and the Examiners was of much greater learning value than any check list. The reasons were much the same as those previously presented to the Executive, the main ones being -

1) If a written report was given there would be no necessity for a verbal report and indeed no time to give one as the allocated time would be spent by the two examiners filling in the written report.

2) An advantage would be that the candidate would receive a piece of paper which in some way would indicate the factors making up the pass/fail result.

3) Also the tutor would have this information if the candidate was willing to pass it one.

4) However, unless the examining time was extensively lengthened this report could be no more than a check list. There is not time in the present Examination system for the examiners to write their own private assessment, discuss results, talk to the candidates and write reports.

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5) It would be very unwieldly overseas where examiners are moving rapidly from one examination centre to another and under present arrangements would be almost impossible.

6) A written report would preclude the private learning and helping discussion with the candidate after the examination.

7) The personal contact which allows flexibility of discussion could not be replaced by the written report.

8) Candidates are normally excited after completing the Examination, but there is no reason why they should not make notes of the examiners' comments.

9) Also, class tutors sit in during the examination and ought to make notes of the examiners' comments, so that they are in a position to discuss the performance of their candidates with them after the examination.

10) The tutors, especially the less experienced may discuss any points regarding the preparation of the candidates with the Examiners and receive constructive advise for future classes.

These were some of the reasons why the Committee was of the opinion that candidates would not benefit from substituting a written report instead of the present person to person discussion. Miss Martin added that in the past year, from a total of 163 candidates, of which 22 were unsuccessful, only 3 letters had been received by the Examinations Committee querying reasons for the result.

However it was agreed that the Examinations Committee would again reconsider its recommendation that the status quo be retained regarding this question of a written report.

On a motion by Dr Reinstein (Paris Branch) and seconded by Mr Steele (representing Vancouver Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(e) SUMMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING ON 13 OCTOBER 1990

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Presenting the minutes, Mrs Holden, Director of Summer School drew attention to the programme on arrangements for the 60th Anniversary celebrations of Summer School. She said that in addition to University Hall places had been reserved in David Russell Hall for residents.

On a motion by Mr Gray (South Wales Branch) and seconded by Mr Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) the minutes were approved.

Dr MacFadyen said he thought that the programme of events planned for the 60th celebrations was an excellent one.

Answering a question from Mr Frazer (Berks/Hants Surrey Border Branch) on how the application form had been changed to make it clearer, Mrs Holden said that all application forms will have an enclosed note asking candidates to consider which class they should be in.

On a motion by Mr Rae (Moffat Branch) and seconded by Dr Hall (Manchester Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

(f) PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Mr Clement, Convener of the Publications & Research Committee informed the Council that plans for this winter's recordings were well ahead. The recording of the dances from Book 15 plus the two remaining dances from Book 14 required two cassettes but only one record of eight of the dances.

Referring to PR90/51 Mr Clement said the Committee had decided against a three piece band for the recording of Cassette 2 of Thirty Popular Scottish Country Dances and that one side of the cassette would be piano recordings and previously recorded bands on the other side.

(1) MINUTES OF MEETING ON 9 JUNE 1990

The Minutes had already been approved.

On a motion by Mr Mechan (representing Hawaii Branch) and seconded by Dr Gormley (Isle of Skye Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

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/ratified

(11) MINUTES OF MEETING ON 22 SEPTEMBER 1990

The Minutes had already been approved.

On a motion by Mr Brown (York & North Humberside Branch) and seconded by Mr Mackay (representing San Francisco Branch) the minutes were ratified.

(111) MINUTES OF MEETING ON 27 OCTOBER 1990

On a motion by Mr Drewry (Aberdeen Branch) seconded by Miss I Bennett (St Andrews Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

PR90/57 b, Mr Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) suggested that teachers could be brought together earlier and before the new book is printed and therefore there would be no need for teachers notes. Miss Carson (Portrush Branch) asked if the Society could run a day school for teachers where they could learn the new dances.

On a motion by Mr Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) and seconded by Mr Harry (representing Twin Cities Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

Mr Aitkenhead, Chairman, recorded his sincere thanks and appreciation to each Committee Convener.

EC90/15 TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 1990/91

The schedule of meetings for 1990/91 was accepted with the amendment from 1.30 to 1pm starting time for Executive Council Meetings.

EC90/16 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE FOR 1990/91

Committees were duly appointed as follows:

a) FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr A S Aitkenhead (Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Vice Chairman) and the following appointed members:

Mr J C Douglas	(Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch)
Miss M Duffield	(West Lothian Branch)
Mr D A Ross	(Edinburgh Branch)
Miss M M Ross	(Forres Branch)
Mr K Stacey	(Doncaster & District Branch)
Mr J Taylor	(Stirlingshire Branch)
Mr R Turnbull	(Richmond, N.Yorks Branch)

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/Branch

On a motion by Miss L Martin (Elected Member) and seconded by Mrs N McLaren (representing Boston Branch) Mr J Taylor was elected Convener.

b) GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Mr A S Aitkenhead (Chairman and Convener), Miss A W Miller (Vice-Chairman), Mr J Taylor (Finance Committee Convener) and the following appointed members:

Mrs N Dunn	(Elected Member)
Miss E M C Ferguson	(Dumfries Branch)
Dr I P Gormley	(Isle of Skye Branch)
Mr J Laurie	(London Branch)
Mrs A Murphy	(Carlisle & Border Branch)
Miss B Nairn	(Perth & Perthshire Branch)
Miss I Paton	(Ayr Branch)
Mr A Smart	(Representing Florida South Branch)
Miss C Traynor	(Elected Member)

c) EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr A S Aitkenhead (Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Vice-Chairman) and the following appointed members:

Mrs M Corson	(Representing Winnipeg Branch)
Mr W Hamilton	(representing Detroit Branch)
Mrs A H T Holden	(Director of Summer School)
Miss L Martin	(Elected Member)
Miss J Yeates	(Representing Ottawa Branch)

On a motion by Mr G Mechan (representing Hawaii Branch) and seconded by Mr H Barnes (Mid Somerset Branch) Miss Martin was elected Convener

d) PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Mr A S Aitkenhead (Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Vice-Chairman), Dr A MacFadyen (Honorary Archivist) and the following appointed members:

Miss I Bennett	(St Andrews Branch)
Mr W Clement	(Representing Northern Virginia Branch)
Mr J Drewry	(Aberdeen Branch)
Mr R Mackay	(Representing San Francisco Branch)
Mrs J MacLean	(Representing Chicago Branch)

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/Branch

On a motion by Mr Hutton (representing Delaware Valley Branch) and seconded by Miss Duffield (West Lothian Branch) Mr Clement was elected Convener.

e) SUMMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mr A S Aitkenhead (Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Vice-Chairman), Mrs A H T Holden (Director of Summer School and Convener) and the following appointed members:

Mr W A Gray	(South Wales Branch)
Miss D Hamilton	(Glasgow Branch)
Mr J Rae	(Moffat Branch)
Miss A Mann	(Dundee Branch)

EC90/17 BUSINESS FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Council recorded its sincere thanks to Ayr Branch for all their hospitality during the AGM weekend.

Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch) said that the Stirlingshire Branch had submitted amendments to resolutions on the AGM Agenda relating to the Society's constitution, but acting on advise received, these had been withdrawn. He now wished to know why, therefore, the Kirkcaldy Branch amendments had been accepted. Replying to Mr Taylor, Dr MacFadyen said that the Sub-Committee appointed to review the Constitution had rigorously followed the time table set out by the Council and therefore those submissions which were not received within that schedule were not considered .

Kirkcaldy had followed the procedure laid down for submissions of motions and amendments to the AGM

There was considerable discussion concerning the resolution limiting membership of Standing Committees to five consecutive years. Mr Aitkenhead (Chairman) said that when this motion was discussed at the General Purposes Committee Meeting on 15 April 1989 (GP89/15 c) it was decided to phase out the present elected committee members so that continuity would be ensured. The Chairman said he was very aware of the benefits of CONTINUITY and also of the benefits of EXPERTISE and EXPERIENCE. He realised the value of the service from long serving members and it was because of the hard work from every member of standing committees that the Society continued to prosper. He said he was amazed by the conscientious approach made by all the committees and in no sense was the new ruling a way of losing valuable resources. He pointed out that the proposal had been discussed and passed at Committee level, then at the Executive Council and finally at the AGM.

/AGM

The Council confirmed that the five year ruling would come into effect from November 1991.

Following his handling of the AGM resolutions there was a suggestion that it might be time to consider the appointment of a new President of the Society. Dr MacFadyen said it would be a great pity, following this one meeting, if the Society should be considering Lord Mansfield's position. This was supported by Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch).

EC90/18 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Referring to the Open Forum at the AGM Mr Turnbull (Richmond Branch) congratulated the Vice-Chairman on her handling of the Forum. He added that he thought it would be helpful to list in the Bulletin topics discussed at the Forum.

Mrs Nedderman (Cambridge and District Branch) asked if there was any way in which Branches might be encouraged to include more RSCDS dances in their dance programmes. The Chairman asked all Representatives to think about this.

In reminding the Council members that they were responsible for the duration of the appointment of the Director of Summer School, Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch) proposed that this be considered at the next Executive Council Meeting. Dr Reinstein (Paris Branch) seconded the proposal.

Mr Taylor then read a letter from Mrs Wallace expressing her gratitude for the cheque which she had received on her retirement and wishing the Society continued success.

Approval was given for the following to represent their Branches on the North of Ireland Co-ordinating Committee for 1990-1991:

Miss Myra Beattie	Belfast
Mrs Sadie Reid	Belfast
Mrs Agnes Hamilton	Portrush
Mr Charlie Shott	Portrush
Mr Norman Brown	Whitehead
Mr John Thomson	Whitehead

The Chairman told the Council that we were indebted to Renfrewshire West Branch for the wine which had accompanied our lunch.

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/lunch

Mr W Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) thanked the Chairman for his handling of the meeting.

EC90/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

11th May 1991 at 1pm.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4.45PM

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ST. GEORGE'S WEST CHURCH, EDINBURGH ON SATURDAY 11 MAY 1991 AT 1.00PM

PRESENT: Mr A S Aitkenhead (Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Vice Chairman), Mrs A H T Holden (Director Summer School), Dr A MacFadyen (Honorary Archivist), Miss C Catto, Mrs N Dunn, Miss A B Mann, Miss L Martin, Mr D Ross, Miss C Traynor, Mr J Drewry, Mrs J Douglas, Miss I C Paton, Mr C McDougall, Miss A McArthur, Dr Paterson, Miss G Walton, Mr B Frazer, Miss A Johnston. Mrs G Jennings, Mrs N McLaren, Mr R Watson, Mr I M Birnie, Miss D Leurs, Mrs S Nedderman, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs A McDougall, Miss M McCartney, Mr J B Dougal, Ms V Johnstone, Mrs J Maclean, Mrs M Hopkins, Miss E Price, Mr J Hutton, Mr A L M Boode, Mr B Hamilton, Mr K Stacey, Miss E Ferguson, Mrs M McIntosh, Mr D S Hollings, Miss A Couper, Miss M Johnstone, Mrs Low, Mrs M Martin, Mr S M Adam, Mr G M Brown, Mr A M Smart, Mrs P May, Dr B Law, Mr G Lawson, Mr H Van Zon, Mrs E Barr, Miss V Harris, Mr G Mechan, Mrs F I I Inglis, Miss I Whyte, Mr D Campbell, Dr P Gormley, Mrs O C Cameron, Mrs M J Gould, Mr G Stephens, Mrs D Christie, Mrs M Longair, Mrs B Burnell, Mrs H Wilson, Mrs A Green, Mr J Laurie, Mrs S Porter, Miss M Brander, Dr I M Hall, Mrs M Killeen, Mr H Barnes, Mrs A Howes, Mr J Rae, Mr W Jardine, Mr J Wilson, Mr J Douglas, Miss K Mc Lauchlan, Mr W Clement, Mrs M Devlin, Miss J C Yeats, Mr G Davie, Mrs R Gordon-Harvey, Miss B A Nairn, Mr Warburton, Miss L Carson, Mr D A McMillan, Mr R Turnbull, Mr D France, Mr D Blackwood, Mr P Knight, Miss I Bennett, Mrs M Priestley, Mr R Mackay, Mrs J Harper, Mr A E Dewdney, Mr W A Gray, Mr J Taylor, Miss F Martin, Mr R Sutherland, Mr D Willetts, Mrs Kemp, Mr G Burnett, Mr B Harry, Mr T W Steele, Miss S Mayr, Miss M Duffield, Mrs M Corson, Mr R J Taylor, Mr M L Brown.

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

EC91/1 APOLOGIES

Mrs E Burling, Mrs M Duffield, Miss M M Ross, Miss J Watkinson

EC91/2 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed the Council Members to the meeting and said he hoped that Representatives had consulted with their Branches prior to the meeting.

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/meeting

EC91/3 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 1990

The minutes of the meeting on 17 November 1990 were approved on a motion by Mr A Dewdney (Southport Branch) seconded by Mr J Laurie (London Branch) after the following amendments had been made.

EC90/14 d) 9. delete 'of the examiners comments'
EC90/14 d) last paragraph. After 'However' insert 'upon a show of hands because of opposition to the above'
EC90/14 e) For Mr Hamilton read Miss Hamilton(Glasgow Branch)
EC90/16 a) Finance Committee. After Mr D A Ross delete (Edinburgh Branch) and substitute (Elected Member).
EC90/16 a) delete Miss L Martin (Elected Member) and substitute Miss F Martin (East Stirlingshire Branch).

EC91/4 BUSINESS ARISING

a) Referring to EC90/14 e, the Council was informed that Mr P Knight had suggested making a video highlighting the events of this year's sixtieth Summer School, at no cost to the Society. One copy of which would be donated to the Archives and copies would be sold through Headquarters. Mrs Holden, Director of Summer School indicated that there was no question of videos being made of classes or teaching. The Summer School Committee had approved this suggestion.

Mr Taylor asked that the Finance Committee should be involved in setting the selling price of the video.

On a proposal by the Director of Summer School and seconded by Mrs Jennings (Birmingham Branch) the Council gave approval for the video.

b) With reference to EC90/18 Mr Laurie (London Branch) raised the matter of the five year ruling applying to the appointment of the Director of Summer School. Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch) said he thought it should apply to this appointment thus bringing it into line with other sections of the Society. Mr Taylor proposed that the appointment of the Director of Summer School should be for three years with an option for another two.

Mr Laurie proposed that the existing ruling of four years with an option of another three years should remain. Mr Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) seconded the proposal.

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/proposal

c) EX90/14 c) Mr Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) asked that it should be confirmed that the members of the Executive Council would receive a written report on Strathspey Sales. He said he had raised this at the previous meeting. Mr Taylor (Convener of the Finance Committee) said it would be available for the November Concil Meeting when the report is normally presented to the Council.

EC91/5 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

a) General Purposes Committee

In presenting the minutes of the General Purposes Committee, the Chairman stated that there had been two meetings since the last Executive Council and he thanked Miss Miller, the Vice Chairman for taking the Chair at the meeting on 13 April. He indicated that we were still waiting to hear where the 1992 AGM would be held. He also said that discussions on Schools' Affiliation would continue.

1) Minutes of Meeting on 2 February 1991

The minutes of the meeting on 2 February were already approved.

GP91/13 Miss Miller reported that there had already been one meeting of the sub committee appointed to look at the future of the Bulletin and in particular to consider ways of reducing production costs. The next meeting would be in September.

GP91/5 Mr G Mechan (representing Hawaii Branch) wanted the Committee to be aware of the costs involved in keeping Archives.

Dr MacFadyen (Archivist) said that the Society has had an archives since 1923 but it was only in 1978 that someone had been appointed to organise things and it had survived without a great deal of expense since then.

Speaking from his own experience Dr MacFadyen outlined qualifications which he considered desirable when appointing his successor.

1. Extensive historical knowledge and the skills to assess the value of items. A knowledge of the history of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries would be important.

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/important

2. The Archivist should be reasonably located. Because the Archivist gets requests for information about dancing and music from all over the world this frequently means having to travel to Edinburgh to refer to the Archives. No one should have access to the Archives without the Archivist, who is the custodian of the material which is held in trust, being present.

3. On the promotional side, the Archivist should be prepared, when invited by Branches, to speak about the Archives using visual aids.

4. The Archivist is also a member of the Publications & Research Commitee which has frequent meetings which have to be taken into account.

Replying to a question from Mr Mechan, Dr MacFadyen said that all items in the Archives are indexed.

GP91/4 c) With reference to the difficulty of venues for the AGM, Mr R Mackay (representing San Francisco Branch) wondered if the format of the AGM should be an item on the Agenda for the next General Purposes Committee meeting. It was also agreed that for the moment the AGM would not be held outside Scotland.

Mrs Douglas (representing Atlanta Branch) drew attention to a misprint in the threefold leaflet.

The minutes of the meeting on 2 February 1992 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of Meeting on 13 April 1991

On a motion by Mrs A Murphy (Carlisle and District Branch), seconded by Miss B Nairn (Perth & Perthshire Branch) the minutes were approved.

GP91/21 The Executive Council approved the award of the Society's Scroll to:

Mrs A Holden	Birmingham Branch
Mr D G Sutherland	Pietermaritzburgh Branch
Mrs W J Wadsworth	Gatehouse of Fleet Branch
Mr H van Zon	The Hague District Branch
Mr B Laing	Nominated by the General Purposes Committee for his support, advice and assistance with recordings over many years.

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/years

On a motion by Mr J Laurie (London Branch), seconded by Mrs G Jennings (Birmingham Branch) the minutes of the meeting on 13 April were ratified.

(b) Finance Committee

In presenting the Minutes of the Finance Committee the Convener said he regretted having to add the increase in VAT to Summer School fees. He explained that the Society would not receive the account from St Andrews University until after the Summer School and the addition would be applied and therefore we too must pass it on. He also pointed out that it states on the Summer School application form that fees are subject to any increase in VAT and Community Rate Business Charge which may be imposed by the University.

1) Minutes of Meeting on 2 February 1991

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

F91/7 j) Referring to the notice that faulty records and cassettes should be returned within 14 days of purchase, it was agreed that in certain circumstances this would have to be left to the discretion of HQ particularly in the case of purchases by overseas members.

On a motion by Mr J Douglas (Newcastle and District Branch), seconded by Mr S Adam (Edinburgh Branch) the minutes were ratified.

11) Minutes of Meeting on 13 April 1991

The Convener explained that the minutes of the meeting had been approved at a meeting of the Finance Committee that morning (11 May 1991)

F91/2b) Mr Taylor (Stirlingshire Branch) thought that the criteria for affiliation could be revised. However Mr Gray (South Wales Branch) said that many RSCDS members of affiliated groups took membership through Branches and were often the life blood of those Branches. Mr Taylor also expressed concern that other independent groups were able to start up with only a qualified teacher.

F91/16 a) Mr Brown (York and North Humberside Branch) said he considered the selling price of £3.00 for the Dr Milligan cassette was excessive. Mr Taylor replied that the price had been set by the Finance Committee.

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F91/16 c) Mr Taylor (Convener) drew attention to the price reduction of records for the limited period commencing 15 July - 31 December and it was important that Representatives should ensure that Barnches were informed about this. In answer to a question from Mr Brown (York and North Humberside Branch) Mr Taylor said that the previous sales of records had not come up to expectation.

Replying to Miss Price (Croydon and District Branch) Mr Taylor said that the Finance Commitee would not reduce a member's subscription if an alternative subscription book is not required this year.

On a motion by Dr I P Gormley (Isle of Skye Branch), seconded by Miss D Leurs (representing Calgary Barnch) the minutes of the meeting on 13 April were ratified.

Mr Taylor, informed the Council that there had been an additional meeting of the Finance Committee that morning (11 May) to discuss the three year Budget Proposals (F91/13 c) for 1991/92, 1992/93, 1993/94. These showed a widening gap between income and expenditure and would give a deficit of £16,000 by 1993. Mr Taylor proposed that a motion should go to the next AGM to increase the annual subscription by £2.00, to become effective from 1 July 1992. Mr Ross (elected member) seconded the proposal.

Mr Campbell (Isle of Islay Branch) asked if all age groups would be subject to the increase and was informed that they would be.

Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) felt that there had been no opportunity to discuss this with his Committee. Mr Taylor replied that there was still time for Branches to discuss the matter before the AGM.

Mr Steele (representing Vancouver) said that the increase should be larger and suggested a membership subscription of £10.00.

Mr Taylor (Wirral Branch), enquiring about the costs of holding the Executive Council meetings and being informed it was over £12,000, suggested that more efficiently and less costly ways should be considered. Mr Ross (elected Member) pointed out that a cost of over £14,000 for all meetings and subcommittee meetings is out of all proportion for a Society the size of the RSCDS.

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Mr B Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border) wondered if an increase of £2.00 would be enough.

Mr A L M Boode (Delft Branch) asked that Branches might receive a copy of the three year Budget Proposals.

Mr Steele (Vancouver Branch) proposd an amendment to the proposal that the subscription should be increased by £5.00. This amendment was seconded by Mr B Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border). Mr G Mechan (Hawaii Branch), seconded by Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) proposed the direct negative that the status quo should remain.

On a vote being taken the result was:

In favour of retaining the status quo	2
In favour of the proposals to increase the subscription by £2.00	28
In favour of the amendment to increase subscriptions by £5.00	68
Abstentions	3

It was agreed, therefore, that a motion should go to the next AGM in November to raise the annual subscription by £5.00 to £10.00.

(c) Publications and Research Committee

Mr Clement, Convener of the Publications and Research Committee informed the Council that the recording by Mr R Mackay of the 8 dances for cassette 2 of Thirty Popular Scottish Country Dances (PR91/19) had been completed and would be available at Summer School. He also said that a cassettee with two of Miss Milligan's talks at Summer School, both full length, was being prepared (PR91/20). He added that we were indebted to John and Neil Hutton for all their work in preparing these original tapes to digital quality. The original tapes had been made available to the Society by Mrs Netta Huxley and Wendy and Vernon Payne. The Chairman, Mr Aitkenhead, would add an introduction to this cassette. Plans for the recording of Volume 2 of Frae A' The Airts were under way and a two day meeting was arranged to dance through dances submitted for future possible publication.

Mr Clement said that the Committee had discussed at length how best to produce future recordings - whether LP's, Cassettes, C.D.s or Compact Cassettes. While many requests had been received for C.D.s it is felt that more information is required.

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It would not be viable to produce less than 1,000 C.D.s, quite a sizeable outlay and if we did change to C.D.s, would this be for listening to? If so, we would require to make three or four to start off with. Coming along behind the C.D we hear of Compact Cassettes. However it is hoped that the Society will continue to record music for the older books and the next book to be recorded would be Book 16. To record all 12 dances full length would give 75 minutes of playing time. While it might not prove popular throughout the Society, it would be financially helpful if we were to produce the music for Book 16 on cassettee only.

Reporting on the progress of the Mannual, Dr MacFadyen said that he hoped the committee would complete its work at the next meeting but the mannual would not be available before 1992.

1) Minutes of Meeting on 19 January 1991

The Minutes of the Meeting on 19 January 1991 were already approved.

On a motion by Mr D Ross (Elected Member), seconded by Mr J Douglas (Newcastle and District Branch) the minutes were ratified.

11) Minutes of Meeting on 23 and 24 February 1991

The Minutes of the Meeting on 23 and 24 February 1991 were already approved.

On a motion by Mr H Barnes (Mid Somerset Branch), seconded by Miss M Brander (representing Los Angeles Branch) the minutes were ratified.

111) Minutes of Meeting on 20 April 1991

On a motion by Mr R Mackay (representing San Fransisco Branch), seconded by Mr J Drewry (Aberdeen Branch) the minutes were approved.

On a motion by Mr S Adam (Edinburgh Branch), seconded by Miss V Harris (Hamilton, Ontario Branch) the minutes were ratified.

(d) Summer School Committee

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/Committee

Presenting the minutes, Mrs Holden referring to SS91/7a) said it was expected that fees would rise by 10% but there would be no additional appreciable difference if the Summer School ran from Sunday to Sunday. Therefore if the minutes were ratified the 1992 Summer School would commence on a Sunday and end on a Sunday.

On a motion by Mr A Gray (South Wales Branch), seconded by Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch) the minutes were approved.

On a motion by Mrs G Jennings (Birmingham Branch), seconded by Dr I Gormley (Isle of Skye Branch) the minutes were ratified.

(e) Examinations Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 12 January 1991 (completed on 15 February 1991)

On a motion by Mr W Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch), seconded by Mrs A Holden (Director of Summer School) the minutes were approved.

In presenting the minutes Miss Martin (Convener) referred to EX91/3 and said that the IDTA were still working on a revised syllabus but that the planned reprint had been postponed because of other commitments. It was emphasised that in Ex91/7 the points mentioned were only suggestions arising from discussion on a remit from the Finance Committee.

EX91/11 1) Miss Martin welcomed Mr Aitkenhead and Mrs Dunn back from the examinations tour of North America where they had visited 16 centres involving 21 Branches and 111 candidates.

EX91/11 11) Because Mrs More (pianist) was unable to accept the invitation to go to Australia, Mr Mackay would go in her place.

On a motion by Mrs M Corson (representing Winnipeg Branch), seconded by Miss J Yeats (representing Ottawa Branch) the minutes were ratified.

EC91/6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

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/ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Miss J Harper (South Argyll Branch) requested that Mrs Isobel Stewart co-founder of the RSCDS should be mentioned where possible during the Summer School celebrations later this year. Mrs Holden assured the Council that Mrs Stewart would be remembered and that Dr MacFadyen would be giving two talks to the Summer School concerning the archives and the co-founders of the Society.

b) Mr Taylor (Wirral Barnch) asked if the Society could help the Branch to recoup lost expenses when their proposed visit to a Festival in Brussels was cancelled. The Branch was currently pursuing the claim through the Belgian embassy. Mr Taylor (Convener Finance Committee) said we would await the outcome of these deliberations.

c) Miss B Nairn (Perth and Pethshire Branch) said she would be retiring from the Council after twenty one years. The Chairman thanked her for her help and support over the years.

d) Mr Taylor (Convener Finance Committee) enquired from Peter Knight what his intentions were regarding the video of the Macnab dances. Mr Knight replied that he intended putting twenty five dances on tape. The video should be ready for Summer School and a copy would be given to the Society Archives. The question of copyright would be discussed when filming was completed. Mr Aitkenhead said he thought that it could be left to Mr Taylor and Peter Knight to come to a suitable arrangement about the copyright.

e) Mr Aitkenhead said that this Council meeting would be his last as Chairman. He offered sincere thanks to all Conveners for their reports, to all the Representatives for their dedication and to HQ staff.

The Meeting Ended at 3.30pm

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ST. GEORGE'S WEST CHURCH, EDINBURGH ON SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER 1991 AT 1.00PM

PRESENT: Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson(Vice-Chairman), Miss L Martin, Mrs A Holden, Mr D Ross, Mrs N Dunn, Miss A Mann,. Miss C Traynor, Miss F Gordon, Miss I C Paton, Mr C McDougall, Mr A T Butchart, Mrs B Smith, Mr B Frazer, Miss A Johnston, Mrs G Jennings, Mrs N McLaren, Mr K Warman, Mr I M Birnie, Miss D Leurs, Mrs S Nedderman, M Ainslie, Miss R Scott-Huxley, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs A McDougall, Mrs M McCartney, Mr J B Dougal, Mrs V Johnson, Mrs J MacLean, Mrs M Hopkins, Miss E Price, Mr J Hutton, Mr A L Boode, Mr W Hamilton, Mr K Stacey, Mrs E M Ferguson, A Traill, Mr D S Hollings, Mrs A Couper,Miss M Menmuir, Mrs M Martin, Mr S M Adam, Mrs M A Simkins, Mr G M Brown, Mr A Smart, Mrs P May, Miss M M Ross, Dr B Law, Miss D Hamilton, Mrs E Barr, Mrs L Gaul, Mr G Mechan, Mrs F C Inglis, Miss I Whyte, Mr D Campbell,Mrs A Sheach, Mrs O C Cameron, Mrs N J Gould, Mr G Stephens, Mrs D Christie, Mrs M Longair, Mrs B J Burnell,Mrs J M Baker, Mrs M Shaw, Mrs S Porter, Miss M Brander, Dr I Hall, Mrs M Killeen, Mr H Barnes, Ms A Howes, Mr J Rae, Mr W Jardine, Mr J Wilson, Mr J C Douglas, Miss K McLauchlan, Mr W Clement, Mrs M Devlin, J Watkinson, Mrs P Robertson, Dr. J Reinstein, Mrs C Munro, Mr D R Warburton, Mr S Wilkie, Miss L Carson, Mr S McMillan, Mr R J Turnbull, Mr D France, Mr D Blackwood, Mrs M Duffield, Mr P Knight, Mrs R Colwell, Mr R Mackay, Mrs E Burling, Mrs J Harper, Mr A E Dewdney, Mr W A Gray, Miss E R Kennedy, Miss F Martin, Mr R Sutherland, Mr D C Willetts, Mrs E Kemp, Mrs A Clement, Mr B Harry, Miss M Brown, Mr T W Steele, Mr C McCausland, S Mayr, Mrs M Corson, Mr R J Taylor, Mr M L Brown.

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

EC91/7 APOLOGIES

Mr A Aitkenhead, Dr A MacFadyen, Mr W Zobel, Miss A McArthur, Dr A Paterson, Miss M Johnstone, Mr H van Zon, Mrs H J Wilson, Miss J Yeats, Miss A M Robertson.

EC91/8 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman said it was her particular pleasure to welcome all members to the meeting and especially those who were attending as Branch Representatives for the first time and she hoped that they would enjoy their time on the Council.

The Chairman introduced Mr George Lawson, the new Vice-Chairman and hoped that he too would enjoy his term of office and that she looked forward to working with him in maintaining the aims of the Society.

The Chairman then, reminded the members that as Representatives of their Branches they should take the Council's business back to the Branches and that they should impress on their secretaries that they inform the membership about what is going on at Council level either by word of mouth or Branch newsletters. She then said that it was worth remembering why Miss Stewart and Miss Milligan started the Society and that the standard and social aspect should not be forgotten; that it was necessary to promote the Society - always striving to attract new members and to keep them.

The Chairman's final plea was that every one should work together amicably for the Society and not for self.

The Chairman told the Council that they were indebted to Twin Cities Branch for the wine which had accompanied the lunch and asked the representative to convey the Council's gratitude to the Branch for this generosity.

EC91/9 COMPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 1991/1992

Amendments were announced to the list of Council Members which had been distributed with the Agenda. The amendments consisted of the following aditions:

Gatehouse of Fleet	Dr B Law
Kirkcudbright	Mrs D Christie
Manchester	Dr I Hall
Stonehaven	Mr R Sutherland

a) The Chairman announced amendments to the Ballot papers. Members were asked to complete the ballot papers and thereafter the voting papers were collected.

b) Referring to the ballot for Honorary Archivist, there were two candidates:

Miss Frances Gordon who was proposed by Miss D Hamilton (Glasgow Branch) and seconded by Mr T Steele (representing Vancouver Branch)

and

Mr George Mechan who was proposed by Mr H Barnes (Mid Somerset Branch) and seconded by Mrs Kemp (Teeside Branch).

EC91/10 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 11 MAY 1991

The minutes of the meeting on 11 May 1991 were approved on a motion by Mr J Wilson (Nairobi Branch) seconded by Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch) after it was noted that apologies had been received from Mr J Reinstein and Mr van Zon and after the following amendments had been made:

EC91/5 b)	Delete	"felt that" and substitute "said"
EC91/5 c)	Delete	"digital" and substitute "production"
EC91/5 e)	Delete	"were still working on" and substitute "had accepted"

EC91/11 BUSINESS ARISING

Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) asked that Branch Committees should have time to discuss any matters being raised by the Executive Council. Apart from this there was no business arising from the Minutes.

EC91/12 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

a) General Purposes Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 5 October 1991

On a motion by Miss I Paton (Ayr Branch) seconded by Mr A Smart (Florida South Branch) the Minutes were approved.

GP91/20 e) Annual Bulletin. There was considerable discussion concerning the proposals for the 1992 issue of the Bulletin. On a proposal by Mr J Reinstein (Paris Branch) and seconded by Mr A Boode it was agreed that the telephone number for the person responsible for the Affiliated Groups should be included with group details (Voting was 57 for the motion, 37 against). Finally on a motion by Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) and seconded by Mr Douglas (Newcastle & District Branch) the Council agreed overwhelmingly to adopt the Bulletin sub-committee's proposals and experiment for one year.

GP91/29 d) Replying to a question from Mr Hollings (Dundee Branch) about recruitment the Chairman said that this would be looked at again by the new committee.

On a motion by Mr R Mackay (San Francisco Branch) seconded by Mr H Barnes (Mid Somerset Branch) the minutes of the meeting of 5 October 1991 were ratified.

b) Finance Committee

i) Minutes of Meeting on 11 May 1991

F91/20 Three Year Budget Proposals. Mr M Brown (York & North Humberside Branch) made some comments about the budget forcasting and the cost of the Bulletin. Mrs Jeffcoat, Treasurer, gave a reply.

On a proposal by Mr J Douglas (Newcastle & District Branch) seconded by Mr J Murphy (representing Carlisle & Border Branch) the minutes of the meeting on 11 May 1991 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of Meeting on 24 August 1991

F91/26 a) Replying to an enquiry about the new commercial agreement with James Senior, Mrs Jeffcoat said that the fee would be £1,500.

On a proposal by Mr T Steele (Vancouver Branch) seconded by Miss M Ross (Forres Branch) the minutes of the meeting on 24 August 1991 were ratified.

iii) Minutes of Meeting on 5 October 1991

The Chairman advised the Council that the Minutes of the Meeting on 5 October 1991 had been approved at an extra meeting of the committee that morning.

F91/39 a) Phonographic Performance Limited. Mrs Jeffcoat advised members that matters concerning an agreement with PPL had still to be finalised before a full report could be made.

On a motion by Mr A Gray (South Wales Branch) seconded by Mr S Adam (Edinburgh Branch) the minutes of the meeting on 5 October 1991 were ratified.

c) Publications & Research Committee

i) Minutes of Meeting on 21 September 1991

PR91/35 a) Replying to a question about the increased costs of producing the cassettes of Dr Milligan's talks at Summer School 1955 and 1963, the Convener said that the amount of recorded talk had made it necessary to put the talks on to "extended play" cassettes and hence the increase in costs.

On a proposal by Mr G Mechan (Hawaii Branch) seconded by Mr D Blackwood (Roxburgh, Selkirk & Peebles Branch) the minutes of the meeting on 21 September 1991 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of Meeting on 26 October 1991

On a propsal by Mrs J MacLean (Chicago Branch) seconded by Miss W Miller (Chairman) the minutes of the meeting on 26 October 1991 were approved.

PR91/44 a) Referring to a possible childrens' book Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) suggested that the dances could be produced in leaflet form. The Chairman said that the Council had previously decided not to produce leaflets. Mr Stephens then proposed that the Publications Committee be allowed to publish descriptions of dances in leaflet form, with music. Dr I Hall seconded the proposal. On a vote being taken the result was 25 in favour of leaflets and 69 against and the proposal was defeated.

PR91/35 c) Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) asked for confirmation that Book 16 will only be recorded on cassette. In his reply the Convener referred to the CD questionnaire sent to all Branches and said that out of the twenty three replies fewer than half showed any interest in CDs but they wanted tapes as well. Some wanted only tapes. As an interim measure, therefore, it was decided to record Book 16 only on cassette. All twelve dances could be recorded on to one extended play tape but would need two LPs.

On a motion by Mrs L Gaul (Hamilton, Ontario Branch) seconded by Miss D Leurs (Calgary Branch) the minutes of the meeting on 26 October 1991 were ratified.

d) Examinations Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 22 June 1991

On a motion by Mrs M Corson (Winnipeg Branch) seconded by Mr W Hamilton (Detroit Branch) the minutes of the meeting on 22 June 1991 were approved.

The Convener drew attention to the brief meeting which had been held on 27 July 1991 for the purpose of discussing the potential examiner, Mr Garry Morris who had completed the required procedure at St Andrews Summer School.

The Convener thanked Mrs J MacLean and Mr R Mackay for their successful tour to Australia where they had visited 13 centres and held workshops, classes and childrens' classes, discussion groups and examinations.

EX91/25 Mrs M Brander (Los Angeles Branch) enquired if Music Courses were open to overseas students. The Council agreed that this was the case.

On a motion by Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) and seconded by Mr R Turnbull (Richmond Branch) the minutes of the meeting on 22 June 1991 were ratified.

e) Summer School Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 14 September 1991

On a motion by Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch) seconded by Miss A Mann (Elected Member) the minutes of the meeting on 14 September 1991 were approved.

SS91/5 The Convener drew attention to a new class at Summer School which would be called Very Advanced/Fully Certificated - Senior Class. She said this was an attempt by the Committee to improve the grading system. In answer to Mr J Douglas' question the Convener confirmed that this class would be doing the new book.

On a motion by Miss M Brown (Toronto Branch) seconded by Mr K Stacey (Doncaster & District Branch) the minutes of the meeting on 14 September 1991 were ratified.

EC91/13 STRATHSPEY SALES : DIRECTORS REPORT

The Directors Report and the Profit and Loss Account for 1990 - 1991 was discussed. Mrs Jeffcoat explained that all net profits were paid back into the RSCDS under a management charge thus resulting in nil net profit.

The idea of sample packs of Strathspey items was discussed and it was agreed that it should be added to the Agenda for the next meeting of Strathspey Sales.

Mr W Hamilton (Detroit Branch) expressed the appreciation of the Council for this first written report issued to the Executive Council.

EC91/14 TIME TABLE OF MEETINGS 1991 - 1992

The schedule of meeting for 1991 - 1991 was accepted with one amendment, the Finance Committee on 22 August 1992 was re-scheduled to 29 August 1992.

EC91/15 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Committees were duly appointed as follows:-

a) GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman), Mr R Turnbull (Finance Committee Convener) Mr A S Aitkenhead (Immediate Past Chairman) and the following appointed members:

Mrs R Colwell	(St Andrews Branch)
Mr A Dewdney	(Southport Branch)
Miss E Ferguson	(Dumfries Branch)
Miss F Gordon	(Aberdeen Branch)
Mrs C Munro	(Perth & Perthsire Branch)
Miss I Paton	(Ayr Branch)
Mrs M Shaw	(London Branch)
Mr G Stephens	(Kirkcaldy Branch)
Miss C Traynor	(Elected Member)

b) FINANCE COMMITTEE

Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman), Mr A S Aitkenhead (Immediate Past Chairman) and the following appointed members:-

Mr J Douglas	(Newcastle & District Branch)
Miss M Duffield	(West Lothian Branch)
Mr B Frazer	(Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch)
Mrs J Harper	(South Argyll Branch)
Mr D Ross	(Elected Member)
Mr K Stacey	(Doncaster & District Branch)
Mr R Turnbull	(Richmond Branch)

Mr Richard Turnbull was elected Convener

c) PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman), Miss F Gordon (Honorary Archivist), Mr A S Aitkenhead (Immediate Past Chairman) and the folowing appointed members:-

Miss M Brander	(Los Angeles Branch)
Mr B Clement	(Northern Virginia Branch)
Mr R Mackay	(San Francisco Branch)
Mrs J MacLean	(Chicago Branch)
Mr T Steele	(Vancouver Branch)

Mr W Clement was elected Convener

d) EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman), Mr A S Aitkenhead (Immediate Past Chairman) and the following appointed members:-

Mrs M Corson	(Winnipeg Branch)
Mrs N Dunn	(Elected Member)
Mr W Hamilton	(Detroit Branch)
Mr G Mechan	(Hawaii Branch)
Mr S Wilkie	(Pietermaritzburg Branch)

Mrs M Corson was elected Convener

e) SUMMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman), Dr A MacFadyen (Director of Summer School and Convener), Mr A S Aitkenhead (Immediate Past Chairman) and the following appointed members:-

Mrs L Gaul	(Hamilton, Ontario Branch)
Miss D Hamilton	(Glasgow Branch)
Mrs S Nedderman	(Cambridge & District Branch)
Mr J Rae	(Moffat Branch)

EC91/16 HONORARY ARCHIVIST

Miss Frances M Gordon (Aberdeen Branch) was elected Honorary Archivist.

EC91/17 BRANCH CONSTITUTIONS

Exeter	Amendments to Constitution and Rules approved.
Northern Territory	Constitution not approved meantime pending acceptance of disbandment clause in Model Constitution.

EC91/18 BUSINESS FROM THE AGM

Regarding resolution (d) "that the Executive Council at its next meeting appoints a committee and convener to consider proposals submitted by Branches to reduce the cost of Council Meetings and to bring to the 1992 Annual General Meeting of the Society a motion based on the Branch proposals for the delegates consideration", the following members were appointed to the committee.

Mr M Brown	(York & North Humberside Branch)
Miss A Mann	(Elected Member)
Miss L Martin	(Elected Member)
Mr J Reinstein	(Paris Branch)
Mr R Turnbull	(Finance Committee)

Mr J Reinstein was appointed Convener

EC91/19 CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from Mr H van Zon (The Hague & District Branch) was read to the Council in which he thanked the Executive Council for awarding him the Society Scroll.

EC91/20 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Approval was given for the following to represent their Branches on the North of Ireland Co-ordinating Committee for 1991 - 1992.

Miss M Beattie	Belfast
Mrs S Reid	Belfast
Mrs A Hamilton	Portrush
Mr C Shott	Portrush
Mr J Thomson	Whitehead
Miss E Coburn	Whitehead

b) Mr W Clement raised the matter of members' nominations by overseas Branches to Committees which do not reach Headquarters before the closing date. He wondered if the time limit could be emphasised for the attention of the overseas Branch Secretaries. He also proposed that General Purposes Committee should consider the mailing of the provisional agenda for the AGM to the UK representatives of overseas Branches. He said this would allow time for correspondence with the Branch Secretaries on voting matters. Mr Hutton (Deleware Valley) seconded the proposal.

c) The Chairman spoke about Branch orders which are prepared by Headquarters Staff for collection at the AGM. She pointed out the problems of transporting the orders only to find, in many instances, that they were not up-lifted by the Branch delegates and therefore had to be brought back again to Headquarters.

It was agreed that there should be a remit from the Council to General Purposes Committee recommending that in future, orders would not be taken to the AGM but should be collected from Headquarters before Executive Council Meetings.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 5.PM

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE STAKIS GROSVENOR HOTEL, EDINBURGH ON SATURDAY 16 MAY 1992 AT 1.00PM

PRESENT: Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice Chairman), Mr R Turnbull, Mr W Clement, Dr MacFadyen, Mrs M Corson, Mr A Aitkenhead, Miss L Martin, Mrs A H T Holden, Mrs N Dunn, Miss C Traynor, Miss A Mann, Mr D Robertson, Miss I Paton, Mrs J Douglas, Mr A Butchart, Mrs B Smith, Miss A Johnston, Mrs I Martin, Mrs N McLaren, Mr K Warman, Miss D Leurs, Mrs S Nedderman, Ms M Ainslie, Ms R Scott-Huxley, Mrs A McDougall, Miss M McCartney, Mr J Dougal, Mrs J MacLean, Mrs C Bulloch, Miss E Price, Mr J Hutton, Mr A L Boode, Mr W Hamilton, Mr K R Stacey, Miss E Ferguson, Mrs A Traill, Mrs W Logan, Miss M Johnstone, Miss C Menmuir, Mrs M Martin, Mr S Adam, Mr G Brown, Mr A Smart, Mrs P May, Miss M M Ross, Mrs M Spurgin, Miss D Hamilton, Mrs E Barr, Mrs L Gaul, Mrs Rintoul, Mr D Campbell, Mrs A Sheach, Mrs Wildgoose, Mr G Stephens, Mrs D Christie, Mrs M Longair, Mrs B Burnell, Mrs H Wilson, Mrs J Baker, Mrs M Shaw, Mrs S Porter, Miss M Brander, Mr J Priestley, Mrs M Killeen, Mr H Barnes, Mrs A Howes, Mr J Rae, Mr J Wilson, Mr J Douglas, Miss K McLauchlan, Mrs M Devlin, Mrs P Robertson, Dr J Reinstein, Mrs C Munro, Mr S Wilkie, Miss L Carson, Mr D Stewart McMillan, Mr D France, Mr D Blackwood, Mrs M Duffield, Mr P Knight, Mr R Mackay, Mrs E Burling, Mrs J Harper, Mr A Dewdney, Mr A Gray, Miss E Kennedy, Miss F Martin, Mr R Sutherland, Mrs A Clement, Miss M Brown, Mr B Harry, Mr T Steele, Mr C McCausland, Miss S Mayr, Mrs I Rae, Mr R Taylor, Mr M Brown, Miss A Robertson.

ATTENDING: Mrs J A Moore (Secretary)

EC92/1 APOLOGIES

Mrs R Colwell, Mr B Frazer, Mrs M Jeffcoat, Mrs V Johnson, Mrs W Logan, Miss A McArthur, Mrs A Murphy, Dr A Paterson, Mr D Ross, Mr D Warburton, Miss J Watkinson, Mr H van Zon.

EC92/2 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 16 NOVEMBER 1991

The Minutes of the Meeting on 16 November 1991 were approved on a motion by Mr J Wilson (representing Nairobi Branch) seconded by Mr T Steele (representing Vancouver Branch).

EC92/3 BUSINESS ARISING

a) EC91/20 b) Mr J Hutton (representing Delaware Valley) wished to know if the General Purposes Committee had considered the mailing of the provisional agenda for the AGM to the UK representatives of overseas Branches.

The Chairman said this had been overlooked but would be discussed at the next meeting of the Committee.

b) EC91/4 It was noted that the schedule of meetings should read 1991 -1992 and that in EC91/20 c) 's' should be added to Executive Council Meeting and in EC91/8 that Miss Stewart should be amended to Mrs Stewart.

EC92/4 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

a) General Purposes Committee
i) Minutes of Meeting on 1 February 1992

GP92/4 Replying to a query from Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch) concerning the remit to the Summer School Committee to consider the possibility of having talks at Summer School specifically on music for Scottish Country Dancing, he was advised that this would be raised at the next Summer School Committee Meeting.

On a motion by Mrs L Gaul (representing Hamilton, Ontario Branch) seconded by Mr A Smart (representing Florida South Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 1 February 1992 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of Meeting on 11 April 1992

On a motion by Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) seconded by Mrs C Munro (Perth & Perthshire Branch) the Minutes were approved.

GP92/12 The Chairman said that the suggestion for a festival to commemorate the seventieth annivesary of the Society would be discussed at the next meeting.

On a motion by Mrs A Holden (Elected Member) seconded by Mr R Mackay (representing San Francisco Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 11 April 1992 were ratified.

b) Finance Committee
i) Minutes of Meeting on 16 November 1991

F91/44 Dr Reinstein (Paris Branch) queried the request for a payment to be made to John Drewry. Mr B Clement (Convener of Publications Committee) explained that this was by way of a "thank you" to Mr Drewry for the many years of work he had given to the Society at his own expense both in time and money. Dr Reinstein was assured that this would not set the policy for the future and that this was a once off payment at the request of the Publications & Research Committee.

On a motion by Mr D Blackwood (Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles Branch) seconded by Mr K Stacey (Doncaster & District Branch) the Minutes of the meeting on 16 November were ratified.

ii) Minutes of Meeting on 1 February 1992

Replying to Mrs B Smith (Belfast Branch) who had queried the facility of Branches obtaining goods on a Sale or Return basis for special events, Mr Turnbull (Convener of Finance Committee) replied that this had been a practice for some time and that the Minute F92/7 reiterated the rules for this facility.

F92/7 a) Mr W Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) expressed concern about the proposed additional computerisation within Headquarters and said he hoped that with expert advice the most suitable systems for the Society's requirements would be purchased. Mr Turnbull, Convener of the Finance Committee, said that there would be a gradual planned movement towards building a system to meet requirements.

On a motion by Mr K Stacey (Doncaster & District Branch) seconded by Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 1 February 1992 were ratified.

iii) Minutes of Meeting on 11 April 1992

On a motion by Mr J Douglas (Newcastle & District Branch) seconded by Mrs J Harper (South Argyll Branch) the Minutes were approved.

On a motion by Miss M Ross (Forres Branch) seconded by Mr S Adam (Edinburgh Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 11 April 1992 were ratified.

c) Publications & Research Committee
i) Minutes of Meeting on 18 January 1992

On a motion by Miss M Brander (representing Los Angeles Branch) seconded by Mr S Adam (Edinburgh Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 18 January 1992 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of Meeting on 22 February 1992

On a motion by Mr R Mackay (representing San Francisco Branch) seconded by Mrs L Gaul (representing Hamilton, Ontario Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 22 February 1992 were ratified.

iii) Minutes of the Meeting on 25 April 1992

On a motion by Miss M Brander (representing Los Angeles Branch) seconded by Mr T Steele (representing Vancouver Branch) the Minutes were approved.

PR92/34 Mr P Knight (Royal Tunbridge Wells Branch) enquired if there would be a video of formations to accompany the new Manual. Dr MacFadyen replied that this would be a matter for the Publications & Research Committee to decide. The Chairman congratulated the Manual working party on working so hard and for so long to produce the new Manual.

PR92/23 Mr W Clement (Convener of Publications & Research Committee) said that the Committee having reviewed the recording of Book 16 now wished the Executive Council's approval to produce an LP record of a selection of dances and all twelve dances on cassette.

He explained that at the time of the Gulf War we were told by the record industry that the cost of vinyl LPs would escalate and therefore the Committee had decided last year that Book 16 should be recorded on cassette only. However the cost of making LP records had not increased but unfortunately musician union rates had increased.

He added that the recording time for Book 16 music was exactly double that for Frae A the Airts Vol 2, so the costs would be double. He said that the Committee was concerned that if Book 16 was produced on cassettes only, a sufficient number of cassettes might not be sold to cover costs?

While music for older books does not sell so well as for new books, nevertheless the last 4 LP records for older books have been selling reasonably well. Consequently the Publications Committee recommended to the Council that 500 LP records and 300 cassettes should be produced initially.

On a motion by Dr J Reinstein (Paris Branch) seconded by Ms R Scott-Huxley (representing Cape Town Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 25 April 1992 were ratified.

d) Summer School
Minutes of Meeting on 15 February 1992

SS92/4 Referring to the number of application forms received for the Summer School 1992, Dr MacFadyen, Director of Summer School, reported that there were still vacancies for weeks one and two but there was a waiting list for weeks three and four.

Mr W Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) asked Dr MadFadyen to expand on the new class (SS92/4) and did he think that a minimum of twelve would make it a viable class. Dr MacFadyen replied that the class had been fully discussed by the Committee. He realised that the class would not attract large numbers but it was an attempt to meet with suggestions which had been made over the years. The disadvantages of such a small class were considered by the Committee but the Committee felt that because it had been offered it should be allowed to run this year and that this year's class was in the nature of an experiment.

There was also discussion regarding future dates of Summer School.

On a motion by Mrs H Wilson (Leicester Branch) seconded by Mr W Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 15 February 1992 were ratified.

e) Examinations Committee
Minutes of Meeting on 11 January 1992

On a motion by Mr W Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) seconded by Mr S Wilkie (representing Pietermaritzburg Branch) the Minutes were approved.

E92/4 e) Mrs E Burling (Sheffield Branch) enquired if a blind candidate would be able to cope with a future Music Course and was assured by Miss M Johnstone (Music Course Director) that this should not be a drawback.

On a motion by Ms R Scott-Huxley (representing Cape Town Branch) seconded by Mr A Dewdney (Southport Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 11 January 1992 were ratified.

EC92/5 CONSTITUTIONS

Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch	Necessary adjustments having been made by the Branch, approval of the Constitution was confirmed.
Melbourne & District Branch Inc.	Amendment to Rules approved.
Winchester Branch	Amendment to Rules approved.

EC92/6 AFFILIATION

The undernoted affiliation was approved:

Haywood Scottish Dancers, N.C. USA.

EC92/7 SCHOOLS' AFFILIATION

A submission paper concerning a Schools' Association/Affiliation by Mr A Aitkenhead had been circulated to Council Members prior to the Meeting. This was discussed in great detail and finally the Council gave overwhelming support for a Schools' Association/Affiliation.

EC92/8

REPORT FROM SUB-COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER BRANCH SUGGESTIONS FOR REDUCING COST OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Presenting his report Dr Reinstein, Convener of the Sub-Committee said that 44 Branches submitted suggestions. A large majority of Branches had suggested that the Branch should pay part or all of the expenses of its member attending Council Meetings.

A large number of Branches had suggested some form of regionalisation to reduce the number of people attending the Executive Council meetings. Although the Committee saw some merit in the idea, it was rejected because, 1) it was not feasible at this time, 2) it would be extremely difficult to administer, 3) it would reduce the democratic character of the Council meetings and decision, 4) finally it would not create overall significant savings because of the cost of the regional meetings.

Creation of an Executive (Management) Committee had been suggested in various forms by several Branches. Although worthy of further study by the Society, it would require a change of the Constitution and as such was outside the remit of the committee.

No meal subsistence: this was endorsed by the committee thereby saving £1,000 yearly. However, it was suggested that a sandwich lunch paid by each member could be provided before each meeting.

The remaining suggestions were discussed and rejected.

The final recommendation was that the Executive Council should propose to the AGM that for Executive Council expenses:

1) Subsistence not be reimbursed. Overnight accommodation should continue to be reimbursed.

2) That the first £20 of claimed travel expenses should not be reimbursed.

3) That Branches are recommended to make good the shortfall to their representatives.

Dr Reinstein said that this would result in a saving of about £3,500 per year, or about half the current cost of Executive Council meetings, while not penalizing Branches who were further away from Headquarters and retaining the democratic character of the Society.

The Council agreed that this recommenation should go to the Annual General Meeting in November 1992.

The Chairman thanked Dr Reinstein for his report.

EC92/9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. The Executive Council approved the award of the Society's Scroll to:

Mrs Joyce McArthur	Glasgow Branch
Mr D Iain MacFarlane	Toronto Branch
Mrs Madge Laing	New Zealand Branch
Mrs Nancy McLaren	East Stirlingshire Branch
Mr Iain Robertson	Headquarters
Mr James Taylor	Stirlingshire Branch

2. In replying to a question from Mr J Douglas (Newcastle & District Branch) concerning Phonographic Performance Ltd, the Secretary said that a blanket licence fee had been negotiated to cover Branches. This was possible because the Branches were an intrinsic part of the Society. She explained that this licence fee could not be extended to cover affiliated groups because they had an independent status.

3. Mr J Wilson (representing Nairobi Branch) referring to the increase in subscriptions and how it was reflected in exchange rates with overseas Branches, asked the Finance Committee to look into a single capitation fee per member leaving Branches free to set whatever local subscription is necessary to finance their internal affairs.

EC92/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

21 November 1992

Agnes S. Muller

Chairman

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN ST GEORGE'S CHURCH HALL, SHANDWICK PLACE, EDINBURGH ON SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER 1992 AT 1PM

PRESENT: Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman), Mr W Clement, Mr R Turnbull, Dr A MacFadyen, Mrs M Corson, Miss L Martin, Mr D Ross, Miss C Traynor, Mr A Mair, Miss M Barker, Miss C Catto, Miss F Gordon, Mr I McDiarmid, Mr B Zobel, Miss J Walker, Mr A Butchart, Mrs B Smith, Mr B Frazer, Miss A Johnston, Mrs N McLaren, Mrs M Watson, Miss A Young, Mrs S Nedderman, Mrs M Ainslie, Ms R Scott-Huxley, Mr F Reid, Mrs A McDougall, Mrs H Wemyss, Ms D Rooney, Mrs J MacLean, Miss E Price, Mr J Hutton, Mr A L Boode, Mr W Hamilton, Mr K Stacey, Miss E M Ferguson, Mrs A Traill, Mr D S Hollings, Mrs J MacSporran, Miss M Johnstone, Mrs M Martin, Mr C Hunter, Mr S Adam, Mrs M A Simkins, Mr A Smart, Mrs P May, Miss M M Ross, Mrs M Spurgin, Miss D Hamilton, Mrs L Gaul, Mr G Mechan, Mrs F Inglis, Miss I Whyte, Mrs A Sheach, Mrs O Cameron, Mrs M Wildgoose, Mr G Stephens, Mrs D Christie, Mrs M Longair, Mrs B Burnell, Mrs H Wilson, Mrs J Baker, Mrs M Shaw, Mrs S Porter, Miss M Brander, Dr I Hall, Mrs M Killeen, Mrs A Howes, Miss M Hamilton, Mr J Wilson, Mr J Douglas, Mr A MacPherson, Mrs M Devlin, Mr J Drewry, Miss J Yeats, Mrs P Robertson, Mrs R Gordon-Harvey, Mrs R Purcell, Mr S Wilkie, Miss L Carson, Mrs M Thompson, Mr D France, Mr D R Blackwood, Mr P Knight, Mrs M Priestley, Mr R MacKay, Mrs E Burling, Mr H Barnes, Mrs J Harper, Mr A Dewdney, Mr A Gray, Miss E Kennedy, Mrs A Clement, Miss M Brown, Mr B Harry, Mr T Steele, Mr C McCausland, Mr S Barbour, Mrs M MacRae, Mr R Taylor, Mr M L Brown, Miss A Robertson.

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

EC92/11 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed the Representatives to the meeting, especially those attending for the first time and said she hoped they would enjoy their time on the Council.

The Chairman then thanked East Stirlingshire Branch for generously providing the wine for the Executive lunch and she announced greetings to the Council from the sixtieth anniversary celebrations of East Stirlingshire Branch.

EC92/12 APOLOGIES

Mrs E Barr, Mr D Campbell, Mrs R Colwell, Mrs M Duffield, Mrs G Jennings, Mrs E Kemp, Miss D Leurs, Miss A McArthur, Miss K McLauchlan, Miss S Mayr, Mr J Rae, Mr D Willetts, Mr H van Zon.

EC92/13 COMPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 1992/1993

Amendments were announced to the list of Council Members which had been distributed with the Agenda. The amendments consisted of the following additions:

Berwick Upon Tweed	Miss A Johnston
Burlington (Ont)	Miss A Young
Canberra & Dist	Mrs M Ainslie
Cheshire	Ms D Rooney
Clackmannanshire	Mrs C Fleming
Dunfermline	Mrs J MacSporran
East Angus	Miss C Menmuir
Gatehouse of Fleet	Mrs M Spurgin
Inverness & Dist	Miss I Whyte
Isle of Isla	Mr D Campbell
Kingston (Ont)	Mrs M J Wildgoose
West Renfrewshire	Mrs M Thomson
Somerset	Mr H Barnes
Vienna	Ms S Mayr

The Chairman announced amendments to the Ballot papers. Members were asked to complete the ballot papers and thereafter the voting papers were collected.

EC92/14 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 16 MAY 1992

The Minutes of the Meeting on 16 May 1992 were approved on a motion by Ms R Scott-Huxley (representing Cape Town Branch) seconded by Mrs C Munro (Perth & Perthshire Branch).

EX92/15 BUSINESS ARISING

a) Referring to EX92/9 c Mr J Wilson (representing Nairobi Branch) asked if the question of a single capitation fee per member had been discussed by the Finance Committee. He was assured that it would be discussed but that it had been considered advisable to postpone any discussion until after the AGM pending possible changes from resolutions on the Agenda for the AGM.

b) Mr R Taylor (Wirral Branch) referred to discussion which had taken place at the previous Executive Council Meeting concerning the dances to be recorded from Book 16. Although no decisions resulted from this discussion it was agreed that mention of the discussion should be recorded.

EC92/16 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

a) General Purposes Committee
Minutes of Meeting on 3 October 1992. On a motion by Mrs C Munro (Perth & Perthshire Branch) seconded by Mr A Dewdney (Southport Branch) the Minutes were approved.

GP92/32 Dates of Next Meetings

It was noted that the date of the October Meeting should be amended to 1993.

On a motion by Mrs L Gaul (Representing Hamilton Ontario Branch) seconded by Ms R Scott-Huxley (representing Cape Town Branch) the Minutes of 3 October 1992 were ratified.

b) FINANCE COMMITTEE
i) Minutes of Meeting on 29 August 1992

On a motion by Mr S Adam (Edinburgh Branch) seconded by Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 29 August 1992 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of Meeting on 26 September 1992
The incorrect numbering of items was noted.

On a motion by Mr J Wilson (representing Nairobi Branch) seconded by Mr A Smart (representing Florida South Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 26 September 1992 were ratified.

iii) Minutes of Meeting on 24 October 1992

On a motion by Mr D Ross (Elected Member) seconded by Mr J Douglas (Newcastle & District Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 24 October 1992 were approved.

On a motion by Mrs M J Wildgoose (representing Kingston Ontario Branch) seconded by Mr K Stacey (Doncaster & District Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 24 October 1992 were ratified.

The Chairman now asked Mr Turnbull, Convener of the Finance Committee to advise the Council about the necessary remedial work required at Headquarters. However, the Chairman first said that because of the size of the task it had been felt necessary to call in a consultant to look at the building.

Mr Turnbull outlined the work which is required:

1) Plumbing. There is very little of the existing plumbing worth saving and it was proposed that there should be a complete new cold water system with a supporting hot water system using off peak electric heating.

2) Electrical. Some wiring can be retained and where possible this will be done. The lighting in all areas will be improved. At present it is inadequate and in some areas possibly dangerous. When the work is being done it is also proposed to up date the fire alarm and introduce emergency lighting. The latter will shortly become obligatory.

3) Kitchen. It will be necessary to do something about the kitchen where the present facilities are unhygenic and, in any event, it will have to be taken apart to remove the old lead tank and replace this with a modern one.

Mr Turnbull said that we had overall estimates of approximately £18,000 and that provision of an additional £2,000 should be made for contingencies. These sums would come from the Society's reserves which had been built up over the years for just such expenditure as was now proposed.

The Council gave its approval to the proposed expenditure.

c) Publications and Research Committee
i) Minutes of Meeting on 14 June 1992.

92/34 c) Mr J Douglas (Newcastle and District Branch) asked that the Committee should re-consider its decision not to include Pocket Editions in the free choice selection of subscription copies for 1993.

92/31 a) iii) Replying to a question from Mr Taylor (Wirral Branch) concerning the particular choice of dances from Book 16 to be recorded on the LP. Mr R MacKay Convener of the Music Sub Committee replied that it was necessary to record dances which people want and which would sell records. He said it had to be a compromise. However all twelve dances would be on cassette tape each played eight times through.

On a motion by Miss F Gordon (Aberdeen Branch) seconded by Mr H Barnes (Somerset Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 14 June 1992 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of Meeting on 19 September 1992.

On a motion by Mr K Stacey (Doncaster & District Branch) seconded by Mr J Douglas (Newcastle & District Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 19 September 1992 were ratified.

iii) Minutes of Meeting on 11 October 1992

After it was noted that Mr A Aitkenhead was not present at the meeting (PR92/46) the Minutes were approved on a motion by Mr R MacKay (representing San Francisco Branch), seconded by Miss M Brander (representing Los Angeles Branch).

On a motion by Miss M Brander (representing Los Angeles Branch) seconded by Mrs M MacRae (West Lothian Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 11 October 1992 were ratified.

d) Examinations Committee
Minutes of Meeting on 20 June 1992.

On a motion by Mr S Wilkie (representing (Pietermartizburg Branch) seconded by Mr W Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) the Minutes were approved.

There was discussion concerning the IDTA and it was queried whether the Branches received sufficient publicity about the IDTA syllabus for children. The Chairman replied that an article about this had been published in the current Bulletin.

The Convener of the Committee said that with the insufficient numbers attending children's classes, the teachers who have had classes find that they are expensive to run and in some instances the teacher had subsidised those entering IDTA examinations.

However the syllabus is good and well graded.

On a motion by Miss M Ross (Forres Branch) seconded by Mrs L Gaul (representing Hamilton Ontario Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 20 June 1992 were ratified.

e) Summer School Committee
Minutes of Meeting on 5 September 1992.

On a motion by Miss D Hamilton (Glasgow Branch) seconded by Mrs S Nedderman (Cambridge & District Branch) the Minutes were approved.

92/10 b) Dr MacFadyen, Director of Summer School, stressed that the dates given for Summer School over the next five years were provisional dates.

On a motion by Mrs H Wilson (Leicester Branch) seconded by Mr S Adam (Edinburgh Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 5 September 1992 were ratified.

EC92/17 STRATHSPEY SALES : DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors' Report had been in the hands of Council Members for several weeks and Mr Turnbull, Chairman of the Board of Directors, said that the accounts spoke for themselves. He added, however, that there was a need for fresh ideas to boost sales.

EC92/18 TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS FOR 1992/1993

The Schedule of meetings for 1992-93 was accepted with two amendments, the Finance Committee Meetings on 3 April and 2 October 1993 were re-scheduled to 17 April and 16 October 1993 respectively.

EC92/19 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

a) GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman) Mr K Stacey (Finance Committee Convener) and the following appointed members:

Mr S Adam	(Edinburgh Branch)
Mrs R Colwell	(St Andrews Branch)
Mrs J Harper	(South Argyll Branch)
Mrs C Munro	(Perth & Perthsire Branch)
Ms R Scott-Huxley	(Cape Town Branch)
Mr A Smart	(Florida South Branch)
Mrs M Shaw	(London Branch)
Mr G Stephens	(Kirkcaldy Branch)
Miss C Traynor	(Elected Member)

b) FINANCE COMMITTEE

Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman) and the following appointed members:

Miss M Barker	(Elected Member)
Mr B Frazer	(B/H/S/Border Branch)
Mr A Gray	(South Wales Branch)
Mr A Mair	(Elected Member)
Mrs M MacRae	(West Lothian Branch)
Mr D Ross	(Elected Member)

Mr K Stacey was elected Convener

c) PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman), Miss F Gordon (Archivist) and the following appointed members:

Mr J Drewry	(Nova Scotia Branch)
Miss D Leurs	(Calgary Branch)
Mr R MacKay	(San Fransisco Branch)
Mrs J MacLean	(Chicago Branch)
Mr T Steele	(Vancouver Branch)

Mr R MacKay was elected Convener

d) EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman) and the following appointed members:

Miss M Corson	(Winnipeg Branch)
Mr W Hamilton	(Detroit Branch)
Miss L Martin	(Elected Member)
Miss J Yeats	(Ottawa Branch)
Mr S Wilkie	(Pietermaritzburg Branch)

Mrs M Corson was elected Convener

e) SUMMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Miss A W Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman), Dr A MacFadyen (Director of Summer School) and the following appointed members:

Miss D Hamilton	(Glasgow Branch)
Mrs S Nedderman	(Cambridge & District Branch)
Mr J Rae	(Moffat Branch)
Mrs A Sheach	(Isle of Skye Branch)

EC92/20 BRANCH CONSTITUTIONS

Isle of Skye Branch	Amendment to Constitution approved.
Canberra & Dist Branch	Amendment to Constitution approved.

EC92/21 AFFILIATIONS

The undernoted affiliations were approved:

La Paz Scottish Country Dance Group, Bolivi, S. America.

The Tartanheirs, Birmingham, Alabama.

EC92/22 BUSINESS FROM AGM

The Chairman thanked Aberdeen Branch for hosting the 1992 AGM, for the great amount of work they put into the occasion and also for their hospitality and friendliness.

There was discussion concerning suppers served during the AGM Ball and it was again reiterated that only light suppers should be served.

Regarding resolution (d) "that the Annual General Meeting should approve in principle the introduction of Junior Membership for under sixteens and direct the Executive Council to formulate the details with a view to introducing the arrangements in July 1993" the following members were appointed to a sub committee to consider the details of Junior Memberships:

Mr S Adam	Edinburgh Branch
Mrs B Burnell	Leeds Branch
Mr A Dewdney	Southport Branch
Mr J Douglas	Newcastle & Dist Branch
Miss L Martin	Elected Member
Mrs M Watson	Bournemouth Branch
Miss A Young	Representing Burlington Branch (Ontario)

Mr A Dewdney was appointed Convener

EC92/23 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Miss E Kennedy (Stirlingshire Branch) reported to the Council that her Branch felt aggrieved that one of its two resolutions had been omitted from the agenda for this year's AGM. The Secretary, in replying to Miss Kennedy, welcomed Stirlingshire Branch's proposal that the AGM Agenda Committee should be expanded and pointed out that over the last five years resolutions and amendments at Annual General Meetings had increased more than four fold compared with the previous five years.

She added that in several instances recently the wording of resolutions and amendments would have benefitted from wider examination and discussion before they were placed on the agenda.

The Council agreed that the proposal to expand the AGM Agenda Committee should be referred to the General Purposes Committee.

b) The Council agreed that Minutes from the AGM should be circulated to Branch Secretaries following the AGM instead of the synopsis normally sent out.

c) Mr Taylor (Wirral Branch) asked that consideration should be given to publishing subscription books and the Bulletin in March each year. The Treasurer pointed out the problems which would then arise with the end of the Accounts year.

d) Mr J Douglas (Newcastle & District Branch) reminded members of the revision, three years previously, of the Constitution which brought into effect the five year ruling for members of committees. He pointed out that in the case of the Finance Committee and Publications Committee continuity was very important.

It was unfortunate therefore that Mr Turnbull who had been convener of the Finance Committee for one year and now, because of the Constitution had to come off the Committee. He added that the same situation would arise in the Publications Committee at the end of the current year. Mr Douglas then asked that a remit should be referred back to the General Purposes Committee to see if anything could be done to get round this anomaly. The Council gave its overwhelming approval to this remit.

e) Mr M Brown (York & North Humberside Branch) referring to the new issue of the Bulletin expressed regret at the absence of Branch reports. The Chairman in reply said that, to date, only a few letters had been received about this. Satisfaction was expressed that the telephone numbers of the secretaries to affiliated groups had now been included in the Bulletin.

With reference to the Manual, Mr Brown congratulated those who had worked on it. The Council was informed that any person with queries concerning the Manual should put them in writing and send them to the Secretary who would direct them to the correct Committee where they would be answered.

f) Mrs M J Wildgoose (representing Hamilton Ontario Branch) proposed that all minutes of sub committee meetings presented to the Executive Council should be sufficiently detailed to give an accurate idea of the matters discussed at such meetings. This was seconded by Mrs P May (Forfar Branch) and the meeting gave its approval.

g) Approval was given to the following to represent Branches on the North of Ireland Co-ordinating Committee for 1992-1993:

Mrs Sadie Reid	Belfast
Mrs Elma McCausland	Belfast
Miss Lorna Carson	Portrush
Mrs Kathleen Shott	Portrush
Mr John Thompson	Whitehead
Mrs Eileen Coburn	Whitehead

h) Mrs S Nedderman (Cambridge & District Branch) made a plea that there should be more Society dances on Branch dance programmes.

EC92/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING
8 May 1993

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE WALPOLE HALL, CHESTER STREET EDINBURGH ON SATURDAY 8 MAY 1993 AT 1PM.

PRESENT: Miss W A Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman), Mr K Stacey, Mrs M Corson, Dr A MacFadyen, Mr RMackay, Miss L Martin, Miss C Traynor, Mr A Mair, Miss M Barker, Miss C Catto, Miss F Gordon, Mr I McDiarmid, Mr B Zobel, Miss J Walker, Mr A Butchart, Mrs M Donaldson, Mr B Frazer, Miss A Johnston, Mrs N McLaren, Mrs M Watson, Miss A Young, Mrs S Nedderman, Mrs M Ainslie, Ms R Scott-Huxley, Mr F Reid, Mrs A McDougall, Mrs H Wemyss, Ms D Rooney, Mrs J MacLean, Mrs C Fleming, Miss E Price, Mr J Hutton, Mr A Boode, Mr B Hamilton, Miss E Ferguson, Mr D Hollings, Mrs J MacSporran, Mr Dougall, Miss C Menmuir, Mrs M Martin, Mr S Adam, Mr A Smart, Miss M M Ross, Mrs M Spurgin, Miss D Hamilton, Mrs E Barr, Mrs F Inglis, Miss I Whyte, Mrs A Sheach, Mrs O Cameron, Mrs M J Wildgoose, Mr G Stephens, Mrs M Longair, Mrs B Burnell, Mrs H Wilson, Mrs J Baker, Mrs M Shaw, Mrs S Porter, Miss M Brander, Dr I Hall, Mrs M Killeen, Mrs A Howes, Mr J Rae, Miss M Hamilton, Mr J Wilson, Mr J Douglas, Miss K McLauchlan, Mr A MacPherson,Mr B Clement, Mrs M Devlin, Mr J Drewry, Miss J Yeats, Mrs P Robertson, Miss R Gordon-Harvey, Mrs C Munro, Mr S Wilkie, Miss L Carson, Miss B Woods, Mr S McMillan Mr R Turnbull, Mr D France, Mr D Blackwood, Mrs M Duffield, Mr P Knight, Mrs R Colwell, Mrs M Priestley, Mrs J Harper, Mr A Dewdney, Mr A Gray, Mr C Hunter, Mrs A Clement, Miss M Brown, Mr B Harry, Mr S Barbour Mrs M MacRae, Mrs A Muprhy, Mr R Taylor, Mr A Brown.

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

EC93/1 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed the Representatives to the meeting particularly those who were present for the first time.

The Chairman then said that it was with deep regret and sadness when, on 19 December 1992, she had learned of the death of Tom Steele. She said that the loss of a young life is always sad but we, as a Society, had much to be grateful for in having known Tom and for all the work he had done for the Society - as a teacher who was much in demand, as a Committee member he had made a valuable contribution to the Publications & Research Committee, for his work and the contribution he had made to the Manual working party and much more.

We are grateful to have known him sad to have lost him but also have thoughts and sympathy for those who loved him.

EC93/2 APOLOGIES

Mr H Barnes, Mr D Campbell, Mrs L Gaul, Mrs G Jennings, Mrs E Kemp, Miss E Kennedy, Miss D Leurs, Mr C McCausland, Mrs P May, Miss S Mayr, Mrs R Purcell, Mr D Ross, Mrs A Traill, Mr H van Zon.

EC93/3 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 21 NOVEMBER 1992

After noting that Mrs C Munro had been omitted from those attending the meeting and that Mrs Wildgoose represented Kingston Ontario Branch, the Minutes of the Meeting on 21 November 1992 were approved on a motion by Mr A Smart (representing Florida South Branch), seconded by Mr R Turnbull (Richmond Branch).

EC93/4 BUSINESS ARISING

There was no Business Arising

EC93/5 MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

a) General Purposes Committee

i) Minutes of the Meeting on 13 February 1993
On a motion by Mr T Dewdney (Southport Branch) seconded by Miss M Barker (Elected Member) the Minutes of the Meeting on 13 February 1993 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of the Meeting on 3 April 1993
On a motion by Mrs J Harper (South Argyll Branch) seconded by Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 3 April 1993 were approved.

GP93/19 There was discussion concerning the recommendation that the Convener of the Finance Committee, Convener of the Publication & Research Committee and the Convener of the Examinations Committee should be appointed within that committee and not by the Executive Council. On a vote being taken, the Council overwhelmingly agreed to the recommendation.

Mr J Douglas (Newcastle & District Branch) proposed that each Committee should meet briefly, following the November Executive Council Meeting for the sole purpose of appointing a Convener. The proposal was seconded by Miss R Gordon-Harvey (representing Paris Branch).

It was also agreed that, if necessary, this recommendation would be put forward to the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

On a proposal by Mr A Smart (representing Florida South Branch), seconded by Mr B Clement (representing N. Virginia Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 3 April 1993 were ratified.

b) Finance Committee

i) Minutes of the Meeting on 13 February 1993
On a proposal by Mr S Adam (Edinburgh Branch) seconded by Mrs M MacRae (West Lothian Branch) The Minutes of Meeting on 13 February 1993 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of the Meeting on 3 April 1993
Miss M Barker (Elected Member) asked that there should be a minimum time notice of meetings and that only items on the Agenda should be dealt with at emergency meetings. The convener replied that flexibility of notice was necessary to deal with emergencies.

F93/16. Referring to the maintenance work being carried out at Headquarters, the Convener said that Mr Adam Lothian, the Consultant, had served us well and had given unstintingly of his time. The final forecast of costs, excluding VAT and fees was estimated at £19,300. A letter of appreciation would be sent to Mr Lothian.

The Chairman, referring to the refurbishments at Headquarters, said that the Chairman's Vision goes on! There were some things which she hoped, given time, would be replaced, such as the shabby curtains and the dilapidated chairs in the committee room also staff desks particularly those in the reception office. She made a plea to Branches and individual members for sponsorship towards these refurbishments and it was agreed that all contributions to a refurbishment fund would be recorded in future issues of the Bulletin.

On a motion by Miss M Brown (representing Toronto Branch) seconded by Mr D Blackwood (Roxburgh, Selkirk & Peebles Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 3 April 1993 were ratified.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL EXPENSES

The Convener of the Finance Committee reminded the Council that in changing the system of claiming expenses for attending Executive Council meetings, i.e. the deduction of £20 travelling expenses per head per claim, no provision had been made for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Director of Summer School, Archivist and the six elected members. He proposed that these expenses should be funded from the General Account. The Council gave its approval.

c) Publications & Research Committee

i) Minutes of the Meeting on 16 January 1993
PR93/8 The Convener, replying to a question, said that Mr Brown had written stating his concern that dances were being changed and wished to know if the Publications Committee had the authority to do this. The Convener reported that he had replied to Mr Brown pointing out that the Committee very carefully examines the wording of dances at the time of reprinting.

The Publications & Research Committee had always been responsible for revising books, although now it was principally correcting mistakes. With reference to future policy on vinyl records the Convener said this was a most difficult question. The Records for Book 37 had sold well and therefore it had been decided to use this format again with Book 16. Mr W Clement (representing N. Virginia Branch) agreed that the Society produced vinyl records as a service to the membership.

Referring to the decision to put dances from Books l-l0 on Compact Disc, the Convener, said that if these first two Compact Discs sold well, it was then the intention to make similar recordings of all the books.

On a motion by Miss M Brander (representing Los Angeles Branch) seconded by Mr W Clement (representing N. Virginia Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 16 January 1993 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of the Meetings of 21 February 1993
PR93/21 c) Mr J Hutton (representing Delaware Valley) asked if the Allemande was danced correctly in the Video for Book 37. Mrs J MacLean (representing Chicago Branch) said that it was correctly danced.

On a motion by Mr A Mair (elected member) seconded by Mrs H Wilson (Leicester Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 21 February 1993 were ratified.

iii) Minutes of the Meeting on 25 April 1993
On a motion by Mr J Drewry (representing Nova Scotia Branch) seconded by Miss M Brander (representing Los Angeles Branch) the Minutes were approved.

93/31 1) There was discussion concerning the reprinting of the Index to Scottish Country Dances in a format suitable for using with the ring binder and new Manual. The Council voted overwhelmingly to retain the Index in its present size and format.

On a motion by Mr S Adam (Edinburgh Branch) seconded by Miss M Barker (elected member) the Minutes of the Meeting on 25 April 1993 were ratified.

d. Examinations Committee

i) Minutes of the Meeting on 7 November 1993
Mrs Alice Murphy (representing Western Australia Branch) said that the Executive Council was probably not aware that when experienced teachers are invited to Summer School as Potential Examiners for a 2-3 day assessment and are not successful, they are not given any helpful guidance as to the reasons why they were not successful. Mrs Murphy said it was not enough to be told they may try again.

Mrs Murphy pointed out that the Executive Council had agreed that candidates for the teaching exams of Preliminary Test and Teacher's Certificate should be given a list with indications of where their shortcomings lie if they are not successful. This has been very helpful to the candidates and their tutors and much appreciated.

Mrs Murphy then said she was proposing to the Executive Council that the Examinations Committee be asked to be equally helpful in future to Potential Examiners if their names are not added to the Examinations List after they have attended for assessment at St Andrews, i.e. that they be given helpful indication of what their shortcomings might be so that if they wish to resubmit their application they know what remedial work will be needed.

In making this proposal Mrs Murphy said she had the support of the Committees of the Western Australia Branch and of the Branch of which she is a member, Carlisle & Border. She hoped that a Representative of another Branch would second her proposal and that the Executive Council would support it.

Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) seconded the proposal.

Mr B Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) proposed an amendment to the proposal that provision should be made for telling candidates in the future what their shortcomings might be but also those who had failed in 1992.

Mr A Smart (representing Florida South) seconded the amendment.

On a vote being taken the amendment was defeated and the original proposal from Mrs Murphy was put to the meeting and accepted overwhelmingly.

On a proposal by Miss R Gordon-Harvey (representing Paris Branch) seconded by Mrs M J Wildgoose (representing Kingston, Ontario Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 7 November 1992 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of the Meeting on 9 January 1993
On a motion by Mr S Wilkie (representing Pietermaritzburg Branch) seconded by Miss J Yeats (representing Ottawa Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 9 January 1993 were approved.

EX93/4 Mrs A Murphy (representing Western Australia (Branch) said she hoped theMinutes would be able to show that she did not feel she had received an adequate answer from the Examinations Committee to the question she had expressed on behalf of Western Australia Branch Branch about the seeming inconsistency between the decisions of the Examinations Committee over the issue of whether or not there was a need to add new Examiners to the List as recorded in the Examiations Committee Minutes for the four consecutive meetings (January 1992, June 1992, November 1992 and January 1993).

The Chairman said that she had asked, in June 1992, to have names added to the List. Mrs Corson, Convener added that the Examinations Committee still felt there was no need to extend the existing List.

Mr K Stacey (Doncaster & District Branch) asked what criteria is required before an individual can be considered suitable for selection as an examiner of the RSCDS and how are they prepared or assisted for this posting.

Mrs Corson replied that the guidelines were those as mentioned in EX89/6.

Mr Stacey then asked if Examiners have the authority to change the rules/standards, if any exist (and are they in writing) in respect of how a certificate class is examined/ tested.

Mrs Corson said that the procedure is set out in Notes for Tutors and that at the Examiners siminars they have tried to establish a concensus of standards.

Referring to his first question, Mr Stacey asked how potential examiners were prepared or assisted. He was told there is no way in which they are prepared, only experience.

On a proposal by Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) seconded by Mr S Adam (Edinburgh Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 9 January 1993 were ratified.

d) Summer School Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on 6 February 1993
On a motion by Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch) seconded by Mrs S Nedderman (Cambridge & District Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 6 February 1993 were approved.

On a motion by Mr T Dewdney (Southport Branch) seconded by Mr S Adam (Edinburgh Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 6 February 1993 were ratified.

EC93/6 AFFILIATIONS

The undernoted affiliations were approved -

Builth Wells Scottish Country Dance Group, Powis;
Dhahran Scottish Country Dance Group, Saudi Arabia;
Hawkshead Scottish Country Dancers, Cumbria;
St Phillip's Scottish Dancers, Reigate, Surrey;

EC93/7 CONSTITUTIONS

An amendment to Belfast Branch Constitution relating to the appointment of Representatives to the Executive Council was approved.

EC93/8 SCROLL AWARDS

The Executive Council approved the award of the Society's Scroll to the following -

Mrs Jill R Ackerley	Johannesburg Branch
Miss Margaret C Brander	Carlisle & Border Branch
Mr William Clement	Dumfries Branch
Mrs Alice Couper	Dunfermline Branch
Miss Irene Fidler	Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch
Miss Lesley C Martin	Aberdeen Branch

EC93/9 JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

Arising from Resolution (d) at the Annual General Meeting in November 1992 a Sub-Committee was appointed to discuss the feasibility of Junior Membership and to report back to the Executive Council in May 1993.

Mr John Douglas explained that he had been asked to take the chair of the Sub-Committee in the absence of Mr Dewdney.

Mr Douglas said that the Sub-Committee had previously received copies of replies from Branches in response to a request for suggestions. The Sub-Committee expressed their disappointment in the response from Branches; from 93 letters sent out only 18 replies had been received.

Mr Douglas said he had read part of a letter he had received from Mr Dewdney reminding the Sub-Committee that its remit was to "formulate details with a view to introducing arrangements" for Junior Membership. The remit was, strictly, not to discuss whether Junior Membership was a desirable principle. However, after two hours of discussion about ages, subscriptions, newsletters, benefits, rights and other matters, it was finally felt that the Junior Associate system hadbeen operating successfully in several Branches for some time and should be retained and strengthened. Mr Douglas said that it was therefore recommended by the Sub-Committee that the status of Junior Membership was unnecessary but that Junior Associates, at present in the Constitution, should be expanded.

Mr Douglas said that the Sub-Committee recommended that a membership card and badge could be available for Junior Associates under 16 years of age and these would be purchased from Headquarters by the Branch. Any charge to Junior Associates would be at the discretion of the Branch.

In this way there would be no need for Constitutional changes.

Mr Douglas added that during the discussions suggestions were put forward relating to Junior Associates within Branches e.g.

Junior Associates may be allowed to attend adult Branch classes and functions at a reduced cost at the discretion of the Branch.

They may attend festivals, competitive and non-competitive. It was suggested that the smaller Branches may wish to combine to run these.

Childrens Day Schools. Branches again may wish to combine to organise these events.

Family Dances, family nights and childrens dances.

Tests for children (with certificates) were recommended by some members of the Sub-Committee but others were in principle against individual medals for Scottish Country Dancing which is esentially a team activity.

Mr Dewdney (Southport Branch) expressed the Southport Branch disappointment at the recommendation of the Sub-Committee.

Mr Douglas was thanked for his comprehensive report which was overwhelmingly approved by the Council.

EC93/10 CORRESPONDENCE

The Secretary read letters from Mr Robert Bee and Mr Herbert Bell, both of whom expressed pleasure and approval for the new Manual.

EC93/11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) suggested that books of new dances could be compiled from dances which were not published by the Publications & Research Committee and that these books could be sold through Strathspey Sales. His suggestion was noted.

Dr A MacFadyen (Director of Summer School) expressed his regret that Branch reports were no longer published in the Bulletin and wondered if the reports could be revived in some way. The Chairman said that this would be reviewed.

EC93/12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

20 November 1993

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN ST GEORGE'S CHURCH HALL, SHANDWICK PLACE, EDINBURGH, ON SATURDAY 20 NOVEMBER 1993 AT 1PM

PRESENT: Miss A Wilma Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson, (Vice-Chairman), Dr A MacFadyen, Mr K Stacey, Mr R Mackay, Mrs M Corson, Miss L Martin, Mrs J Douglas Miss J Walker, Mr A Butchart, Mrs M Donaldson, Mr B Frazer, Miss A Johnston, Mr J Carter, Mrs N McLaren, Mrs M Watson, Mrs P Draycott, Miss D Leurs, Mrs S Nedderman, Mrs M Ainslie, Ms R Scott-Huxley, Mr F Reid, Mrs A McDougall, Mrs H Wemyss, Mrs J MacLean, Mrs C Fleming, Miss E Price, Mr J Hutton, Mr A Boode, Mr W Hamilton, Miss E Ferguson, Mrs A Traill, Mr D Hollings, Mrs J MacSporran, Mr J Dougal, Mrs G Beatt, Mrs M Martin, Mr C Hunter, Mr D Watson, Mr A Smart, Mr N Grant, Miss C Traynor, Mrs E Barr, Mrs L Gaul, Miss I Whyte, Mr D Campbell, Mrs A Sheach, Mr J Mason, Mr G Stephens, Mrs D Christie, Mrs M Longair, Mrs B Burnell, Mrs M Oughton, Mrs J Baker Mrs R Wilton, Mrs S Porter, Ms C Reed, Dr I Hall, Mrs A Howes, Mr J Rae, Miss M Hamilton, Mr J Douglas, Miss K McLauchlan, Mr W Clement, Mrs M Devlin, Miss J Watkinson, Mr J Drewry, Miss J Yeats, Ms A Robertson, Dr J Reinstein, Mrs C Munro, Miss M Brander, Mr S Wilkie, Miss L Carson, Mr R Turnbull, Mr D France, Mr D Blackwood, Mrs M Duffield, Mr P Knight, Miss I Bennett, Mrs M Priestly, Mrs E Burling, Mr H Barnes, Mr A Dewdney, Mrs J Harper, Mr A Gray, Mr J Crawford, Mr D Willetts, Mrs A Clement, Miss M Brown, Mr B Harry,Mrs M Shaw, Mr C McCausland, Mr S Barbour, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs I Rae, Mr D S McMillan, Mr R Taylor, Mr A Brown, Ms A Robertson, Mrs E McCausland, Mr A Mair, Miss C Catto, Mr A Aitkenhead, Miss D Hamilton, Mr S Adam.

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

EC93/13 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed the Representatives to the meeting and said she hoped those attending for the first time would find the Council meetings interesting.

The Chairman then thanked Winnipeg Branch for generously providing wine for the Representatives prior to the meeting.

EC93/14 APOLOGIES

Mr J Hill, Mrs F Inglis, Mr J Judson, Mrs M Killeen, Mr A MacPherson, Ms D Rooney, Mr H van Zon.

EC93/15 COMPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 1993/1994

Amendments were announced to the list of Council Members which had been distributed with the Agenda.

The Amendments consisted of the following additions -

Delaware Valley	Mr J Hutton
Hawaii	Mr G Mechan
Royal Leamington Spa	Mrs M Duffield
San Francisco	Mr R Mackay
Twin Cities	Mr B Harry
Western Australia	Mrs A Murphy

The Chairman announced amendments to the Ballot papers. Members were asked to complete the baillot papers and thereafter the voting papers were collected.

EC93/16 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 8 MAY 1993

The Minutes of the Meeting on 8 May 1993 were approved on a motion by Mr S Adam (Elected Member) seconded by Mr C Hunter (East Stirlingshire Branch) after it was noted that Mrs D Christie had been omitted from those attending.

EC93/17 BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising.

EC93/18 MINUTES OF SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS

a) General Purposes Committee
- Minutes of Meeting on 2 October 1993

On a motion by Ms R Scott-Huxley (Representing Cape Town Branch) seconded by Miss C Traynor (Glasgow Branch) the minutes were approved.

GP93/34: Replying to a question on the new legislation relating to Charities and the responsibilities of the Executive Council, the Treasurer said that a Trustees report on the activities of the Society was now required with the annual statement of accounts. She said that legally the Executive Council are the trustees of the Society. She added that there are practical difficulties with this because every trustee should sign the statement of accounts. The problem of consolidated Branch accounts would have to be solved by 1994/95. In this context the relationship between the whole body and the Branches will have to be worked out. The Treasurer pointed out that other charitable organisations, such as the Scouts, have similar problems under the new legislation.

On a motion by Mr B Hamilton (Representing Detroit Branch) seconded by Mrs L Gaul (Representing Hamilton, Ontario Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 2 October 1993 were ratified.

b) Finance Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 21 August 1993.

On a motion by Dr J Reinstein (Paris Branch) seconded by Mrs L Gaul (Representing Hamilton, Ontario Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 21 August 1993 were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 16 October 1993

On a motion by Mr S Adam (Elected Member) seconded by Mr T Dewdney (Southport Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 16 October 1993 were ratified.

c) (i) Minutes of Meeting on 12 June 1993

On a motion by Mr H Barnes (Somerset Branch) seconded by Miss M Brander (Representing Phoenix Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 12 June 1993 were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 11 September 1993

On a motion by Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) seconded by Mr A Smart (Representing Florida South Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 11 September 1993 were ratified.

(iii) Minutes of Meeting on 23 October 1993

On a motion by Miss M Brander (Representing Phoenix Branch) seconded by Mr R Mackay (Representing San Francisco Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 23 October 1993 were approved.

PR93/56 c): Referring to reprinting in due course of the amended pages of the Manual, members were assured that the pages would show the date of reprinting.

The Publications & Research Committee and The Examinations Committee both agreed that the quality of the copies of the Set Dances should be looked at.

On a motion by Mr B Clement (Representing Northern Virginia Branch) seconded by Mrs M Duffield (Royal Leamington Spa Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 23 October 1993 were ratified.

d) Examinations Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 19 June 1993

Referring to EX93/17 Mr C Hunter (East Stirlingshire Branch) said he felt the appointment of Examiners was a closed shop. Mrs Corson said that Branches may put forward names but this does not mean they will be appointed to the list'.

On a motion by Mr A Smart (Representing Florida South Branch) seconded by Mr B Hamilton (Representing Detroit Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 19 June 1993 were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 25 September 1993

On a motion by Mr B Hamilton (Representing Detroit Branch) seconded by Miss L Martin (Aberdeen Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 25 September 1993 were approved.

Referring to EX93/26 Mrs A Murphy (Representing Western Australia Branch) asked what guidance can be given to the five Examiners who make the assessment of potential Examiners. Mr B Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch) enquired if the Examinations Committee would consider publishing EX84/3 and EX89/6 as a separate document.

On a motion by Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) seconded by Mr J Hutton (Representing Delaware Valley Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 25 September 1993 were ratified.

e) Summer School Committee
- Minutes of Meeting on 18 September 1993

On a motion by Mrs S Nedderman (Cambridge Branch) seconded by Miss D Hamilton (Elected Member) the Minutes were approved.

On a motion by Mrs M Brown (Representing Toronto Branch) seconded by Dr J Reinstein (Paris Branch) the Minutes were ratified.

EC93/19 STRATHSPEY SALE : DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors' Report had been in the hands of Council for several weeks and Mr Stacey, Chairman of the Board of Directors, indicated that the accounts were self explanatory.

The Report was approved.

EC93/20 TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 1993 - 1994

The Schedule of Meetings for 1993 - 1994 was accepted.

EX93/21 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

a) GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Miss A Wilma Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman) Mr K Stacey (Convener Finance Committee) and the following appointed members-

Mr S Adam	(Elected Member)
Miss I Bennett	(St Andrews Branch)
Miss C Catto	(Elected Member)
Mrs J Harper	(South Argyll Branch)
Mrs C Munro	(Perth & Perthshire Branch)
Mr A Smart	(Representing Florida South Branch)
Mr G Stephens	(Kirkcaldy Barnch)
Miss C Traynor	(Glasgow Branch)
Mrs R Wilton	(London Branch)

b) FINANCE COMMITTEE

Miss A Wilma Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman) and the following appointed members-

Mr J Douglas	(Newcastle & District Branch)
Mr B Frazer	(Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch)
Mr A Gray	(South Wales Branch)
Miss D Hamilton	(Glasgow Branch)

Mr A Mair	(Elected Member)
Mr K Stacey	(Doncaster & District Branch)
Mr R Turnbull	(Richmond Branch)

Mr K Stacey was elected Convener

c) PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Miss A Wilma Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman), Miss F Gordon (Archivist) and the following appointed members-

Mrs P Draycott	(Bramhall Branch)
Mr J Drewry	(Representing Nova Scotia Branch)
Mr P Knight	(Royal Tunbridge Wells Branch)
Miss D Leurs	(Representing Calgary Branch)
Ms R Scott-Huxley	(Representing Cape Town Branch)

Mr J Drewry was elected Convener

d) EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Miss A Wilma Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman) and the following appointed members-

Mrs A S Aitkenhead	(Elected Member)
Mrs L Gaul	(Representing Hamilton Ontario Branch)
Mr B Hamilton	(Representing Detroit Branch)
Mrs E McCausland	(Elected Member)
Miss L Martin	(Aberdeen Branch)

Mr A S Aitkenhead was elected Convener

e) SUMMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Miss A Wilma Miller (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Vice-Chairman), Dr A MacFadyen (Director of Summer School and Convener) and the following appointed members-

Miss E M C Ferguson	(Dumfries Branch)
Mrs S Nedderman	(Cambridge Branch)
Mr J Rae	(Moffat Branch)
Mrs A Sheach	(Isle of Skye Branch)

EC93/22 AFFILIATIONS

The undernoted affiliations were approved:

a) Windermere Scottish Country Dance Group
b) Milwaukee Scottish Country Dancers

EC93/22 BUSINESS FROM AGM

The Chairman thanked Edinburgh Branch for hosting the 1993 AGM and for coping so well with all the difficulties which had arisen such as arranging for a new floor for the dancing.

The Branch was warmly thanked for the excellent Executive Lunch which they had provided.

Miss Miller welcomed the new Chairman of Edinburgh Branch, Mr David Watson, to the Executive Council and asked him to take back to Edinburgh Branch the good wishes of the Council.

The Chairman then informed the Executive Council that the Council's resolutions on the AGM Agenda had been passed.

Arising from discussions at the Open Forum concerning the Scottish Country Dancing at the Military Tattoo over the previous two years it was agreed that the Council would appoint a sub-committee to meet with the organisers of the Tattoo.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Mrs L Gaul, Mr B Clement and Mr B Harry were appointed to the sub-committee.

EC93/24 CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from Southport Branch relating to Resolution (d) at the Annual General Meeting, 7 November 1992 was read to the meeting.

Southport Branch considered that the Council had failed to carry out the directive issued at the Society Annual General Meeting held in Aberdeen in November 1992.

After some discussion the Council agreed that the correct procedure had been followed; the Council had accepted the report and decision of the sub-committee which it had appointed to consider Junior Membership and the matter was now closed.

EC93/25 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Mr J Douglas and Mr R Turnbull were appointed Directors of Strathspey Sales in place of Miss M Barker and Mr D Ross.

b) London Branch Publicity Sub Committee wrote to the Executive Council concerning Dance World '94 which was being held at the Barbican Centre, London from 4 - 7 February 1994.

The Council agreed that this seemed to be an excellent opportunity for the RSCDS to publicise Scottish Country Dancing and agreed that the matter of funding for the event should be referred to the General Purposes Committee and the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund.

The Council agreed meantime that London Branch Publicity Sub Committee, with the Council's blessing, should go ahead on behalf of the Society as a whole to make the necessary arrangements for participating at Dance World '94.

c) Approval was given to the following to represent Branches on the North of Ireland Co-ordinating Committee for 1993-1994-

Mrs Elma McCausland	Belfast
Mr Tom Bailie	Belfast
Miss Lorna Carson	Portrush
Mrs Kathleen Shott	Portrush
Mr John Thompson	Whitehead
Miss Eileen Coburn	Whitehead

c) Mr J Hutton (Representing Delaware Valley Branch) made a plea for a better microphone system at AGMs.

d) Mr Hunter (East Stirlingshire Branch) was informed that Strathspey Sales would discuss badges and membership cards for Junior Associates.

e) Mrs Gaul (Representing Hamilton, Ontario Branch) thanked Miss Miller for her capable chairmanship of the meeting.

The Meeting ended at 3.30pm

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ST GEORGE'S CHURCH HALL, SHANDWICK PLACE, EDINBURGH ON SATURDAY 14 MAY 1994 AT 1PM.

PRESENT: Miss A W Miller (in the Chair), Mr G Lawson, Miss L Martin, Mr W Zobel, Miss J D Walker, Mr A Butchart, Mrs M Donaldson, Mr B Frazer,Mr J S Carter, Mrs M Watson, Miss P Draycott, Mr J Hill, Miss D Leurs, Mrs S Nedderman, Mrs M Ainslie, Ms R Scott-Huxley, Mr F Reid, Mrs A McDougall, Mrs H Wemyss, Ms D Rooney, Mrs J MacLean, Miss E Price, Mr J Hutton, Mr A Boode, Mr W Hamilton, Mr K Stacey, Miss E Ferguson, Mrs A Traill, Mrs N Robinson, Mrs J MacSporran, Mr J Dougal, Mrs G Beatt, Mrs M Martin, Mr C Hunter, Mr A Smart, Mrs P May, Mr N Grant, Mrs E Barr, Mrs L Gaul, Mr G Mechan, Mrs F Inglis, Miss I Whyte, Mr D Campbell, Mrs A Sheach, Mr J Mason, Mr G Stephens, Mrs D Christie, Mrs M Longair, Mrs B Burnell, Mrs M Oughton, Mrs R Wilton, Ms C Reed, Dr I Hall, Mrs A Howes, Mr J Rae, Miss M Hamilton, Mr J Douglas, Miss K McLauchlan, Mr A MacPherson, Mr W Clement, Mrs M Devlin, Miss J Watkinson, Mr J Drewry, Miss J Yeats, Ms A Robertson, Dr J Reinstein, Mrs C Munro, Mr S Wilkie, Miss L Carson, Mr R Turnbull, Mr D France, Mr D Blackwood, Mrs M Duffield, Mr P Knight, Miss I Bennett, Mr R Mackay, Mrs E Burling, Mr A Dewdney, Mrs J Harper, Mr A Gray, Miss E Kennedy, Miss M Brown, Mr B Harry, Mr C McCausland, Ms S Mayr, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs A Clement, Mrs M Shaw, Mrs I Rae Mrs M Corson, Mr R Taylor, Mr A Brown, Ms A Robertson, Mr S Adam, Mr A Aitkenhead, Miss C Catto, Miss D Hamitlon, Mrs E McCausland, Mr A Mair, Dr A MacFadyen.

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

EC94/1 APOLOGIES

Mrs J Baker, Mr S Barbour, Mr H Barnes, Miss M Brander, Mrs C Fleming, Miss A Johnstone, Mr J Judson, Mrs N McLaren, Mr S McMillan, Mrs S Porter, Mrs M Priestley, Miss C Traynor, Mr D Watson, Mr H van Zon.

EC94/2 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman, welcoming all members to the Council Meeting, said she was glad to be back again following her recent illness. She said that this would be the last Executive Council Meeting she would be attending as Chairman of the Society and that it had been a great pleasure and a very great privilege to serve the Society in this capacity. Her time in office had passed quickly and she had enjoyed it. Miss Miller then thanked the Secretary and Headquarters staff for their willing cooperation during the years of her chairmanship. She sincerely thanked the Conveners of the Standing Committees for all their efforts and said that she had enjoyed working with them and that she greatly appreciated all the support which she had received from the Branches. Finally Miss Miller expressed her gratitude for all the cards, letters, flowers, phone calls and good wishes she had received over the weeks since her illness.

EC94/3 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 20 NOVEMBER 1993

The Minutes of the Meeting on 20 November 1993 were approved on a motion by Mr B Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) seconded by Mr R Turnbull (Richmond Branch) after noting that in EC93/15 d) ii) "can" should read "will" and that the Chairman's assurance should be recorded that the points raised in the discussion would be discussed in the Examinations Committee. It was also noted that in EC93/18 c) Mrs Brown should read Miss Brown.

EC94/4 BUSIINESS ARISING

EC93/22 Scottish Country Dancing at Military Tattoo.
Mr B Clement (representing Northern Virginia Branch) reported on the sub committee's meeting with Major Parker, Producer of the Military Tattoo.

Mr Clement said that the meeting with Major Paker had gone extremely well. As representatives of the Executive Council, the sub committee informed Major Parker of the considerable concern expressed by Branch representatives regarding the dancing at the Tattoo.

Recounting his experience of using Country Dances in the past, Major Parker said that from his point of view it had not been entirely successful. He did not like a few teams dancing, no matter how good . As a spectacle he felt the previous two years dancing at the Tattoo was the type of massed dancing which he preferred where formations interlinked or appeared to do so.

Major Parker agreed that the standard of dancing was not particularly high but he had been led to believe that he would be lucky to find anyone willing to take part. Now that there were more dancers available he agreed that some form of selection was required.

Major Parker did say that if some dancers could provide an intergrated mass display dancing three suitable Country Dances linked in an imaginative way, he would certainly be willing to consider this.

Major Parker had suggested another meeting to discuss further the dancing at the Tattoo and so that we might give him some suggestions of our own.

EC94/5 MINUTES OF SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

a) General Purposes Committee

i) Minutes of Meeting on 12 February 1994.

On a motion by Mr J Douglas (Newcastle & District Branch) seconded by Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 12 February 1994 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of Meeting on 9 April 1994.

On a motion by Mrs J Harper (South Argyll Branch) seconded by Mrs C Munro (Perth & Perthshire Branch) the Minutes were approved.

GP94/21 a) Mr B Clement (representing Northern Virginia Branch) said that when writing to the General Purposes Committee proposing the Hon Peregrine Moncreiffe of Moncreiffe as an Hon Vice President he had done so with the knowledge and support of the Chairman.

He had been disappointed by the decision of the General Purposes Committee to turn down this nomination even though it was only for the moment. Mr Clement said he did not see it as an option to leave it in abeyance since he had irst obtained Peregrine of Moncreiffe's permission toput his name forward.

Mr Clement told the Council a little about Peregrine Moncreiffe. He came from a dancing family. His late father had been one of the Society's Vice Presidents. When working in America Peregrine attended a number of RSCDS Dances. He is a Past President of Scottish Ballet. If invited to be one of the Society's Vice Presidents he would consider it an honour and would be delighted to accept. We have in our archives a considerable quantity of photocopies of old books of Scottish Country Dance Music and of some dances, mostly from the period 1780-1820. This was made possible by Peregrine Moncreiffe

Mr Clement said there was no doubting his interest in Scottish Country Dancing and his interest in the work of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. Mr Clement then asked the members of the General Purposes Committee to reconsider their decision and proposed that the Council support the nomination of the Hon Peregrine Moncreiffe of Moncreiffe to be an Honorary Vice President of the Society. The proposal was seconded by Dr A MacFadyen (Director of Summer School). The proposal was approved and would go forward to the Annual General Meeting.

GP94/21 b) In answer to a question, Mrs R Wilton (London Branch) informed the Council that London Branch would also be contributing £500 to Dance World '95.

On a proposal by Mrs L Gaul (representing Hamilton, Ontario Branch), seconded by Dr J Reinstein (Paris Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 9 April 1994 were ratified.

b) Finance Committee

(i) Meeting on 20 November 1993

F93/50 When asked to what extent the Society had had to subsidise the 1993 Summer School, the Convener replied that the administration charges had not been passed on.

On a motion by Mr S Adam (Edinburgh Branch) seconded by Mr B Clement (representing Northern Virginia Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 20 November 1993 were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 19 February 1994

F94/9 e) Summer School 1995. Dr MacFadyen (Director of Summer School) pointed out that the 1995 Summer School would be starting one week later than normally.

On a motion by Mr D Blackwood (Roxburgh, Selkirk & Peebles Branch) seconded by Mr A Smart (representing Florida South) the Minutes of the Meeting on 19 February 1994 were ratified.

(iii) Minutes of Meeting on 30 April 1994

It was noted that the numbering for the minutes required to be amended.

On a motion by Mr A Gray (South Wales Branch) seconded by Mr A Mair (Elected Member) the Minutes were approved.

F94/13 b) Referring to insurance of Branch equipment, the Convener said it was unlikely that such insurance cover would be taken out because of the very high cost.

On a motion by Mrs L Gaul (representing Hamilton, Ontario Branch) seconded by Miss I Bennett (St Andrews Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 30 April 1994 were ratified.

c) Publications & Research Committee

(i) Minutes of Meeting on 15 January 1994

The Council discussed the merits of allowing translations of RSCDS publications into other languages. It was agreed that this could be a positive way of fostering wider interest in the RSCDS. The Publications & Research Committee was asked to re-consider its decision to refuse permission to reproduce parts of the Manual into Italian, particularly as this decision was inconsistent with that reached by the previous Publications & Research Committee.

On a motion by Mr A Dewdney (Southport Branch) seconded by Mr C Hunter (East Stirlingshire Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 15 January 1994 were ratified.

(ii) Minutes of Meeting on 26 February 1994

PR94/22 In answer to a question from Mrs Murphy (representing Western Australia Branch) the Convener explained that no mention had been made concerning the recording of Book 18 because, as yet, no band had accepted the invitation to make it.

On a motion by Miss M Brown (representing Toronto Branch) seconded by Mrs M Duffield (Royal Leamington Spa Branch) the Minutes were ratified..

(iii) Minutes of the Meeting on 23 April 1994

On a motion by Mr P Knight (Royal Tunbridge Wells Branch) seconded by Miss D Leurs (representing Calgary Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 23 April 1994 were approved.

PR94/23 Mrs L Gaul (representing Hamilton Ontario Branch) expressed her pleasure that the Index to Scottish Country Dances would be available in the A5 format.

PR94/24 d) Mr R Mackay (representing San Francisco Branch) expressed some concern that the matter of the Strathspey Poussette had been deferred. He pointed out that the committee producing the video to accompany the Manual would be adhering to the text of the Manual.

Miss L Martin (Aberdeen Branch) said that the instructions for the Strathspey Poussette had not been changed for the Manual and that they followed those given by Miss Milligan in all the editions of Wont You Join the Dance from the very first edition where it states quite clearly that a half poussette is four setting steps therefore a whole poussette must be eight setting steps.

Mr Mackay pointed out that the Manual had been approved by the Publications Committee and by the Executive Council.

On a motion by Dr J Reinstein (Paris Branch) seconded by Mr A Smart (representing Florida South Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 23 April 1994 were ratified.

d) Examinations Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 8 January 1994

On a motion by Mrs L Gaul (representing Hamilton, Ontario Branch) seconded by Miss L Martin (Aberdeen Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 8January 1994 were approved.

Referring to a suggested pro forma (EX94/8) relating to Potential Examiners, the Convener of the Examinations Committee said this was still under discussion by the Committee, but further information would be available at the next Council Meeting.

Mrs Murphy (representing Western Australia Branch) asked that the Committee would also consider the advice to be given to the potential examiners for the application of the assessment. The Convener said this would be noted.

EX94/9 Mr B Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch) asked if the diagrams for the set dances could be put on computer. Mr Hamiton (representing Detroit Branch) explained that it was not possible to put instructions and diagrams all on one page in the same format. Diagrams may be referred to in the books. The instructions for the dances are produced more as an aide-memoire.

EX94/11 a) The Convener of the Examinations Committee said that Mr Mechan had done much for the Society over very many years and this was greatly appreciated. Mr Mechan's name was still on the list of the Society's Examiners.

On a motion by Mr S Adam (Elected Member) seconded by Miss P Draycott (Bramhall Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 8 January 1994 were ratified.

e) Summer School Committee

Minutes of Meeting on 5 February 1994

On a motion by Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch) seconded by Mrs S Nedderman (Cambridge & District Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 5 February 1994 were approved.

On a motion by Mr A Mair (Elected Member) seconded by Mrs M Duffield (Royal Leamington Spa) the Minutes of the Meeting on 5 February 1994 were ratified.

EC94/6 SCROLL AWARDS

The Executive Council approved the award of the Society's Scroll to the following -

Jean & Arthur Douglas	Hamilton, Ontario Branch
Miss Frances Martin	East Stirlingshire Branch
Mrs Ena McNaught	Calgary Branch

The Council was saddened to know that Mr Douglas had died before the awards could be publicised.

EC94/7 NEW LEGISLATION RELATING TO CHARITIES IN SCOTLAND - REPORT FROM SUB COMMITTEE

The Report, a complete copy of which had been circulated to the Council members and Branch Secretaries three weeks previously and which is attached to the principal copy of these Minutes, was presented by Mr James Brown, Convener of the Sub Committee. In introducing Mr Brown the Chairman said he had been a splendid Convener and had put in a tremendous amount of work while producing the report.

Mr Brown reminded the Council that the Sub Committee was set up to review the new charities' legislation and to consider how its implementation would affect the RSCDS.

The Report discussed the Society's charitable status as presently constituted and considered the advantages and disadvantages of retaining charitable status. Having concluded that the advantages outweighed the disadvantages, the Report recommended a future structure for the RSCDS which, by giving autonomy to the Branches, avoided the need to comply with some of the more onerous requirements of the new legislation and at the same time retained the essential ethos of a world-wide organisation.

The Report, therefore, recommended certain basic principles based on this philosophy but was not intended to cover the detailed changes in the constitution which would be required if the recommendations were accepted nor did it cover the fine details of implementation, decisions concerning which were still required.

Having opted for the retention of charitable status subject to the Branches being granted autonomy, the report recommended that the Branches should be formed into Local Associations each of which would be required to enter into an agreement with the RSCDS and pay a capitation fee annually in respect of its members.

Other provisions in the report included the recommendation that the RSCDS form itself into a Company Limited by Guarantee. The word "Limited" need not be used in the RSCDS title.

The trustees who would have collective responsibility in administering the affairs of the Society would be the Conveners plus one from each Standing Committee and the Vice-Chairman - a total of 11. The trustees would also be the Directors of the Limited Company.

The present Executive Council would be replaced by a "Council" and a system of proportional representation of Local Associations was recommended with a minimum of one representative and a maximum of four according to the membership of the Local Association. Functions of the Council would include the appointment of Trustees/Directors; the monitoring of standards; the publication of instructional literature and other relevant material; the provision of qualified examiners and the holding of Summer School.

With reference to affiliated groups the report recommended that these should be a matter for Local Associations and would no longer be affiliated to Headquarters.

The somewhat anomalous situation of "Headquarters Members" was dealt with and the Report recommended that all members of the RSCDS be also members of a Local Association unless granted dispensation by the Council.

The Report emphasised its aim of ensuring that Local Associations should feel themselves to be part of the Society, linked through their individual members and their representatives on the Council.

" Finally Mr Brown pointed out that to achieve the recommended revised structure of the Society, radical changes in the present Constitution would be necessary and if the Report's recommendations were accepted, this would have to be the next step which the Executive Council would need to consider.

After considerable discussion and an assurance that guidance would be given to Local Associations on how to achieve charitable status, on a proposal by Mr A Smart (representing Florida South Branch) seconded by Mr R Turnbull (Richmond Branch) the Executive Council agreed overwhelmingly to accept the Report. Branches wishing to make comment should do so my mid September.

The Executive Council then reappointed the Sub Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Mr J B C Brown, (Convener), Mr R Mackay, Mr D Ross, Mr A Smart , Convener of the Finance Committee, Treasurer and Secretary, to consider the changes required in the present Constitution to implement the recommendations of the Report. "

EC94/8 YOUNG SCOTTISH DANCERS ASSOCIATION

A report on the Young Scottish Dancers Association had been circulated with the Executive Council papers several weeks prior to the meeting, therefore it was necessary for Mr Aitkenhead to make only brief comment.

In addition to the two audio tapes already published, plans for volume 3 in 1995 were already under way and a compilation of volumes 1-3 was planned for 1996.

EC94/9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Mr J Douglas (Newcaslte & District Branch) informed the meeting that a complete collection of Andrew Rankine's compositions was now available from Newcastle & District Branch.

b) The recent death of Mr Rob Morton was noted and the Secretary was asked to send a message of sympathy to his widow and a similar message would be sent to the widow of the late Ron Gonnella.

c) Mr B Clement (representing Northern Virginia Branch) referred to a Scottish Youth Dance Festival to be held in St Andrews during the first week of July. Further information and details would be made available to St Andrews Branch.

d) Mr A L M Boode (Delft Branch) asked that details of travelling expenses to meetings should be clarified.

e) Mr P Knight (Royal Tunbridge Wells Branch) said there was no good book of instructions for "reel" dancers and proposed that the Society should produce such a booklet. The Council agreed that this would be useful and that the Publications & Research Committee should consider the matter.

EH94/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

19 November 1994

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ST GEORGE'S CHURCH HALL, SHANDWICK PLACE, EDINBURGH ON SATURDAY 19 NOVEMBER 1994 AT 1PM.

PRESENT: Mr G Lawson (in the Chair), Miss A W Miller (Immediate Past Chairman), Miss L Martin, Mr W Zobel, Miss J F Walker, Mr A Butchart, Mrs M Donaldson, Mr B Frazer, Miss A Johnstone, Mr J S Carter, Mrs N McLaren, Mrs M Watson, Mr J Hill, Miss A Young, Mrs S Nedderman, Miss F Golding, Ms R Scott-Huxley, Dr F Reid, Mrs A McDougall, Mrs H Wemyss, Ms D Rooney, Mrs J MacLean, Miss E Price, Mr J Hutton, Mr A Boode, Mr W Hamilton, Mr K Stacey, Miss E Ferguson, Mrs A Traill, Mrs H Hall, Mrs J MacSporran, Mr J Dougal, Mrs G Beatt, Mrs M Martin, Mr D Watson, Mr A Smart, Mrs P May, Mr N Grant, Miss C Traynor, Mrs E Barr, Mrs L Gaul, Miss I Whyte, Mrs A Sheach, Mr J Mason, Mrs M J Wildgoose, Mr G Stephens, Mrs D Christie, Mrs M Longair, Mrs M Oughton, Mrs J Baker, Mrs R Wilton, Mrs S Porter, Dr I Hall, Miss B Nairn, Mrs M Killeen, Mrs A Howes, Mr J Rae, Mr J Wilson, Mr J Douglas, Mrs P Houghton, Miss K McLauchlan, Mr A MacPherson, Mr W Clement, Mrs M Devlin, Mr J Drewry, Miss J Yeats, Ms A Robertson, Dr J Reinstein, Mrs C Munro, Miss M Brander, Mr S Wilkie, Miss L Carson, Mrs M Stacey, Mr R Turnbull, Mr D France, Mrs J M Ballantyne, Mr P Knight, Miss I Bennett, Mrs M Priestley, Mr R Mackay, Mrs E Burling, Mr H Barnes, Mr E Redmond, Mrs J Harper, Mr D Ross, Mr A Gray, Mr J Taylor, Mr C Hunter, Mrs A Clement, Miss M Brown, Mr B Harry, Mrs M Shaw, Mr S Barbour, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs I Rae, Mrs M Corson, Mr R Taylor, Mr A Brown, Ms A Robertson, Mr A Aitkenhead, Miss C Catto, Mrs N Dunn, Miss D Hamilton, Mr A Mair, Dr A MacFadyen.

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

EC94/11 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed all the Representatives to the Executive Council Meeting, particularly those attending for the first time and hoped everyone would find it a worthwhile experience. He asked all Representatives to report back the business of the meeting to their Branches. The Representatives were the link with the members.

The Chairman then asked the meeting formally to welcome Mr Bill Clement, the new Vice-Chairman. His wealth of experience would be invaluable at all meetings.

The Chairman then thanked Miss Miller, the Immediate Past Chairman, for providing his apprenticeship. Time would tell how good a job she had made of it!

The Chairman then made a plea that everyone should work together amicably for the Society and not for self and that with the objects of the Society firmly implanted in our minds we should all look towards a strong and happy Society.

On a sad note the Chairman reminded the Council of the death of Frances Gordon, Honorary Archivist.

Frances had been appointed three years previously. She had an avid interest in Scottish history and having taken early retirement from her pharmacy post with Grampian Hospital Service, she entered Aberdeen University as an undergraduate to further her studies in this field and had completed more than half of her course. This interest combined with an interest in ancestral research was useful in her role as Archivist of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. She was reorganising the archives at Headquarters after the alterations to the basement and cataloguing the ever increasing collection of 78 records.

Frances was a cheerful, busy lady who will be missed.

EC94/12 APOLOGIES

Mr S Adam, Mrs B Burnell, Mrs M Duffield, Mr A Greenyer, Miss M Hamilton, Mrs F Inglis, Mr J Judson, Miss D Leurs, Mrs E McCausland, Mr C McCausland, Miss J Watkinson, Mr D Willetts, Mr H van Zon.

EC94/13 COMPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 1994-1995

Amendments were announced to the list of Council Members which had been distributed with the Agenda.

The amendments consisted of the following additions-:

Calgary	Miss D Leurs
Cheshire	Ms D Rooney
East Angus	Mrs G Beatt
Vancouver	Mrs M Shaw
Winnipeg	Mrs M Corson

Amendments to the Ballot papers were announced.

Members were asked to complete the ballot papers and thereafter the voting papers were collected.

EC94/14 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 14 MAY 1994

The Minutes of the Meeting on 14 May 1994 were approved on a motion by Mr W Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) seconded by Miss M Brown (representing Toronto Branch) after it was agreed that EC94/7, second last paragraph, should be amended as follows - After considerable discussion and an assurance that guidance would be given on how to achieve charitable status, the Chairman agreed that acceptance of the Report would only commit the Council to the Report being sent to the Branches for their inspection and comment. Such comments should be with Headquarters by mid-September in order that they could be collated and reported back to the Executive Council. The acceptance was proposed by Mr A Smart (representing Florida South Branch) and seconded by Mr R Turnbull (Richmond Branch).

This was accepted by the Council.

It was also noted that in 94/9 b) it should read "Rob Gordon".

EC94/15 BUSINESS ARISING

EC94/4 Military Tattoo

Mr W Clement (Vice-Chairman) reported that the Sub-Committee, set up by the Executive Council in November 1993 to see what could be done to improve the Scottish Country Dancing at the Tattoo, had had a second meeting with Major Parker to give him more information on a mass display using Scottish Country Dances.

It was the Committee's decision that this could best be done by making a video and Peter Knight was asked to do this.

Seven teams attending a rehearsal for the Tattoo agreed to participate in the video following the rehearsal.

Four dances, danced in four different formations were videod.

On the second visit to Major Parker the Sub-Committee also met Susan Hays and Avril Smiley who is the present dance director for the Tattoo. The video was well received.

Avril Smiley agreed to look at the idea of dancing a number of Scottish Country Dances in different formations and added that she would consult with the Sub-Committee.

There was only one expenditure and that was Peter Knight's air fare which was paid by the Sub-Committee. The Council agreed that this should be re-imbursed.

EC94/16 MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

a) General Purposes Committee
- Minutes of Meeting on 1 October 1994

On a motion by Mrs J Harper (South Argyll Branch) seconded by Mrs C Munro (Perth & Perthshire Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 1 October 1994 were approved.

On a motion by Dr J Reintsein (Paris Branch) seconded by Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 1 October 1994 were ratified.

b) Finance Committee

i) Minutes of Meeting on 27 August 1994

On a motion by Mrs C Munro (Perth & Perthshire Branch) seconded by Ms R Scott-Huxley (representing Cape Town Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 27 August were ratified.

ii) Minutes of Meeting on 22 October 1994

On a motion by Mr A Gray (South Wales Branch) seconded by Miss D Hamilton (Elected Member) the Minutes were approved.

F94/38 There was discussion concerning the period covered by Long Term Membership. The Council agreed that the whole matter of dates should be referred back to the Finance Committee.

On a motion by Ms D Rooney (Cheshire Branch) seconded by Mr C Hunter (Stirlingshire East Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 22 October 1994 were ratified.

iii) Minutes of Meeting on 5 November 1994.

On a motion by Mr B Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch) seconded by Mr A Gray (South Wales Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 5 November 1994 were approved

On a motion by Mr J Douglas (Newcastle Upon Tyne & District Branch) seconded by Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 5 November 1994 were ratified.

c) Publications & Research Committee

i) Minutes of Meeting on 11 June 1994

On a motion by Ms R Scott-Huxley (representing Cape Town Branch) seconded by Mr H Barnes (Somerset Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 11 June 1994 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of the Meeting on 3 September 1994

On a motion by Mrs L Gaul (representing Hamilton, Ontario Branch) seconded by Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 3 September 1994 were ratified.

iii) Minutes of Meeting on 15 October 1994

On a motion by Mr P Knight (Royal Tunbridge Wells Branch) seconded by Ms R Scott-Huxley (representing Cape Town Branch) the Minutes were approved.

PR94/46 a) There was long discussion concerning the future policy of recording formats and the Council agreed that the whole question should be referred back to the Publications & Research Committee, including CD's sponsored by Mrs Yasumuru.

On a motion by Mr J Douglas (Newcastle Upon Tyne & District Branch) seconded by Mr A Mair (Elected Member) the Minutes of the Meeting on 15 October 1994 were ratified.

d) Examinations Committee

i) Minutes of Meeeting on 18 June 1994

On a motion by Mr J Douglas (Newcastle Upon Tyne & District Branch) seconded by Mr G Stephens (Kirkcaldy Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 18 June 1994 were ratified.

ii) Minutes of Meeting on 16 October 1994

On a motion by Miss L Martin (Aberdeen Branch) seconded by Mr W Hamilton (representing Detroit Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 16 October were approved.

EX94/32 b) Paper Apart. The Committee was asked to reconsider the decision to keep the Pro forma confidential. Some members of the Council felt it would be helpful for Potential Examiners to know the points listed on the form. It was agreed that this matter should be referred back to the Committee for further discussion.

On a motion by Mr J Wilson (representing Nairobi Branch) seconded by Mr D Ross (representing South East Queensland) the Minutes of the Meeting on 16 October 1994 were ratified.

e) Summer School Committee
- Minutes of Meeting on 10 September 1994

On a motion by Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch) seconded by Mrs S Nedderman (Cambridge Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 10 September 1994 were approved.

On a motion by Mr A Mair (Elected Member) seconded by Mrs L Gaul (representing Hamilton, Ontario Branch) the Minutes of the Meeting on 10 September 1994 were ratified.

EC94/17 STRATHSPEY SALES : DIRECTORS' REPORT

Mr K Stacey presented the Directors' Report which had been in the hands of the Council for several weeks. Although the accounts were self explanatory Mr Stacey emphasised the drop in turnover and the much lower profit resulting in a loss, for the first time, of £593.00. He said that the Company would continue to run until 30 June 1995 when the whole matter would be reviewed.

It was agreed that a true evaluation of the running costs of Strathspey Sales would be drawn up in time for the next regular Council meeting.

The Report was approved.

EC94/18 TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 1994–1995

The Schedule of Meetings for 1994–1995 was accepted.

EC94/19 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

a) GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Mr G Lawson (Chairman and Convener), Mr W Clement (Vice–Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Immediate Past Chairman), Mr R Turnbull (Finance Committee Convener) and the following appointed members–

Miss C Catto	(Elected Member)
Mrs J Harper	(South Argyll)
Mrs C Munro	(Perth & Perthshire)
Dr J Reinstein	(Paris)
Mr A Smart	(Representing Florida South)
Mr G Stephens	(Kirkcaldy)
Miss C Traynor	(Glasgow)
Mr D Watson	(Edinburgh)
Mrs R Wilton	(London)

b) FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr G Lawson (Chairman), Mr W Clement (Vice-Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Immediate Past Chairman), and the following appointed members-

Mr S Adam	(Elected Member)
Mr J Douglas	(Newcastle Upon Tyne & District)
Mr A Gray	(South Wales)
Mr A Mair	(Elected Member)
Mr D Ross	(Representing South East Queensland)
Mr R Turnbull	(Richmond)

On a proposal by Mrs C Munro (Perth & Perthshire Branch) seconded by Miss I Bennett (St Andrews branch) Miss B Nairn (representing Medicine Hat Branch) was appointed to the Committee.

Mr R Turnbull was elected Convener

c) PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Mr G Lawson (Chairman), Mr W Clement (Vice-Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Immediate Past Chairman), Mr A MacPherson (Archivist) and the following appointed members-

Miss I Bennett	(St Andrews)
Miss P Draycott	(Bramhall)
Mr J Drewry	(Representing Nova Scotia)
Ms R Scott-Huxley	(Representing Cape Town)
Mr P Knight	(Royal Tunbridge Wells

Mr J Drewry was elected as Convener

d) EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr G Lawson (Chairman), Mr W Clement (Vice-Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Immediate Past Chairman) and the following elected members-

Mr A S Aitkenhead	(Elected Member)
Mr B Frazer	(Berks/Hants/Surrey Border)
Mrs L Gaul	(Representing Hamilton, Ontario)
Mrs E McCausland	(Representing Sydney)
Miss L Martin	(Aberdeen)

Mr A S Aitkenhead was elected Convener

e) SUMMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mr G Lawson (Chairman), Mr W Clement (Vice-Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Immediate Past Chairman), Dr A MacFadyen (Director of Summer School and Convener) and the following elected members-

Miss E M Ferguson	(Dumfries)
Miss F Golding	(Representing Canberra & District)
Mr J Rae	(Moffat)
Mrs A Sheach	(Isle of Skye)

EC94/20 HONORARY ARCHIVIST

Mr Alan MacPherson (representing Northern Territory Branch) was elected Honorary Archivist.

EC94/21 DIRECTOR DESIGNATE OF SUMMER SCHOOL

Referring to the ballot for Director Designate of Summer School, it was announced that Mrs M MacRae was sole nominee and, with the agreement of the Council, she was declared elected as Director Designate.

EC94/22 AFFILIATIONS

There were no Affiliations

EC94/23 BRANCH CONSTITUTIONS

There were no Branch Constitutions to discuss.

EC94/24 BUSINESS FROM AGM

a) The Chairman said that the particular business arising from the AGM was the matter of the new Legislations relating to charities in Scotland.

Before looking ahead, the Chairman asked the Council to show their appreciation of the work done by the Sub-Committee. He then informed the Council that Mr Brown, Convener of the Sub-Committee had written to the Secretary indicating that since it had discharged its remit, the Sub-Committee should now be disbanded. This was accepted by the Council and the Secretary was instructed to write to Mr Brown expressing appreciation for his work and that of the Sub-Committee.

Looking ahead, the Chairman proposed that Mrs Jeffcoat should be asked to prepare a detailed report of the various options available for the Council and, for a fee, she should get independent help if required.

The Council agreed that such a report should be produced and that it should indicate the costs of not being a charity and also the effect on Branches outside Scotland of either retaining or not retaining charitable status.

It was also asked that comment should be included in the report from experts with differing points of view.

It was further agreed that there should be a specially convened meeting of the Executive Council on 11 March 1995 for the sole purpose of discussing Mrs Jeffcoat's report which would be circulated to Branches and Representatives several weeks before the meeting.

b) Perth Branch was warmly thanked for organising the AGM so ably and successfully.

Glasgow Branch suggested that the formality of the Ball should be stressed in future while Berks/Hants/Surrey & Border Branch wondered if consideration might be given to transferring the Ball to the Saturday night.

EC94/25 APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS SUB COMMITTEE

After discussion about the need for such a sub committee it was agreed that one should be appointed from members with particular experience in this field. Suitable names should be forwarded to the Secretary prior to the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee.

EC94/26 CORRESPONDENCE

a) A letter from London Branch was read to the Council to remind members about Dance World '95 which is to be held at Olympia in London from 31 March to 2 April. If Branches had any publicity they would like to have displayed or handed out, they should contact the Secretary of London Branch.

b) The Secretary read a letter from Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch relating to the AGM and to the proposed legislation affecting charities in Scotland.

EC94/27 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Mr Clement (Vice-Chairman) reported on a favourable reply which he had received on producing a special postage stamp for the 75th anniversary in 1998.

b) Miss L Martin (Aberdeen Branch) said that her Branch had approached Aberdeen rose growers about producing a special rose for 1998.

c) Mr B Zobel (representing Atlanta Branch) re-opened the matter of the recording of Book 38 and it was agreed to refer the discussion back to the Publications & Research Committee.

Before closing the meeting the Chairman informed the Council that Mrs Moore, for personal reasons, was resigning from her position as Secretary of the Society and that this would be effective from 28 February 1995.

EC94/28 DATE OF NEXT (REGULAR) MEETING

13 May 1995

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13 MAY 1995

LIST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESENT

Office Bearers (ex officio)
Lord Mansfield (President), G Lawson (Chairman), W Clement (Vice Chairman), Miss A W Miller (Past Chairman), Dr A MacFadyen (Summer School Director), Mr A MacPherson (Honorary Archivist), Mrs M A Jeffcoat (Treasurer), Miss G S Parker (Secretary)

Elected Members
Mr S Adam, Mr A Aitkenhead, Miss C Catto, Mrs N Dunn, Miss D Hamilton, Mr A Mair

Representatives *(in alphabetical order of their representative branches)*
Miss L Martin, Miss M Johnstone, Miss J Walker, Mr A Butchart, Mrs M Donaldson, Mr B Frazer, Miss A Johnstone, Mr J Carter, Mrs N McLaren, Mrs M Watson, Mr J Hill, Miss D Leurs, Mrs S Nedderman, Miss F Golding, Ms R Scott-Huxley, Mr F Reid, Mrs A McDougall, Mrs H Wemyss, Ms D Rooney, Mrs C Fleming, Miss E Price, Mr J Hutton, Mr A Boode, Mr W Hamilton, Mr K Stacey, Miss E Ferguson, Mrs A Triall, Mrs H Hall, Mr J Dougal, Mrs G Beatt, Mrs S Chambers, Mr D Watson, Mr A Smart, Mrs P May, Mrs M Spurgin, Mrs C Tryanor, Mrs L Gaul, Mrs N Rintoul, Mis I Whyte, Mrs A Sheach, Mr J Mason, Mrs M Wildgoose, Mrs D Christie, Mrs M Longair, Mrs B Burnell, Mr C Headley, Mrs J Baker, Mrs R Wilton, Mrs S Porter, Mrs C Reed, Dr I Hall, Miss B Nairn, Mrs M Killeen, Mrs A Howes, Mr I Rae, Miss M Hamilton, Mr J Douglas, Mrs P Houghton, Miss K McLauchlan, Mrs M Devlin, Miss J Watkinson, Miss J Yeats, Ms A Robertson, Dr J Reinstein, Mrs C Munro, Miss M Brander, Miss L Carson, Miss B Wood, Mrs M Stacey, Mr R Turnbull, Mr D France, Mrs J Ballantyne, Mrs M Duffield, Mr P Knight, Miss I Bennett, Mrs M Priestley, Mr R Mackay, Mrs E Burling, Mr H Barnes, Mr A Dewdney, Mrs J Harper, Mr D Ross, Mr A Gray, Miss E Kennedy, Mr D Willetts, Mrs E McCausland, Mrs A Clement, Miss M Brown, Mr B Harry, Mrs M Shaw, Mr C McCausland, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs I Rae, Mrs M Corson, Mr R Taylor, Mr A Brown, Ms A Robertson

APOLOGIES

J Drewry (Publications Convener), S Barbour, H Van Zon, P Draycott, A Greenyer,

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN LEARMONTH HOTEL, EDINBURGH,
ON SATURDAY 13 MAY 1995 AT 1030 HRS

PRESENT *(see attached)*

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS
EC95/29

The President welcomed all the representatives attending the Council and advised them that he had wished specifically to attend this meeting due to the special nature of the Charities Legislation. He had been asked to chair this section due to the considerable experience he had as a Trustee of a number of charities, many of whom had needed to adjust their constitutions to take recognition of the new legislation. He reminded the Council that the legislation set out duties to be observed by trustees and allowed charities many financial advantages. He also assured the delegates that the ordinary member would not notice a change in the conduct of the business of the Society, given that the Management Committees already acted as Trustees of their own branch

CHARITY LEGISLATION
EC95/30

The President reminded the representatives that there were two decisions to be made in this respect - is the RSCDS to retain its charitable status and the consequent advantages to the society from this; and whether the branches would become autonomous.

- The motion that "The Society retains its charitable status in the future" which was proposed by Mr Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne) seconded by Mr Hutton (Delaware Valley) and agreed by the Council, was recommended to the AGM.

The Treasurer advised the Council that separate action was now needed to clarify the branches' status and, should the branches remain part of the whole society,the VAT implications would be huge. For example items such as any investment income, and external sales, but not profits from sales to members or subscriptions would be chargeable under VAT. Several representatives reminded the Council that the overseas branches were governed by the legislation existing in their own countries, which currently ensured that some branches were already independant. It was therefore accepted that the legislation only related to the UK branches Mrs Jeffcoat agreed and reminded the Council that some branches may also wish to choose not to apply for charitable status

For those branches in the UK, the matter of charities was dealt with separately in England and Wales, from either Scotland or N. Ireland. In England the two bodies were the Charities Commission based in Liverpool and the Inland Revenue in Bootle. In Scotland, the matter was dealt with by the Inland Revenue, while in N. Ireland it was dealt through (Dept Finance) N. Ireland Office. The Treasurer reminded the branches that HQ would give all the help necessary to assist in branch applications for charitable status.

Mrs Jeffcoat advised the representatives that the definition of branches clearly stated that if a branch were to discontinue it would return any remaining assets to the HQ, this would simply be changed to indicate a similar charity. The Society for accounting purposes would consider the branches as connected charities. Lord Mansfield suggested that intention and not language was important, therefore any inclusion of the words HQ or branch was not necessarily dangerous.

- A motion proposed by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton, Ontario) seconded by Ms Rooney (Cheshire) and subsequently amended by Mr Gray (South Wales) was agreed by the meeting. The recommendation to the AGM was "that the branches confirm their autonomous status and with the help of HQ can apply for their own charity status, if they so wish."

After some discussion the Council agreed to a motion proposed by Mr Douglas (Newcastle Upon Tyne) and seconded by Mr Smart (Florida South) that a sub committee be formed with the remit to investigate relevant changes to the consitution arising from the decisions regarding charity and branch status and any further clarification deemed necessary.

Some members felt that recommendations from the Constitution sub-committee must be ratified by the Council prior to submission before the AGM. However a majority of 54

over 43 agreed this was not necessary since ample discussion time at branch level would be available both from the provisional agenda and at the AGM.

The Council therefore agreed to a motion from Mr Smart (Florida South), seconded by Mr Boode (Delft) that The Constitution sub-committee be given authority to draft necessary resolutions to be put before the AGM.

Lord Mansfield also suggested, that any recommendations resulting from the sub-committee should be put before a qualified lawyer for their opinion, and kindly reminded the Society of his generous offer of the services of his own solicitors at his expense.

The Chairman, George Lawson, thanked Lord Mansfield for attending and chairing this section of the meeting, for his valuable contribution to the morning's discussions and his most generous offer of the use of his solicitors.

When the meeting reconvened, the Chairman, George Lawson, took the chair

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS EC95/31

Mr Lawson introduced the new Secretary of the Society, Miss Gill Parker.

He also advised the representatives of the sad loss of Mrs Anna Holden, a former Summer School Director, Examiner and Council Member. Her manner, wisdom and enthusiam would be very much missed. There was to be a private cremation, although a memorial service would be held on 30 May. Donations to go to the QED Unit of Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham. The Secretary agreed to send the Council's condolences to her husband and family.

Another sad loss to the Society had been Mr Graeme Stephens who was a loyal member of the Kirkcaldy Branch and a former Council representative.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING EC95/32

After an amendment to the item Appointment of the Publications & Research Committee, in which it was noted that Mr Drewry had been appointed Convener at the first committee meeting, the minutes of the meeting of 19 November 1994 were agreed by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING EC95/33

Strathspey Sales
Mr Turnbull advised the Council that the true evaluation of the Strathspey Sales running costs was not available since this matter had already been fully discussed at the Finance Committee and they had decided that the company would cease trading as from 30 June. The assets would be transferred to the RSCDS, who would continue to sell items with the name or logo. The shell company would be kept for a short while. Sales had not proved sufficient, since the VAT saving amounted to approx £6/700, and the running costs were in excess of that figure.

MINUTES OF STANDING COMMITTEES

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE EC95/34

Minutes of Meeting of 11 February 1995 EC95/34/1

Following a query, Mr Lawson advised the Council that the Special Meeting of the Executive, originally scheduled for 11 March, had been changed by the General Purposes Committee, in lieu of the Executive, as an emergency action.

The minutes were ratified on a proposal from Mr Adam (Elected Member), seconded by Mrs Gaul (Hamilton Ontario)

Minutes of Meeting of 8 April 1995 EC95/34/2

The minutes were approved with the following amendments
Junior Accessories - the term "junior members" be amended to "juniors"
Jean Milligan Memorial Fund - "cover any shortfall" be amended to "contribute to any shortfall", and "none of the above" be amended to "two of the three".

The Secretary had tabled a paper indicating that considerable savings could be made to stationery, postage, photocopying costs, and staff time, should a report be circulated to Council representatives instead of the customary sets of minutes. The report would include a summary of the decisions made by

the Committees for ratification, and details regarding the recommendations to be put before the Council. Executive Council minutes would of course continue to be circulated to all representatives.

After some discussion, the Council agreed that, for a one year trial period, a report will be drafted by the Secretary for each of the committees, to be signed by the convener of the committee to which it relates, and that this report will be circulated to council representatives in place of the current system of circulating minutes. The report would be taken from the Committee Minutes and the minutes would be available for inspection either at the Council meeting, or by prior arrangement with the Secretary. If appropriate, any resultant changes to the constitution would be considered at the May Executive next year.

The minutes of the meeting were ratified on a proposal by Mr Douglas (Newcastle-upon-Tyne) seconded by Mr Hutton (Delaware Valley).

FINANCE COMMITTEE
EC95/35

Minutes of Meeting of 18 February 1995
EC95/35/1

The minutes were ratified on a proposal by Miss Brown (Toronto), seconded by Mr Rae (Moffat).

Minutes of Meeting of 29 April
EC95/35/2

The minutes of the meeting were approved with the following amendment:
1994 AGM - the loss incurred, had been a loss on the AGM, and not on the whole weekend.

The Council discussed the matter of the increase in subscription levels, and Mr Turnbull reminded them that it had been 4 years since the previous increase, at which time an amount of £10 had been proposed. There was also some discussion regarding the length of long term membership, and the advantages gained ie the ability to pay in one block and as an insurance against any future subscription increases. The affiliated groups benefited from membership by receiving the subscription copy, bulletin and free advertising of their group therein, and discounted insurance through the RSCDS.

Council agreed to recommend to the AGM that:

- the annual subscription rate be raised to £10.
- the long term subscription rate be raised to £100, and remain at a period of 10 years duration
- the affiliated groups subscription rate be raised to £20

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE EC95/36

Minutes of Meeting of 14 January 1995
EC95/36/1

PR95/11 - It was noted that the selection of Certificate dances of 1949 had been donated by Mrs Gaul and not the Perthshire Branch

The minutes were ratified on a proposal by Mr Smart (Florida South), seconded by Mr Dewdney (Southport).

Minutes of Meeting of 25 February 1995
EC95/36/2

It was noted that the donor of the funds for the Compact Discs had specifically requested that her name appear on the front, in memory of her husband.

The minutes were ratified on a proposal by Mr Ross (South East Queensland), seconded by Mr Barnes (Somerset)

Minutes of Meeting of 22 April 1995
EC95/36/3

The minutes were approved, and subsequently signed by the Convener

It was confirmed that the source of the copyright should be identified by Dance Nova Scotia, in relation to their request for copyright for "Hopscotch".

The minutes were ratified on a proposal from Mr Dewdney (Southport) seconded by Mr Stacey (Doncaster & District)

EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of 7 January 1995
EC95/37

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and then signed by the Convener, who advised the Council that one of the Examiners for the North American Examination Tour had been recalled due to personal reasons, and therefore one of the newly qualified N American examiners, Mrs

Frances Gray, had been asked to accompany the remaining Examiner sent from the UK.

He also advised the Council of the sad loss of Doris Robertson, an examiner and long standing member of the Society, who would be greatly missed.

Regarding the proforma for Potential Examiners, he advised the Council that the forms would be sent to Potential Examiners when they had accepted the invitation to Summer School for assessment.

The minutes were ratified on a proposal from Mr Hutton (Delaware Valley), seconded by Miss Bennett (St Andrews)

SUMMER SCHOOL

Minutes of Meeting of 4 February 1995
EC95/38

The minutes were approved and subsequently signed by the Convener, and ratified on a proposal by Mr Rae (Moffat) and Mrs Gaul (Hamilton, Ontario)

AWARD OF SCROLL
EC95/39

The Council agreed that the following members be awarded the scroll of honour by the Society:

- Vera Constance Davidson (nee Seddon)
- Nancy Dickson
- Betty Speirs
- May Yarker

AFFILIATED GROUPS
EC95/40

The Council agreed that the following be accepted as Affiliated Groups of the Society:

- Luxemburg Scottish Country Dance Club
- EMO Dancers (Essen, Germany)
- The Bangkok St Andrews Society
- The Vernon Scottish Country Dance Group (Canada)

CONSTITUTIONS **EC95/41**

It was agreed that amendments to the branch constitutions outlined below be approved:

Bristol Branch
- To revise the year end in line with that of HQ
- To amend the date of the branch AGM to October

Kingston, Ontario
- To divide the postion and duties of the Secretary into two posts (Recording Secretary and Correspondence Secretary)

Melbourne and District
- The Management Committee to delegate those of it powers relating to teaching to a Teachers Panel

New Zealand
- That the organiser of the local Summer School and the Editor will become non-voting members of the Council

- The Conveners of the Committees (nominee of the committee elected by Council) shall be voting members of Council

ANY OTHER BUSINESS
EC95/42

1995 AGM
EC95/42/1

It was suggested by Mr Taylor (Wirral) that, as there appeared to be a great deal of business for discussion at the next AGM, the start time be brought forward. Mr Lawson reminded the Council that the booking forms had already been printed and that they had been distributed to several people. In addition, the venue could not be made available in time without cancelling the morning class and possibly the open forum.

It was agreed that the meeting would commence at the usual time of 1430 hrs.

PA System **EC95/42/2**

The Secretary agreed to investigate some quotations for a new PA system, given that the equipment currently used had been purchased with the intention of recording the meeting, and not for PA purposes specifically. Mr Hutton (Delaware Valley) offered to provide a quotation.

Sub-Committee's Responsibilities
EC95/42/3

Mr Smart (Florida South) had questioned the current practice whereby the Scrolls Sub-Committee had not advised the General Purposes Committee of the names being recommended for a scroll. The Secretary

agreed to ensure that the business of the sub-committees will in future be referred back to the relevant Committee for consideration.

Constitution Sub-Committee

EC95/42/4

In answer to a query from Miss Kennedy (Stirlingshire), the Chairman advised the Council that the members of the previous Charities Legislation sub-committee had been approached to stand on the new committee, although some had not wished to do so. Additional members of the sub-committee would be co-opted.

Past Chairman's Comments

EC95/42/5

Miss Miller advised the Council that this would be her last Council meeting following her term as Chairman and past Chairman. She thanked everyone who had assisted her throughout her term of office, and expressed the wish that they would continue to give the same support to George Lawson.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

EC95/43

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Executive Council will be held on Saturday 18 November at 1300 hrs, in Edinburgh - the venue to be advised nearer the time.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION FROM GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The current wording of the Executive Council Constitution V1(2) (f) states:

> "Minutes of all meetings of the Executive Council or of any Committee formed by it as hereafter mentioned shall be recorded by the Secretary. Minutes of meetings of the Executive Council shall be submitted for confirmation at the next ordinary meeting of the Council and on being confirmed shall be signed by the Chairman. Copies of the Minutes of Meetings of Committees shall be signed by the respective Conveners, and shall be submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Council. Each Minute shall be held as being a correct record of the proceedings of the Committee unless challenged by a member of the Committee who was present at the meeting to which such Minute refers. In such an eventuality the members of such Committee present at the meeting of the Executive Council shall determine the accuracy or otherwise of such Minute by a majority. Such Minute shall thereafter be adjusted if necessary, and again submitted to the Executive Council."

This involves the circulation of some nine sets of minutes to each Branch secretary and member of the Executive Council (approximately 300). The Council may wish to consider that the minutes of each sub committee need not be put before the Executive Council, but instead that they are replaced by a report to Council from each Convener. The report would be submitted in writing for distribution with the Agenda thus allowing due consideration by the representatives and the Branch that they represent prior to the Council Meetings. This would therefore allow the Council to continue to consider all recommendations from the Committees and have the details of their discussions, without the need to approve minutes of meetings, at which they were not present. This would benefit the RSCDS in many ways

- it would avoid Council members having to read large numbers of Minutes, which may include items not relevant to Council business.
- it would reduce stationery, photocopying and postage costs in circulating Executive Council papers
- it would allow the Secretariat staff to be free to carry out their other duties (by reducing time spent photocopying, collating, and stapling papers).

Should you agreed to amend this current practice, approval would be required from the AGM for the change to the constitution VI (2) (f) as follows:

> *"Copies of the Minutes of Meetings of Committees shall be signed by the respective Conveners. A report covering the main business of the Meetings of Committees and clearly stating their recommendations shall be prepared from the Committee minutes, signed by the Convener, and shall be submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Council. .... In such an eventuality the members of such a Committee present at the meeting shall determine the accuracy or otherwise of such Minute by a majority. Such Minute shall thereafter be adjusted if necessary and signed by the Chairman of that meeting."*

REPORT TO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
FROM GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The General Purposes Committee has agreed a wide range of issues including the decision to rejoin the Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR), who organised the recent Dance World '95 in London. (RSCDS London Branch arranged for our attendance throughout the event). It is hoped that CCPR could assist in investigating blanket insurance cover for our Affliated groups. Junior membership badges will be made available later in the year. The venue for the 1997 AGM was agreed and Aberdeen Branch have offered to host the event.

Although several applications were received for the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund, only one, from the London Branch, to assist in the costs for a Pianists Course, was finally approved by the Committee. It was noted that Dundee District Council would be arranging a display of Scottish music to correspond with the Society's visit to Dundee in 1996 for the AGM.

The following sub-committees were formed during the year.
AGM sub-committee: with remit to consider Agenda items for the 1995 AGM
Scroll sub-committee: to consider applications for scroll honour
Public Relations sub-committee: to investigate methods of promoting the society and to recommend activities/projects for the 75th anniversary celebrations.
Constitution sub-committee: to consider relevant changes to the consitution arising from new charities legislation and any other anomolies.

The Committee agreed to recommend to Executive Council that:

- the following affiliated groups be admitted
  Luxembourg Scottish Country Dance Group, EMO Dancers, Essen, Germany; The Bangkok St. Andrews Society, Thailand; and The Vernon Scottish Country Dance Group, Canada
- amendments to the following branch constitutions be approved
  Bristol; Kingston, Ontario; Melbourne & District, Australia; New Zealand
- the Society remain a charity
- the Branches of the society become autonomous by (*date to be confirmed by the Treasurer)*
- The Constitution sub-committee be granted authority to draft resolutions for the AGM in relation to relevant changes to the constitution
- The following be awarded the scroll of honour: Vera Davidson, Nancy Dickson, Betty Speirs, and Mary Yarker
- The Consitution of the Society (V1 (2) (f) be amended as follows

  "Copies of the Minutes of Meetings of Committees shall be signed by the respective Conveners. A report covering the main business of the Meetings of Committees and clearly stating their recommendations shall be prepared from the Committee minutes, signed by the Convener, and shall be submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Council. .... In such an eventuality the members of such a Committee present at the meeting shall determine the accuracy or otherwise of such Minute by a majority. Such Minute shall therafter be adjusted if necessary and signed by the Chairman of that meeting."

DRAFT REPORT TO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee considered the subject of repairs to the basement windows and the regulations regarding the door and staircase leading to the basement, and agreed to fund the necessary works, amounting to just over £4,000 + VAT.

The new Secretary had been appointed and was approved as a signatory for RSCDS cheques. Contracts of employment were being drafted and will be made available to all staff and the Secretary.

The Treasurer had investigated selling the Charibond stocks but was advised by the stockbroker to retain them. She had also obtained some documents relating to the Society and now had a list of what was available.

Funding from reserves of up to £10,000 was granted for the purchase of computers, and an update was approved for one machine. Training would be made available to the staff when appropriate. Recording of a video of the Manual was taking place and a sum equivalent to £10,000 from reserves was placed as a spending limit, on this project.

The Committee agreed to review the current contract with Hardie Press on the following basis : 1/3 of the retail price, 3 month settlement period, with non-exclusive rights. They also agreed to publicise, by means of advertising, a reduced selling price of 6 LPs in order to assist in reducing the stock levels. The agreement with Balmoral Knitwear is now also to be reviewed.

It was agreed that a sum equivalent to £110,000 would be required from subscriptions next year, in order to meet the expected expenses. This would result in a rise of annual subscriptions and they recommended the following rates apply. Annual subscriptions £10.00, Long Term Membership £100.00, affiliated subscription £20.00. The Committee had discussed the possibility of a two tier system allowing the branches to set and retain their own levels of subscription, but it was agreed not to pursue this further at the moment.

The Committee recommended to the Summer School and General Purposes Committees that they consider applying for additional sponsorship for Summer School through the Arts and Sports Councils. They also recommended that the Examinations Committee reconsider its current policy regarding overseas examinations.

Strathspey Sales, had not produced the income expected and the Committee agreed it would cease trading as at 30 June 1995 and be held as a dormant company for a limited period. The stock to be transferred to RSCDS.

The Committee considered a number of applications for funding. Funding was granted for a number of items including membership badges for Junior Members, a certificate class, refund of expenses for the postponed Special Executive Council Meeting.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
18 NOVEMBER 1995

LIST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESENT

Office Bearers (ex officio)
G Lawson (Chairman), W Clement (Vice-Chairman also Representing Northern Virginia Branch), Mrs M MacRae (Summer School Director), Mrs M A Jeffcoat (Treasurer), Miss G S Parker (Secretary).

Elected Members
Mr S Adam, Mr A Aitkenhead, Mrs N Dunn, Dr P Gormley, Miss D Hamilton, Mr J Healy.

Representatives (*in alphabetical order of their representative branches)*
Miss L Martin, Mr W Zobel, Miss J Walker Mr B Frazer,Mrs D Gray, Mr A Butchart, Mrs M Donaldson, Miss A Johnstone, Mr J S Carter, Mrs N McLaren, Mrs M Watson, Mr J Hill, Miss D Leurs, Mrs S Nedderman, Miss F Golding, Ms R Scott-Huxley, Dr F Reid, Mrs A McDougall, Mrs H Wemyss, Ms D Rooney, Mrs J MacLean, Mrs C Fleming, Miss E Price, Mr J Hutton, Mr A Boode, Mr K Stacey, Miss E Ferguson, Mrs A Traill, Mrs H Hall, Mrs J MacSporran, Mr J Dougal, Mrs D Hays, Mrs M Martin, Mr C Hunter, Mr D Watson, Mr A Smart, Mrs P May, Mrs D Scott, Mrs M Spurgen, Miss C Traynor, Mrs E Barr, Mrs L Gaul, Miss I Whyte, Mr J Mason, Mrs M Wildgoose, Mrs E Greig, Mrs M Jones, Mrs M Longair, Mrs B Burnell,Mrs M Oughton, Mrs J Baker, Mrs R Wilton, Mrs S Porter, Dr I Hall, Miss B Nairn, Mrs A Howes, Mr J Rae, Mrs P Houghton, Mr J Douglas, Mrs R Dickson, Mrs M Devlin, Mr A MacPherson, Miss J Watkinson, Mr J Drewry, Miss J Yeats, Ms A Robertson, Mrs R Brodie, Mrs C Munro, Ms L Carson, Mrs M Stacey, Mr K Morris, Mr R Turnbull, Mr D France, Mrs M Ballantyne, Mr G Davie, Mr P Knight, Mr R Mackay, Mrs F Turnbull, Mrs E Burling, Mr H Barnes, Mrs J Harper, Mr D Ross, Mr A Gray, Mr A Dewdney, Miss I Bennett, Mrs A Mackenzie, Mr D Willetts, Mrs E McCausland, Ms A Robertson, Mrs A Clement, Miss M Brown, Mrs M Shaw, Mr C McCausland, Mrs I Rae, Mrs A Murphy, Mrs M Corson, Mr R Taylor, Mrs M McCrudden.

APOLOGIES

Miss M Brander, Mrs E Kemp, Miss K McLauchlan, Mr D A McMillan, Mrs M Priestley, Mrs M Rintoul, Mrs A Sheach, Mr H van Zon.

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER 1995
IN THE LEARMONTH HOTEL, EDINBURGH AT 1300HRS

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS **EC95/1**

The Chairman welcomed all the representatives to the meeting and the new Director of the Summer School, Mrs M MacRae. He hoped that they found the meeting worthwhile and reminded them that they were the link with the members. Communication being one of the most important facets of their job as representatives, they should consider how they can contribute to the spread of information within the branches.

ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATIVES **EC95/2**

The Secretary advised the meeting that the following additional names should be added to the list of Executive Council Representatives.

Dr F Reid - Carlisle & Border Branch
Mrs B Burnell - Leeds Branch
Dr I Hall - Manchester Branch
Mr J Rae - Moffat Branch
Mr R Mackay - Representing San Francisco Branch
Mrs Kemp - Teeside Branch,
Mr B Harry - Representing Twin Cities Branch
Mr C McCausland - Representing Victoria BC Branch.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING **EC95/3**

The Minutes of the Meeting of Saturday 13 May 1996 were approved on a proposal by Mrs L Gaul (representing Hamilton, Ontario) and seconded by Miss B Nairn (representing Medicine Hat).

CHARITY STATUS **EC95/4**

The Chairman opened the discussion by advising the members present that the sub-committee had worked diligently in fulfilling its remit. This had been to present to the Council amendments to the Constitution which were deemed likely to comply with the Charitable Legislation. The progress of the sub-committee had been indicated in the report of the General Purposes Committee however since then the sub-committee had been presented by a report from Lord Mansfield's Solicitor on the Thursday prior to the meeting. The sub-committee had met and considered a draft Licence Agreement which had been tabled at the meeting and which should be presented to the Branches for consideration. Any suggested amendments to be forwarded to Headquarters before Friday 5 January 1996.

The Secretary went on to advise the Council that the sub-committee had hoped to forward drafts of the proposed Constitution to all Branches in January for consideration at a Special Executive Meeting. It was further hoped to submit the approved drafts to the Inland Revenue and Charity Commissioners in April and possibly to call an Extraordinary General Meeting in May. The timetable was provisional and could therefore not be formalised yet. However as much notice as possible would of course be given to all involved.

It was intended to assist one sample English Branch in their application through the Charity Commissioners and to build on the two Scottish Branches who had already successfully applied for Charitable Status. However Mrs Jeffcoat advised those present that the Branches should wait until the Constitutions were formally approved before submitting their own application, since the Charity Commissioners would wish to receive a draft Constitution at the time of any application. It was not anticipated there would be a great deal of difficulty with the Inland Revenue in Scotland, however the Charity Commissioners appear to have quite onerous requirements and therefore Headquarters would be in a better position to assist Branches once the sample application had been processed.

In response to a question from Mr Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch) the

Treasurer advised that where a Branch year end occurred prior to the Society year end the Branch would be required to hold an Extraordinary General Meeting in order to agree the amount of Branch subscription they were to add to the agreed Society subscription. She also reminded Branches that the proposed licence would be the only form of regulation between Branches and Headquarters and therefore would apply to all Branches. Mrs Jeffcoat also advised the members that there was no form of insurance which covered negligence of trustees. However Trustees of the Society would only be responsible for the Society and not for all the Branches. It may be possible in the future to reduce the total number of Trustees, however it was not felt appropriate to do so at this stage.

REPORTS TO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL EC95/5

General Purposes Committee EC95/5/1
The Report of the General Purposes Committee was ratified on a proposal by Mr A Butchart (Bedfordshire Branch) and seconded by Mr A Dewdney (Southport Branch).

Following a proposal by Mr Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch) the Secretary agreed to put before the next Committee Meeting the possibility of changing the format of the AGM so that the recipients of the Scroll could be presented with their Scroll earlier in the meeting. He also suggested that it should become standard policy to welcome the recipients and to give them advance notice of the availability of tickets for the social events. It was noted that they were automatically included in the invitations to the Executive Lunch held prior to the AGM.

In response to a query Mr Aitkenhead, Convener of the YSDA Sub-Committee advised the Council that the sub-committee intended to market the packs more strongly and that although the project had started in Scotland it was hoped to broaden its availability. It was agreed to further promote the Association in the Bulletin.

Examinations Committee EC95/5/2
The report of the Examinations Committee was ratified on a proposal by Mrs L Gaul (Representing Hamilton, Ontario Branch) seconded by Mr S Adam (Elected Member). After some discussion the recommendation by the Committee that there may be only one Non Examiner appointed to the Committee was overwhelmingly rejected.

It was agreed that the Committee should consider preparing some form of guidelines to Examiners to ensure equality.

Finance Committee EC95/5/3
The report of the Finance Committee was ratified on a proposal by Mr J Douglas (Newcastle upon Tyne & District Branch) and seconded by Mr A Gray (South Wales Branch).

Publications & Research Committee EC95/5/4
The Report of the Publications & Research Committee was ratified on a proposal by Ms R Scott-Huxley (Representing Cape Town Branch) and seconded by Miss I Bennett (St Andrews Branch).

Mr Mackay advised the Council that although the report had indicated he had agreed to do the voice over for the video of the Manual, he had not in fact agreed to do so. The Committee would look into this at their next meeting and advise Mr Mackay of a suitable person to do the voice over. The Chairman wished to thank Mr Mackay and all his committee for all the time and effort that they had put into the project.

Mr Zobel (Representing Atlanta Branch) wished to congratulate all concerned on the recording of Book 18 and to compliment the studio on the recording which was verging on "superb".

Summer School Committee EC95/5/5
The report of the Summer School Committee was ratified on a proposal by Mr J Rae (Moffat Branch) seconded by Miss F Golding (Representing Canberra & District Branch)

It was agreed that the Committee should consider alternative forms of accompaniment at Summer School other than the piano eg fiddle or accordion. When considering either

purchase or rental of a piano they should also consider the possibility of an electric piano.

It was noted that reference to the Olympians in the report was incorrect; the band in question was The Ron Kerr Quartet.

STANDING COMMITTEES **EC95/6**

The Committee Conveners were elected at committee meetings following the Council Meeting.

General Purposes Committee The following were elected to this Committee.

Mr G Lawson (Chairman), Mr Bill Clement (Vice-Chairman), Dr Pat Gormley, Mrs Jessie Harper, Mr Jim Healy, Mrs Christine Munro, Mrs Isobel Rae, Dr Jerry Reinstein, Mr Alasdair Smart, Mrs Alma Traill, Mrs Rachel Wilton.

Mr George Lawson (Convener).

Finance Committee. The following were elected to this Committee.

Mr George Lawson (Chairman), Mr Bill Clement (Vice-Chairman), Mr Stewart Adam, Mr John Douglas, Mr Alex Gray, Miss Dorothy Hamilton, Mr David Ross, Mr Richard Turnbull, Mr David Watson.

Mr Richard Turnbull (Convener).

Publications & Research Committee. The following were elected to this Committee.

Mr George Lawson, (Chairman), Mr Bill Clement (Vice-Chairman), Mr Alan MacPherson (Archivist) Miss Irene Bennett, Mr John Drewry, Mr Peter Knight, Miss Dorothy Leurs, Ms Roz Scott-Huxley.

Mr John Drewry (Convener).

Summer School Committee The following were elected to this Committee.

Mr George Lawson (Chairman), Mr Bill Clement (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Marjorie MacRae (Director of Summer School), Miss Fay Golding, Miss E Ferguson, Miss Beatrice Nairn, Mrs Dorothy Scott.

Mrs Marjorie MacRae (Director of Summer School) will be Convener of the Summer School Committee.

Examinations Committee The following were elected to this Committee.

Mr George Lawson (Chairman), Mr W Clement (Vice-Chairman), Mr Alastair Aitkenhead, Mr Bruce Frazer, Mrs Linda Gaul, Mrs Elma McCausland, Miss Lesley Martin.

Mr Alastair Aitkenhead (Convener).

ANY OTHER BUSINESS **EC95/7**

Northern Ireland Co-ordinating Committee
The following were approved as Representatives on the Co-ordinating Committee for Northern Ireland for the period 1995 - 1996.
Belfast - Mrs Elma McCausland and Mr Tom Baillie.
Portrush - Miss May Rooney and Miss Pat Lowther.
Whitehouse - Mr John Thomson and Miss Eileen Coburn.

SUBSCRIPTION BENEFITS **EC95/8**

Miss Brown (Representing Toronto Branch) indicated that many of the Canadian Branches, Toronto in particular, felt unhappy at the amount of subscriptions being forwarded to Headquarters. They felt they did not receive many benefits for the amount of money forwarded. The Council noted the comments and agreed that it was important that the Society remain a strong and dynamic organisation. The Public Relations sub-committee were looking into the matter of communications and were already investigating the possibility of changes to the Bulletin in order to allow the membership a greater insight into the work of the Committees.

The representatives were also reminded to think of the opportunities that the Society afforded Branches, the provision of fully qualified

teachers and musicians and the social contact which the Society provided to the membership as a whole. No quantification of this into monetary terms could be made. It was important that the Branches considered the whole body and not merely the benefit their one Branch received.

Many of the benefits received from the Society were only achieved due to the discounts received because of the bulk orders, this related in particular in production of the books with music and the Pocket Editions.

BULLETIN **EC95/9**

The Secretary agreed to investigate the possibility of reintroducing Branch reports into the Bulletin. It was noted that the Public Relations sub-committee were investigating a new style of Bulletin and further details would be made available as soon as possible.

AGM TIMETABLE **EC95/10**

It was agreed that the General Purposes Committee would investigate the possibility of amending the current timetable for the AGM. It was suggested that the AGM might be held in the morning with the Open Forum being held in the afternoon allowing Delegates the opportunity to be better prepared for the evening entertainment.

CCPR **EC95/11**

The Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR) had held an event in the Royal Albert Hall in London to celebrate their diamond jubilee. The Society's contribution had been organised by the London Branch and the Chairman had attended along with the Convener of the Examinations Committee. It was agreed that the occasion had been particularly successful and that the Secretary would formally thank the London Branch for organising the Society's input.

COMMUNITY DANCE SCOTLAND **EC95/12**

The Council were advised that the project Community Dance Scotland had been set up in 1994, and received sponsorship from both the Scottish Education Department and the Scottish Arts Council. The project had been developed in order to promote dance in Scotland both of traditional ceilidh and step. Many regions had appointed Dance Directors in Residence. The aim of the project was to build a communication network with all forms of dance and to involve Days of Dance. Mr Clement advised the Council that the Society currently only had one entry in the Dance Directory and encouraged those present to ensure that the Society was adequately represented on this project.

It was noted that Mrs Johan MacLean had chaired the original meeting forming the body and further enquiries could be directed to her.

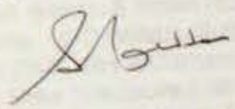
MRS EUGINIA CALLANDER SHARP **EC95/13**

Mr Clement advised the Council that Mrs Euginia Sharp, better known as Genie Sharp had passed away. Mrs Sharp along with her husband was a founder member of Northern Virginia Branch in 1975. She had been a regular attender at Summer School, was a writer on Scottish Culture and History, but her service to the Society would be best remembered with regard to the Formation Index. At Mr Sharp's request, Mr Clement handed over to the Society Volume IV and Volume VI of the complete repository by Niel Gow & Sons. In addition a bound copy of music by Joseph Lowe was gifted to the Society.

Mrs Sharp's love of Scottish Country Dance was very great as was her love of the Society and she will be greatly missed.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING **EC95/14**

It was agreed that the date of the next regular meeting of the Council would be on Saturday 11 May 1996.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
SPECIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
held on 23 March 1996

Ex Officio: Mr G Lawson (Chairman), Mr W Clement (Vice Chairman), Mr A MacPherson (Archivist), Mrs M MacRae (Summer School Director).

In Attendance: Mr Graham Bell QC, Miss Gill Parker (Secretary) and Mrs Marilyn Jeffcoat (Treasurer)

Representatives Present:
Miss L Martin (Aberdeen), Mr I McDiarmid (Annan), Mr W Zobel (Atlanta), Miss J F Walker (Ayr), Mrs R Dickson (Ayrshire N W), Mr B Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border), Miss A Johnstone (Berwick-upon-Tweed), Mr J S Carter (Birmingham), Mrs N McLaren (Boston), Mrs M Watson (Bournemouth), Mr J Hill (Brighton), Mrs S Nedderman (Cambridge & District), Ms R Scott-Huxley (Cape Town), Dr F Reid (Carlisle & Border), Mrs A McDougall (Carnoustie), Mrs H Wemyss (Castle Douglas), Ms D Rooney (Cheshire), Mrs C Fleming (Clackmannanshire), Miss E Price (Croydon & District), Mr J Hutton (Delaware Valley), Mr A L Boode (Delft), Mr K Stacey (Doncaster & District) Mr H Hall (Dundee), Mr J Dougal (Duns & District), Mrs D Hays (East Angus), Mrs M Martin (East Lothian), Mr D Watson (Edinburgh), Mr H Bell (Falkirk), Mr A Smart (Florida South), Mrs P May (Forfar), Mrs D Scott (Forres), Mrs M Spurgen (Gatehouse of Fleet), Dr M Walshaw (Glasgow), Mrs E Barr (Hamilton & Clydesdale), Mrs L Gaul (Hamilton (Ontario)), Mrs A Traill (Helensburgh & District), Mrs M Rintoul (Herefordshire), Miss I Whyte (Inverness & District), Mrs A Sheach (Isle of Skye), Mr J Mason (Kilmarnock & District), Mrs E Greig (Kirkcaldy), Mrs M Longair (Lanark), Mrs B Burnell (Leeds), Mrs M Oughton (Leicester), Mr E Andanar (Liverpool), Mrs R Wilton (London), Mrs S Porter (Lorn (Argyll)), Ms A Hodgson (Manchester), Miss B Nairn (Medicine Hat), Mrs M Killeen (Mid-Argyll), Mrs A Howes (Milton Keynes), M J Rae (Moffat), M Hamilton (Monklands) Mrs M Devlin (N W Craven), F Boag (New York), Mr J Douglas (Newcastle-upon-Tyne & District), Mr A MacPherson (Northern Territory), Mr W Clement (Northern Virginia), Miss J Watkinson (Nottingham), Mr J Drewry (Nova Scotia), Miss J Yeats (Ottawa), D Tucker (Oxfordshire), Dr J A Reinstein (Paris), Mrs C Munro (Perth & Perthshire), Ms L Carson (Portrush), Mr D A McMillan (Renfreshire West), Mr K Morris (Ribble Valley), Mr R Turnbull (Richmond), Mr D France (Rochdale), Mrs M Ballantyne (Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles), Mr G Davie (Royal Leamington Spa), Mr P Knight (Royal Tunbridge Wells), Mr D Ross (S E Queensland), Ms M Johnstone (San Diego), Mr J Fyfe (San Francisco), Mrs F Turnbull (Seattle), Mrs E Burling (Sheffield), Mr H Barnes (Somerset), Mrs J Harper (South Argyll), Mr A Gray (South Wales), S Brown (Southport), Miss I Bennett (St Andrews), Mrs A Mackenzie (Stirlingshire), Mr D Willetts (Sutton Coldfield), Mrs E McCausland (Sydney), Ms A Robertson (TAC), Mrs A Clement (Tokyo), Miss M Brown (Toronto), Mr B Harry (Twin Cities), Mrs M Shaw (Vancouver), Mr C McCausland (Victoria), Mr S Barbour (Washington), Mrs I Rae (West Lothian), Mrs A Murphy (Western Australia), Mrs M Corson (Winnipeg), Mr R Taylor (Wirral), Mr M Brown (York & North Humberside).

Elected Members:
Mr S Adam Mr A Aitkenhead, Miss N Dunn, Dr P Gormley, Ms D Hamilton, Mr J Healy,

Apologies:
Apologies had been received from representatives of the following Local Associations Banffshire, Bedfordshire & District, Belfast, Calgary, Canberra & District, Dunfermline, Dumfries, New Zealand, and Phoenix.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
held on 23 March 1996, at 1300 hrs
in St George's West Church, Shandwick Place, Edinburgh

Chairman's Address

I would like to begin by thanking all the representatives and elected members for attending this special meeting of the Executive Council, and especially those of you who are attending in place of the usual representatives who were unable to attend.

Before we commence with the business in hand, I am sure that you would like to join me in thanking the sub committee who prepared the drafts before us today. They were given an enormous task by the Executive Council and I know they met many times to consider the changes. They have taken a great deal of effort to ensure that only the minimum changes were made that they felt would be considered acceptable by the authorities, in order to qualify for charity status.

In addition, the assistance in the form of legal advice, both from Lord Mansfield's solicitors, Murray Beith and Murray (Janet Ross) and also from Graham Bell QC was very much appreciated. Mr Bell has kindly agreed to join us today, to assist with the discussions.

I would also like to thank the Secretary and her staff, who have made sure that the papers were distributed throughout without delay. The time scale has, of necessity, been extremely short, and a considerable amount of pressure, under difficult circumstances, has been put on them. I know for example that the final clause on the licence agreement was only made available at very short notice and was distributed within a day of final confirmation. We were all very aware of the necessity to ensure that all Local Associations were allowed the maximum time to consider the details prior to this meeting.

The Sub-Committee fully recognises that many of the overseas Local Associations will be deemed autonomous within their own country's laws. It is therefore likely that it will be the UK Local Associations which are affected most from the revised draft constitutions.

Today however, we should focus discussion on the recommendations to be put before the EGM.

Licence Agreement between Society and Local Associations

Mr Bell explained that the model licence agreement was the only link between the Local Associations and the Society, it was also accepted that some Local Associations may wish to alter the wording on some clauses in order to comply with their own terminology (ie Charter document rather than Constitution). All Local Associations would be required to sign a Licence Agreement with the Society.

It was hoped however, that UK Local Associations wishing to apply for charitable status, would retain the clauses contained in the licence agreement, which had been drafted with legal advice.

There was some discussion regarding the use of the words Royal Scottish Country Dance Society or the abbreviated version RSCDS in the full name of the Local Association and it was agreed that both forms were acceptable.

The obligation of the Local Association to notify the Society in writing of proposed changes to the Constitution was discussed. Mr Bell explained that this was included in order that Local Associations might be advised if the Society considered the proposed changes unacceptable. This would give

advance warning that if they went ahead with the changes that the Society may have to terminate the licence agreement with the Local Association.

Clause 9 which stipulated that the agreement will be governed by the law of Scotland was a standard clause which was in force for many overseas organisations. This clause applied only to the Licence Agreement.

It was stated that no Local Association will act as an agent, since, by so doing, the agent would make the Society responsible for their actions. The Society cannot be responsible for an autonomous Local Association under the legislation. (The Local Associations must confirm that their members have paid their Society subscription (£6) if by so doing they collect the relevant subscriptions this is a one off contract and will not make the Local Associations agents.)

The Treasurer agreed to investigate further the matter of insurance cover for Local Associations holding Society funds.

It was agreed that a member could only be a Society member through one Local Association, while they could pay more than one Local Association subscription and thus be a member of more than one Local Association. This would give them voting rights wherever they paid their subscriptions, be it Local Association or Society subscriptions.

It was agreed to recommend the following motion to the EGM.

- Adoption of Licence Agreement between Society and Local Associations

as agreed at the meeting.

Society Constitution

It was noted that although there was no statement specifying that the members of the Executive Council were Trustees, the facts dictated that they were such. Each representative currently signed a form indicating that they accepted this.

After some discussion it was agreed that clause VI (1)c required amendment in that each Local Association appointed their representative according to the terms of their own constitution. Therefore there was no need to stipulate that the representative may be a resident in the UK. (It was however noted that expenses were only paid from point of entry into the UK).

It was agreed that the sub-committee would redraft clause VI 4 in order to reflect that HQ members would only be able to appoint a maximum of 5 delegates, in line with Local Associations.

During discussions some items were raised, which it was felt required greater consideration by the committee and the Executive Council. It was therefore agreed that while they could not be included in the constitution currently under consideration, that they would be raised within the General Purposes committee. If approved, they would be brought forward as amendments to the constitution at a later date. The items were:

- Proxy voting system
- Additional grouping of delegates (<100 members - 1 delegate)
- Immediate Past Chairman *exofficio* on Committees for 1 year
- A required minimum of two teachers per Local Association

It was agreed to recommend the following motion to the EGM.

- Adoption of Amended Society Constitution

as agreed at the meeting.

Local Association Constitution

Subject to minor amendments approved by the meeting, it was agreed to recommend the following motion to the EGM.

- Adoption of Recommended Local Association Constitutions

Applications for charitable status
Mrs Jeffcoat outlined the stages which had been achieved to date.

Scottish Local Associations
Several successful applications for charitable status had now been achieved. A draft application letter would be sent to all Scottish Local Associations, together with an outline of the advantages and disadvantages of applying for charitable status.

English/Welsh Local Associations - wishing charitable status
The first application had been placed with the Charity Commissioners early in the new year. It now appeared that it was likely to be approximately 3 years before the final outcome would be known. It was therefore now necessary for Local Associations to submit their own applications.

It was agreed that a copy of the initial questionnaire from the Charity Commissioners would be forwarded to each of the Local Associations in order that they could complete the form and the Treasurer might be able to assess the answers prior to submission before the Charity Commissioners.

No application forms were yet available, and it was stressed that the questionnaire was only an initial stage in the process of applying for charitable status with the Commissioners.

English/Welsh Local Associations - not wishing to become charitable bodies

Within the terms of the charity legislation these were referred to as Members Association, however this did not affect their status within the Society.

All assets gathered under the umbrella of charitable status with the Society would now be required to be passed to the Society. These funds would be ear-marked for use in the work of the RSCDS in the area.

It was hoped that when the funds were transferred to the Society that a grant request would be made "to ensure that the work of the RSCDS can be continued in the area". In many instances this would be the same as the amount of funds.

Northern Ireland Local Associations
The Treasurer agreed to investigate further the situation in Northern Ireland, although it was thought the same process as the Scottish Local Associations would apply.

HQ Administration Fee
Annual Members
Mr Turnbull advised the members that previously the subscription of £7 had been split 60% to HQ and 40% to Local Associations. In the case of HQ members the full £7 was retained by HQ.

It had originally been proposed that the subscription be £10, however it was now agreed that the HQ Administration Fee had to satisfy:

1. Cover of cost of administering HQ members
2. Encourage membership through Local Associations

It was therefore agreed to recommend to the EGM that

- Administration Fee for HQ Annual Members be £5

Long Term Members
It was recommended that the current system of fees - tenfold that of Annual members - be retained, thus:

It was recommended to the EGM that

- Administration Fee for HQ Long Term Members be £50

The meeting thanked the sub committee for all its work in these matters and closed at 1630hrs.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 11 MAY 1996 AT 1.30PM IN THE MUSIC HALL, ASSEMBLY ROOMS, GEORGE STREET, EDINBURGH.

PRESENT

Office Bearers (*Ex Officio*)
Mr G Lawson (Chairman), Mr W Clement (Vice-Chairman), Mrs M MacRae (Summer School Director), Mr A MacPherson (Archivist)

In attendance
Mrs M A Jeffcoat (Treasurer), Miss G S Parker (Secretary).

Branches Represented
Aberdeen, Annan, Atlanta, Ayr, Banffshire, Belfast, Berks/Hants/Surrey Border, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Birmingham, Boston, Bournemouth, Brighton, Calgary, Cambridge, Camberra & District, Cape Town, Carlisle & Border, Chicago, Clackmannanshire, Delaware Valley, Delft, Doncaster & District, Dumfries, Dundee, East Angus, East Lothian, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Florida South, Forfar, Forres, Gatehouse of Fleet, Glasgow, Hamilton (Ontario), Helensburgh & District, Herefordshire, Inverness & District, Isle of Islay, Isle of Skye, Kilmarnock & District, Kingston (Ontario), Kirkcaldy, Kirkcudbright, Lanark, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, London, Lorn, Medicine Hat, Mid-Argyll, Milton Keynes, Moffat, Monklands, North West Craven, New York, New Zealand, Newcastle upon Tyne, Nottingham, Ottawa, Oxfordshire, Paris, Perth & Perthshire, Pheonix, Portrush, Renfrewshire West, Retford & District, Rochdale, Roxburgh, Selkirk & Peebles, Royal Tunbridge Wells, South East Queensland, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Sheffield, Somerset, South Argyll, South Wales, St Andrews, Stirlingshire, Sutton Coldfield, Sydney, Tokyo, Toronto, Twin Cities, Vancouver, Victoria, West Lothian, Western Australia, Winnipeg, Wirral, York & North Humberside.

Elected Members
Mr S Adams, Mr A Aitkenhead, Miss D Hamilton, Mr J Healy.

APOLOGIES
Representatives from the following Branches had tendered their apologies: North West Ayrshire, Bedfordshire, Ribble Valley, Royal Leamington Spa, Southport, The Hague & District. The following Elected Members had also tendered their apologies: Mrs N Dunn, Dr P Gormley.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

I am delighted to welcome you back to the meeting of the Executive Council, as always we have a great deal to discuss and I am most grateful to you for attending this meeting.

I am particularly sad to advise you that one of our Honorary Vice Presidents, The Duke of Atholl, passed away on 27 February 1996. His Grace had requested a private funeral and therefore the Society sent a wreath and condolences to his sister. On behalf of the Society, the Vice Chairman and I attended a memorial service held in Dunkeld Cathedral.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING EX96/1
The Minutes of the Meeting of 18 November 1995, and the Minutes of the Special Executive Council Meeting on 23 March were approved, with the addition of Mrs Stacey to the list of apologies given for the meeting of 18 November 1995.

MATTERS ARISING EX96/2
A question was raised, as to which Executive Council Meeting had approved the statement "only such expenses as were incurred from the point of entry to the UK would be paid by the Society". Mr Turnbull agreed to investigate the matter further.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES EX96/3
General Purposes Committee EX96/3/1
It was noted that the General Purposes Committee had wished to seek approval of the Executive Council Meeting before developing further any plans for the 75th anniversary rallies. Now that approval had been granted, the Branches in the regions would be contacted to request whether they would be prepared to co-ordinate such events.

It was noted that some members wished the Branch Reports to be reinstated into the Bulletin, however it was also recognised that the inclusion of lengthy reports by the Branches would incur additional costs and the budget had been restricted. It was also suggested that the list of Branch Secretaries and Affiliated Group Secretaries may not be required to be submitted to all members and could perhaps be submitted to Branch Secretaries, only. It was agreed the matter would be reconsidered.

It was further agreed that the current trial basis of the Executive Council receiving a report of the business of the Committees, would now be made permanent. A resolution would be put before the

Annual General Meeting to amend the Constitution accordingly.

The two reports relating to the meetings of the General Purposes Committee were ratified.

Examinations Committee **EX96/3/2**
It was agreed that the Committee would investigate further the age structure of the Examiners and whether an Examiners Workshop might be made available to those examiners currently on the list.

The report of the Examinations committee was ratified by the Council Members.

Finance Committee **EX96/3/3**
It was noted, that the proposal to increase the Teacher's Association Fees (F96/11/1) was to be considered again at the next meeting of the Committee. One of the Teacher's Association had indicated their objection to this proposed increase. It was noted however that the Teacher's Association subscription had not been increased since 1980, and the proposed fee of £100 was the same relationship to the annual subscription as it had been when the fee was first set.

It was further confirmed that the arrangements currently made by the Society in respect of insurance cover would not change. The current policy covered all functions and included third party insurance. Notification of this would be sent to all UK Branches as soon as possible. There would also be no change to the current arrangements with PPL (Phonographic Protection Limited).

It was suggested that the Conveners of all the Committees might set up a meeting in order to co-ordinate and to be more aware of the work of all of the Committees. It was noted however that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were ex-officio on all of the Committees and the Secretary attended all of the Committees, in order to ensure that the information was passed between Committees.

The two reports of the Finance Committee were both ratified by the Council.

Publications Committee **EX96/3/4**
It was noted, that the Committee were proposing to issue a leaflet as the 1997 subscription copy, instead of the programmed "fallow year". Mr MacKay (San Francisco) suggested that it would be important to include printed music with the leaflet.

The Committee also agreed to discuss the possibility of publishing a list of the latest revisions to publications, indicating the year of the latest revision.

The two reports of the Publications & Research Committee were ratified by the Council.

Summer School Committee **EX96/3/5**
The report of the Summer School Committee was ratified.

AWARD OF SCROLL **EX96/4**
The Executive Council agreed that the following members would be awarded the Scroll of Honour by the Society, David Brandon, Harold & Sheila Barnes, Dr Alastair MacFadyen, Mr Leslie Cummings, Mr Keith Connolly

APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS **EX96/5**
The Council agreed that the following be accepted as Affiliated Groups of the Society: Budapest Scottish Country Dance Club, Dorset Caledonian Society, St Andrew Society of Russia, Worcester Caledonian Dancers.

STANDING COMMITTEE TIMETABLE **EX96/6**
It was agreed that the timetable of the Standing Committees would be revised in line with the suggestions proposed by the General Purposes Committee. It was accepted that this would allow more time to prepare and collate the necessary Committee Reports for circulation to Executive Council Members prior to the meetings.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS **EX96/7**
Constitution Sub Committee **EX96/7/1**
It was noted that the Constitution Sub Committee would continue to look at further amendments to the Constitution in line with suggestions raised at the Special Executive Council Meeting, and any other amendments they deemed necessary.

Collins Pocket Reference to Scottish Country Dancing **EX96/7/2**
It was noted that the above publication which had been compiled in association with the Society and included other dance forms, was now available. The Earl of Mansfield had provided the foreword and the publication would be available through bookshops and through the Society. Society members would be offered a discounted price.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING **EX96/8**
It was agreed that the next Executive Council Meeting would be held on Saturday 16 November 1996 at 1300hrs at the Learmonth Hotel, Edinburgh.

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT LEARMONTH HOTEL, LEARMONTH TERRACE, EDINBURGH
ON 16 NOVEMBER 1996 AT 1300 HRS

Present:
Mr W Clement, (Chairman), Mr G Lawson, (Immediate Past Chairman), Mrs L Gaul, (Vice-Chairman), Mrs M MacRae, (Director-Summer School), Mr A Aitkenhead (Convener-Examinations)

Elected Members:
Miss I Bennett, Mrs N Dunn, Mr J T Healy, Dr A MacFadyen, Miss M Ross

List of Representatives: *in alphabetical order of the Local Association Represented*

Miss L Martin, (Aberdeen), Mr I McDiarmid, (Annan), Mr W Zobel, (Atlanta), Miss J F Walker, (Ayr), Mrs D Gray, (Banffshire),Dr A Paterson, (Bath), Mr A Butchart, (Bedfordshire), Mrs M Donaldson, (Belfast), Mr B Frazer, (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border), Miss A E Johnston, (Berwick-Upon-Tweed), Mr J Rae, (Boston), Mrs M Watson, (Bournemouth), Mr J Hill, (Brighton), Mrs S Nedderman, (Cambridge & District), Miss F Golding, (Canberra & District), Ms R Scott-Huxley, (Cape Town), Dr F Reid, (Carlisle & Border), Mrs A McDougall, (Carnoustie), Mrs H Wemyss, (Castle Douglas), Ms D Rooney, (Cheshire), Mrs J MacLean, (Chicago), Mrs C Fleming, (Clackmannanshire), Miss E Price, (Croydon & District), Mr J Hutton, (Delaware Valley), Mr ALM Boode, (Delft), Ms C Catto, (Detroit), Mr K Stacey, (Doncaster & District), Miss E Ferguson, (Dumfries), Mrs H Hall, (Dundee), Mrs J MacSporran, (Dunfermline), Mrs C E Smith, (Duns & District), Mrs M Martin, (East Lothian), Mr B Harry, (Edinburgh), Mr H Bell, (Falkirk), Mr A Smart, (Florida South), Mr W A Wildgoose, (Forfar), Mrs D Scott, (Forres), Mrs M Spurgen, (Gatehouse of Fleet), Miss C Traynor, (Glasgow), Mr I Crawford, (Hamilton & Clydesdale), Mrs A Traill, (Helensburgh & District), Mrs M Rintoul, (Herefordshire), Miss I Whyte, (Inverness & District), Mr J Mason, (Kilmarnock & District), Mrs M J Wildgoose, (Kingston (Ontario)), Mrs E Greig, (Kirkcaldy), Mrs M Jones, (Kirkcudbright), Mrs M Longair, (Lanark), Mrs B Burnell, (Leeds), Mrs M Oughton, (Leicester), Mrs J Baker, (Liverpool), Mr W J Gibbons, (Lochaber), Mrs R Wilton, (London), Mrs S C Porter, (Lorn (Argyll)), Mr J B Priestley, (Manchester), Miss B Nairn, (Medicine Hat), Mr M Murray, (Mid-Argyll), Mrs A Howes, (Milton Keynes), Ms C Coe, (Moffat), Miss M Hamilton, (Monklands), Mrs M Devlin, (N W Craven), Mrs P Houghton, (New York), Mr J Douglas, (Newcastle-upon-Tyne & District), Mrs R Dickson, (North Ayrshire), Mr A MacPherson, (Northern Territory), Mrs S McCraw, (Northern Virginia), Mr J Drewry, (Nova Scotia), Mr J Armstrong, (Oxfordshire),Dr J A Reinstein, (Paris), Mrs C Munro, (Perth & Perthshire), Mr M Pagella, (Peterborough & District), Miss M Brander, (Phoenix), Mr S Wilkie, (Pietermaritzburg), Mr B Campbell, (Portrush), Miss B Wood, (Pretoria), Mr D A McMillan, (Renfrewshire West), Mrs M P Stacey, (Retford & District), Mr S Gibson, (Ribble Valley), Mr R Turnbull, (Richmond), Mr D France, (Rochdale), Mrs M Ballantyne, (Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles), Mr G Davic, (Royal Leamington Spa), Mr T M Kerr, (Royal Tunbridge Wells), Mr D Ross, (S E Queensland), Mr D Watson, (San Diego), Mrs F Turnbull, (Seattle), Mrs E Burling, (Sheffield), Mrs J Harper, (South Argyll), Mr S Brown, (Southport), Mr A Mair, (St. Andrews), Mrs A Mackenzie, (Stirlingshire), Mr D Willetts, (Sutton Coldfield), Mrs E McCausland, (Sydney), Mr J Wilkinson, (TAC), Mrs H Morrison, (Teeside), Mrs A Clement, (Tokyo), Miss M Brown, (Toronto), Mrs M Jeffcoat, (Treasurer), Mrs E A Harry, (Twin Cities), Mr P Knight, (Vancouver), Mr C McCausland, (Victoria), Mrs I Rae, (West Lothian), Mrs A Murphy, (Western Australia), Mr R J Taylor, (Wirral), Mr M L Brown, (York & North Humberside).

In Attendance: Miss G S Parker (Secretary), and Mrs M Jeffcoat (Treasurer)

APOLOGIES
Apologies had been received from Mr H Van Zon (The Hague), Mr J Watkinson (Nottingham), Mr H Barnes (Somerset), Miss S McEwan (Isle of Islay), Mr A Gray (South Wales), Mrs D Hays (East Angus), Miss Mitchell (Birmingham), Mrs A Sheach (Isle of Skye) and Miss A Young (Hamilton (Ontario)).

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr Clement opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the first Executive Council Meeting of the year. In particular "to welcome my new Vice Chairman, Linda Gaul; George Lawson in his new role as Immediate Past Chairman; and the new Representatives who are joining the Council for the first time".

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING EX96/9

The minutes of the meeting of 11 May were approved.

MATTERS ARISING NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE

EX96/3/4

It was noted that the Publications Committee had not yet discussed the possibility of publishing a list of the latest revisions to publications, indicating the year of the latest revision.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

General Purposes Committee **EX96/10/1**

The report having been circulated with the papers was ratified although the following decisions were made:

Investment Policy **EX96/10/1 (a)**

Mr Kerr (Tonbridge Wells) recommended that the Committee be instructed to revise their decision regarding continuing the High Income Policy for all investments under the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund. This was defeated with 22 for the motion, 32 against and 38 abstentions.

Ratification of Reports **EX96/10/1 (b)**

Mr Fraser (Berks/Hants/Surrey) suggested that the Council should not be asked to ratify decisions of a committee where the members of that committee had not approved the minutes. It was however agreed that the Convener of that Committee had approved the report on behalf of the Committee and the members of the Committees had been given ample opportunity to advise the Secretary of any objections that they may have to the minutes.

Reduced Number of Trustees **EX96/10/1 (c)**

It was noted that the Committee had recommended that the number of Trustees be reduced in order to allow for the accounts to be properly approved before the AGM. The Trustees (currently the full Executive Council) were responsible for monitoring the finances of the Society. It was agreed that the Committee would be asked to prepare a full discussion paper for consideration by the next meeting of the Council.

Change of Title "Secretary" **EX96/10/1 (d)**

It had been proposed that the title Secretary was not correctly recognised by outside bodies, and therefore the title "Secretary" should be maintained for internal use and the term "Executive Director" should be used when corresponding with outside bodies. Other titles were discussed, although it was noted that the Committee had considered a variety of titles in their own discussions. The recommendation was overturned and the status quo would remain.

Branch AGM Motions **EX96/10/1 (e)**

It had been proposed that *all* motions being considered at the AGM be submitted through the Executive Council, in order that full discussion could take place on every motion rather than allowing ill defined motions to be brought forward. This was overturned by the meeting.

Examinations Committee **EX96/10/2**

The report covering the three meetings was ratified after the following discussion.

Use of Heeled Shoes **EX96/10/2 (a)**

It was noted that the Committee had suggested that "the Society should teach how to dance in a heeled shoe" and that "The Director of Summer School be asked to allow people to dance in heeled shoes at some classes". It was agreed that this should be clarified to ensure that only "footwear appropriate for dancing in tradition of ballroom dancing" should be encouraged.

Teaching Tours **EX96/10/2 (b)**

It was agreed that many of the overseas branches which were situated far from Head Office found it difficult to have a corporate identity and they found a teaching tour to be extremely effective. It was therefore agreed that in future examination tours should not take total priority over teaching tours.

Finance Committee **EX96/10/3**

The report covering the meeting of 17 August was ratified as was the report of the meeting of 19 October, after the following discussion

Format of Accounts **EX96/10/3 (a)**

Mr Kerr raised several problems with the accounts indicating that there was not always consistency in how the funds were identified

and shown. Mrs Jeffcoat accepted that they could be improved, and indicated that with the new requirements the accounts had been hurried in order to ensure that they were circulated with the Bulletin.

Publications Committee **EX96/10/4**
The report covering the meetings of 20 April and 8 June was ratified along with the report of the meeting of 12 October were both ratified.

Promotional Video **EX96/10/4 (a)**
It was noted that Mrs McKenzie had allowed the use of her videos in the production of a promotional video used during Scottish Book Week for the Collins Pocket Reference to Scottish Country Dancing.

Music Director **EX96/10/4 (b)**
It was noted with sincere regret that Ms Muriel Johnstone had tendered her resignation as Music Director due to her wish to spend more time with her family. It was agreed that a letter would be sent on behalf of the Executive thanking her for all the excellent work that she had put in.

Leaflet 32 **EX96/10/4 (c)**
It was noted that there was to be a subscription copy in 1997 (leaflet 32) instead of the proposed fallow year. It was noted that it was no longer possible for Head Office to co-ordinate a free choice of publication for all 25,000 members. In addition the Summer School benefitted greatly when a subscription book was issued, and additional books may need to be ordered to comply with the requests for particular titles.

It was overwhelmingly agreed therefore that the 1997 leaflet (with printed music but no recorded music or video) should proceed, and that fallow years should not disappear.

Summer School Committee **EX96/10/5**
The report was ratified

Dr MacFadyen **EX96/10/5 (a)**
It was noted with regret that Dr MacFadyen had tendered his resignation as both teacher and examiner at the Summer School.

Children's Classes **EX96/10/5 (b)**
It was proposed that further investigation should be made into the provision of children's classes at Summer School, although questions were raised as to whether children could sustain two classes each morning and if they could not what would happen to them.

It was accepted that provided the children were accompanied and adequately supervised there should be no reason why suitable arrangements should not be undertaken. The matter was therefore directed to the Committee for further consideration and a report on the matter would be submitted before the next meeting of Council.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTED MEMBERS **EX96/11**
The appointment of the elected members to the Council had been made at the AGM: Miss Irene Bennett, Mrs Norah Dunn, Mr Jim Healy, Dr Alastair MacFadyen, Miss Margaret Ross.

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP **EX96/12**
A paper giving details of the nominated representatives had been distributed with the papers. Late returns for Council Membership had been accepted this year, although it was noted that the Constitution clearly indicated the deadline for nominations. In future late submissions should not be accepted.

STANDING COMMITTEES **EX96/13**
The Conveners of the Examinations, Publications and Finance Committees were elected at committee meetings following the Council Meeting.

General Purposes Committee **EX96/13/1**
Mr W Clement (Convener, Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Past Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mrs H Hall, Mr J Healy, Mrs A Murphy, Dr A MacFadyen, Dr J Reinstein, Mrs I Rae, Mr A Smart, Mrs A Traill, Mrs R Wilton.

Finance Committee **EX96/13/2**
Mr R Turnbull (Convener), Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Past Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mr J Douglas, Mr A Gray, Mr A Mair, Mr D Ross, Miss M Ross, Mr D Watson.

Examinations Committee **EX96/13/3**
Miss L Martin (Convener), Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Imm Past Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mrs B Burnell, Mrs N Dunn, Mrs E McCausland, Mr S Wilkie.

Publications Committee **EX96/13/4**
Mrs I Bennett (Convener), Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Imm Past Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mr J Drewry, Mr P Knight, Ms R Scott-Huxley, Miss C Traynor.

Summer School Committee **EX96/13/5**
Mrs M MacRae (Director), Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mr G Lawson (Imm Past Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Miss B Ferguson, Miss F Golding, Mr J Rae, Mrs D Scott.

TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS **EX96/14**
The proposed timetable of meetings for 1997 was approved.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS
List of Deadlines **EX96/15**
It was proposed that the Branches were unaware of the deadlines for submission of nominations etc., Miss Parker advised those present that there was a Guide to Branch Administration available from Head Office which gave full details of the requirements and agreed that the calendar of deadlines would be distributed to all branches.

Alternative Subscription Copies **EX96/16**
It was agreed that the Society need not only produce a book of dances as the subscription copy, but that an article from the archivist might be considered as an alternative, should sufficient dances of quality not be available.

Funds **EX96/17**
It was proposed that the funds to which the membership had contributed were not always easily traceable. In particular the fund "Chairman's Vision Fund" and "HQ Refurbishment Fund" were one and the same and had been fully expended in the refurbishment of Head Office.

Executive Council Structure **EX96/18**
It was suggested that the current Executive Council had to address the idea of reform. In order to be truly effective the Council must be substantially reduced. The current composition was such that everyone had a different mandate be it to represent their own branch, as an elected member, or as a representative for an overseas branch.

It was suggested that the Council should be comprised half regional representatives, and half those elected on an annual basis. It was agreed that the General Purposes Committee must investigate this further, and should address this matter in their discussion document to be presented at the next meeting.

CLOSE OF MEETING
Mr Clement closed the meeting by thanking all those present for being so kind to him at his first meeting as Chairman.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING **EX96/19**
Saturday 10 May, at 1.00

Notes On Special Executive Council Meeting*
Held On Saturday 10 May At 10:00 Hrs
In St. George's Church Hall, Edinburgh

L 1997

** to be read in conjunction with the discussion papers already issued*

Introduction by the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, and thanked all the local association representatives that had been able to come and join in this morning's Special Meeting of the Executive Council. He reminded representatives that only the business indicated on the agenda for this meeting would be discussed. The ordinary meeting of the Council would deal with other matters affecting the Society.

"As you will recall at the last meeting of the Executive Council it was agreed to consider further the idea of reform. In order to be truly effective it was agreed that the Executive Council must be substantially reduced. The General Purposes Committee have now prepared three proposals for significant changes to the composition of the Executive Council.

Each paper will be presented, with a short discussion session and the final hour of this meeting will be left over to general discussion of the three proposals.

Although the proposals are made in the name of the three speakers these come to you with the support of the General Purposes Committee

The points raised at this morning's discussion will need to be considered at local association level, before the Executive Council will be expected to vote on this issue. No final decision on this matter will be made today."

A Management Structure For The Future
(Mr Jim Healy)

Mr Healy began by setting out "What is the Executive Council". He gave a comparison of the branch, membership, and representative figures for five decades. This showed that in 1977 (when Miss Milligan attended her last Executive Council) the Executive Council effectively had one representative on a committee and one acting in a supervisory role. The comparable figures for 1997 were one representative on a committee and three in a supervisory role.

There were, he said, three objectives to his proposal

1. **A More Effective Management Structure**
The current structure had little or no hierarchy which meant that decisions were often passed from one committee to another, without definitive action.

2. **More Efficient Use Of Scarce Resources**
It was not economic to have 2 Executive Council meetings plus an AGM each year. Instead a strong AGM which took control of the Society was a far better solution. The AGM currently acted as a rubber stamp.

3. **A Permanent Resolution To The Trustee Situation.**
This was to be discussed in full in the afternoon's Ordinary Meeting of the Executive Council.

QUESTIONS

How would the branches have any influence over the decisions?

Branches would choose the Trustees from which the committees would be made up, details of the Trustees experience would be provided in the CV of those standing.

How would Elected Members be elected?

Exactly as at the moment, they would be proposed by individual members through the branches.

You indicated that the proposal could more efficiently make use of scarce resources, how much does an Executive Council Meeting currently cost?

Approximately £2000 per meeting, but the money is a bonus and costs could be dealt with in other ways.

Members of the standing committees would all have to indicate their willingness to become a Trustee, in the event of their becoming convener.

Yes

You want to change the current circle of management to a more classic pyramid who would be at the top?

The membership

Wouldn't your proposal mean that the AGM would be vastly extended to take on ratification of Committee reports.?

Yes, but the Annual report would be considerably improved and expanded and this would help to improve efficiency.

How often would the Trustees meet?

More often that the current twice a year, possibly quarterly, because they would be acting as a co-ordinating committee.

Surely as a Charity Trustee the duties are to oversee the finance of the Society. Would this not cause conflict with the Finance Convener?

The Finance Convener is only one of the Trustees and each of the committees would report to the Trustees, therefore each of the Conveners would be involved with their particular committee. There would be other Trustees (the majority) who were independent.

Could your objective of more efficient management of the Society not also be achieved if all Conveners were to meet once a month?

The Management Committee has a dual function of overview and control, some of its objectives would certainly be achieved provided the Conveners meetings were reported. I wonder if it would be practical to incorporate additional meetings into the current full calendar of meetings?

Restructuring of the Executive Council
(Presented by **Mrs Rachael Wilton**)

Mrs Wilton asked the representatives to think of this proposal as the case for representation on a geographical basis not on a regional basis.

It was accepted by the authors that a smaller Executive Council, with active contributors would lead to a more streamlined approach to decision making, and that there was a need for better communication. A smaller Executive would allow representatives to feel less in awe, and allow them to more easily stand up and present views. Instead of 130 people there would be 40 - a far better forum for discussion.

She explained that the proposal would mean that there would be an Executive of some 40 members with half representing geographical groupings and half elected from the membership at the AGM. The elected members of the Executive could then reflect the particular talents and enthusiasm that would be required for the committees.

She reminded everyone that the groupings were merely suggestions and branches would be free to make their own choice as to which grouping they wished to join.

QUESTIONS

I wonder if you have confused the need to reduce the number of Trustees with the need to reduce the Executive Council. The proposal seems to be adding another layer of bureaucracy. Who will pay for the additional costs of the branch meetings?

There is no need for another layer of bureaucracy the branches will continue to operate in the normal way but will improve their communication network. For example the overseas branches already communicate with their representative on the Executive Council who is normally resident in the UK.

There would need to be further discussion about the costs, but initially I would suspect that the branches will be responsible for that.

Are you proposing having 20 elected members instead of the current 6?

Yes

Should not we be considering "equal constituencies"? How, for example, can 30 branches stretching from Canada to Florida South communicate effectively, and how can one representative effectively speak for 30 branches?.

We need "One man one vote".

How can a representative be expected to speak for so many different views, and to report back to so many branches?

There needs to be three different types of representative. Scottish, English and Overseas

The ideal number of representatives might be adjusted but the principle of equal branch representatives and elected representatives should be maintained

Organisation and Structure of the RSCDS
(Mr Alasdair Smart)

Mr Smart referred to a comment by Mr Healy that in this process of change we must ensure not to throw out the baby with the bath water. He questioned whether this was in fact what was being proposed.

He agreed that the Executive was currently unwieldy and that not more than 20% of the representatives ever spoke. But this did not mean that they did not take an interest in the proceedings or that they did not contribute.

The meetings were, he said, all about discussing different ideas and he queried how it was possible for one representative to speak for several differing views. He suggested that the proposal on regionalisation would result in the branches being even more isolated.

He also questioned how long the AGM would become in Mr Healy's proposal and whether delegates would be prepared to attend an overly extended AGM.

GNENERAL COMMENTS

Many branch representatives have spent a great deal of time and money to encourage branches to take up their right of representation and to have a voice on the Executive Council. The only proposal which would ensure that this continues would be the status quo.

The question of the number of Trustees and the size of the Executive Council are quite clearly two separate matters. The former will be dealt with this afternoon. Members have already had to deal with the matter of autonomy, soon they will deal with the matter of a smaller number of Trustees. Although desirable, the structure of the Executive Council should be left until a later date. We need a period of stability!

The question of communication between widely separated branches is not one that should be brushed over. We need to think through much more carefully the practicalities of communicating via E-mail. (It was noted that although TAC was not a branch it managed to communicate throughout the USA.)

What are we truly trying to achieve by the proposed changes to the Executive. Are we in danger of breaking down the whole society and imposing a greater feeling of isolation by the branches.

There have been accusations that the Executive are not effective. The Committees make the decisions and the Executive Representatives communicate this to their branches the Committees are therefore the doers (Cabinet) and the Council are the deciders (Government).

To say the Executive does not execute is wrong the Executive ratifies, amends, remits back and throws out decisions.

It is important to keep each branch a part of the whole, the system exists for the members and the communication is both vertical and lateral only the status quo meets this.

Summaries

Mr Healy summarised by saying that in order to succeed there were three main objectives of any proposal:

1. Communication
2. Improved Speed of Decision-making
3. Representation by Branches

The basic thrust of his proposal met all three.

Mrs Wilton said that there was a lot to consider but that smaller groups almost always communicated better, the proposal would improve links between the branches. The groupings were flexible and branches need not feel left out in this day and age of communication.

Mr Smart said that if communication was what this was about then that supported the Status Quo. The Society was about dancing and dancers and to cut them out was not for the benefit of the Society.

Meeting Closed at 11:50 hrs

Minutes of Executive Council Meeting
Held at St. George's Church, Shandwick Place, Edinburgh
on Saturday, 10 May 1997 at 13:00 hrs.

Present:
Mr W Clement, (Chairman), Mr G Lawson, (Immediate Past Chairman), Mrs L Gaul, (Vice-Chairman), Mrs M MacRae, (Director-Summer School).

Elected Members:
Miss I Bennett, Mr J T Healy, Dr A MacFadyen, Miss M Ross

List of Representatives: *in alphabetical order of the Local Association Represented*

Miss L Martin, (Aberdeen), Mr I McDiarmid, (Annan), Mr W Zobel, (Atlanta), Miss J F Walker, (Ayr), Mrs D Gray, (Banffshire),Dr A Paterson, (Bath), Mr A Butchart, (Bedfordshire), Mrs M Donaldson, (Belfast), Mr B Frazer, (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border), Miss A E Johnston, (Berwick-Upon-Tweed), Miss Mitchell (Birmingham), Mr J Rae, (Boston), Mrs M Watson, (Bournemouth), Mr J Hill, (Brighton), Mrs S Nedderman, (Cambridge & District), Miss F Golding, (Canberra & District), Ms R Scott-Huxley, (Cape Town), Dr F Reid, (Carlisle & Border), Mrs A McDougall, (Carnoustie), Mrs H Wemyss, (Castle Douglas), Ms D Rooney, (Cheshire), Mrs J MacLean, (Chicago), Mrs C Fleming, (Clackmannanshire), Miss E Price, (Croydon & District), Mr J Hutton, (Delaware Valley), Mr ALM Boode, (Delft), Ms C Catto, (Detroit), Miss E Ferguson, (Dumfries), Mrs H Hall, (Dundee), Mrs D Hays (East Angus), Mrs M Martin, (East Lothian), Mr B Harry, (Edinburgh), Mr H Bell, (Falkirk), Mr A Smart, (Florida South), Mr W A Wildgoose, (Forfar), Mrs D Scott, (Forres), Mrs M Spurgen, (Gatehouse of Fleet), Miss C Traynor, (Glasgow), Mr I Crawford, (Hamilton & Clydesdale), Miss A Young (Hamilton (Ontario)), Mrs A Traill, (Helensburgh & District), Mrs M Rintoul, (Herefordshire), Miss I Whyte, (Inverness & District), Miss S McEwan (Isle of Islay), Mrs A Sheach (Isle of Skye), Mr J Mason, (Kilmarnock & District), Mrs M J Wildgoose, (Kingston (Ontario)), Mrs E Greig, (Kirkcaldy), Mrs M Jones, (Kirkcudbright), Mrs M Longair, (Lanark), Mrs B Burnell, (Leeds), Mrs M Oughton, (Leicester), Mrs J Baker, (Liverpool), Mr W J Gibbons, (Lochaber), Mrs R Wilton, (London), Mrs S C Porter, (Lorn (Argyll)), Mr J B Priestley, (Manchester), Miss B Nairn, (Medicine Hat), Mr M Murray, (Mid-Argyll), Mrs A Howes, (Milton Keynes), Mrs M Devlin, (N W Craven), Mrs P Houghton, (New York), Mr J Douglas, (Newcastle-upon-Tyne & District), Mrs R Dickson, (North Ayrshire), Mr A MacPherson, (Northern Territory), Mrs S McCraw, (Northern Virginia), Mr J Drewry, (Nova Scotia), Dr J A Reinstein, (Paris), Mrs C Munro, (Perth & Perthshire), Miss M Brander, (Phoenix), Mr S Wilkie, (Pietermaritzburg), Mr B Campbell, (Portrush), Miss B Wood, (Pretoria), Mr D A McMillan, (Renfrewshire West), Mrs M P Stacey, (Retford & District), Mr S Gibson, (Ribble Valley), Mr R Turnbull, (Richmond), Mr D France, (Rochdale), Mrs M Ballantyne, (Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles), Mr G Davie, (Royal Leamington Spa), Mr T M Kerr, (Royal Tunbridge Wells), Mr D Watson, (San Diego), Mr J Fyfe (San Francisco), Mrs F Turnbull, (Seattle), Mrs E Burling, (Sheffield), Mrs S Barnes (Somerset), Mrs J Harper, (South Argyll), Mr A Gray (South Wales), Mr S Brown, (Southport), Mr A Mair, (St. Andrews), Mrs A Mackenzie, (Stirlingshire), Mr D Willetts, (Sutton Coldfield), Mrs E McCausland, (Sydney), Mr J Wilkinson, (TAC), Mrs H Morrison, (Teeside), Mrs A Clement, (Tokyo), Miss M Brown, (Toronto), Mrs E A Harry, (Twin Cities), Mr P Knight, (Vancouver), Mr C McCausland, (Victoria), Mrs I Rae, (West Lothian), Mrs A Murphy, (Western Australia), Mr R J Taylor, (Wirral), Mr M L Brown, (York & North Humberside).

In Attendance: Miss G S Parker (Secretary), and Mrs M Jeffcoat (Treasurer)

APOLOGIES
Apologies had been received from representatives of the following local associations: Doncaster & District, Dunfermline, Duns & District, Moffat, Monklands, Nottingham, Oxfordshire, Peterborough & District, S E Queensland, and The Hague & District.
It was also noted with regret that Mrs Norah Dunn (elected member) was unwell and unable to attend

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS
I am delighted to welcome you all back to this meeting of the Executive Council after the very useful and lively discussion which took place at this morning's meeting.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING EC97/1
The minutes of the meeting of 16 November having been distributed to all Representatives following the last meeting were approved with the removal of Mrs Jeffcoat (Treasurer) from the list of representatives.

MATTERS ARISING EC97/2
There were no matters arising not listed elsewhere

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE EC97/3
(GP 97/24) Interim Appointment of Management Trustees
The Chairman directed the representatives to the papers already circulated, and advised them that on receiving information to the effect that certain Trustees were not prepared to resign he had sought further legal advice. He had contacted the Law Society of Scotland and had met with one of two specialists in the field of Charity Law.

They had advised that the Society should proceed with all speed to change the constitution to indicate who the Society Trustees are. They did however recommend that the papers previously circulated should be withdrawn. At an emergency meeting of the General Purposes Committee this advice had been accepted and it was agreed to withdraw the proposals.

It was agreed that a motion must be put to the Annual General Meeting, in the name of the Executive Council, at the earliest possible date, to show who the Trustees are, and that the situation should be reviewed after a period of two years.

The substance of the motion was approved as follows, subject to confirmation by an independent solicitor.

- The Trustees of the Society will be, *exofficio*, the President, a Vice President, the Chairman, the Vice Chairman and a Past Chairman, provided that they have indicated in writing their eligibility and willingness to serve in this capacity.
- If any of these persons does not accept the position of Trustee, another Trustee or Trustees will be appointed by the existing Trustees, in accordance with the law, from among the Vice Presidents and Past Chairmen, to make the number of Trustees up to five.
- The President shall act as Chairman of the Trustees.
- A Quorum shall be 4 Trustees.
- No Past Chairman shall serve as a Trustee for more than 4 years.

It was recommended that the Trustees should ensure that they continue to receive independent legal advice in this area.

(GP97/11/4) Dress at Formal Ball
It was agreed, after some discussion, that in future local associations hosting the Annual General Meeting Ball will be recommended to advertise the attire as Formal (preferred). It was however accepted that local associations are entitled to make their own decisions regarding attire at their events. Concern was also raised at the lack of formality of the ladies attire at the Society's AGM.

(GP97/20) Change of Title
A change of title had been recommended for the Secretary in order that her position could be more accurately recognised by the outside bodies that she was dealing with. Modern usage of the term "Secretary" did not reflect the fact that Miss Parker is a senior officer of the Society, and this was to the detriment of the Society.

Following further discussion and a vote, it was agreed that in future the title Secretary would continue to be used within the Society but for communication outwith the Society the title Director of Administration would be used.

(GP97/14/2 and GP97/25) Jean Milligan Memorial Fund Trustees
It was noted that under the terms of the Fund the General Purposes Committee were the Trustees and therefore they had recently taken over the full administration of the Fund.

(GP97/3) Status of Teachers Associations
It was agreed to refer the matter of the Australian Teachers Association back to the Committee. It was further agreed that the Committee should define what a Teachers Association is.

(GP97/11/3) Discussion Groups at AGM
It was not possible to confirm whether or not there was suitable accommodation for discussion groups at this year's AGM, although it was noted that there would not be discussion groups at the 1998 AGM. Notification would be made available with the draft agenda - issued at the beginning of July.

(GP97/22/5) 75th Anniversary Celebrations
Some concern was raised at the lack of response regarding events taking place to celebrate the Society's 75th anniversary. Local associations were asked to inform the Secretary as soon as possible so that details could be printed in the 1997 Bulletin.

(GP97/22/1) Licence Agreements
Concern was expressed at the fact that a small number of local associations had not yet signed a licence agreement. The committee were directed to consider further whether such local associations could still be represented at Society events.

The report covering the meetings of 11 January and 15 March was ratified.

EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT EC97/4

(EX97/19) Adjudicators List
It was noted that this list had not been updated for several years and there were now a number of festivals in Scotland around the same time which meant it could be difficult to find adjudicators.

The committee had not yet had an opportunity to consider what the process of assessment might be but this had previously taken the form of a talk in the morning and a "mock adjudication" in the afternoon.

(EX97/17) Potential Examiners Assessment Form
Although it was standard practice to advise Potential Examiners in writing why they had been unsuccessful, it was recommended that the committee confirm this in writing on the assessment form.

The report covering the meeting of 18 January was ratified

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT EC97/5

(F97/4) Committee Expenses
It was noted that any expense claims which included travel by air included cost of travel to and from the airport and parking costs.

(F97/1/2) Investments
It was suggested that the Executive Council should receive notification of any changes of investments. It was, however, agreed, that there were so few occasions when changes were required, that it would not be necessary to circulate the full investment details to the Executive Council.

(F97/17) Video of Manual
Concern was expressed at the amount of money that had been spent on this project, although it was agreed that the project must be completed. It was hoped that sales could help to recoup some of the additional expenditure which had been approved from the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund.

The report covering the meeting of 1 February, and the minutes of the meeting of 26 April were both ratified.

PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT EC97/6
The Committee were asked to consider extending the current format of the existing publications to allow the Society to incorporate several books into bigger volumes.

The report and proposals covering the meetings of 8 February and 22 March were ratified

SUMMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT EC97/7

The report of the meeting of 22 February was ratified.

AWARDS OF SCROLL EC97/8
It was agreed to present the Award of Scroll to the following members in recognition of their services to the Society. The presentations would be made at the AGM in November, or by the local associations, where the nominees were unable to attend the Society AGM.

Name	*Nominated by*
Mr Bobby Crowe	Leeds
Mrs Catherine Gibson	Cape Town
Mr Robert Hunn	Delaware Valley
William & Marie McLennan	London (Canada)
Miss Wilma Miller	Duns & District
Mr Jim Stephen	Florida South
Mrs Mary Stoker	London
Miss Jean Yeats	Aberdeen

APPLICATION FOR LOCAL ASSOCIATION STATUS EC97/9
The application from the Tokyo Scottish Bluebell Club for Local Association status as RSCDS Tokai Branch was approved.

AFFILIATED GROUP APPLICATIONS EC97/10

The following applications for affiliated group status were ratified.

- Rancho Bernardo Community Presbyterian Church Scottish Country Dancers
- Luckenbooth Circle
- Scottish Dance Group of Monaco
- Circolo Pisano della Società di Danza
- Ohmiyadai Scottish Country Dance Club

ANY OTHER BUSINESS **EC97/11**

Mr John Douglas **EC97/11/1**

It was noted with regret that Mr John Douglas, representing Newcastle Upon Tyne & District was not standing for re-appointment as a representative. He had served on the Executive Council for some 23 years, on the General Purposes Committee for 7 years and the Finance Committee for 15 years. He would be greatly missed.

Public Indemnity Insurance Cover **EC97/11/2**

It was suggested that the Society should consider raising the level of professional indemnity insurance cover from the current £2,000,000 to £5,000,000.

1998 Logo **EC97/11/3**

The logo had been chosen as a symbolic not literal representation of the Society from a variety of entries submitted from final year graphics students. The logo showed a feeling of movement and fluidity with a party spirit and was intended to be eye catching. Local associations were free to make use of this or other logos from the letterhead. Copies were available from Head Office.

Local Association Constitutions **EC97/11/3**

It was noted that both Bristol and Newcastle upon Tyne local associations were willing to show other English local associations the road to charitable status. It was noted however that local associations were able to make domestic/cosmetic additions to the standard constitution approved by the Charity Commission.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman closed the meeting and reminded representatives that the next meeting of the Executive Council would take place on Saturday 15 November at 13:00 hrs

Minutes Of Executive Council Meeting
Of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
Held at The Learmonth Hotel, Learmonth Terrace, Edinburgh
On 15 November 1997 At 1300 Hrs

1. **Present:**
2. Office Bearers: Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mrs M MacRae (Summer School Director)

3. Elected Members: Mr D Watson, Miss I Bennett, Mr J T Healy, Dr A MacFadyen, Miss M Ross, Miss D Hamilton.

4. Representatives: (*in alphabetical order of the Local Association represented*) Aberdeen (Miss L Martin), Atlanta (Mr W Zobel), Ayr (Miss J F Walker), Banffshire (Mrs D Gray), Bath (Dr A Paterson), Bedfordshire (Mr A Butchart), Belfast (Mrs M Donaldson), Berks/Hants/Surrey Border (Mr B Frazer), Berwick-Upon-Tweed (Miss A E Johnston), Birmingham (Miss F J Mitchell), Boston (Mr J Rae), Brighton (Mr J Hill), Bristol (Ms F Grant), Calgary (Miss D Leurs), Cambridge & District (Mrs S Nedderman), Canberra & District (Miss F Golding), Cape Town (Ms R Scott-Huxley), Carlisle & Border (Dr F Reid), Carnoustie (Mrs A McDougall), Castle Douglas (Mrs H Wemyss), Chicago (Mrs J MacLean), Clackmannanshire (Mrs C Fleming), Cornwall (Miss R Gordon-Harvey), Croydon & District (Miss E Price), Delaware Valley (Mr J Hutton), Detroit (Ms C Catto), Doncaster & District (Mr K Stacey), Dundee (Mrs H Hall), Dunfermline (Mrs J MacSporran), Duns & District (Mrs C E Smith), East Angus (Mrs D Hays), East Lothian (Mrs M Martin), Edinburgh (Mr B Harry), Falkirk (Mr D Oliver), Florida South (Mr A Smart), Forfar (Mr W A Wildgoose), Forres (Mrs D Scott), Gatehouse of Fleet (Mrs M Spurgen), Glasgow (Miss C Traynor), Hamilton & Clydesdale (Mr I Crawford), Hamilton (Ontario) (Miss A Young), Helensburgh & District (Mrs A Traill), Herefordshire (Mrs M Rintoul), Hunter Valley/Newcastle (Mr J Walker), Inverness & District (Miss I Whyte), Isle of Skye (Mr T Raynor), Kilmarnock & District (Mr J Johnston), Kingston (Ontario) (Mrs M J Wildgoose), Kirkcaldy (Mrs E Greig), Kirkcudbright (Mrs M Jones), Lanark (Mrs T Boertien), Leicester (Mrs M Oughton), Liverpool (Mrs J Baker), Lochaber (Mr W J Gibbons), London (Mrs R Wilton), Lorn (Argyll) (Mrs S Porter), Los Angeles (Mrs B Burnell), Manchester (Dr I M Hall), Medicine Hat (Miss B Nairn), Milton Keynes (Mrs A Howes), N W Craven (Mrs M Devlin), New York (Mrs P Houghton), New Zealand (Lt. Col. (Retd) M Gibson), Newcastle-Upon-Tyne & District (Mr M R Barlow), North Ayrshire (Mrs R Dickson), Northern Territory (Mr A MacPherson), Northern Virginia (Mrs S McCraw), Nova Scotia (Mr J Drewry), Oxfordshire (Mr D Tucker), Paris (Dr J A Reinstein), Perth & Perthshire (Mrs C Munro), Peterborough & District (Mr R Warburton), Phoenix (Miss M Brander), Pietermaritzburg (Mr S Wilkie), Portrush (Mr B Campbell), Retford & District (Mrs M P Stacey), Ribble Valley (Mr K Morris), Richmond (Mr R Turnbull), Rochdale (Mr D France), Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles (Mr R Handyside), Royal Leamington Spa (Mr G Davie), Royal Tunbridge Wells (Mr T M Kerr), S E Queensland (Mr D Ross), San Diego (Miss M Johnstone), San Francisco (Mr R Mackay), Seattle (Mrs F Turnbull), Sheffield (Mrs E Burling), Somerset (Mrs S Barnes), South Argyll (Mrs J Harper), South Wales (Mr A Gray), Southport (Mr S Brown), St. Andrews (Mr A Mair), Stirlingshire (Mrs A Mackenzie), Sutton Coldfield (Mr D Willetts), Sydney (Mrs E McCausland), TAC (Ms S Carr), Teeside (Mrs H Morrison), The Hague District (Mr H van Zon), Tokyo (Mrs A Clement), Toronto (Miss M Brown), Tucson (Mrs M C Healy), Twin Cities (Mrs E A Harry), Vancouver (Mr P Knight), Victoria (Mr C McCausland), Washington DC (Mr S Barbour), West Lothian (Mrs I Rae), Western Australia (Mrs A Murphy), Winnipeg (Mrs M Corson), Wirral (Mr R J Taylor), York & North Humberside (Mr M L Brown).

5. **APOLOGIES**
6. Apologies had been received from representatives of the following local associations: Bournemouth, Cheshire, Delft, Dumfries, Isle of Islay, Leeds, Monklands, Nottingham, Pretoria.

7. **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**
8. The Chairman welcomed all local association representatives to the first meeting of the session, and particularly those attending for the first time.

9. He went on to outline the various visits he had carried out representing the Society. These included two Chaildren's Festivals; meetings with the Local Association

committees and teachers in both Pretoria and Johannesburg; the TAC AGM onboard the Queen Mary at Long Beach, California; a tribute to Miss Frances Martin who had been Secretary of Falkirk for 55 years; and the RSCDS St. Andrews 60th Anniversary Dinner.

10. It was with much sadness that he reported the death of Mr Bobby Watson, who had taught Men's Highland Dancing at Summer School for over 25 years. It was there that he would be remembered for his marvellous solo performances at the Younger Hall.

11. He asked all representatives to ensure that their plans for celebratory events in 1998 were made known to HQ.

12. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

13. It was noted that some late nominations had been accepted as follows:

Delft	Mr A Boode
Milton Keynes	Mrs A Howes
Northern Virginia	Mrs S McCraw
Pheonix	Miss M Brander

14. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

15. The minutes of the meeting of 10 May having been distributed following that meeting were approved with the following corrections:

16. Removal of Mrs M P Stacey (Retford & District Representative) from those present.

17. EC97/9 The application for a Local Association to be established in Tokai was was approved. The Tokyo Scottish Bluebell Club would continue to operate its usual activities as an affiliated group in Tokyo.

18. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

19. General Purposes Committee

20. The report covering the meeting of 27 September was ratified unanimously after the following discussion.

21. Licence Agreement

22. It was noted that of the nine local associations which had not signed a licence agreement there were four outstanding. Detroit, Kitchener-Waterloo and Orland had all indidated that they were prepared to sign the model agreement and that they had not understood that the agreement had needed to be signed.

23. It was suggested that all local associations should be asked to sign the model licence agreement immediately and that any improvements, and suggestions, could be discussed and ratified by the General Purposes Committee and the Executive Council in due course.

24. This was rejected, (Against: 45, For: 34, Abstentions 20) although it was noted that a new draft had been submitted by RSCDS Edinburgh Branch immediately before the meeting and this would have to be considered by the Constitution sub-committee.

25. Timing of Future Meetings

26. After some discussion in which concerns were raised as to the potential additional costs and inconvenience for Representatives attending meetings, it was agreed (For 44, Against 35, Abstentions 20) to reschedule future meetings to commence at 10:30 hrs. The meeting would extend into the afternoon with a short break for lunch.

27. Correct Shoulder for Sash

28. It was noted that Miss Milligan and the Countess of Elgin had advised Miss Gibson (then Secretary of the RSCDS) that the Society policy should be that the sash should be worn on the left shoulder. The Committee had recommended that there was no definitive policy re sashes.

29. It was agreed (Against 19, Abstentions 32) that this matter should be referred back to the committee for further discussion.

30. Changes to Constitution Proposed by Inland Revenue.

31. It was noted that the changes had been proposed by the Inland revenue in Scotland, thus any changes were only applicable to local associations in Scotland applying for charitable status and to the Society itself.

32. YSDA

33. It was noted that the Young Scottish Dancers Association was to have a Day of Dance based around St Andrews Day 1997, in which approx. 17,000 children, from Schools in the UK, were to take part. A project "Dance Scottish Worldwide" was planned for 1998.

34. Tattoo

35. The Chairman advised the Council that a meeting had been held with the Director of the Tattoo and the Dance Co-ordinator. It was noted that a further meeting was to be held with Ms Avril Smilie to discuss the content of the Tattoo dancing in 1998.

36. Marketing Initiative
37. It was noted that the Public Relations consultant had organised a brief press conference to be held in the Assembly Rooms in Edinburgh on Tuesday 25 November at 11:00 hrs. This was to inform the media of why we are updating our image, how we are celebrating our 75th Anniversary and how we hope to reinstate country dancing in all Scottish schools. There will be an opportunity for photographs, and for the office bearers of the Society to be interviewed. An open invitation was issued to all representatives.

38. Examinations Committee

39. Examiners Seminar
40. The question of inconsistencies was raised. It was suggested that further consideration should be put to this matter. The Convener explained that it was intended that this was part of the format of the Examiners Seminar which was to take place in 1999 and a full report of the Seminar would be issued to all Examiners.

41. The report of the meetings of 14 June and 20 September was unanimously ratified.

42. Finance Committee

43. Summer School Budgets
44. In response to a question it was noted that the discrepancy in the budget for the Summer School was partialy due to the fact that the Summer School accounts were not completed until after the budget was prepared.

45. Chairman's Expenses
46. It was agreed (Against 4, Abstentions 6) that the Chairman should not be asked to subsidise the Society in any way in respect of recompense for expenses incurred in carrying out his duties.

47. In response to a question the Convener agreed to refer the matter of the current agreement with Balmoral Knitwear to the Committee for further investigation.

48. The report covering the meeting of 16 August was unanimously ratified.

49. Meeting of 17 October
50. It was proposed that the Convener should provide updates of any significant changes to the proposed profit figure to each meeting of the Council. This was rejected (Against 30, For 18, Abstentions 23)

51. It was proposed that "The Society is in a healthy financial state, thanks to the Convener and members of the Finance Committee". Particular recognition was given to Mr Turnbull and it was noted with diappointment that he had withdrawn his name from the Committee for the forthcoming year.

52. The report of 17 October 1997 was unanimously ratified.

53. Publications & Research Committee

54. Book Revisions (PR97/27)
55. It was agreed (2 Abstentions) that the words "collected locally" should be retained in books with any additional information as to the source added.

56. 75th Anniversary Commemorative Book (PR97/33)
57. It was agreed (Against 1, Abstentions 2) that the Committee be asked to consider whether the full list of scroll recipients could be included in the 75th Anniversary Booklet instead of the list of Representatives.

58. It was also suggested that in future leaflets should be A4 size.

59. List of Amendments
60. In response to a query, the convener agreed to refer the matter of compiling a definitive list of all changes made to the books over the past 75 years back to the committee.

61. The report covering the meetings of 7 June and 4 October was unanimously ratified.

62. Summer School Committee

63. The Director reported that the Anniversary Dinners had been moved to the 2nd and 4th weeks of the School due to availability of a suitable venue for the Dinners.

64. Examination Tutors SS97/22/2
65. In response to a question she advised the Executive Council that, the Summer School was the flagship of the Society, and as such, the practice was to ensure that only experienced tutors were invited to tutor the examination classes. The Examinations Convener also suggested that Summer School was "not the place to cut your teeth"

66. It was suggested that it may be considered advantageous for a less experienced tutor to sit-in and observe good practice. It was noted however that this could lead to considerable demands and consideration

must be given to the candidate in an already pressured situation. This matter was already under consideration by the Examinations Committee

67. The report of the meeting of 11 October was unanimously ratified.

68. COMPOSITION OF STANDING COMMITTEES FOR 1997/98

69. *The Conveners of the Examinations, Publications & Reserach, and Finance Committees were elected at committee meetings held immediately following the Executive Council Meeeting.*

70. General Purposes Committee

71. Mr W Clement (Chairman) - Convener, Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mrs Jessie Harper, Mr Jim Healy, Mr Alan Mair, Dr A MacFadyen, Mrs Christine Munro, Mrs Alice Murphy, Mrs I Rae, Dr J Reinstein, Mrs R Wilton

72. Examinations Committee

73. Mrs E McCausland - Convener, Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mr M Brown, Mrs B Burnell, Mr B Frazer, Mr S Wilkie

74. Finance Committee

75. Mr D Watson - Convener, Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Miss D Hamilton,.Mr T Kerr, Miss B Nairn, Mr D Roiss, Miss M Ross, Mr R Taylor

76. Publications & Research Committee

77. Miss I Bennett - Convener, Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mr A MacPherson (Archivist), Mr P Knight, Miss D Leurs, Miss C Traynor, Miss A Young.

78. Summer School Committee

79. Mrs M MacRae (Director) - Convener, Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mr J Rae, Dr I Hall, Miss F Golding, Miss E Ferguson

80. AFFILIATED GROUP APPLICATIONS.

81. The following Affiliated Groups were approved:

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

82. TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS

83. It was unanimously agreed that two additional meetings should be timetabled for the Publications & Research Committee and these were agreed (by the Committee Members) as 24 January, and 5 December 1998. Should the Committee feel it is unnecessary to hold these meetings, theycan be cancelled.

84. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

85. Strategic Plan

86. It was noted that the following motion was accepted at the AGM:

87. *"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."*

88. It was agreed (with 1 abstention) that the Chairman would be asked to appoint a sub-committee of the General Purposes Committee to consider a Strategic Plan.

89. It was suggested that the Local Associations should be consulted from the beginning, and that they would have to submit their comments before the next General Purposes Committee meeting in January. It was also suggested that the Conveners should also be consulted.

90. Elected Members

91. It was agreed by the Chairman that in future when the names of the members elected to the Executive Council are read out at the AGM that they be asked to stand and identify themselves.

92. Winter School

93. It was noted that one of the suggestions at the Open Forum had been that the Society consider a Winter School. It was suggested that many members could be involved in tourism and would not be available to attend the Summer School. The matter would be referred to the Summer School Committee for further discussion.

94. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

95. The Chairman closed the meeting by thanking all the representatives. It was , he said "important that so many were taking an interest in the work of the Society".

96. The next meeting of the Executive Council will be held on Saturday, 9 May.

Minutes of Executive Council Meeting Held at St. George's Church, Shandwick Place, Edinburgh on Saturday, 9 May 1998 at 10:30 hrs.

1. **PRESENT**
2. Office Bearers
   Mr W Clement (Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Vice Chairman), Mrs M MacRae (Summer School Director)

3. Elected Members
4. Miss I Bennett, Miss D Hamilton, Mr J T Healy, Dr A MacFadyen, Miss M Ross, Mr D Watson

5. Representatives from the following Branches (in alphabetical order)

Aberdeen (Miss L Martin), Atlanta (Mr W Zobel), Ayr (Miss J F Walker), Bath (Dr A Paterson), Bedfordshire (Mr A Butchart), Belfast (Mrs M Donaldson), Berks/Hants/Surrey Border (Mr B Frazer), Berwick-Upon-Tweed (Miss A E Johnston), Birmingham (Miss F J Mitchell), Boston (Mr J Rae), Bournemouth (Mrs M Watson), Bristol (Ms F Grant), Calgary (Miss D Leurs), Cambridge & District (Mrs S Nedderman), Canberra & District (Miss F Golding), Cape Town (Ms R Scott-Huxley), Carlisle & Border (Dr F Reid), Carnoustie (Mrs A McDougall), Castle Douglas (Mrs H Wemyss), Cheshire (Ms D Rooney), Clackmannanshire (Mrs C Fleming), Cornwall (Ms E Allan), Delaware Valley (Mr J Hutton), Delft (Mr ALM Boode), Detroit (Miss C Catto), Doncaster & District (Mr K Stacey), Dumfries (Miss E Ferguson), Dundee (Mrs H Hall), Duns & District (Mrs C E Smith), East Angus (Mrs D Hays), East Lothian (Mrs M Martin), Edinburgh (Mr B Harry), Falkirk (Mr D Oliver), Florida South (Mr A Smart), Forfar (Mr W A Wildgoose), Forres (Mrs D Scott), Gatehouse of Fleet (Mrs M Spurgin), Glasgow (Miss C Traynor), Hamilton (Ontario) (Miss A Young), Helensburgh & District (Mrs A Traill), Hunter Valley/Newcastle (Mr J Walker), Isle of Islay (Miss S McEwan), Kilmarnock & District (Mr J Johnston), Kingston (Ontario) (Mrs M J Wildgoose), Kirkcaldy (Mrs E Greig), Kirkcudbright (Mrs M Jones), Lanark (Mrs T Boertien), Leeds (Mr I Clark), Leicester (Mrs M Oughton), Liverpool (Mrs J Baker), London (Mrs R Wilton), Lorn (Argyll) (Mrs S Porter), Los Angeles (Mrs B Burnell), Medicine Hat (Miss B Nairn), Milton Keynes (Mrs A Howes), N W Craven (Mrs M Devlin), New Zealand (Lt. Col. (Retd.) M Gibson), Newcastle-Upon-Tyne & District (Mr M R Barlow), North Ayrshire (Mrs R Dickson), Northern Territory (Mr A Macpherson), Northern Virginia (Mrs S McCraw), Nova Scotia (Mr J Drewry), Oxfordshire (Mr D Tucker), Paris (Dr J A Reinstein), Perth & Perthshire (Mrs C Munro), Peterborough & District (Mr R Warburton), Phoenix (Miss M Brander), Pietermaritzburg (Mr S Wilkie), Portrush (Mr B Campbell), Pretoria (Miss B Wood), Richmond (Mr R Turnbull), Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles (Mr R Handyside), Royal Tunbridge Wells (Mr T M Kerr), S E Queensland (Mr D Ross), San Diego (Ms M Johnstone), San Francisco (Mr R Mackay), Seattle (Mrs F Turnbull), Sheffield (Mrs E Burling), Somerset (Mrs S Barnes), South Argyll (Mrs J Harper), South Wales (Mr W A Gray), Southport (Mr S Brown), St. Andrews (Mr A Mair), Stirlingshire (Mrs A Mackenzie), Sydney (Mrs E McCausland), TAC (Ms S Carr), Tokyo (Mrs A Clement), Toronto (Miss M Brown), Tucson (Mrs M C Healy), Twin Cities (Mrs E A Harry), Vancouver (Mr P Knight), Victoria (Mr C McCausland), West Lothian (Mrs I Rae), Western Australia (Mrs A Murphy), Winnipeg (Mrs M Corson), Wirral (Mr R J Taylor), York & North Humberside (Mr M L Brown)

6. **IN ATTENDANCE**
   Miss G Parker (Secretary), Mrs M Jeffcoat (Treasurer)

7. **APOLOGIES**
   Apologies had been received from representatives of the following branches: Banffshire, Brighton, Chicago, Croydon & District, Hamilton & Clydesdale, Herefordshire, Isle of Skye, Inverness, Nottingham, Retford & District, Ribble Valley, Rochdale, Royal Leamington Spa, The Hague & District.

8. It was with much regret that the Chairman reported the death of Mr George Mechan of Dundee. A well known and respected teacher and examiner of the Society he had passed away after a long illness.

9. **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**
10. This being my last Executive Council as Chairman, it seems appropriate that I

should give you a report, on my term in office.

11. At the first Open Forum which I chaired, members were clearly demanding more communication between HQ and the branches. This resulted in the January Newsbrief and it is good that it is to continue to grow and develop in the future.

12. We have finally achieved a brass plaque outside HQ with our name and the Society lettering also appears on the fanlight over the front door.

13. Not all my efforts have been successful however. I have failed so far to ensure that another room could be made available at HQ as a second Committee Room, or a room reflecting the Society's history which would be of interest to visiting members. Although no definite decision has been made, the General Purposes Committee have agreed to invite members of RSCDS Edinburgh Branch who are qualified architects to assess how we might make better use of HQ.

14. At the last Executive Council meeting, you instructed me to set up a committee to consider a strategic plan for the Society. I am pleased to say, this committee is now established and working. The members of the committee were chosen for the individual contribution they could make to the future of the Society.

15. This special 75th anniversary year has been a busy one, starting with the YSDA Dance Scottish event during the week of St. Andrews Day 1997, when over 17,000 children participated throughout the UK. It is hoped that many more will join in the worldwide event this year.

16. Since 1st January this year, I have attended 15 branch events.

17. The Falkirk Branch Weekend School was one from which I think we could all learn. Friday evening's three events included a ball, an informal dance, and a ceilidh/old time dance. Each were equally popular.

18. The Society's anniversary has also allowed the opportunity for twelve branches in the SE of England to join together to organise a memorable evening in London. Seven branches also got together to arrange a wonderful ball based in Doncaster.

19. This communication seems to have expanded across the world with Doncaster Branch twinning with New Zealand Branch helping to strengthen the bonds of friendship, between branches.

20. I began by highlighting communication and I will conclude by mentioning that as well as the various branch events I have also attended 9 standing Committee Meetings, and 11 sub committee meetings.

21. I am grateful for the opportunity of serving the Society, as your Chairman, in this its 75th year, and I thank you all.

22. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

23. The Minutes of the meeting of 15 November 1997 were approved with the following correction:

24. Mr H VanZon was not present at the meeting.

25. There being no matters arising not listed elsewhere the meeting moved to the next item.

26. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

27. <u>General Purposes Committee</u>

28. The report of the meetings of the committee held on 10 January, and 14 March was unanimously ratified after the following discussion:

29. <u>Strategic Planning Sub-Committee</u> Dr Reinstein, reported that the committee was constructive and hardworking. They had met twice since January and a sub-group were to meet to produce a first draft of the plan. The Committee intended to have full consultation with branches and welcomed all comments and suggestions from <u>any</u> member. The Committee had sought the help of two professional market researchers.

30. In order to ensure that the widest possible views were taken, Focus Groups would be established at Summer School and a

discussion group will be held during the AGM weekend.

31. Sash
32. After considerable discussion and a vote it was overwhelmingly agreed not to put to the the AGM the question of which shoulder ladies should wear the sash. The Committee had recommended that the Society should not issue any ruling on this matter but that the choice should be left to the ladies. Documentation on the matter currently held at HQ would be available for any interested member.

33. Funding for Potential Examiner
34. It was noted that the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund had given a grant to a Potential Examiner from overseas to attend Summer School for assessment. This was not a precedent and each case would be considered on its individual merit.

35. Tattoo Sub-Committee
36. It was noted that the sub-committee, which was formed in 1994 was not a full standing committee (which required 7 members including the Chairman and Vice Chairman exofficio). It was agreed, after a vote, that the sub-committee would be disbanded and individuals would be appointed to liaise with the Tattoo Producer. (55 For, 8 Against, 19 Abstentions)

37. Northern Ireland Co-ordinating Committee
38. It was noted that this was established to enable the three branches in Northern Ireland to work together to apply for grant funding from the N Ireland Sports Council. For administrative purposes it was considered a sub-committee of the General Purposes Committee.

39. **Finance Committee**
40. The report of the meeting of 31 January was overwhelming ratified with 1 abstention after the following discussion:

41. Mouse Mats
42. The Committee were asked to reconsider their decision not to stock mouse mats. It was noted that many people may wish to purchase a Society mouse mat and that they could be produced very cheaply.

43. Summer School Refund Policy
44. It was noted that where a place could be guaranteed to be filled at Summer School and cancellation was known before 14 June, a refund (less the deposit) may be given. It was however difficult to guarantee that the place could be filled and members were encouraged to take out suitable holiday insurance. The Committee were asked to consider this matter again.

45. Balmoral Knitwear
46. Mr Brown referred to the fact that the Society received commission from Balmoral Knitwear. This was obtained by a slightly increased cost of items purchased by Society members through Balmoral Knitwear. While it was noted that the Society benefitted from the deal and the members would expect to pay extra for use of the Society logo, it was agreed that the matter would be referred back to the Committee for further consideration.

47. The report of the meeting of 25 April was unanimously ratified after the following:

48. Investment Policy
49. It was noted that the Society had a total investments of £180,433. £63,905 was currently invested in Government Securities and £117,338 was in mixed equities. The Committee recommended that the Society consider selling approx. £30,670 of the government equities, add £50,00 from last year's surplus and invest the £80,000 approx. in a mixed basket of equities.

50. The advice of the stockbrokers had been sought and was recommended. A vote was taken and the motion was overwhelmingly carried(3 Against, 4 Abstentions)

51. Society Agreements
52. Mr Harry suggested that the Society should have any agreements with distributors drafted by a qualified solicitor. This was considered but it was agreed that this would be done only where the risk was deemed sufficient to warrant the cost of such legal advice.
53. Subscription Levels
54. Mr Watson advised the Executive Council that the levels of subscriptions received had been less than expected while many of the operating costs continued to rise. It was agreed to recommend to the

November 1998 AGM the following motions:

- That with effect from the beginning of the 1999 subscription year the annual membership subscription to the Society be increased to £6.50.
- That with effect from the beginning of the 1999 subscription year the long term membership subscription to the Society be increased to £65 and that the long term membership period remain at ten years.
- That with effect from 1 July 1999 the Finance Committee of the Executive Council be authorised to undertake an annual review of the membership subscriptions to the Society and to set the subscription at a level which would not vary from the previous rate by more that 5%.

55. Publications & Research Committee

56. The report of the committee meetings was unanimously ratified.

57. Video of the Manual

58. It was reported that the original tapes had now been received from the video company so that the quality of the end product could be assessed. Ms Young from the BBC had agreed to do this at no cost to the Society. Lessons had been learned from this project.

59. It was noted that Malcolm Brown had been appointed project manager to co-ordinate the 75th anniversary video compilation.

60. Summer School Committee

61. The report of the committee meeting was unanimously ratified after the following discussion:

62. Alternative Dance Classes

63. It was noted that the alternative dance classes to be held at the 1998 Summer School would be "Old Scottish Step Dancing" and not "Cape Breton Step" as indicated.

64. Winter School

65. Mrs Macrae was asked what progress had been made on discussions about the Winter School. It was noted that two options were being considered.
(a) A hotel where a residential school could be held over a weekend (Thurs - Tues).
(b) Non-residential classes in local halls. No firm decision had been made until further information was available.

66. Examinations Committee

67. The report of the committee was unanimously ratified after the following:

68. Post Examination Discussion

69. It was suggested that some candidates had the impression after talking with the examiners that they had passed the examination, but on receiving their results were surprised to find that they had failed.

70. The Council were reminded that the post examination discussion is with one of the examiners and the full result slip is following agreement by both examiners. No inference should be taken from the discussion but guidance should be noted on points that arose during the examination.

71. **CHANGES TO SOCIETY CONSTITUTION RECOMMENDED BY INLAND REVENUE**

72. It was noted that the changes requested by the Inland Revenue had been approved by the Solicitor.

73. It was overwhelmingly agreed to recommend to the AGM that the proposed changes be made to the Society constitution and the Model constitution for Local Associations in Scotland. (1 Against, 0 Abstentions)

74. SCROLL RECIPIENTS

75. It was agreed to present the Award of Scroll to the following members in recognition of their services to the Society. The presentations would be made at the AGM in November, or by the local branch, where the nominees were unable to attend the Society AGM.

Name	Nominated by
Mrs Margaret Ackers	Liverpool
Mr Alastair Aitkenhead	N Ayrshire
Mr John Armstrong	Oxfordshire
Mr Robert Blackie	Toronto
Mrs Dorothy Carr	Sacramento
Mrs Mina Corson	Edinburgh
Mr John Douglas	Newcastle
Mrs Brenda Kampf	Nairobi
George & Nan Lawson	Glasgow
Mr John Middleton	Hamilton (Ont.)
Mr Robbie Shepherd	GP Committee

76. AFFILIATED GROUP APPLICATIONS

77. The following groups were approved as Affiliated Groups of the Society

- Sorrento Scottish Country Dancers (Canada)
- St Andrews Society of Paphos (Greece)
- Jackson Country Dancers (Mississippi)
- Aberystwyth Scottish Country Dancers (Wales)

78. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

79. BULLETIN/NEWSBRIEF DISTRIBUTION

80. In answer to a question, The Secretary reminded branches that the distribution of Society publications etc., via the branch network was for those members within the branch that had chosen to pay their Society subscription through that branch.

81. (ie if a member paid their Society subscription through X branch but was also a member of T branch, they would only receive their Society publications through X branch.)

82. CHILD PROTECTION ACT

83. Mr Harry asked whether any of the branches could assist RSCDS Edinburgh Branch as regards compliance with the Child Protection Act, where teachers and stewards for childrens classes or events required to be approved.

84. EXPENSES

85. The Finance Committee were asked to reconsider the current policy of expenses. It was noted that representatives currently received expenses from the point of entry to the UK. The first £20 of any such claim being deducted. This could cause anomolies with members travelling from overseas travelling via London qualifying for a claim while those travelling direct to Edinburgh, not doing so. Mr Boode suggested that a maximum limit be set for expense claims with no initial deduction.

86. SCOTTISH SPORTS COUNCIL

87. Mr Mair advised the Executive that he had attended a meeting of the Scottish Sports Council in March relating to training of volunteer workers. It had been most helpful.

88. DRUMMOND CASTLE MANUSCRIPT

89. Miss Martin asked whether the Society had considered looking at the Drummond Castle manuscript for dances to publish. Dr MacFadyen (former archivist) advised Miss Martin that the manuscript had been researched many times and that there was nothing further that the Society would be likely to want to publish.

90. CLOSE

91. Mr Clement closed the meeting at 15:30 hrs with thanks to everyone at the top table. He had enjoyed his term of office and was happy to have served the Society.

92. Mr Stacey proposed thanks to Mr Clement on behalf of those present and in particular thanked the chairman for opening out the Society, for going out to meet people and for the vast amount of work that he had put into the job.

93. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

94. Saturday 21 November 1998 at 10:30 hrs.

Minutes Of Executive Council Meeting
Of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
Held at The St. George's West Church, Shandwick Place, Edinburgh
On 21 November 1998 At 10:30 Hrs

1. **PRESENT:**
2. Office Bearers: Mrs L Gaul (Chairman), Mr A Mair (Vice Chairman), Mr W Clement (Past Chairman), Mrs M MacRae (Summer School Director)

3. Elected Members: Miss I Bennett, Mrs H Frame, Dr A MacFadyen, Miss L Martin, Mr D Watson.

4. Representatives: (in alphabetical order of branch)

Aberdeen (Mr A Reid), Annan (Mrs S Nicoll), Ayr (Miss J F Walker), Banffshire (Miss A McArthur), Bedfordshire (Mr A Butchart), Belfast (Mrs E Cameron), Berks/Hants/Surrey Border (Mr B Frazer), Berwick-Upon-Tweed (Miss A E Johnston), Boston (Mr R Grant), Brighton (Mr J Hill), Bristol (Ms F Grant), Cambridge & District (Mrs S Nedderman), Canberra & District (Miss F Golding), Cape Town (Ms R Scott-Huxley), Carnoustie (Mrs A McDougall), Castle Douglas (Mrs H Wemyss), Clackmannanshire (Mrs C Fleming), Cornwall (Miss R Gordon-Harvey), Delft (Mr ALM Boode), Detroit (Miss C Catto), Doncaster & District (Mr K Stacey), Dumfries (Miss E Ferguson), Dunfermline (Mrs J MacSporran), Duns & District (Mrs C E Smith), East Lothian (Mrs M Martin), Edinburgh (Mr B Harry), Falkirk (Mr D Oliver), Florida South (Mr A Smart), Forfar (Mr W A Wildgoose), Forres (Mrs D Scott), Glasgow (Miss C Traynor), Hamilton & Clydesdale (Mr I Crawford), Hamilton, Ontario (Miss A Young), Helensburgh & District (Mrs McIntosh), Herefordshire (Mrs M Rintoul), Hunter Valley/Newcastle (Mr J Walker) Inverness & District (Miss I Whyte), Isle of Islay (Miss S McEwan), Kilmarnock & District (Mr J Johnston), Kingston Ontario (Mrs M J Wildgoose), Kirkcudbright (Mrs M Jones), Kitchener-Waterloo(Mr J D Carswell), Leeds (Mrs C McDonald), Leicester (Mrs M Oughton), Liverpool (Mrs J Baker), Lochaber (Mr W J Gibbons), London (Mrs R Wilton), Lorn Argyll (Mrs S Porter), Los Angeles (Mrs B Burnell), Manchester (Dr I M Hall), Medicine Hat (Miss B Nairn), Milton Keynes (Mrs E McHardy), Moffat (Mr J Rae), Monklands (Mrs Gardiner), N W Craven (Mrs M Devlin), New York (Mrs P Houghton), New Zealand (Mrs E Hunter), Newcastle-Upon-Tyne & District (Mr J Cass), North Ayrshire (Mrs R Dickson), Northern Territory (Mr A Macpherson), Northern Virginia (Mrs S McCraw), Oxfordshire (Mr D Tucker), Paris (Dr J A Reinstein), Perth & Perthshire (Mrs C Munro), Peterborough & District (Mrs R Purcell), Phoenix (Miss M Brander), Pietermaritzburg (Mr S Wilkie), Portrush (Mr B Campbell), Retford & District (Mrs M P Stacey), Richmond (Mr R Turnbull), Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles (Mr R Handyside), Royal Leamington Spa (Mr G Davie), Royal Tunbridge Wells (Mr T M Kerr), Sacramento (Dr W M Nicol), San Francisco (Mr R Mackay), Seattle (Mrs F Turnbull), Sheffield (Mrs E Burling), Somerset (Mrs S Barnes), South Argyll (Mrs J Harper), South Wales (Mr W A Gray), Southport (Mr S Brown), St Johns Newfoundland (Mr J T Healy), St. Andrews (Miss P Stewart), Stirling (Mrs A Mackenzie), Sutton Coldfield (Mr D Willetts), Sydney (Mrs E McCausland), TAC (Ms S Carr), The Hague District (Mr J Hutton), Tokai (Mr G Hornby), Tokyo (Mrs A Clement), Toronto (Miss M Brown), Vancouver (Mr P Knight), Washington DC (Mr S Barbour), West Lothian (MrA Marr), Western Australia (Mrs A Murphy), Winnipeg (Mrs M Corson), Wirral (Mr R J Taylor), York & North Humberside (Mr M L Brown).

5. **IN ATTENDANCE:**
   Miss G Parker (Secretary) and Mrs M Jeffcoat (Treasurer)

6. **APOLOGIES**
   Apologies had been received from representatives of the following branches: Atlanta, Bath, Croydon & District, East Angus, Mid Argyll, Norwich, Nottingham, San Diego.

7. **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**
   The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first Executive Council meeting of the dancing year 1998 - 99. She particularly welcomed the new Vice Chairman, Mr Alan Mair, and the six elected members. "I am very honoured to be taking this meeting as your new Chairman. I do hope that with your help, we will continue to ensure that the RSCDS is recognised as an open, accountable and influential body, working for dancing in Scotland and for Scottish dancing throughout the world. "

8. Mrs Gaul reminded all Representatives to ensure that they took all that they learnt about the workings of the Society, the views of other members, the plans from the committees, etc. and shared that knowledge with all the other members of their Branch. It was, she said only with their help that the affairs of the Society can be communicated effectively to the members.

9. It was unfortunate that some branches were not represented at the meeting. The new regulations for nomination deadlines approved at the AGM

would allow them to be represented at the next meeting provided their nomination was received eight weeks prior to the meeting.

10. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 9 May, were adopted as amended with the following further amendment

Para 49 the figure should read £50,000

(1 abstention)

11. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising

12. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

13. **General Purposes Committee**

The Minutes of the meeting of 26 September were ratified (on a unanimous vote) after the following discussion.

14. Independent Cost Benefit Analysis (GP98/55)

15. The RSCDS Vancouver Branch requested that the Society seek the advice of an independent cost accountant regarding whether there was an unfair split between overseas and UK branches. If so they asked that the Executive Council consider a different subscription rate for overseas branches.

16. Mr Clement explained that the matter was considered very carefully by the Committee and the question of an overseas subscription had also been debated by the Finance Committee. Neither committee approved this suggestion.

17. The Society is a Scottish charity not a members organisation. Any member paying a subscription to the Society should do so because they are interested in the preservation and promotion of Scottish country dancing and any benefits they receive are a bonus!

18. It was also noted that the Finance Committee had agreed that the Society would fund a global insurance policy to cover all branches in the same way. This policy would include £5,000,000 public liability insurance and £10,000,000 employers liability insurance.

19. After some discussion it was agreed that the matter should be referred to the General Purposes Committee for further consideration

20. Society Headquarters (GP98/47)

21. The meeting approved that the matter be referred back to the General Purposes Committee. (1 abstention) It was suggested that when considering the refurbishment of Coates Crescent, thought should be given to purchasing an alternative more appropriate site.

22. Use of Kitty MacLauchlan Bequest(GP98/43.1.3)

23. It was agreed (29 for, 8 Against, majority abstention) that branches should be consulted on the use of the interest received from the capital donated to the Society by the late Miss Kitty MacLauchlan. Branches were asked to submit their suggestions to the Committee.

24. The General Purposes Committee were asked to consider whether the RSCDS Update (sent to branch secretaries) could be made available to all Affiliated Group Secretaries and HQ members. (majority for, 6 against, 10 abstentions)

25. EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE

26. The minutes covering the two meetings were ratified with 1 abstention after the following discussion.

27. Trial marking sheet and post-exam talk

There was considerable discussion as to whether there was benefit or not, to the post-examination talk. Some members felt that it added to the stress of candidates and this should be avoided. Others felt that while the talk may be stressful it was helpful after the event to put into words where things could be improved. Mrs McCausland (who is to Direct the Seminar) agreed that the matter would be raised at the seminar.

28. FINANCE COMMITTEE

29. The Minutes of the meetings of 22 August and 24 October were ratified on a unanimous vote, following the undemoted discussion.

30. Cost of Global Policy

It was noted that the cost for the Society of an insurance policy for UK branches was £22 per branch. The same policy to cover all overseas branches was £78 per branch.

31. Expense Claims

The question of a maximum level of expenses that could be claimed by any Representative travelling to the Executive Council was raised. There was some discussion as to what a suitable level should be. It was agreed (4 against, 2 abstentions) to refer the matter back to the Committee. The Finance Committee should also consider issuing guidelines on how members could travel by the least expensive means. The total cost for the May 1998 Executive Council Expense claims were £2,102.00

32. Committee Budget Figures
After some discussion it was agreed (39 for, 38 against, 7 abstentions) that the May Executive council meeting should be provided with a list of the various committee projects and the budgetary proposals for each project.

33. Investment Advisory Panel
Mr Healy wished to make clear that he was prepared to be part of the Investment Advisory Panel provided that it was agreed that he was never prepared to answer questions regarding the panel's work at the Executive Council Meeting.

34. PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH

35. The Minutes of the meeting of 6 June and 3 October were ratified on a vote. (1 abstention) after the following discussion

36. IVP Video
(Due to the need for an urgent decision, and to avoid the costs involved in convening a special meeting for one item of business a postal ballot had been conducted as the best way to deal with the matter). Tabled at the meeting was an addition to the Minutes of the meeting of 3 October, relating to the need for, and results of. the postal ballot. It was overwhelmingly agreed (3 against, 8 abstentions) that this should be referred to as a post meeting note.

37. There was some discussion as to whether there was any constitutional basis for the post-meeting ballot of members. It was then agreed (21 for, 12 against, overwhelming abstentions) that the post meeting note would be disregarded and the matter referred for discussion to the next meeting of the Committee.

38. Access to Archives
In answer to a question, it was confirmed that any member was entitled to see items in the archives, provided suitable arrangements had been agreed with the Secretary and Archivist in advance.

39. SUMMER SCHOOL
The Minutes of the meeting were unanimously ratified.

40. SIX ELECTED MEMBERS
The following members were welcomed to the meeting as elected members.

- Miss Irene Bennett
- Mrs Helen Frame
- Dr Alastair MacFadyen
- Miss Lesley Martin
- Miss Margaret Ross
- Mr David Watson

41. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP
The Chairman advised those present that there were a number of Branches who did not fulfil the deadline requirements to allow them to nominate a representative for this meeting. However as a result of the AGM motion being accepted, they will now be able to nominate a representative for any meeting provided the nomination is in the Secretary's hands 8 weeks prior to the meeting. That nomination will be valid until the first Council meeting following the AGM. It is hoped that this change will make is easier for branches to be represented, if they wish.

42. ELECTION OF THE DIRECTOR DESIGNATE OF SUMMER SCHOOL
Mrs Johan MacLean was elected Director Designate of Summer School. *(Unfortunately Johan was unable to attend the meeting due to the late receipt of her nomination as a Representative from her Branch)*

43. ARCHIVIST
The Chairman advised the Representatives that Mr Alan MacPherson had completed his initial four year term as Society Archivist. "He has indicated that he wishes to take up the option of the further three year term of office. Alan is not able to be here today, so cannot give us a report on his work to date, but will present his report to the next meeting of the Publications committee. The position of Archivist is extremely important to the work of the Society, being the custodian of our historical documents and suitably placed to add to our considerable records. The Archivist is an honorary member of Publications committee in order to advise them on new research and findings. We are grateful to Alan for his work in researching some of the original material for the latest Leaflet of dances."

44. ELECTION OF STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS
The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Immediate Past Chairman are ex-officio on all Standing Committees

45. General Purposes Committee
Mrs Linda Gaul (Convenor)**
Mr David Watson (Finance Convenor)
Mr Bob Grant, Mrs Jessie Harper, Mr Jim Healy,
Dr Alastair MacFadyen, Mrs Christine Munro,
Mrs Alice Murphy, Mr Alastair Reid
Dr Jerry Reinstein, Mr Alasdair Smart

46. Examinations Committee
Mr Bruce Frazer (Convenor)**, Mrs Brenda Burnell, Mrs Helen Frame, Mr Alex Gray, Miss Lesley Martin.

47. **Summer School Committee**
Mrs Marjorie MacRae (Director)**
Mrs Johan MacLean (Director Designate)
Mrs Atsuko Clement, Miss Faye Golding
Dr Ian Hall, Mr Jim Rae.

48. **Finance Committee**
Mr David Watson (Convenor)**, Mr Tom Kerr, Mr Robert Mackay, Miss Betty Nairn, Miss Margaret Ross, Mr Ron Taylor.

49. **Publications & Research Committee**
Miss Irene Bennett (Convenor)**
Mr Alan MacPherson (Archivist)
Miss Christian Catto, Miss Muriel Johnstone, Miss Christine Traynor, Miss Angela Young.

50. *** Meetings of the Examinations, Publications and Finance Committees were held after the Executive Council meeting to appoint Convenors. Mrs Gaul, as Chairman, convenes General Purposes and Marjorie MacRae as Director of Summer School convenes the Summer* School Committee.

51. **TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS**
This was circulated with the papers with one change. The Finance Committee have changed their meeting to 24 April from 17 April.

52. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

53. Under 16's Committee
The AGM agreed that membership of the Society will be open to all persons interested in the objects of the Society. The Executive council was instructed to propose amendments to the constitution and suitable terms and conditions for members under 16 years of age. It was agreed that this is a complex issue requiring, amongst other things, detailed considerations of the regulations relating to children and the necessity of ensuring that any amendments comply with the charity legislation in Scotland. The process shoud therefore be started as soon as possible.

54. It was agreed (1 abstention) to set up a sub-committee of the General Purposes Committee. The sub-committee would be instructed to bring forward draft proposals to the General Purposes meeting in February and a full report to be presented to the next meeting of this Council.

55. Unsuitable Behaviour
Miss Traynor, (Glasgow), advised the Council that there had been an unfortunate incident at one of the social events during the AGM weekend. A member had used unnecessarily rude and hurtful comments regarding the dress worn by one of the youngsters who had helped with the arrangements throughout the AGM.

56. The Council unanimously condemned such comments as totally unsuitable for members of the Society. The sincere apologies of the entire meeting were expressed to the girls concerned.

57. Background Information
It was proposed that background information, provided by candidates standing for office or committee, should include not only CV information but also an indication of what the person intends to accomplish or work towards if elected.

58. Mrs Gaul announced that the Secretary and she had already had some discussion on this matter. It was unanimously agreed that the Secretary be left to amend the necessary forms.

59. Announcement of Title of Dance
It was suggested that an announcement of the name of the dance should be made at the start of each recording so that the tune can be found more easily on a cassette recording. It was agreed to refer the matter to the Publications Committee for further consideration.

60. Voluntary Code for length of service
It was agreed to ask the General Purposes Committee to consider whether a voluntary code of practice could be established to limit the length of time a Representative served on the Executive Council. (23 For, 0 against, overwhelming abstentions).

61. Strategic Plan
It was noted that the Strategic Planning Sub-Committee were to report to the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee. Should a special meeting of the Council be required, this would be agreed at that meeting of the Committee

62. Matters to be raised under Any Other Business
Representatives were asked that in future, any points that they wish to raise under Any Other Business should be submitted in writing to Miss Parker. That did not mean that items would not be taken from the floor, but it did help to have some warning so that background information could be readily available, if necessary.

63. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
It was confirmed that the date of the next meeting will be Saturday 8 May, 1999

The meeting closed at 15:00 hrs.

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Council held on Saturday 8 May 1999 at 10:30 hrs at The Learmonth Hotel, Edinburgh.

1 PRESENT

Mr A Reid (Aberdeen), Mrs S Nicoll (Annan), Mr W Zobel (Atlanta), Miss J F Walker (Ayr), Miss A McArthur (Banffshire), Dr A Paterson (Bath), Mr A Butchart (Bedfordshire), Mr B Frazer (Berks/ Hants/Surrey Border), Miss A E Johnston (Berwick-Upon-Tweed), Miss F J Mitchell (Birmingham), Mr R Grant (Boston), Mrs M Watson (Bournemouth), Mr J Hill (Brighton), Ms F Grant (Bristol), Mrs S Nedderman (Cambridge & District), Ms R Scott-Huxley (Cape Town), Dr F Reid (Carlisle & Border), Mrs A McDougall (Carnoustie), Mrs H Wemyss (Castle Douglas), Mrs L Gaul (Chairman), Mr A Cottle (Cheltenham), Ms D Rooney (Cheshire), Mrs C Fleming (Clackmannanshire), Miss R Gordon-Harvey (Cornwall), Mr ALM Boode (Delft), Miss C Catto (Detroit), Mr K Stacey (Doncaster & District), Miss E Ferguson (Dumfries), Mrs H Hall (Dundee), Mrs E Gardiner (Dunfermline), Mrs C E Smith (Duns & District), Mrs D Hays (East Angus), Mrs J Wojtacha (East Lothian), Mr B Harry (Edinburgh), Miss I Bennett (Elected Member), Mr D Watson (Elected Member), Miss M Ross (Elected Member), Mrs H Frame (Elected Member), Miss L Martin (Elected Member), Dr A MacFadyen (Elected Member), Mr D Oliver (Falkirk), Mr A Smart (Florida South), Mr W A Wildgoose (Forfar), Mrs D Scott (Forres), Mrs M Spurgin (Gatehouse of Fleet), Miss D Hamilton (Glasgow), Mr J Hutton (Hague District), Dr I G Crawford (Hamilton & Clydesdale), Miss A Young (Hamilton (Ontario)), Mrs K Boode-Masaki (Hawaii), Mrs M McIntosh (Helensburgh & District), Mr J Walker (Hunter Valley/Newcastle), Mr W Clement (Immediate Past Chairman), Miss I Whyte (Inverness & District), Miss S McEwan (Isle of Islay), Mrs O Cameron (Kilmarnock & District), Mrs M J Wildgoose (Kingston (Ontario)), Mrs E Greig (Kirkcaldy), Mrs M Jones (Kirkcudbright), Mr J D Carswell (Kitchener-Waterloo), Mrs T Boertien (Lanark), Mrs C McDonald (Leeds), Mrs M Oughton (Leicester), Mrs J Baker (Liverpool), Mr W J Gibbons (Lochaber), Mrs R Wilton (London), Mrs S Porter (Lorn (Argyll)), Mrs B Burnell (Los Angeles), Dr I M Hall (Manchester), , Mr M Murray (Mid-Argyll), Mrs A Howes (Milton Keynes), Mrs M E Hamilton (Monklands), Mrs M Devlin (N W Craven), Mrs P Houghton (New York), Mrs E Hunter (New Zealand), Mr M R Barlow (Newcastle-Upon-Tyne & District), Mrs R Dickson (North Ayrshire), Mr A Macpherson (Northern Territory), Mrs S McCraw (Northern Virginia), Mr J C Fenningworth (Norwich), Mr J Drewry (Nova Scotia), Miss J G Yeats (Ottawa), Mr D Tucker (Oxfordshire), Dr J A Reinstein (Paris), Mrs C Munro (Perth & Perthshire), Miss M Brander (Phoenix), Mr S Wilkie (Pietermaritzburg), Mr B Campbell (Portrush), Miss B Wood (Pretoria), Mrs C Middleton (Richmond), Mr R Handyside (Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles), Mr G Davie (Royal Leamington Spa), Mr T M Kerr (Royal Tunbridge Wells), Mr D Ross (S E Queensland), Dr W M Nicol (Sacramento), Ms M Johnstone (San Diego), Mr A Tweedy (San Francisco), Mrs E Burling (Sheffield), Mrs S Barnes (Somerset), Mrs J Harper (South Argyll), Mr W A Gray (South Wales), Mr S Brown (Southport), Mrs M MacRae (SS Director), Mr J T Healy (St Johns (Newfoundland)), Miss P Stewart (St. Andrews), Mr G Lawson (Stonehaven), Mr D Willetts (Sutton Coldfield), Ms S Carr (TAC), Mrs E Kemp (Teeside), Mr G Hornby (Tokai), Mrs A Clement (Tokyo), Miss M Brown (Toronto), Mrs E A Harry (Twin Cities), Mr P Knight (Vancouver), Mr A Mair (Vice-Chairman), Mr S Barbour (Washington DC), Mrs C Denholm (West Lothian), Mrs A Murphy (Western Australia), Mrs M Corson (Winnipeg), Mr R J Taylor (Wirral), Mr M L Brown (York & North Humberside).

2 ADDITIONS TO LIST OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

The following members were added to the list of Representatives eligible to attend this meeting. Their nominations having been received after the deadline for the meeting of 21 November 1999. Birmingham (Miss F Mitchell), Bournemouth (Mrs M Watson), Carlisle & Border (Dr F Reid), Cheltenham (Mr A Cottle), Cheshire (Miss D Rooney), Dundee (Mrs H Hall), Gatehouse of Fleet (Mrs M Spurgin), Isle of Skye (Mr T Raynor), Johannesburg (Mrs M Priestley), Kirkcaldy (Mrs E Greig), Lanark (Mrs T Boertien), Ottawa (Miss J Yeats), Pretoria (Miss B Wood), S.E. Queensland (Mr D Ross), Stonehaven (Mr G Lawson), Twin Cities (Mrs E Harry).

3 APOLOGIES

The Secretary read out the list of apologies from representatives of the following branches: Banffshire, Canberra & District, Croydon & District, Herefordshire, Isle of Skye, Johannesburg, Nottingham, Peterborough & District, Retford & District, Seattle, Stirling.

4 IN ATTENDANCE

Miss G Parker (Secretary), Mrs M Jeffcoat (Treasurer), Mrs J Dick (Assistant Secretary), Mrs L Bates (Membership Administrator)

5 **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

6 The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, especially those attending for the first time. She reminded those present that there were some important decisions to make and that in all the deliberations the members of the Council should remember that they were at the meeting for the greater good of Scottish country dancing both now and in the future. They should not allow their individual wishes or those of their branch to obscure the needs of the Society as a whole. Everyone, except for the six elected members, was there to represent their branch and also for their valuable views and experience.

7 It was noted, with regret, that two branches had not paid their 1998/9 subscription due in by 31 December and the Finance Committee at their last meeting, had taken the decision that these branch representatives should not speak or vote at this meeting. The branches concerned were Tucson and Twin Cities.

8 **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

9 The Minutes of the meeting of 21 November were approved (3 abstentions), as proposed by Mr Kerr and seconded by Mr Stacey, after the following amendments:

10 Mr Stacey said that he had proposed that the Society should not spend £150,000 on refurbishing Headquarters, and that this had been seconded by the Bristol representative. (*The Secretary's notes showed that the motion had been that the General Purposes Committee be asked to reconsider the whole matter and that this had been seconded by the Phoenix Representative).* Mr Stacey asked that "motions" be correctly noted.

11 There were several amendments to the list of those present at the last meeting and Miss Parker agreed to look into a more efficient method of collecting this data. The representative for Capetown and Miss Margaret Ross were added to the list of those present, and the representative for Stirling was removed from those present. Mr John Fenningworth was added to the list of members on the Finance Committee.

12 **MATTERS ARISING**

13 Mr Carswell advised those present that the General Purposes Committee had, apparently, not discussed the matter of length of voluntary service on the Executive Council. Mrs Gaul agreed to present this matter to the Committee's next meeting. It was noted that this had been delayed pending the outcome of the Strategic Planning sub-committee's discussion about the future of the Executive Council.

14 **CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION REGARDING UNDER 16'S MEMBERSHIP.**

15 Mr Mair advised the Council that the sub-committee had approached the discussions with an open mind. They were aware that what had been requested was a means of involving young people in dancing. Six months had not been a long time to present their proposals. They had found that there was no single way to satisfy all the diverse demands of Branches. The cost to the Society of implementing the proposals would be nil, but the cost to Scottish country dancing if the Society did nothing would be much greater.

16 Miss Martin asked whether it was intended that the Youth standing committee and the YSDA would have conflicting remits. Mrs Gaul explained that once the Youth committee was established the YSDA sub-committee would be subsumed by it and would cease to exist.

- Mrs Wilton asked that they consider a Youth Development Officer.
- Mr Frazer asked that they consider producing a booklet specifically for young people. (The YSDA had produced a Newsletter for 1999/2000)

17 Mrs Murphy proposed and Mr Zobel seconded that the Examinations Committee reconsider reducing the age limit for those entitled to sit the Preliminary Test. This was agreed (3 against, 10 abstentions).

18 Mr Zobel proposed and Mr Frazer seconded that the proposed changes to the Constitution be presented to the AGM. This was agreed (3 against, 5 abstentions).

19 **STRATEGIC PLAN**

20 Mrs Gaul announced that this was the first time in 76 years that the Society had considered a formal plan for growth.

21 Dr Reinstein reminded the Council that the sub-committee had consulted widely and that the end result was based on a consensus of opinion. Despite this, it was not expected that everyone would agree with everything in the Plan. Some actions required changes to the Constitution and some required funding. The Council was asked to agree the concepts contained in the papers so that they could be presented to the AGM.

22 Mission Statement

23 Mrs Houghton proposed and Mr Fenningworth seconded the proposal that

the Mission statement be amended to read "To promote Scottish dance and its music"

Mrs Oughton and Mr Nicol proposed "To promote Scottish country dancing, in its traditional style, and its music and also to encourage other forms of Scottish dancing"

Mr Zobel and Mr Boode proposed the status quo.

The status quo was agreed (12 against, 7 abstentions).

The Mission Statement was approved for presentation to the AGM (3 against, 1 abstention).

24 Vision Statement
The Vision statement was approved for presentation to the AGM (1 abstention).

25 Objectives
1. Carried (1 abstention)
2. Carried unanimously
3. Carried unanimously
4. Carried (1 abstention
   Mr Fenningworth and Mr Nicol proposed that the word "country" be removed – this was rejected (16 for, 2 abstentions)
5. Carried unanimously
6. Carried unanimously
7. Carried unanimously
8. Carried unanimously
9. Carried unanimously
   It was suggested that research should be considered for floors, footwear, warm ups and warm downs.
10. Carried (3 abstentions)
11. Carried (2 abstentions)
12. Carried (1 abstention)

26 At this point there was discussion of the goals the following topics were generally supported:

- Production of a quarterly magazine would have a financial implication, this needed to be considered before any action could be taken.

- Demonstrations should be a part of the youth objectives but not the sole or major objective.

- Lots of new members were put off by complex dances and this needs to be considered when compiling programmes.

- It was part of the examiners' role to try to reduce the amount of stress on candidates.

- RSCDS style of music involved strict tempo. Other dance styles had more flexible tempos which allowed bands to play in a different style.

- The Society should not single out any one instrument although it was noted that despite the large number of fiddlers, very few played for SCD.

- Some members questioned whether branches would feel disenfranchised by the proposals to reduce the Executive Council, while others recognised that this could mean an extended members conference with one member one vote.

27 The sub committee was thanked for all their hard work involved in the preparation of the Plan. Mrs Gaul said that we were now moving ahead, despite the fact that it was by centimetres rather than feet.
The meeting closed for lunch at 13:40 hrs.

The meeting reconvened after lunch at 14:10 hrs

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28 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

29 Examinations Committee

30 The Minutes of the meeting of 16 January were approved on a proposal from Mr Gray and Mrs Burnell.

31 Mr Frazer reported that due to lack of response, the Potential Tutors and Tutors Courses had been held together. It was good to see 3 members from overseas attending the course. Miss Martin as Course Director was thanked.

32 Five new adjudicators had been appointed: Miss Margeret Ross, Mrs Helen Frame, Mr Neil Grant, Ms Avril Smilie, Miss Christine Traynor. In answer to a question, Mr Frazer explained that an adjudicator assessed and marked the ability of dance teams at festivals.

33 He also explained that the Committee was investigating the whole examination system and it was likely that we would see changes to this in the future.

34 The Minutes were ratified, unanimously, on a proposal by Mr Smart, seconded by Mrs Wilton.

35 Summer School Committee

36 The Minutes of the meeting of 27 February were approved on a proposal by Mr Hall, seconded by Mr Mair.

37 Mrs MacRae reported that the numbers for the 1999 Summer School were well down on normal years. There would be no Teachers

Certificate class on the 2nd Course due to lack of demand. She advised that there was to be a Winter School based at the Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry, from Thursday 24 – Tuesday 29 February 2000.

38 Mrs MacRae reminded the Council that this was her last meeting as Director of Summer School and thanked the Council for their assistance.

39 The Minutes were ratified unanimously on a proposal by Mr Butchart seconded by Mrs Gordon-Harvey.

40 **Publications Committee**

41 The Minutes of the meeting of 20 March 1999 were approved as proposed by Ms Johnstone seconded by Miss Young.

42 Mrs Gaul advised the Council that the video of the manual project had begun in a flurry in 1994. She thanked all those involved and advised the Council that the members of the Publications and Research Committee were anxious to see the matter concluded. She went on to say that the Committee was unhappy with the technical quality of the film, but no cost-effective solution had been found. She detailed the expenditure being £12,626.16 to EPM (the video filming and editing company), £1,890.15 for hire of facilities, and £645.65 for expenses. All this was spread over the period 1995-1998. The Committee had been unanimous that a video would be released showing the "tricky bits" of the dances as contained in the Manual. This would be footage from one camera only per dance and it was hoped that this would be a valuable resource to teachers. The Committee had agreed that only high quality products should bear the Society name.

43 Mrs Gaul asked for a vote on the decision to issue a "How do you do it?" video at a cost of no more than £10. This was proposed by Mr Gibson and seconded by Mr Healy. This was carried (1 against, 6 abstentions).

44 Miss Bennett reported that the subscription copy for 1999 was to be Book 40 and not as first intimated a leaflet. The book was aimed at young people and new dancers and would be accompanied by a cassette and CD recording. Recordings of books 25 and 26 would also be released this Summer. She also advised the Council that in future all recordings would only be issued on CD.

45 Several members commented that the Publications Committee had a considerable amount of work to deal with, and that the remit of the Committee was very far ranging. Ms Scot-Huxley questioned whether the size of the Committee should be increased. (as there was no seconder, no decision was taken)

46 The Minutes were ratified on a proposal by Miss Scot-Huxley seconded by Mr Knight (1 against, 1 abstention).

47 **FINANCE**

48 The Minutes of the meeting of 24 April were approved as proposed by Mr Fenningworth and seconded by Mr Taylor.

49 Mr Watson explained that the 1998/9 figures looked to be in line with the budget allowing for the extra income from the high attendance at Summer School and the associated sale of Society goods.

50 He said that the Finance Committee wished to apologise to the RSCDS New Zealand Branch for any distress caused by a remark made at the last Executive Council meeting concerning payment of their subscriptions. The New Zealand branch is well managed and has always paid their subscriptions on-time and we wish to publicly acknowledge this.

51 He presented the budget for 1999/00 and reported that this was the first time that the budget had been presented to the May Executive Council. Unfortunately, the figures did not make good reading and it was clear that the Society's costs were increasing faster than its income.

52 While subscription income was expected to increase (due to the 50p increased subscription rates), it was still difficult to accurately predict this figure. It was expected that Summer School income would be less due to the split School, and this would also have an effect on the sales of goods at Summer School.

53 Income from goods sold is expected to be lower given that fewer recordings are to be made than in 1998. The costs of the Bulletin and Newsbrief are likely to be increased as a Directory of Secretaries is also due to be produced this year..

54 Staff costs are increased and it is proposed that an additional member of staff will be employed.

55 The effect of the above is that the Society expects to show a deficit of £30,000 for the forthcoming year. As the increased information output from HQ (and its associated costs) start to be shown in the accounts it is clear that the

present subscription level is far from adequate for the operation of the Society in its present form. Staff at HQ are expected to work without problems as they are asked to tackle new technology, continually changing systems, increasing paperwork output, the introduction of a Winter School, and a host of other things. The modern computer driven paperless office uses more paper than ever and gives expectations of ever more tasks. Those who e-mail us expect faster responses, our website needs updated or it will stagnate. We are under-funded.

56 There are alternatives: we could scale down output from HQ; we could spend less on books, recordings and videos; we could cut out the Newsbriefs; provide no subscription copies; and make no expense payments for attendance at meetings.

57 Mr Watson went on to say that the Strategic Plan in para. 12.1.1 states "Set a subscription rate that realistically reflects the benefits of membership and permits fulfilment of the agreed plan". We have difficulty in fulfilling our present commitments let alone a new one with its own costs.

58 He concluded by saying that the Finance Committee recommended a serious increase in subscriptions in order to halt the decline in Society finances and to avoid some of the alternatives he had outlined earlier.,

59 Mr Boode suggested that the Finance Committee had not fully considered the matter of expense claims. Mr Watson indicated that the Finance Committee had now considered the matter twice and had come to the conclusion that no change was required. Mr Campbell suggested that the Finance Committee should have circulated all branches asking their views. It was agreed (3 against, 1 abstention) to maintain the status quo as proposed by Mr Nicol and seconded by Miss Rooney.

60 Miss Parker was asked to contact the insurance brokers to ascertain whether or not the global policy could be extended by individual branches to cover specific items (the costs to be borne by the branches).

61 Miss Parker explained that although in many countries the state provided compulsory employers cover this was not the case in the UK. However, unless a teacher or musician of the branch was employed with a written contract of employment, the insurers did not deem them to be employees, and thus they were covered under the global third party insurance.

62 It was noted that the Society was continuing to lose money and this could not continue indefinitely. Each time a deficit was incurred, the Society lost some of its capital reserves. Several suggestions, such as, not producing the Newsbriefs or subscription copies; charging for a quarterly newsletter which would only be issued to branches; amalgamating the Bulletin and subscription copy were suggested. The members of the Council, when asked, indicated that they did not want to see any reduction in services.

63 Mr Fenningworth and Mr Harry proposed that the Council accepted in principle that the Society had to do something now and that another Extraordinary meeting of the Executive Council be called in August or September to agree proposals to be put before the AGM.

Miss Grant and Dr Reinstein proposed that the Executive Council agree a motion, to be presented to the AGM, that the annual membership subscription be increased to £15

Mrs Houghton and Mr Smart proposed that the Finance Committee be given authority to agree the amount of subscription in the motion to be presented to the AGM. This was carried (5 against, 10 abstentions).

64 The costs of membership of other bodies were noted at this point :

English Fold Dance & Song Society	£25
Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust	£10 (now £12.50)
Friends of the Earth	£17.50
Royal Society for Protection of Birds	£18

It was also noted that Life members were a considerable cost to the Society, which the Society had to bear, as this was the contract that had been entered into with these members at the time that they had taken out the Life membership. If they wished to contribute to the Society they could resign their membership and become annual or Long Term members.

65 The Minutes of the Finance Committee meetings were ratified (1 against, 1 abstention) on a proposal by Miss Grant seconded by Mr Smart.

66 **GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

67 The Minutes of the meeting of 10 April was approved on a proposal by Mrs Munro seconded by Mr Reid.

68 With minor changes the changes to the constitution suggested by the General Purposes Committee were accepted for presentation before

the AGM. This was proposed by Mr Healy and seconded by Miss Scot-Huxley. (2 abstentions).

69 Ref GP99/9.5 It was noted that the name A Grant was incorrect and should have read A McKenzie-Smyth.

70 Mrs Clement stated that GP99/19.9.4 referred to affiliated groups in Gunma, there were no affiliated groups in Gunma prefecture.

71 The Minutes were ratified as proposed by Mrs Smith and seconded by Mr Smart.

72 **SCROLLS**

It was confirmed with pleasure that the following members would be presented with the Society's Scroll of Honour:

Heather Byers	Melbourne & District
John Drewry	Aberdeen & Glasgow
Betty and David Grant	Toronto
Ian Hall	Manchester
Bernard Kaiman	Atlanta
Bessie Kemp	Teeside
Noreen McLennan	St. Johns (Newfoundland)
Elma See	Hunter Valley (Newcastle).

73 **AFFILIATED GROUP APPLICATIONS.**

The following groups were approved:

- Abernethy SCD Club, Inverness
- Chaffcombe & Chard SCD Club, Somerset
- Highland Heritage Society, Argentina
- Kalamazoo SC Dancers, Michigan, USA
- Kuban SC Dancers, Russia
- SCD of Hamburg, Germany
- Jabadao, Buxelles
- Munich Scottish Association, Germany
- Skagit SC Dancers, Burlington, USA
- Club de Danse Ecossaise de La Mure D'Isère, Grenoble.

74 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

75 2002 Golden Jubilee of the Queen

Mr Taylor suggested that, as 2002 marks the Golden Jubilee of the Queen, patron of the Society, we should consider a function (ball) to which Her Majesty and other members of the Royal family could be invited. Mrs Gaul advised the Council that we had already been advised that Her Majesty no longer attended balls.

76 Use of RSCDS Website

Mr Taylor suggested that the Society amend its Web site so that all branches can readily advertise their activities etc. Mrs Gaul explained that the Marketing sub-committee was actively seeking people to be able to maintain such sites. There was one for dance events in Scotland and it was hoped that this could be extended worldwide.

77 Membership

Mr Carswell suggested that the Society currently had little to attract youngster in their 20's. He said that something was needed that could kick start the Society and it should adjust the services it offers. He questioned how successful was the promotional leaflet, subscription copies and Newsbrief. Mrs Gaul indicated that there were no specific figures available.

78 AGM

Mr Carswell suggested that the Society needed to start planning ahead for the AGMs. Mrs Gaul replied that until the proposals presented in the Strategic Plan (an annual conference weekend) could be considered further, it was difficult to plan for such an event.

79 Open Forum

Mr Carswell asked what had happened to the questions raised at the Open Forum. He had raised a question of elitism and it had, apparently not been taken forward. He suggested that the Open Forum needed an independent chairman with questions being submitted in sealed envelopes.

80 Adjudicators Course

Mr Harry expressed his annoyance that Edinburgh branch had been asked to submit two teams of youngsters for the recent adjudicators course and they had been left waiting for 2 hours before they were required to dance. Mr Frazer explained that the original programme had required the youngsters to be present at 11:00 hrs and was then adjusted. It appeared that due to an oversight the dancers had not been informed. Letters had been sent to Edinburgh and Perth Branches apologising for this error, and the Committee would be informed of this at their next meeting. Mr Harry was asked to write to the Committee expressing his concern.

81 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Mrs Gaul announced that the next meeting would convene on Saturday 20 November 1999.

Mrs Gaul thanked the members for their patience and support throughout what had proved to be a long meeting.

Mr Mair thanked the Chairman and HQ staff for all their hard work.

The meeting closed at 17:30 hrs

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Minutes of Executive Council Meeting
held on Saturday, 20 November 1999 at 10:30 hrs
in Learmonth Hotel, Edinburgh

1 PRESENT

Mr A Reid (Aberdeen), Mrs B Gibbons (Adelaide), Mr W Zobel (Atlanta), Mrs H Frame (Ayr), Dr A Paterson (Bath), Mrs D Aitken (Bedfordshire), Mrs E Cameron (Belfast), Mr B Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border), Mr R Grant (Boston), Mrs M Watson (Bournemouth), Ms F Grant (Bristol), Mrs S Nedderman (Cambridge & District), Miss F Golding (Canberra & District), Dr F Reid (Carlisle & Border), Mrs M Burney (Castle Douglas), Mrs C Fleming (Clackmannanshire), Miss R Gordon-Harvey (Cornwall), Miss L Ogilvie (Croydon & District), Mr ALM Boode (Delft), Mr K Stacey (Doncaster & District), Mr A Beggs (Dundee), Mrs C E Smith (Duns & District), Mrs M B Gardner (East Angus), Mr P Carpenter (Edinburgh), Mr C McCausland (Florida North), Mr W A Wildgoose (Forfar), Mrs D Scott (Forres), Mrs M Spurgin (Gatehouse of Fleet), Mrs AJT Gordon (Glasgow), Mr J Hutton (Hague District), Dr G I Crawford (Hamilton & Clydesdale), Mrs K Boode-Masaki (Hawaii), Mrs M Rintoul (Herefordshire), Miss S McEwan (Isle of Islay), Mr T Rayner (Isle of Skye), Mrs M Priestley (Johannesburg), Mr J Johnston (Kilmarnock & District), Mrs M J Wildgoose (Kingston (Ontario), Mrs M Jones (Kirkcudbright), Mrs C McDonald (Leeds), Mrs M Oughton (Leicester), Mrs J Baker (Liverpool), Mrs R Wilton (London), Mrs S Porter (Lorn (Argyll), Mrs B Burnell (Los Angeles), Dr I M Hall (Manchester), Mrs A Howes (Milton Keynes), Mrs J C Gardner (Monklands), Mrs J Robinson (N W Craven), Mrs P Houghton (New York), Mr M R Barlow (Newcastle-Upon-Tyne & Dist.), Mrs R Dickson (North Ayrshire), Mr W Clement (Northern Virginia), Mr J C Fenningworth (Norwich), Miss J Watkinson (Nottingham), Mr J Stott (Nova Scotia), Mr D Tucker (Oxfordshire), Dr J A Reinstein (Paris), Mrs C Munro (Perth & Perthshire), Mr P McLean (Peterborough & District), Miss M Brander (Phoenix), Mr S Wilkie (Pietermaritzburg), Mr B Campbell (Portrush), Mrs M P Stacey (Retford & District), Mr A Barnes (Ribble Valley), Mrs C E Middleton (Richmond), Mr R Handyside (Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles), Mr G Davie (Royal Leamington Spa), Mr T M Kerr (Royal Tunbridge Wells), Dr W M Nicol (Sacramento), Mr R Mackay (San Francisco), Mr B Harry (San Gabriel Valley), Mrs F Turnbull (Seattle), Mrs E Burling (Sheffield), Mrs J Harper (South Argyll), Mr W A Gray (South Wales), Mr S Brown (Southport), Miss P Stewart (St. Andrews), Mr J T Healy (St. Johns (Newfoundland)), Mrs A Mackenzie (Stirling), Mr G Lawson (Stonehaven), Mr D Willetts (Sutton Coldfield), Mrs E McCausland (Sydney), Ms S Carr (TAC), Mr G Hornby (Tokai), Mrs A Clement (Tokyo), Mrs E A Harry (Twin Cities), Mr P Knight (Vancouver), Mr D Gray (Victoria), Mrs C Denholm (West Lothian), Mrs A Murphy (Western Australia), Mr R J Taylor (Wirral), Mr M L Brown (York & N. Humberside).

2 ELECTED MEMBERS

Miss I Bennett, Miss D Hamilton, Mr A Kellett, Miss L Martin, Mr D Watson

3 OFFICIALS

Mrs L Gaul (Chairman), Mr A Mair (Vice Chairman), Mrs J MacLean (Director of Summer School), Mr A MacPherson (Archivist).

4 ATTENDING

Miss G Parker (Secretary) and Mrs M Jeffcoat, (Treasurer). Mrs M MacRae and Miss I Bennett were present exofficio as outgoing Director of Summer School and Convenor of Puiblications and Research Committee to report on the decisions of their respective Committees.

APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from the representatives of the following branches: Bedfordshire, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Brighton, Cheshire, Hamilton (Ontario), Inverness & District, Kirkcaldy, Monklands, Teeside, and Washington DC.

5 Chairman's Welcome

Mrs Gaul welcomed members to the first meeting of the 1999/2000 dancing calendar particularly those who were elected at the

AGM and those who were attending for the first time. Thanks were given to Mr David Watson, Miss Irene Bennett and Mrs Marjorie MacRae all of whom were demitting office as Convenors of their respective Committees.

6 Due to the lack of response, no arrangements would be made for lunch in future and representatives would have to make their own arrangements.

7 Mrs Gaul went on to remind representatives that they had duties and responsibilities and this meant that they had to report the business of the meeting to the branch committee and to try to represent their views and decisions at the meeting. In some cases however it was necessary to make executive decisions and representatives should be prepared to do so.

8 Minutes of Last Meeting
The Minutes of the last meeting were approved as an accurate record on a proposal by Ian Crawford seconded by Tom Kerr (1 against and 1 abstention).

9 Ron Taylor proposed that the Minutes be corrected to indicate that the Liverpool Branch Representative had raised a question of the use of 1st class postage. Jean Baker seconded this. It was approved. The Chairman had assured all present at the last meeting that second class postage was the usual method of posting correspondence except in special circumstances

10 Matters Arising
Mrs Gaul indicated that she was very pleased to be able to report that the two branches mentioned at the last meeting had both paid their subscriptions for the previous year and were now "back in the family". There were no other matters arising.

11 Elected Members to the Executive Council 1999/2000
It was confirmed that the following members had been elected at the Annual General Meeting.

- Miss Dorothy Hamilton
- Mr Andrew Kellett
- Miss Lesley Martin
- Mr David Watson

12 List of Representatives and Elected Members.
The list of Representatives sent to all branches with the papers was approved. It was noted however that additional names might be added by way of Representatives whose nominations were not received in time to attend this meeting, but who could attend the next meeting.

13 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

14 General Purposes
The Minutes of the last meeting were approved on a proposal by Jim Healy, seconded by Christine Munro.

15 New Working Party
It was noted that a working party had been established to investigate a new structure for the Society. (The Working Party comprises: *Linda Gaul, Alan Mair, Alastair Brown, John Fenningworth, Jimmy Hill, Jean Martin, Fiona Grant, and Stella McCraw)*

16 Japanese Branches.
It was noted that discussions were still ongoing regarding boundaries for branches in Japan. It was still hoped that a local solution could be achieved although at present some of the branches and affiliated groups appeared to be unwilling to work together. After some discussion it was agreed that although the Committee had already spent a great deal of time discussing the matter, it would continue to consider it.

17 Branch Disbandment
It was with great regret that the Moffat Branch had now begun procedures to disband.

18 AGM Venue
Malcolm Brown suggested that as the Society was experiencing problems in finding suitable venues to host the AGM, it should consider a permanent venue. Peter Carpenter suggested we should consider venues outwith Scotland. It was agreed that this would form part of the discussions of the new Structure working party.

19 The Minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Mary Jane Wildgoose and seconded by Bob Grant.

20 Finance

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved, as proposed by Ron Taylor and seconded by Robert MacKay.

Summer School Fees

It was noted that the following fees would apply to the 2000 Summer School.

		discount
Resident		
(Week 1)	£255	£15
(Wk 2,3 or 4)	£295	£16
Course 1	£545	£31
Course 2	£590	£32
Non-Resident		
(Week 1 only)	£72	£7
(Week 2, 3 or 4)	£86	£8
(Course 1)	£144	£15
(Course 2	£176	£16

Non-members attending the Introductory course would pay an additional £15 and members under the age of 21 would receive a discount of £50 each.

22 Cost Savings

David Watson reminded representatives that the Society was currently in the financial year 1999/2000. Much of the expenditure had already been committed, therefore, any attempt to reduce the proposed deficit would have to be by means which had immediate effect.

23 There followed some discussion on the merit of various cost saving measures: Keith Stacey suggested there was a need to restructure the Executive Council and that the HQ needed to move to a centre of excellence. Mary Oughton suggested that the Newsletter was more popular than the Bulletin and that the subscription copy should be available for sale. Alice Murphy suggested that no money should be spent on HQ. It was also suggested that the Society should make use of PDF technology on the Internet.

The voting was as follows:

24 Produce a subscription copy with words only. A full version of the words and music to be available for purchase for those who want it. (Proposed by Jim Healy seconded by Ron Taylor) carried (7 votes against)

Subscription Copy to be made available for sale and not issued free to all members (Proposed by Mary Oughton seconded by Pauline Stewart) – rejected 3 votes for.

25 Include the dances in the Bulletin in a words only format. A full version of the words and music to be available for purchase by those who want it (proposed by Ian Hall seconded by George Hornby) – rejected (16 voted for)

26 Include dances in the Newsbrief in word only format. A full version of the words and music to be available to those who want it. (Proposed by Jerry Reinstein seconded by Rosemary Gordon-Harvey) – rejected (9 votes for).

27 Continue with the status quo and produce the subscription copy as is. (proposed by Tom Kerr and seconded by Elizabeth Harry) – rejected

28 Revised Budget

It was noted that the quarterly budget figures considered by the Finance Committee had been revised due to the decisions not to employ an additional member of staff, revised subscription income predictions etc., this now meant that the proposed deficit for the current year was likely to be in the region of £15,000

29 Newsbrief

It was proposed by Ron Taylor and seconded by Bill Clement that the Newsbrief not be issued in 2000. This was rejected (4 votes for).

30 It was proposed that the Newsbrief be distributed one per branch in 2000 and also be put onto the Society's website. (proposed by Alex Gray seconded by Jerry Reinstein) This was carried (7 against).

31 Executive Council Expenses

Aad Boode proposed and Trevor Raynor seconded the proposal that, no expenses be given to representatives attending the May 2000 meeting of the Executive Council. This was carried (8 votes against).

32 HQ Administration Fees

It was noted that Finance Committee had recommended that the administration fee, payable by members joining the society via HQ should be increased.

33 Alex Gray proposed that the annual HQ administration fee be £7 (this to be added to the £8 Society subscription for members joining through HQ). Keith Stacey seconded. This was carried 3 against).

34 It was proposed by Jim Healy and seconded by Francis Reid that the long-term HQ administration fee is £70 (this to be added to the £80 Society subscription for members joining through HQ). This was rejected (18 votes for).

35 It was further proposed by Alex Gray and seconded by Tom Kerr that the long-term HQ administration fee is £120 (this to be added to the £80 Society subscription for members joining through HQ). This was carried (3 votes against)

36 Several suggestions were put forward regarding a "Friends of the RSCDS " scheme, covenants and gift aid and it was agreed that these would all be considered by the new Working Party that was looking at restructuring the Society.

37 The Minutes were ratified unanimously, as proposed by Trevor Raynor and seconded by Keith Stacey.

38 **Examinations**

The Minutes of the meeting of 11 September were approved as proposed by Helen Frame seconded by Brenda Burnell. The Minutes of the special meeting of 31 October were approved as proposed by Alex Gray seconded by Lesley Martin.

39 It was proposed by George Hornby and seconded by Jim Healy that a single grade dancing proficiency test be investigated. This was approved with 2 votes against.

40 It was agreed that with immediate effect any new certificate course would expect candidates to dance 3 dances, a reel, a jig and a strathspey. This was proposed by Moira Stacey, seconded by Fay Golding and unanimously approved

41 There followed discussion regarding the very low fees given to examiners. Currently PT £1 per candidate and TC £2 per candidate. It was also suggested that the policy regarding translations of written papers and transcripts needed further discussion. Mr Frazer agreed to take these points back to the Committee for further consideration.

42 The Minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Wilson Nicol and seconded by Robert MacKay.

43 Publications

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved as a correct record.

44 PR99/62.7 had stated that "Given the financial constraints it was agreed that no new publications, beyond Book 41 would be considered until such time as all previous recordings were available on CD."

45 There followed some discussion and it was agreed to reject this proposal (2 votes against, 9 abstentions). The Society would continue to issue subscription copies in word only format and with a full version with words and music available for purchase.

46 The Minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Peter Knight and seconded by Peter Carpenter.

47 **Summer School**

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved with the following corrections, as proposed by Ian Hall and seconded by Marjorie MacRae,

add "of" between "the" and "Bulletin" page 1, column 2, 1st para.

Page 2, 1st col, para 2. Insert brackets before "The Assistant Secretary" and close after "to be returned". Words in brackets to be in italics as this was information available after the meeting.

Page 5 "New Hall". Replace "Younger Hall" with "New Hall".

48 It was suggested that the Committee should remove the requirement for men attending the introductory course to wear the kilt.

49 Correspondence from St Andrews Branch regarding Saturday dances would be referred to the next Committee meeting.

50 The Minutes were ratified unanimously

as proposed by Mike Barlow and seconded by Carol Smith.

51 Affiliated Groups

The following groups were approved.

Ashbourne Scottish Country Dancers
Beckwith Scottish Dance Group
Caledonian Society of Cyprus
Colwyn Bay, Llandudno & Dist. Caledonian Society
Dyffryn Clwyd Scottish Country Dancers
Groupe de Danse Ecossaise de Carpentras
Happy Scottish Country Dance Club
Kanazawa Scottish Country Dance Club
Pembrokeshire Group of Scottish Dance Clubs
Pencaitland Junior Scottish Country Dancers
Oxford University Scottish Dance Society
Waverley
Yamato Scottish Country Dance Club

52 **Elections to Committees**

The following members were appointed to the committees as listed below:

- General Purposes Committee

Linda Gaul (Convenor), Alan Mair (ex-officio), John Fenningworth (ex-officio), Susan Carr, Jessie Harper, Brian Harry, Jim Healy, Christine Munro, Wilson Nicol, Sue Porter, Alastair Reid, Pauline Stewart

- Summer School Committee

Johan MacLean (Director), Linda Gaul (ex-officio), Alan Mair (ex-officio), Atsuko Clement, Ian Hall, Moira Stacey, Rachael Wilton

- Examinations Committee

Bruce Frazer (Convenor)*, Linda Gaul (ex-officio), Alan Mair (ex-officio), Helen Frame, Alex Gray, Lesley Martin, Elma McCausland

**The Convenor of this Committee was elected at the first meeting of the Committee held immediately following the Executive Council meeting.*

- Finance Committee

John Fenningworth (Convenor)*, Linda Gaul (ex-officio), Alan Mair (ex-officio), Dorothy Hamilton, Elizabeth Harry, Tom Kerr, Robert MacKay, Keith Stacey, Ron Taylor

**The Convenor of this Committee was elected at the first meeting of the Committee held immediately following the Executive Council meeting.*

- Publications and Research

Alan Mair (Convenor)*, Linda Gaul (ex-officio), Barbara Gibbons, Anne Gordon, Rosemary Gordon-Harvey, Peter Knight, Angela Young (Muriel Johnstone was co-opted onto the Committee as Music Director)

**The Convenor of this Committee was elected at the first meeting of the Committee held immediately following the Executive Council meeting. It was agreed that this was a temporary appointment until such time as an alternative Convenor could be appointed. It was also agreed to co-opt Muriel Johnstone to the Committee and to appoint her as Music Director.*

- Youth Committee

Fiona Turnbull (Director), Linda Gaul (ex-officio), Alan Mair (ex-officio), Andrew Kellet, Lorna Ogilvie, Marilyn Watson

53 Any Other Business

53.1 Venue for Executive Council Meetings

Alice Murphy and Lesley Martin suggested that the Learmonth Hotel venue was inconvenient. (This was rejected with only 16 votes for)

53.2 Children's Act

Peter Carpenter suggested that the Youth Committee should provide advice for branches regarding compliance with the Children's Act.

53.3 Membership Drive

Following the Chairman's article in the January Newsbrief, several submissions had been received from members sponsoring new members. A draw had taken place at HQ and the winning member was Christiane Ogeret.

54 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Executive Council would take place on Saturday 13 May 2000 at 10.30am

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Minutes of Executive Council Meeting held on Saturday, 13 May 2000 at 10:30 hrs in the Learmonth Jarvis Hotel, Edinburgh

1 PRESENT

Mr A Reid (Aberdeen), Mrs B Gibbons (Adelaide), Mrs S Nicoll (Annan), Mrs H Frame (Ayr), Mrs E Cameron (Belfast), Mr B Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border), Miss A Johnston (Berwick upon Tweed), Mrs M Watson (Bournemouth), Mr J Hill (Brighton), Miss F Golding (Canberra & Dist), Ms R Scott-Huxley (Cape Town), Mr F Reid (Carlisle & Border), Mrs M Paterson (Carnoustie), Mrs H Wemyss (Castle Douglas), Ms D Rooney (Cheshire), Ms C Fleming (Clackmannanshire), Miss R Gordon-Harvey (Cornwall), Miss L Ogilvie (Croydon & Dist), Mr A Boode (Delft) Mr K Stacey (Doncaster & Dist), Miss B Ferguson (Dumfries), Mr A Beggs (Dundee), Mrs E Gardiner (Dunfermline), Mrs C Smith (Duns & Dist), Mrs D Hays (East Angus), Mr D Gray (Edinburgh), Mrs A Browning (Falkirk), Mr C McCausland (Florida North), Mr A Smart (Florida South), Mr W Wildgoose (Forfar), Miss M Ross (Forres), Mrs A Gordon (Glasgow), Mr J Hutton (The Hague & Dist), Mr I Crawford (Hamilton & Clydesdale), Miss A Young (Hamilton Ont), Mrs K Boode-Masaki (Hawaii), Mrs E Fugler (Helensburgh & Dist), Mrs M Rintoul (Herefordshire), Mr J Walker (Hunter Valley), Miss S McEwan (Isle of Islay), Mrs O Cameron (Kilmarnock & Dist), Mrs M J Wildgoose (Kingston Ont), Mrs E Greig (Kirkcaldy), Mrs M Jones (Kirkcudbright), Mrs T Boertien (Lanark), Mrs C McDonald (Leeds), Mrs M Oughton (Leicester), Mrs J Baker (Liverpool), Mrs R Wilton (London), Mrs S Porter (Lorn), Mrs B Burnell (Los Angeles), Mrs J Gardner (Monklands), Mrs J Robinson (NW Craven), Mrs P Oughton (New York), Mrs E Hunter (New Zealand), Mr M Barlow (Newcastle upon Tyne), Mrs R Dickson (North Ayrshire), Mr J Murphy (Northern Territory), Mr B Clement (Nothern Virginia), Mr J Fenningworth (Norwich), Miss J Yeats (Ottawa), Mr D Tucker (Oxfordshire), Dr J Reinstein (Paris), Mrs C Munro (Perth & Perthshire), Miss M Brander (Phoenix), Mr S Wilkie (Pietermaritzburg), Mr B Campbell (Portrush), Mrs M Stacey (Retford & Dist), Mr A Barnes (Ribble Valley), Ms C Irvine (Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles), Mr G Davie (Royal Leamington Spa), Mr T Kerr (Royal Tunbridge Wells), Dr W Nicol (Sacramento), Mr R Mackay (San Francisco), Mr B Harry (San Gabriel Valley), Mrs F Turnbull (Seattle), Mrs E Burling (Sheffield), Mrs J Harper (South Argyll), Mr S Brown (Southport), Ms P Stewart (St. Andrews), Mr J Healey (St Johns Newfoundland), Mrs A Mackenzie (Stirling), Mr D Willetts (Sutton Coldfield), Mrs E McCausland (Sydney), Ms S Carr (TAC), Mr G Hornby (Tokai), Mrs A Clement (Tokyo), Mrs E Harry (Twin Cities), Mr P Knight (Vancouver), Mr S Barbour (Washington), Mrs C Denholm (West Lothian), Mrs A Murphy (Western Australia), Mrs W Mumford (Winchester), Mr G Donald (Winnipeg), Mr R Taylor (Wirral), Mr M Brown (York & North Humberside).

2 ELECTED MEMBERS

Mr A Kellett and Mr D Watson

3 OFFICIALS

Mrs L Gaul (Chairman), Mr A Mair (Vice Chairman), Mr A MacPherson (Archivist).

4 IN ATTENDANCE

Ms E Gray (Secretary/Administrator) and Mrs M Jeffcoat, (Treasurer).

5 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Mrs J MacLean (Director of Summer School), Miss L Martin and Miss D Hamilton (Elected Representatives), and from the representatives of the following branches: Atlanta, Bath, Bedfordshire, Birmingham, Boston, Bristol, Cambridge, East Lothian, Gatehouse of Fleet, Johannesburg, Medicine Hat, Nottingham, Peterborough, Richmond, Somerset, Stonehaven, Teeside and Toronto.

6 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mrs Gaul welcomed members to her last meeting as Chairman of the Society, and thanked everyone for giving their time to benefit the Society. She had been proud to serve as Chairman, and thanked members for their support and especially standing committee members for their hard work and commitment.

7 Mrs Gaul formally introduced the new Secretary/Administrator, and paid tribute to the other members of the team who kept the office running smoothly in the absence of a Secretary.

8 Mrs Gaul reminded those present that they were attending as representatives of their Branch, that they had the responsibility to pass on to their members the decisions made and the thinking behind decisions, and to vote upon matters discussed which may not have been consulted upon beforehand.

9 Mrs Gaul announced the recent death of Susan Neddermann, the Cambridge Branch representative on the Council for many years. She asked all members to join her in sending condolences to Susan's family.

10 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of 20 November 1999 were approved as an accurate record on a proposal by Keith Stacey seconded by Wilson Nicol, with one abstention.

11 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising not listed elsewhere.

12 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

13 Examinations Committee

Mr Frazer highlighted a correction to the minutes of 15 January 2000: page 2, column 2, "Translation of Exam Papers" – item number should be EX00/13, not EX99/13

He also noted that with reference to item 41 of the previous Executive Council minutes, referring examiners' fees back to the Committee, this was discussed at the Examinations Committee although not minuted, and it was agreed there would be no change to the existing fees.

The minutes as amended were approved as proposed by Helen Frame, seconded by Elma McCausland.

14 Mr Frazer highlighted item EX00/4, Budget, where there appeared to be conflict with the Finance Committee minutes. He confirmed that the expenditure was actually within budget.

15 With regard to EX/10.2, the Tutors' Course had been cancelled due to lack of interest, and Mr Frazer queried whether this signified that demand had peaked. He believed the proposed cycle, alternating at Summer School, would be successful. He also mentioned a new course, Teaching Skills, which would be open to all teachers, not just those doing the candidate courses.

16 Tours outlined in item EX00/11 had gone ahead.

17 With regard to item EX00/13 on translation of exam papers, guidelines had been issued, applied during the recent Japan tour and will apply to Summer School.

18 Little progress had been made on the proficiency test, item EX00/17, but it was hoped to do more at the next meeting and have a proposal for the AGM.

19 It was proposed by Bill Clement and seconded by John Hutton that the Committee reconsider the proposal (EX00/13) that the candidate select the translator. This was approved with two abstentions.

20 Alice Murphy raised the issue of equitable treatment of those sustaining injuries late in a course, highlighted in the Examiners' Seminar notes. Mr Frazer proposed dealing with this item under the Exam System Review.

21 There was discussion on item EX00/5, and Mr Frazer confirmed that there was no age limit for people to be considered as examiners, but there are guidelines for required experience. It was suggested that where examiners continue as tutors, younger teachers could be encouraged to shadow them.

22 It was suggested, with reference to item 1.4 of the Seminar notes, that model answers be produced. Mr Frazer felt that this was impractical, but agreed that guidance in answering questions needs to be included in tutor training.

23 The minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Tom Kerr and seconded by Stanley Wilkie.

24 Examination System Review

It appeared that, despite advance notification, a number of representatives had not brought this previously circulated paper with them. It was agreed that further copies would be made and this item taken after the lunch break, when members would be expected to vote on the proposals.

25 Summer School Committee

Minutes of the meeting of 11 March 2000 were approved as proposed by Atsuko Clement and seconded by Moira Stacey.

26 In Johan MacLean's absence, Mrs Gaul highlighted the main points. The Winter School had been successful and it was planned to repeat this event in 2001. Mrs Gaul had agreed to be Director. The two new classes at Summer School for Musicians and Potential Tutors are well subscribed, and a grant of £250 from the Scottish Arts Council had been received towards the Musicians' Course.

27 In response to a query regarding item SS00/2/4, Mr Mair confirmed that because of brevity, the minutes were not entirely accurate. The total number of tickets available for the Younger Hall had been increased to 180, but there was technically no allocation of tickets to the Society. If the tickets had all now been sold, there was nothing the Society can do about it. He also confirmed that St Andrews Tourist Office had reduced the number of tickets because of some complaints of attendees being without tickets and the hall being too full.

28 The minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Robert Mackay and seconded by Elizabeth Harry.

29 Publications and Research Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 25 March 2000 were approved as proposed by Rosemary Gordon-Harvey and seconded by Angela Young.

30 Mr Mair highlighted the main points of the minutes, paying tribute to the hard work of all the committee and in particular Rosemary Gordon-Harvey who took on the role of Minute Secretary following Ms Parker's departure, and Marjorie MacRae who took on the role of Acting Editor. Following Muriel Johnstone's departure, Dorothy Hamilton had agreed to take on the role of Music Convener.

31 Mr Mair reported that the committee had considered at length the decision to produce a subscription copy with words only, a full version with words and music being available for purchase. After taking costs, stock considerations and possible sales into account, the committee has proceeded on the basis that any book produced as a Subscription Copy would be of a size and quality comparable with the current output, regardless of its contents. The P & R Committee now asked the Executive Committee to recognise the contribution made by the Subscription Copy towards the promotion of music relating to Scottish Country Dancing and propose that the Subscription Copy be retained in its present form meantime.

32 Mr Mair confirmed that approval had been received from the Finance Committee to dispose of old stock and replace it with reviewed material while they conduct a review of the pricing and discount policy.

33 The issue of sponsorship of CDs was discussed, some members being unhappy that only sponsors of the full amount would have their names on the cover. Mr Mair responded that the committee had to decide a threshold, and that it would be impossible for reasons of space to name a large number of donors of small amounts. Jerry Reinstein proposed that printing of the name of a sponsor should be permitted if they gave over 50% of the total amount. This was seconded by Malcolm Brown, and approved with 8 votes against and 5 abstentions. This matter would be taken back to the committee.

34 With regard to minute PR00/06.3, Book 41, Malcolm Brown questioned whether the Society was pricing books too high. Mr Mair responded that he had covered this issue earlier, and that the committee is reviewing when books were printed and reviewed, together with numbers bought and the general pricing policy. It was pointed out that Book 41 is a Subscription Copy, and profit will only be made on the surplus.

35 With regard to the MacNab dances, Peter Knight had all dances on video, and proposed that the film be made available to the Society for P&R to take on editing and captioning, and subsequent marketing of the finished product. Roz Huxley seconded this proposal. Angela Young suggested that rather than a definite decision to take this on, the proposal should be for the committee to consider completing and marketing the video in the light of its overall video policy and its budget for next year. This proposal was seconded by Graham Donald and approved with one vote against and one abstention.

36 The proposal made by Mr Mair in his introduction for the subscription copy to be retained in its present form was formally proposed by Ron Taylor, seconded by Tom Kerr and approved with two votes against and four abstentions.

37 The minutes of all four meetings considered were ratified unanimously as proposed by Barbara Gibbons and seconded by Rosemary Gordon-Harvey.

38 Finance Committee

Minutes of the meeting of 29 April 2000 were approved as proposed by Ron Taylor and seconded by Tom Kerr.

39 Mr Fenningworth highlighted a number of issues from the minutes of 29 April which would require the Executive Council's authorisation.

40 Minute FC00/27.6 – The committee had agreed that a rate per mile only for expenses would be simpler, and that this rate should be increased to 12p per mile, with the committee reviewing this figure annually.

41 Minute FC00/27.8 – All Executive Council members are trustees of the Society and personally liable, and the committee proposed that the Society insure the whole of the Council for the sum stated.

42 Minute FC00/29.1.2 – In the past, the cost of production of CDs was shown as an expense in the year incurred. The committee believes the masters should be treated as assets in the balance sheet and written off over a period of 4 years, with effect from CD 41 this year.

43 Minute FC00/30.1 – A draft budget for 2000-2001 had been attached to the April minutes. This may change, particularly in the light of decisions made at this Executive Council. It was highlighted that the Society only receives 85% of subscription fees, and sales of CDs and merchandise, with the rest going in VAT.

44 Minute FC00/30.2 – Given that there are likely to be many changes coming out of the Management and

Membership review, the committee felt that we could budget to run at a deficit for the year. It was therefore proposed not to increase subscriptions for 2001-02, but members are reminded that if we carry on making a deficit, this will reduce capital. It is estimated that it would take about 10 years for the General Fund to be dispersed, beyond which the Society could cease to exist.

45 Minute FC00/30.2 – The committee proposes that it is in the Society's interests to suspend long term membership or renewals with immediate effect, until the Management and Membership review is complete.

46 Minute FC00/31 – The budget has assumed bringing the bulk of the accounting in-house over the next year. The cost of doing so will be capitalised and spread over several years.

47 Minute FC00/32 – Refurbishment of Coates Crescent had been deferred by the Executive Council last year, because of the financial situation. However, the committee felt it was important that this work go ahead, and proposed that the cost be treated as capital expenditure.

48 Minute FC00/34 – A capital budget totalling approximately £40,000 had been included for the first time.

49 There was discussion on the issue of insurance for Executive Council members, many being unclear that they were liable. It was confirmed that legal advice had been sought and that this was the case.

50 The issue of branches seeking charitable status was discussed at length. Mrs Jeffcoat reported that it was fairly straightforward for the RSCDS as its prime aim is educational, but could be more difficult for branches, which are primarily social. However, her advice is that charitable status is desirable for a number of reasons. Keith Stacey confirmed that his branch had acted as a "guinea pig" in applying for charitable status, and he believed it was straightforward and was happy to give advice and support to other branches. It was noted that branches electing to give up charitable status would be required to pass any financial or other assets back to the Society or other charitable body with similar objectives.

51 Jerry Reinstein questioned the assumption in the budget that membership would remain at the level stated in the April minutes, as it appeared to be declining. Mr Mair reported this was one of the reasons for not increasing subscription for next year, in order not to lose any more members. Mrs Gaul stressed that the branches share the responsibility for getting new members.

52 Angela Young queried the suggestion to lower the price of CDs, which she felt were comparable to retail prices. Mr Fenningworth suggested that decreasing the prices may sell more. With transfers to CD, many have been sponsored , at no cost to the Society.

53 The issue of payment of Executive Council expenses was discussed at length. A proposal was made by Aad Boode and seconded by Roz Huxley that no Council expenses be paid for Executive Council meetings except to office-bearers. There was a counter proposal from Alice Murphy, seconded by Jo Robinson, that expenses after the first £20 should continue to be paid, and this was passed by a majority, with ten votes against and eight abstentions.

54 Bruce Frazer stated that the draft budget figure headed "Examiners overseas travel" in fact included all expenses, not just overseas. Mr Fenningworth agreed to amend the headings.

55 Peter Knight asked whether fire-proof storage for archives and masters was included in the refurbishment costs. Mr Fenningworth responded that it was not, but the suggestion was welcomed and would be taken forward by the Secretary.

56 Margaret Brander suggested that sending one copy of the Newsbrief to branch secretaries was not effective, as many branches had no access to photocopying, fax or email. She suggested that representatives should also receive copies. Mrs Gaul stated that it was intended that the Newsbrief should go to every member. This was not done last year due to cost constraints, but it is hoped to revert to the original idea.

57 Mrs Gaul confirmed that many of the questionnaires to branches regarding insurance had now been returned, and responses would be analysed soon.

58 In response to Malcolm Brown's query regarding supply of eg Subscription Copy to life members, Mrs Gaul stated that these are supplied to the branches who are responsible for making them available to life members, but not necessarily posting them.

59 There was some discussion with regard to the proposal to suspend long-term membership. It was agreed that this is not a proposal that needs to be taken to the AGM, but it was recognised that some branches may have to change their branch constitutions as a result of decisions taken at the Executive Council. Branches could still take on long-term members if they wished, but remit to HQ only on an annual basis. The proposal to suspend long-term membership pending

the outcome of the Management and Membership Review, proposed by John Fenningworth and seconded by Elizabeth Harry, was carried with 58 votes for, 19 against and 11 abstentions.

60 The Minutes of both meetings were ratified as proposed by Jerry Reinstein and seconded by Alice Murphy, with one abstention.

61 **EXAMINATIONS SYSTEM REVIEW**

Mr Frazer introduced this paper by explaining that Issue 1 of this paper had been the result of much debate and discussion by last year's committee, and had been put to the Examiners' Seminar in October. Incorporation of discussion and suggestions from that forum had resulted in Issue 2, currently being discussed. In the list of recommendations, item 3.12 had already been ratified at the Executive Council of November 1999. Items 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.10, 3.14, 3.19 and 3.21 are all already practised but not formally documented, or being given additional clarification.

62 Atsuko Clement suggested that regarding item 3.10, theory was very important in countries like Japan, where dancing is less well established than in the UK, US or Australia. Mr Frazer agreed that theory was important, but there was a need to recognise that some candidates would be very unfamiliar with written exams.

63 Di Rooney suggested that there was unfairness in the discrepancy between people doing certificates at Summer School and in the branches in terms of when the unseen dances are received. In branches, there is generally much more notice, with plenty of time to rehearse, which does not happen at Summer School. Mr Frazer felt that the problem was not difficulty in communicating the dance to the candidate, but rather that the candidate should have time to prepare. In the branches, the candidate may have work and other commitments and not much free time. He agreed that more than one week was excessive.

64 Roz Huxley proposed that the items listed in minute 62 above be accepted, this was seconded by Mike Barlow, and approved unanimously.

65 Mr Frazer highlighted the next group of items, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.11, 3.13, 3.15, 3.17, 3.18 and 3.20, all of which followed a logical progression from existing or approved procedures.

66 After a brief discussion, it was proposed by Ian Crawford and seconded by Alasdair Smart that the items listed in minute 66 be accepted, and this was unanimously approved.

67 Mr Frazer moved on to item 3.7, the dancing proficiency test, which had been approved in principle. This was supported by many members, who felt that it would be useful in reducing time spent on dancing in candidate courses and allow more time to be spent on teaching. Rachel Wilton proposed that this item be accepted, seconded by Di Rooney, approved with two votes against.

68 Mr Frazer took as the final group items 3.8, 3.9 and 3.16, which are proposals likely to affect organisation, administration and costs at branch level. After discussion, it was agreed that these should be voted on separately.

69 Jean Yeats proposed that the recommended maximum class size for Preliminary Test and Teachers' Certificate be 14. This was seconded by Angela Young, and approved with two abstentions.

70 Elizabeth Harry proposed that the recommended course time for both Preliminary Test and Teachers' Certificate be 40 hours, with candidates attending a minimum 30 hours. This was seconded by Ron Taylor, and approved with five votes against and six abstentions.

71 A proposal to dispense with verbal feedback was defeated with nine votes for and seven abstentions. There were no proposers for the feedback to be increased to 20 minutes. It was agreed therefore that the status quo would prevail, with verbal feedback remaining at 10 minutes.

72 **GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting of 8 April 2000 were approved as proposed by Wilson Nicol and seconded by Christine Munro.

73 Jim Walker proposed the support of Ms Gray as Secretary, seconded by Mary Jane Wildgoose. This motion will now go to the AGM.

74 Mrs Gaul highlighted key issues from the minutes. Firstly, Minute GP00/18/3 regarding proposed changes in the management and membership structure. It was stressed that the figures and benefits listed in the interim report were purely illustrative.

75 Minute GP00/10/1 referred to refurbishment of HQ, and that as funds had already been allocated to this, it would proceed, alongside some rearrangement of ground floor office space.

76 Mrs Gaul stated that an issue of concern is the disbandment of branches, with three ceasing to exist this year. All three were small and had sound reasons for taking this decision, but it is a worrying trend.

77 Andrew Kellett suggested that the proposals regarding management and membership be separated, that the management change be made quickly but more time be given to consider membership issues. Mr Mair responded that it was not easy to de-couple the two.

78 Concern was expressed by Lorna Ogilvie at the charge threshold, and that those who "just want to dance" would do the cheap way. Mr Fenningworth responded that if there is a smaller paying membership at the AGM, some costs would be cut, eg on subscription copy. Branches could still give their local members whatever they wished.

79 Brian Campbell reported that none of his branch agreed with the proposals on membership, and none would become voting members. He felt that non-voting members must be given something as part of the package. He also believed that the Society could not break the contract entered into with life members. Mr Mair responded that last year, 10% of the membership were life members, and 13% this year. The more this share of total membership increases, the more annual members have to pay to cover costs. Mrs Gaul believed that members need to understand they are paying to support the Society, not just in order to receive benefits – in other organisations, people pay just to belong, and support something they are passionate about.

80 Dennis Tucker's branch (Oxfordshire), with 45-50 members at its AGM and another 50, reported that 25 had said they would pay the higher subscription.

81 Ron Taylor again suggested that the management changes be implemented now, as a separate issue from membership changes. Mr Fenningworth pointed out that there are 8 pages to the Constitution, and that to change the management structure would require changes to all but four paragraphs, which cannot be done in four months.

82 Alice Murphy pointed out that her overseas branch was formed after a number of smaller clubs. If there were two levels of membership, it was possible that no-one would go for the higher one and that they might as well stay in the small clubs. Mr Mair responded that the Society was currently losing members, and if the fee was put up, would lose more.

83 Jean Yeats queried whether it was proposed that members of Branch executives and teachers be obliged to be full members. Mrs Gaul replied that it would probably not be mandatory, but would be advisable.

84 Keith Stacey reported that his branch was opposed to the proposed two levels of membership. He asked if voting could not be handled through the branches. Mr Fenningworth responded that this would not be advisable, as it would be difficult to hold the branches to account. Under the proposed structure, voting would be done by post and any counting would be done by a separate organisation.

85 John Hutton raised several points. Firstly, the cost of a postal ballot is an expense. Secondly, there was concern over checks and balances regarding the Board, and how easy or difficult it might be to make changes once it was in place. He also felt that the branches might be "out of the loop" with regard to motions to the AGM. Mrs Gaul responded that there was a Branch Convention proposed, and that branches could put proposals through the Management Board or in the name of one of their members.

86 Di Rooney questioned whether postal voting was necessarily the best way – she felt the opportunity to discuss and hear other people's views was helpful.

87 Jerry Reinstein questioned whether the proposed questionnaire had received any input from professional market researchers. Mr Mair replied that the intention was not for the questionnaire to be sent out looking for a yes/no answer – rather for each member to say what they want. It would be very easy to add "0" or "other" to the appropriate sections of the questionnaire for clarity.

88 Mrs Gaul concluded the discussion by saying that there would be no vote on this issue at the moment. She assured representatives that the Working Party would take account of all comments now, and at the meetings in November and May next year, before proposals went to the AGM next year.

89 George Hornby thanked the GP Committee and the Executive Council for their patience in discussing the problems of Tokai Branch, but reported that the branch still feels that the problem has not been resolved. They had requested the Society to write to both Tokyo and Tokai branches confirming that "the activities of individual members of the Tokai Branch and the activities of Affiliated Groups to which member of Tokai Branch belong can take place freely in Tokai area and in Tokyo area without any restriction under the 'branch area' system". The proposal by George Hornby to refer this back to GP Committee was seconded by Tom Kerr, but rejected, with no votes in favour and five abstentions. Mrs Gaul would write to the Tokai Branch to inform them of this decision.

90 Malcolm Brown raised the question of changes to branch constitutions, having been informed that the GP Committee were unhappy with their proposed changes. Mrs Gaul responded that although the branches are autonomous, she believes the Society had a "duty of care", and it was felt that the proposals in question were undemocratic in their approach.

91 John Hutton questioned whether the original criteria are being adhered to with respect to scroll nominations. Mrs Gaul agreed that the criteria had probably changed over the years, but scrolls are by no means awarded lightly, and indeed some nominations had been rejected this year.

92 In response to a comment regarding the lack of updating of the website, Jim Healy reported that the Society had now taken control of the website and moved it to a different server. Action is now being taken to update various sections, and HQ have undertaken to provide the news to put on the site.

93 Roz Huxley questioned the value of the questionnaire that had been circulated on dusty floors. Mrs Gaul replied that this had been identified as a problem in a number of areas, and it was felt that the Society should gather information in order to give a considered response, as a service to branches.

94 It was confirmed that the intention was to evaluate and review the Strategic Plan on an annual basis.

95 The minutes of both meetings were ratified unanimously as proposed by Sue Porter and seconded by John Hutton.

96 **Youth Committee**

The minutes of 4 March 2000 were approved as proposed by Andrew Kellett and seconded by Lorna Ogilvie.

97 Mrs Turnbull had prepared a summary of actions taken and proposed by the Youth Committee, which was available at the meeting, and she addressed some of the highlights.

98 Of the questionnaires distributed to branches, 54 had been returned and been found very helpful, particularly in terms of giving named contacts regarding youth issues.

99 The Scottish Consultative Council on the Curriculum have agreed they want a package for schools to tie in with various aspects of the curriculum. It needs to be done quickly, and will require co-operation from members of other committees. It is suggested that the package will contain a book of simple dances, a video and a CD. Sponsorship will be sought, and the suggested price for the pack is £25.

100 A draft Code of Practice has been produced as a model for branches.

101 Badges have been produced, which it is hoped will be bought primarily for distribution to children – however, they have the millennium logo, and are not just for children. They are priced at £3 for 20.

102 Malcolm Brown suggested that point 10 of the draft Code of Practice be changed to "Teachers must report the facts...". Angela Young suggested that point 4 should be changed to "Only teachers and musicians who are known...". Jerry Reinstein suggested that point 2 of the Code should be included somewhere in what was sent out, but was not appropriate to be included in the Code itself.

103 Brian Campbell made several further points on the draft Code: point 4, he believed that police checks should be made "known and trusted" being insufficient; point 6, rates of approved adults present to children should be given, should never be 1:1, and emergencies should be considered; point 7, guidance is needed as to what "safe" means; point 10, the branch chairman may not be sufficient or appropriate. Having been delegated responsibility for the drafting of the Code, Andrew Kellett responded on behalf of Mrs Turnbull. He stated that it was felt inappropriate to encourage a culture of police checks, and in any case there is currently no mechanism by which these can be carried out, pending the setting up of the Criminal Records Bureau in possibly 2001. Many of the guidelines have been taken from guidance provided by the Guide Association, which is probably higher risk than the Society. Finally, this was a model, and branches were free to adopt a more rigorous approach if they choose. Mike Barlow proposed that the draft be adopted as a model, subject to the changes in minute 103 above, this was seconded by Di Rooney and approved with one vote against and two abstentions.

104 The minutes of both meetings were unanimously approved as proposed by Rachel Wilton and seconded by John Hutton.

105 **AWARDS OF SCROLL**

The following scroll nominations were unanimously approved:

Erica Archer
Betty Lee Barnes
Brenda Burnell
Frances Gray
Mary Jamieson
Frans Ligtmans
Anselm Lingnau
Evelyn Murray

Mary Murray
Beatrice Nairn
Susan Nedderman
Margaret Ross
Fife Council Physical Education Visiting Teacher Service

It was agreed that Susan Nedderman's award would be made posthumously.

106 AFFILIATED GROUPS

Mrs Gaul noted that there was a net loss of five affiliated groups this year. The following groups had been approved:

Bridport Scottish Dancers
Ericht Scottish Country Dance Club
Fortrose Scottish Country Dance Group
Lady Lake Scottish Country Dancers
Mitaka TS Scottish Country Dancers
St Nicholas Buccleuch Country Dance Club
Stratherrick Hall Dance Class
Terrace Scottish Country Dancers
Tokyo Scottish Dancers

107 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Roz Huxley reported that Cape Town Branch did not want to receive hard copies of the minutes, and asked if they could be posted on the website. Mrs Gaul responded that she would prefer confidential information not to be available on the web. It was agreed that sending committee minutes by email does happen more often, and is an option that can be considered.

108 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Saturday 18 November 2000 at 10.30. The venue will be confirmed at a later date.

Minutes of Meeting of the Executive Council
held on Saturday 18 November 2000 at 10.30am
in the Jarvis Learmonth Hotel, Edinburgh

1 PRESENT

Mr A Reid (Aberdeen), Mrs S Nicoll (Annan), Mrs P A Walker (Atlanta), Mrs H Frame (Ayr), Miss A McArthur (Banffshire), Dr A Paterson (Bath), Mr B Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border), Miss A E Johnston (Berwick-upon-Tweed), Mrs C M Gray (Boston), Mrs M Watson (Bournemouth), Mr J Hill (Brighton), Ms F Grant (Bristol), Dr J Smith (Cambridge & District), Mr T M Kerr (Cape Town), Dr F Reid (Carlisle & Border), Mrs M Paterson (Carnoustie), Mrs H Wemyss (Castle Douglas), Ms D Rooney (Cheshire), Mrs C Fleming (Clackmannanshire), Miss R Gordon-Harvey (Cornwall), Miss L Ogilvie (Croydon & District), Miss E Ferguson (Dumfries), Miss P Stewart (Dundee), Mrs E C Gardiner (Dunfermline), Mrs C E Smith (Duns & District), Mrs M Martin (East Lothian), Mr P Carpenter (Edinburgh), Mrs E Walker (Falkirk), Mr C McCausland (Florida North), Mr A Smart (Florida South), Mrs D Scott (Forres), Mrs A J T Gordon (Glasgow), Mr J Hutton (Hague District), Dr G I Crawford (Hamilton & Clydesdale), Miss A Young (Hamilton, Ontario), Mrs K Boode-Masaki (Hawaii), Mrs E Fugler (Helensburgh & District), Mrs M Rintoul (Herefordshire), Mr J Walker (Hunter Valley/Newcastle), Miss I Whyte (Inverness & District), Miss S McEwan (Isle of Islay), Mr T Rayner (Isle of Skye), Mr J Johnston (Kilmarnock & District), Mrs J Andrews (Kingston, Ontario), Mr J Armstrong (Kirkcaldy), Mrs M Jones (Kirkcudbright), Mrs T Boertien (Lanark), Mrs C McDonald (Leeds), Mr K Oughton (Leicester), Mrs R Wilton (London), Mrs S Porter (Lorn, Argyll), Mrs B Burnell (Los Angeles), Mr J Priestley (Manchester), Miss B Nairn (Medicine Hat), Mrs J C Gardner (Monklands), Mrs J Robinson (NW Craven), Mrs P Houghton (New York), Mrs E Hunter (New Zealand), Mr P O Quince (Newcastle-Upon-Tyne & District), Mrs R Dickson (North Ayrshire), Mr J Murphy (Northern Territory), Mr W Clement (Northern Virginia), Mr J C Fenningworth (Norwich), Mr J Stott (Nova Scotia), Miss J G Yeats (Ottawa), Mr D Tucker (Oxfordshire), Mrs J Blair (Perth & Perthshire), Miss M Brander (Phoenix), Mr B Campbell (Portrush), Mrs M P Stacey (Retford & District), Mr M Douglas (Ribble Valley), Mrs C E Middleton (Richmond), Miss C France (Rochdale), Mrs J Sharp (Roxburgh, Selkirk & Peebles), Mr G Davie (Royal Leamington Spa), Miss P Davoll (Royal Tunbridge Wells), Dr W M Nicol (Sacramento), Mr R Mackay (San Francisco), Mr B Harry (San Gabriel Valley), Mrs F Turnbull (Seattle), Mrs E Burling (Sheffield), Mrs J Harper (South Argyll), Mr W A Gray (South Wales), Mr S Brown (Southport), Mr D Taylor (St. Andrews), Mr T Notman (St. Catharines), Mrs A MacKenzie (Stirling), Mr G Lawson (Stonehaven), Mrs E McCausland (Sydney), Mr A Carr (TAC), Mr G Hornby (Tokai), Mrs A Clement (Tokyo), Miss M Brown (Toronto), Mrs E A Harry (Twin Cities), Miss E Allan (Vancouver), Mr D Gray (Victoria), Miss S Mayr (Vienna), Mrs M Thomson (West Renfrewshire), Mrs A Murphy (Western Australia), Mr G W Donald (Winnipeg), Mr R J Taylor (Wirral), Mrs P Clark (York & North Humberside).

2 ELECTED MEMBERS

Miss M Ross, Miss L Martin, Mr P A Hyssett, Mr A Kellett, Mr D Watson, Miss D Hamilton.

3 OFFICIALS

Mr A Mair (Chairman), Mrs J Martin (Vice-Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Immediate Past Chairman), Mrs J MacLean (Director of Summer School), Mrs F Turnbull (Youth Director), Mr A MacPherson (Archivist).

4 IN ATTENDANCE

Ms E Gray (Secretary/Administrator) and Mrs M Jeffcoat, (Treasurer).

5 APOLOGIES

Mrs E Cameron (Belfast), Mrs D Hays (East Angus), Mr W A Wildgoose (Forfar), Dr J A Reinstein (Paris), Mrs R Purcell (Peterborough & District), Mr D Ross (Queensland), Mrs S Barnes (Somerset), Mr S Barbour (Washington), Mrs C Denholm (West Lothian).

6 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr Mair welcomed representatives to the meeting, and said how honoured he was to have been asked by 192 delegates to become Chairman. He took on the role with a degree of nervousness but encouraged by the belief that, while sometimes different views were held, the same vision was shared by all.

7 Mr Mair welcomed the new Vice Chairman, Mrs Jean Martin, from Aberdeen Branch. He also welcomed all those who were serving on the Executive Council for the first time, and encouraged those who were doing so to seek clarification of any points or procedures if necessary. He stressed the importance of representatives acting as an effective link between the Executive Council and the branches.

8 Mr Mair went on to remind members of the objects of the Society, and to emphasise the importance of representatives taking part in the Society's decision-making process.

9 Mr Mair noted that there would be an additional item on the agenda, Any Other Business.

10 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of 13 May 2000 were approved as an accurate record as proposed by Tom Kerr and seconded by Wilson Nicol, with one abstention, subject to the following amendments:

(i) item 18 should read "...and have a proposal for the November Executive Council."

(ii) item 103: the reference in the last sentence should read "...changes in minute 102 above."

11 MATTERS ARISING

12 Minute 91 - Scroll Award Criteria

John Hutton questioned whether it was proper for nominations for award of scroll to come from Standing Committees, particularly one from the same Committee that judges nominations. Mr Mair pointed out that the current rules state that a nomination can come either from a Branch or a Standing Committee. He also reminded members that the recommendation from General Purposes Committee has to be ratified at the Executive Council.

John Hutton proposed that the General Purposes Committee should not be permitted to nominate candidates. This was seconded by Peter Quince, but defeated by a majority, with only 20 votes for and 12 abstentions.

John Hutton proposed that in order to maintain the appropriate standard, the award of a scroll must be made under the original criteria, and that if the General Purposes Committee consider that a need exists for a similar award under different criteria, they may bring proposals before the Council for approval. This was seconded by Brian Harry, but defeated with 33 votes for, 16 abstentions and 41 votes against.

13 ELECTED MEMBERS

The elected members to the Executive Council are as follows: Miss M Ross, Miss L Martin, Mr P A Hyssett, Mr A Kellett, Mr D Watson, Miss D Hamilton.

14 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

The composition of the Executive Council had been distributed with the meeting papers.

Post-meeting note: Mrs Fiona Turnbull, Director of Youth, should be added to the list of office bearers.

15 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

16 Youth Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 16 September 2000 were approved as proposed by Lorna Ogilvie and seconded by Andrew Kellett.

17 Mrs Turnbull said that much had been done since January, and an update had been distributed to representatives on arrival at today's meeting. She summarised the main points:

- The schools' resource pack was progressing well. The high quality pack being produced in conjunction with LATS (Learning and Teaching Scotland), is their first cultural project since the Scottish Parliament's cultural initiative. Sponsorship would be sought, and Mrs Turnbull welcomed input from any representatives with experience or contacts in this area.
- The Youth Committee had held a very interesting meeting with some young adult dancers, who brought forward a proposal for an Easter School for young people.
- It had been suggested that young people today expect to get tests and certificates. With the help of the Examinations Committee, the Youth Committee would look into some kind of graded test, possibly eventually leading to a dancing proficiency test.
- The first Youth Newsletter had been produced and distributed, including being posted on the website.

18 The minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Di Rooney and seconded by Alex Gray.

19 General Purposes Committee

The minutes of 30 September 2000 were approved as proposed by Sue Porter and seconded by Wilson Nicol.

20 Mrs Gaul outlined some key issues:

- The Committee had undertaken a review of the Strategic Plan, which was on the agenda for this meeting. That had not been easy, as no specific targets had been set. However, the objectives had been kept in mind in all the Committee's deliberations. A Working Party would be established for year 3 of the Plan to

review and update it, and hopefully include specific goals.

- The system for dealing with amendments to Branch constitutions had been cumbersome, with even insignificant changes taking a lot of time. There are four clauses within Branch constitutions that need Society approval to amend - those referring to the name, the objects, disbandment and representation in the Society. All other aspects can be decided by the Branch, and need only be submitted for information.
- The Management and Membership Working Party report would be dealt with in item 9 of the agenda.
- The Committee had recommended in principle that members of the Executive Council should serve for a finite term, and suggested that should be five years.

21 John Hutton questioned the right of the Committee or the Executive Council to rule on length of service on the Executive, as Executive members are representatives of Branches which, being autonomous, can decide for themselves. Mr Mair stated that it was the view of the General Purposes Committee that a finite term was appropriate and recommended five years, but agreed that it is ultimately for the Branches to decide.

22 There was a query as to the location of the group that was applying for Branch Status (GP00/30.1). Mrs Gaul replied that the proposed name had not been stated as discussions were ongoing and the matter was not yet resolved.

23 The question was raised as to whether GP00/31.4 referred to a query solely for the AGM, and it was confirmed that this was the case.

24 It was confirmed that the Summer School scholarship referred to in GP00/28.2 was to be shared between two students, with each receiving 50%. It was felt that it would be better for the students if two could attend at the same time.

25 Brian Harry pointed out that, with reference to GP00/26/7.8, the Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing would hold a meeting in January and suggested another letter should be sent to them.

26 Bruce Frazer requested clarification regarding GP00/28.1, as to whether the second paragraph referred to the current or the previous year's accounts. There was no Tutors' Course last year, and in the current year there would be the Tutors' Course at Summer School and the Teaching Skills course. Mrs Gaul confirmed that the minutes reflected this year's expenses, and that "Tutors' Courses" was used as a generic term in the minutes. It was agreed that the wording would be amended to clarify this.

27 With regard to GP00/28.10, it was confirmed that a report had been received from ATA, and a copy would be passed to the Examinations Committee.

28 The minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Pat Clark and seconded by Robert Mackay.

29 **Examinations Committee**

The minutes of 23 September 2000 were approved as proposed by Helen Frame and seconded by Alex Gray.

30 Mr Frazer highlighted some issues:

- The Committee had agreed that HQ would be responsible for organising the translation of papers, and a register of translators had been established.
- The Potential Tutors' Course was very successful, and there would be a Tutors' Course at Summer School 2001.
- The new Teaching Skills course to be held in Edinburgh in February was attracting much interest.
- Arrangements for the new Dancing Proficiency Test, planned for Summer School 2001, were progressing and details would be available after the January meeting.
- The Examination Syllabus had been updated and will be available within the next two weeks.
- Guidelines had been drafted for overseas tours. It was proposed to include Japan in the schedule every three years, starting in 2002.
- The effectiveness of verbal feedback was still being questioned, and would be discussed again at the next meeting.

31 David Gray felt examiners had a duty to discuss the outcome of an examination with the candidate. Mr Frazer responded that the Committee was trying to minimise stress to the candidates, and would note the comments made.

32 Alice Murphy felt it was important to consider how the Dancing Proficiency Test would be offered to overseas branches, particularly if it became a prerequisite. Mr Frazer responded that this was under consideration. The test would be carried out by examiners, whether UK or overseas.

33 In response to a query about the cost of the Dancing Proficiency Test, Mr Frazer said that £15 was a more realistic cost.

34 The minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Jo Robinson and seconded by David Gray.

Finance Committee

35 The minutes of 28 October 2000 were approved as proposed by Ron Taylor and seconded by Robert Mackay.

36 Mr Fenningworth proposed to take the minutes not including the video with IVP, which would be discussed as a separate issue.

37 Mr Fenningworth then highlighted some key points:

- The Committee had recommended a revised range of discounts, in order to simplify the issue.
- There had been much correspondence from branches with regard to Gift Aid. The Committee has undertaken to take professional, paid advice on the issue, to make sure explanations are clear and open, and it was hoped to issue advice within the next 3-6 months.
- The Committee noted at the October meeting that the financial position was satisfactory, with a very good Summer School, which had helped enormously.
- It was agreed that a proportion of the funds generated from the sale of transferred CDs would be put towards continuing the project.
- The Committee had agreed that, unless otherwise stated, funds from Summer School raffles would be put into the JMMF. However, if appropriate notice is given, funds may be allocated to a specific project.
- Youth Committee costs had increased but the Finance Committee believed it was important that the project to produce a resource pack for schools should go ahead.
- The Marketing Sub-Committee had produced a draft brochure on legacies that would be useful.
- Fees for Summer School 2001 had been set. These had been raised, as the Committee had to ensure that fees kept pace with costs.
- A review of the computer equipment in HQ had been carried out and estimates acquired for replacement. Two quotes were attached to the October minutes, one for equipment replacement as agreed in the minutes, and one for more extensive replacement. At the May Executive Council, a capital budget of £40,000 was agreed, and this would be the first part of that amount.

38 Keith Oughton said that with regard to Gift Aid, it was important to consider the different laws in Scotland and England/Wales. Mr Fenningworth agreed that this was an important consideration, and was one of the reasons that professional advice was required.

39 With regard to the replacement of computer equipment, Mr Fenningworth confirmed that the first quote only replaces one old PC, and that there were three more that he believed required to be repaired/replaced. Two other PCs only required additional memory. He also confirmed that no new operating software was being acquired.

40 Di Rooney proposed accepting option 2, with four new PCs, and this was seconded by Pia Walker. The motion was passed by a majority, with two votes against and two abstentions.

41 There was some disappointment that the member discount had been reduced to 10%. Mr Fenningworth responded part of the issue was that a small order took as long to process as a large one. He added that a group of individuals could place an order together in order to achieve the greater volume discount. He also stated that only 4 or 5 branches and TAC currently order in quantity, and at least half the branches do not buy anything.

42 Wilson Nicol pointed out a discrepancy regarding the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund, where a different figure re Susan Nedderman appeared in F00/42.5 than was shown in General Purposes minutes. It was explained that the higher figure may have represented further donations, and that would be checked.

43 There was some discussion regarding the agreement with Highlander Music, F00/40.1, and the costs of CD production. It was noted that the Society had very specific requirements regarding recordings, and Angela Young confirmed that what the Society pays bands is based on Musicians' Union rates and recording agreements, which cannot be avoided.

44 It was confirmed that no further discussions had yet been held with regard to insurance, F00/44. Mr Fenningworth had been trying to ascertain whether in effect an individual policy could be taken out for each branch, tailored to their country of location; that proved difficult because of the varying requirements of different countries. Many branches have to take out additional insurance cover. If a suitable alternative could be found, it would be put to the Executive as a proposal, but in the meantime the current insurance cover arrangements would continue.

45 The minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Lorna Ogilvie and seconded by Wilson Nicol.

Video with IVP

46 All those with any interest in the project were asked to leave the room during the discussion of the topic.

Ms Gray related the history of the project for representatives' information.

47 It was confirmed that the proposal was commercially based, with videos being sold and the Society receiving income from their sale. With regard to possible Lottery Heritage funding, it was felt that there would be a greater chance of acquiring this if the Society were involved.

48 It was confirmed that there was no business plan as such, and no formal agreement had been prepared. Fine detail such as share of profits had not been agreed, as it had been stressed throughout that the Executive Council would have to make the final decision regarding the extent of any involvement.

49 Fiona Grant proposed that the Society approve the use of its logo and archives and negotiate such fees as are appropriate, or waive these fees, but should not commit financially to a production that is already fully funded. The motion was seconded by Cecil McCausland.

50 Mrs Gaul stressed her belief that the Society needed to contribute in order to have some control over how the video was presented.

51 There was a vote on Fiona Grant's motion; it was carried with 68 votes for, 6 against, and 18 abstentions.

52 **Publications & Research Committee**

The minutes of 7 October 2000 were approved as proposed by Rosemary Gordon-Harvey and seconded by Anne Gordon.

53 Mr Mair, as Acting Convener of the Committee, highlighted some issues:

- A wire-binding machine had been purchased to produce the Musicians' Handbook (Any Good Tune), which had saved money, and can be used for other future productions.
- Thanks were due to all who had donated towards the CD reissues. The Finance Committee had agreed that a proportion of the money from sales of these would be put back into continuing the project.
- It was acknowledged that the Bulletin would be late this year; that was something Gill Parker had taken a large part in, and there had been slippage in the process.

54 Pat Clark indicated an interest in original editions of early copies of books, particularly pocket editions. Mr MacPherson knew of no source, other than members contributing, and suggested that members be encouraged to donate any original editions they had, perhaps through a request in the Bulletin.

55 Bill Clement expressed disappointment that the Lowe's Collection had disappeared, and noted that it had been agreed in the past to have a "booking" system for archive material. Mr MacPherson responded that it was not a browsing archive, and that permission had to be sought to examine articles from the archive. It was very rare for items to be removed.

56 With regard to the Tim Wright recordings, Bill Clement believed that copyright now dropped 75 years after the death of a composer.

57 Anita Mackenzie suggested that as 2001 would be the 70th anniversary of Summer School, the Committee could consider approaching recognised devisers to put together dances with a St Andrews theme for the next book. The suggestion would be taken back to the Committee for consideration.

58 Bruce Frazer expressed the hope that production of the Guidance Notes for recordings would proceed.

59 The minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Alasdair Smart and seconded by Bet Nairn.

60 **Summer School**

The minutes of 9 September 2000 were approved as proposed by Atsuko Clement and seconded by Rachel Wilton.

61 Mrs MacLean gave a summary of the main points:

- Despite having to use a number of residences, attendance was over 900 at Summer School 2000.
- There were two new courses, the Potential Tutors' course and the Musicians' course. Efforts were made to integrate the Musicians' course with the main course and the social dancing.
- With regard to the classes, some success was achieved in avoiding extensive variation in grading.
- The main problem was with the food. There were complaints about it being cold, but the university had undertaken to remedy that next year.
- Two new elements were introduced this year relating to the prevention of injury - a talk by a physiotherapist, and a masseuse providing foot and leg massage on a number of days.
- Shop sales were healthy, and efforts had been made to improve the layout.

62 Mrs MacLean would attend an Examinations Committee meeting to clarify some of the issues regarding the running of courses at Summer School.

63 Wardlaw would again be available in 2001, which will make a difference to planning and organisation. Mrs MacLean hoped to have both the Tutors' course and a Musicians' course running in 2001.

64 Plans for Winter School 2001 were progressing well, and it was hoped that it would be just as successful as the initial school had been.

65 The minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Ron Taylor and seconded by Joe Murphy.

66 **REVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN**

The report produced by General Purposes Committee had been circulated with the agenda and papers.

67 Bruce Frazer took issue with the statement in section 7, Education and Standards, para. 3, regarding apparent lack of progress in identifying additional examiners, as he said there were no criteria against which to measure this. He asked that when the Sub-Committee reviews the Plan they be asked to make objectives more measurable and clearer, and also to clarify responsibilities. Every Standing Committee should consider what contribution could be made to achieving the objectives.

68 The amount of work that had been done on the Strategic Plan was appreciated, but it was generally agreed that the objectives needed to have specific measurable goals with actions and timescales.

69 Keith Oughton proposed that the existing objectives be allocated to Standing Committees to identify goals and actions for the next two years. Mrs Gaul responded that the Working Party would be charged with identifying measurable goals, as was suggested. Mrs MacLean and Mrs Martin agreed that it would be restricting to allocate the objectives to Standing Committees, as there were many issues that crossed over different committees' responsibilities.

70 Wilson Nicol proposed that the review be accepted. This was seconded by John Fenningworth, and accepted by a majority, with no votes against and four abstentions.

71 **GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE PROGRESS REPORT ON MANAGEMENT AND MEMBERSHIP**

Mr Mair stressed that it was a progress report. The next opportunity to bring a proposal to the Executive for the AGM would be the May 2001 meeting. He stressed that the Working Party and the Committee were all listening - to members, staff, expert advice, at, for example, branch meetings, Summer School, and the discussion group at the AGM. The Working Party had not met since General Purposes prepared the report, but would meet the following day.

72 Mrs Gaul reiterated that the Working Party, General Purposes and Finance had all given the whole issue much thought. To opt for minimum change to get a management board may not be the right decision, and she believed a leap of faith was required. A recent report from HLB Kidsons recommended a board size of 10-15 for charitable organisations. Mrs Gaul stressed that the proposal to offer OMOV (one man one vote) to individual members would not undermine Branch structure, but any member who wished to contribute may do so. Branches would still be the most important group - it is they who must recruit and keep members. She believed it would be a great pity if the Society were not sufficiently inclusive to offer a low-cost option, and that the Society already operated a "two-tier" system - HQ members pay more and get less.

73 Pat Davoll's branch had concerns about how they could vote in a well-informed way for a small management board and suggested that regional constituencies would allow members to know some people they may be voting for. Mrs Gaul believed that the suggested Branch Convention would go some way to allaying those fears, as an opportunity to discuss issues and get to know people. Already those standing for committees submit photos and CVs; in future, candidates might need to provide a manifesto, indicating their priorities.

74 Andrew Kellett recognised the work done in producing the report and felt there were some good ideas. He suggested the Strategic Plan should be taken forward by a central body, smaller than the Executive Council. He proposed that when the Working Party meets, the members focus on a small management board supported by directly elected standing committees. That was seconded by Keith Oughton.

75 Fiona Grant agreed that people were apparently not supportive of the report at the AGM, but they were also not in favour of increasing the subscription to £15 to maintain the current level of service.

76 The Working Party was asked to take into account the need for some indication of the financial implications of any proposed revised structure. John Fenningworth responded that there were two issues - if the Society continued as at present, the subscription rate would have to go up. If AGM delegates were used to elect, the costs would be low. £15 subscription would probably enable the Society

to achieve OMOV, but it was not possible to predict how many members would remain or go.

77 Mr Mair said that all representatives were being asked to do was to accept the report. He recommended that nothing be done to tie the hands of the Committee, who were looking at many options from different angles, financial implications. In some ways, it could be seen as an implementation committee for the Strategic Plan.

78 Alice Murphy queried whether AGM resolutions could also be included in a ballot paper. Mr Mair agreed that could be done, and was the kind of detail that would have to be resolved.

79 Some representatives were unhappy with the suggested size of standing committees, feeling that a greater workload would be placed on to fewer people. Mrs Gaul responded that the suggested structure would give a more cohesive decision-making process. Work would be filtered down to working groups, with more people involved, using a broader base of expertise.

80 Wilson Nicol put a counter motion to Andrew Kellet's (minute 74), to not tie the Working Party's hands, and leave the issue open for further discussion. The motion was seconded by Alex Gray, and accepted by a majority, with 67 votes for, 22 against and 12 abstentions.

81 Acceptance of the report was ratified by a majority on a motion proposed by Elizabeth Harry and seconded by Rosemary Gordon-Harvey, with 12 abstentions.

82 **APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS**

The application for affiliation from Chichester District Caledonian Society was approved on a motion proposed by Jimmie Hill, seconded by David Gray, and accepted with one abstention.

83 **RESULTS OF COMMITTEE ELECTIONS**

Members were appointed to Standing Committees as follows:

84 **Summer School Committee**

Johan MacLean (Director), Alan Mair (ex officio), Jean Martin (ex officio), Linda Gaul (ex officio), Ian Hall, Carol Smith, Moira Stacey, Rachel Wilton.

85 **Youth Committee**

Fiona Turnbull (Director), Alan Mair (ex officio) or Jean Martin (ex officio), Andrew Kellett, Lorna Ogilvie, Marilyn Watson.

86 **Examinations Committee**

Bruce Frazer (Convenor)*, Alan Mair (ex officio), Jean Martin (ex officio), Linda Gaul (ex officio), Helen Frame, Alex Gray, Lesley Martin, Elma McCausland.

** Convenor elected at the first meeting of the Committee held immediately following the Executive Council meeting.*

87 **Finance Committee**

John Fenningworth (Convenor)*, Alan Mair (ex officio), Jean Martin (ex officio), Linda Gaul (ex officio), Dorothy Hamilton, Elizabeth Harry, Tom Kerr, Robert Mackay, Ron Taylor, David Watson.

** Convenor elected at the first meeting of the Committee held immediately following the Executive Council meeting.*

88 **General Purposes Committee**

Alan Mair (Convenor), Jean Martin (ex officio), Linda Gaul (ex officio), John Fenningworth (ex officio), Jessie Harper, Brian Harry, Wilson Nicol, Sue Porter, Alastair Reid, Jerry Reinstein, Margaret Ross, Alasdair Smart, Pauline Stewart.

89 **Publications & Research Committee**

Rosemary Gordon-Harvey (Convenor)*, Alan Mair (ex officio), Jean Martin (ex officio), Linda Gaul (ex officio), Alan MacPherson (ex officio), Anne Gordon, Peter Hyssett, Joe Murphy, Angela Young.

** Convenor elected at the first meeting of the Committee held immediately following the Executive Council meeting.*

90 **TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS**

The timetable of meetings for 2001 was unanimously approved as proposed by Linda Gaul and seconded by Brian Harry.

91 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Moira Stacey felt that two months' notification of Executive Council nominations was excessive and moved that Branch nominations for Executive Council representatives should be accepted up to 14 days before the meeting. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth Hunter. Following discussion, it was agreed not to vote on the motion but to ask the relevant Committee to consider whether a slightly later date might be acceptable, or the forms sent out earlier.

92 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Saturday 12 May 2001.

Mrs Gaul led a vote of thanks to Mr Mair for chairing the meeting so effectively.

The meeting closed at 3.40pm.

Minutes of Meeting of the Executive Council held on Saturday 12 May 2001 at 10.30am at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh

1 PRESENT

Mr A Reid (Aberdeen), Mrs S Nicoll (Annan), Mrs P Walker (Atlanta), Mrs H Frame (Ayr), Dr A Paterson (Bath), Mrs E Cameron (Belfast), Mr B Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border), Mrs A Johnson (Berwick Upon Tweed), Mrs E Page (Birmingham), Mrs C Gray (Boston), Mrs M Watson (Bournemouth), Mr J Hill (Brighton), Mrs F Grant (Bristol), Mr R McLachlan (Cambridge & District), Mr D Black (Carlisle & Border), Mrs M Paterson (Carnoustie), Mrs H Wemyss (Castle Douglas), Ms D Rooney (Cheshire), Mrs C Flemming (Clackmannanshire), Miss R Gordon-Harvey (Cornwall), Miss L Ogilvie (Croydon & District), Mr A Boode (Delft), Miss C Catto (Detroit), Mr K Stacey (Doncaster & District), Miss B Ferguson (Dumfries), Miss P Stewart (Dundee), Mrs E Gardiner (Dunfermline), Mrs C Smith (Duns & District), Miss M Martin (East Lothian), Mr P Carpenter (Edinburgh), Mrs E Walker (Falkirk), Mr A Smart (Florida South), Mr W Wildgoose (Forfar), Mrs D Scott (Forres), Mr Huckenhull (Gatehouse of Fleet), Mrs A Gordon (Glasgow), Mr J Hutton (Hague & District), Mrs K Boode-Masaki (Hawaii), Mrs E Fugler (Helensburgh & District), Mrs M Rintoul (Herefordshire), Mr J Walker (Hunter Valley), Miss I Whyte (Inverness & District), Miss S McEwan (Isle of Islay), Mr J Johnston (Kilmarnock & District), Mrs M Wildgoose (Kingston Ontario), Mr J Armstrong (Kirkcaldy), Mrs M Jones (Kirkcudbright), Mrs T Boertien (Lanark), Mr C McDonald (Leeds), Mr K Oughton (Leicester), Mrs J Baker (Liverpool), Mrs R Wilton (London), Mrs S Porter (Lorn), Mrs B Burnell (Los Angeles), Dr I Hall (Manchester), Miss B Nairn (Medicine Hat), Mrs J Robinson (NW Craven), Mr A Dewdney (New Haven), Mrs P Houghton (New York), Mrs E Hunter (New Zealand), Mr P Quince (Newcastle upon Tyne & District), Mrs R Dickson (N Ayrshire), Mr J Murphy (Northern Territory), Mr B Clement (Northern Virginia), Mr J Fenningworth (Norwich), Mr A MacPherson (Nova Scotia), Mr D Tucker (Oxfordshire), Dr J Reinstein (Paris), Mr R Lambie (Perth & Perthshire), Miss M Brander (Phoenix), Mr B Campbell (Portrush), Mr D Ross (Queensland), Mrs M Stacey (Retford & District), Mr M Douglas (Ribble Valley), Mrs C Middleton (Richmond), Mrs C France (Rochdale), Ms Gibson (Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles), Mrs M Wardle (Royal Leamington Spa), Mrs P Davoll (Royal Tunbridge Wells), Dr W Nicol (Sacramento), Mr R Mackay (San Francisco), Mr B Harry (San Gabriel Valley), Mrs F Turnbull (Seattle), Mrs E Burling (Sheffield), Mrs S Barnes (Somerset), Mrs J Harper (South Argyll), Mr A Gray (South Wales), Mr D Taylor (St Andrews), Mrs A Mackenzie (Stirling), Mr G Lawson (Stonehaven), Mr D Willetts (Sutton Coldfield), Mrs S Carr (TAC), Mr G Hornby (Tokai), Mrs A Clement (Tokyo), Mr D Gray (Toronto), Mrs E Harry (Twin Cities), Mrs E Allan (Vancouver), Mr D Gray (Victoria), Ms S Mayr (Vienna), Mrs C Denholm (West Lothian), Mrs M Thomson (West Renfrewshire), Mrs A Murphy (Western Australia), Ms I Stewart (Winnipeg), Mr R Taylor (Wirral), Mr M Brown (York & North Humberside).

2 ELECTED MEMBERS

Miss L Martin, Mr P Hyssett, Miss D Hamilton, Miss M Ross, Mr D Watson, Mr A Kellett.

3 OFFICIALS

Mr A Mair (Chairman), Mrs J Martin (Vice-Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Immediate Past Chairman), Mrs J MacLean (Director of Summer School), Mrs F Turnbull (Youth Director), Mr A MacPherson (Archivist).

4 IN ATTENDANCE

Ms E Gray (Secretary/Administrator).

5 APOLOGIES

Mr T Kerr (Cape Town), Mr C McCausland (Florida North), Miss A Young (Hamilton Ontario), Mr T Raynor (Isle of Skye), Ms M Killeen (Mid Argyll), Southport Branch, Mrs E McCausland (Sydney), Mrs M Jeffcoat (Treasurer).

6 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr Mair welcomed representatives to what promised to be a busy and interesting meeting. He highlighted the amount of work carried out since the last meeting by office bearers, committee members and staff, much of which was unseen.

7 He went on to mention the number of Festivals he had had the pleasure of attending, many of which were either especially for children or involved children. He thanked all Branches who organised special events and invited him or another office-bearer to attend, and encouraged Branches to keep doing so, and to give plenty of warning. He was very grateful for the generous hospitality received on his trips.

8 There was an additional item for the agenda, Applications for Branch status, which Mr Mair proposed to take after item 6.

9 He concluded his remarks by informing representatives that the children of Barclay, California were holding their Ball that day, and sent their best wishes and greetings to the Executive Council.

10 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of 18 November 2000 were approved as an accurate record as proposed by Elizabeth Harry and seconded by Lorna Ogilvie.

11 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the Minutes not dealt with elsewhere.

12 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

13 Summer School Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 10 March 2001 were approved as proposed by Carol Smith and seconded by Rachel Wilton.

14 Mrs MacLean was pleased to report that the planning and organisation of this year's Summer School was well under way. Numbers were down from last year, partly because there is no new book this year. Staffing arrangements were complete. There would be a Teacher's Certificate course in Course 1 and a Preliminary Test in Course 2. Courses had been cancelled because of a lack of uptake; that may be because many people were attending courses locally. While good for the Society's Branches, this did affect Summer School numbers.

15 Mrs MacLean highlighted other aspects of the planning for this year's Summer School:

- She had consulted with the Residence Manager and Deputy, the Head Chef and Head of Support Services to try to improve services.
- Music talks would be given by Maureen Rutherford and Ian Fraser; talks on choreography would be given by Derek Haynes and Alan MacPherson.
- The Music Course would be directed by Maureen Rutherford, and 17 participants had booked.
- The Tutors' Course was being replaced by a Teaching Skills Course.
- As a result of last year's evaluation forms, 2-week and 1-week participants would be mixed.
- Sunday presentations would include health-related talks, hymn singing and video observation.
- Approaches had been made to the Tourist Board about activities for children but no information was yet forthcoming.

16 Winter School 2001 had been very successful, and Mrs MacLean thanked Linda Gaul and the teaching staff and musicians for ensuring its success. The Director of Winter School 2002 would be Anita MacKenzie.

17 Mrs MacLean thanked Dr Ian Hall for the final analysis of last year's questionnaires. It was a huge task, but the results ensured improvements this year. It was very gratifying that most participants were very pleased with the tuition received.

18 Di Rooney suggested that Summer School might be a good opportunity for a debate on the Option chosen at the Executive Council meeting, prior to the AGM. Mrs MacLean suggested that she put this proposal in writing and the Committee would consider it. Mr Mair confirmed that there were plans for office-bearers to hold "surgeries" at Summer School, although details were not yet finalised.

19 The minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Robert Mackay and seconded by Ian Hall.

20 YOUTH COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of 21 April 2001 were approved as proposed by Marilyn Watson and seconded by Lorna Ogilvie.

21 Mrs Turnbull had attached a summary of Youth Committee actions to the April minutes, and she highlighted the main points:

- Two university students had been co-opted on to the Committee.
- The "dance Scottish" pack, comprising instructions for dances, teaching notes, a CD, video and book, was in the final stages of production. It was planned to be ready by the end of June, and a number of enquiries had already been received.
- Discussions on a possible Easter School in 2002, with James Gray as Director, were going forward.
- The Code of Practice was being reviewed.
- The Committee would welcome information on Days of Dance and Festivals.
- The Committee is working with IDTA to explore the possibility of bringing children's examinations "in-house".
- Both student scholarships for Summer School had been allocated.
- It was hoped to have a launch event for the "dance Scottish" pack, and any ideas or free PR expertise would be welcomed. Information on any children's events in October that could be tied in to a launch would be particularly useful.

22 It was confirmed that the cost of the pack would be £30, inclusive of VAT, and that 4,000 fliers were sent out by Learning and Teaching Scotland to schools and local authorities in Scotland. Information about the pack would be included in mailings to all Branches from HQ.

23 Regarding the age group for the possible Easter School, Mrs Turnbull said that a lower age of 16 was considered, but it was felt appropriate for the first event to keep the age range 18-25. When the School was successful, consideration would be given to lowering the age.

24 The minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Rachel Wilton and seconded by Tony Dewdney.

25 **GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**
The minutes of the meeting of 3 February 2001 were approved, as proposed by Wilson Nicol and seconded by Alistair Reid. Those of 7 April 2001 were approved as proposed by Brian Harry and seconded by Alistair Reid.

26 Mr Mair proposed to limit his report and any questions to matters concerning the Committee without reference to the Management & Membership proposals, as that was a separate item on the agenda. He highlighted key points from the Minutes:

- The AGM Sub-Committee was to take a more active role with organising Branches.
- The deadline for return of Executive Council representative nomination forms would remain, but late nominations would be accepted, and the nominating Branch would be expected to pass on the relevant papers.
- A meeting had taken place with STDT, but with a poor turnout, and most attendees were RSCDS members. Little progress appeared to have been made.
- A Strategic Plan Working Party was now in place; additional members were Alex Gray, Elizabeth Harry and Diane Rooney. The Working Party would seek to outline more specific targets, and all Standing Committees would be asked to contribute.
- Regarding the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund, the fact that approximately £7,000 remained to be disbursed did not imply that there had been an underspend in the current year. The sum remaining included un-spent income from previous years.
- He was pleased to report that the Society now had a committee with world-wide membership: a Working Party, which would communicate by email, had been formed to take forward development of the website. Mr Mair paid tribute to Jim Healy for all his efforts in developing the website to its current state.

27 It was confirmed that responsibility for the website lay with General Purposes, but input was expected and welcomed from Publications & Research Committee.

28 Malcolm Brown questioned whether the system for Executive Council nominations should be changed, so that an individual remained a representative until HQ were informed otherwise. Mr Mair explained the decision minuted (GP01/10.3) was a reasonable solution in response to a particular problem. If any Branch felt this was incorrect, they could put a motion to the AGM.

29 The following nominations to receive a Scroll were unanimously approved, as proposed by Alice Murphy and seconded by Di Rooney:

- Elizabeth Cathcart (West Renfrewshire Branch)
- Roy Goldring (Leeds Branch)

- Peter Knight (Publications & Research Committee)
- Dorothy Leurs (Edinburgh Branch)
- Grace Lofthouse (Cape Town Branch)
- Jeanetta McColl (Boston Branch)
- Muriel More (Glasgow Branch)

30 The minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Sue Porter and seconded by Josephine Robinson.

31 **EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting of 13 January 2001 were approved as proposed by Alex Gray and seconded by Helen Frame.

32 Mr Frazer updated the meeting on a number of issues:

- There had been useful feedback from Summer School Committee, and as a result exam procedures would be refined. Further consideration would also be given to distance learning.
- The Teaching Skills course held in February had been over-subscribed. Attendees had a wide range of teaching experience, and there was very positive feedback. Mr Frazer thanked Elma McCausland for her excellent tutoring.
- The Tutors' Course at Summer School had been cancelled due to lack of support. Instead, there would be a second Teaching Skills course, which currently had 23 applicants. Mr Frazer expressed his appreciation to Summer School Committee and HQ staff for accommodating the late change.
- There would be a Potential Tutors' Course in Edinburgh in 2002, which had an application deadline of 1 December 2001.
- Mr Frazer felt the Committee would have to re-consider its policy on the cycle of courses in the light of cancellations in the last two years.
- The 2 North American tours had been completed, and the importance of this link with HQ for tutors and candidates was noted.
- There had been 119 requests for the Dancing Proficiency Test syllabus. There were currently 10 applications for the Test in Week 1 and 6 in Week 3.
- An analysis of examination results was being compiled. It was hoped that it would help the Committee to identify training needs and areas where tutoring improvements could be made.
- After much discussion, the Committee was recommending that the present verbal feedback is discontinued, for a number of reasons:
  - many candidates found it stressful;
  - candidates were still tense after the practical exam, and often did not absorb comments;
  - because of time limitations it often came across as a negative experience;
  - it could be difficult to give feedback before the results were agreed.

  However, the Committee appreciated the value of feedback, and proposed that more detailed feedback be given to the tutor to take back to the candidates when they had unwound. Feedback on the results sheets would also be reviewed.

33 Mr Frazer responded to some specific points that had been raised regarding feedback:

- Feedback was currently given at a point in the process when the final decision had not been reached, which was not current "best practice".
- Opposition to the proposal, particularly from North America, might indicate that there was a regional/cultural factor involved.
- Overseas opposition suggested that examiners' feedback was the only opportunity many dancers had for contact with HQ –there may be a need to include time at examination centres for PR or teaching.
- Examiners were not unwilling to undergo face-to-face dialogue.
- He was unaware of any instance where feedback was not given because of lack of time. There may, however, be a need to look at limiting the number of candidates examined in one day.
- The proposal was not supported by all examiners, but the Committee was unanimous, and there had been no direct communication with the Committee to oppose the idea.
- There were clearly many factors to consider. There was commitment to creating minimal stress for candidates. It was proposed to discontinue the present system of feedback only, there were many other approaches to consider.

34 Atsuko Clement suggested that with reference to EX01/7, when there were 3 or 4 candidates, requiring two markers, the same translator should mark the same two questions in all four papers for consistency. Mr Frazer welcomed this suggestion and asked that this proposal should be put in writing for the Committee to consider.

35 Several people, particularly from overseas Branches, spoke in support of the view that the verbal debrief should be retained. However, others supported the view that it was not best practice, and not professional, to give feedback to candidates when the result was not known. David Gray proposed that the Examinations Committee reconsider the matter of verbal debriefing. That was passed by a majority vote, and the matter would therefore be referred back to the Committee.

36 It was confirmed that a pass in the Dancing Proficiency Test was not required for the Teaching Certificate.

37 Tony Dewdney asked if the Teaching Skills Course could be exported. Mr Frazer responded that Branches were being encouraged to organise such courses, although it would be preferred that an examiner took the course. He and the Committee would be happy to give help and advice.

38 It was confirmed that the pass mark of 75% for the Dancing Proficiency Test would be achieved by scoring 75% of the maximum against a checklist of items, eg correct rhythms, correct formations.

39 It was agreed that copies of (i) the feedback sheet given to candidates and (ii) the marking sheet for the Dancing Proficiency Test would be included with the minutes of this meeting.

40 The minutes were ratified unanimously, as proposed by Susan Carr and seconded by Alasdair Smart.

41 **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Mr Fenningworth noted an amendment to the minutes of 28 April 2001, item F01/24.8, line 4, where "Treasurer" should be replaced with "Auditor". With this amendment, the minutes were approved as proposed by Ron Taylor and seconded by Elizabeth Harry.

42 Mr Fenningworth summarised the main points:

- He and Ms Gray had attended a seminar on charity trustees, which was mainly concerned with SORP 2000 (Statement of Recommended Practice 2000 on the Reporting of and Accounting for Charities) and risk management. Mr Fenningworth had prepared a summary review of the SORP, which was available on request.
- Branch insurance cover had become a very large expense and it did not fulfil the requirements for cover in many overseas Branches. The existing cover was extended to December 2001 pending investigations, and the Committee was now recommending its termination. It may be possible to offer UK Branches the opportunity to "buy in" to group insurance in the same way that UK Affiliated Groups do, and Branches will be asked to notify their interest so that a quote can be obtained.
- There had been a query from New Zealand Branch on VAT; discussions and investigations to clarify the situation were continuing.
- Elisabeth Hunter, the representative for New Zealand Branch, attended the April meeting to discuss the situation, which Mr Fenningworth hoped had been helpful.
- There were clearly some potential risks regarding VAT that needed to be resolved, and it was hoped this would be done soon.
- Mr Fenningworth thanked Mrs Martin for carrying out the staff reviews. It was encouraging to find that all the staff felt part of the "family" of the RSCDS and involved in the workings of the Society, and morale was good.
- In reviewing the accounts, it was gratifying that the work now done in-house was to a high standard, enabling the quarterly accounts to be easily prepared.
- There was currently a deficit forecast for the year of approximately £14,000, but that may change.
- A draft budget had been prepared for next year, and the final budget would be presented to the AGM.
- With regard to subscriptions, the Committee recommended a rise to £15 for the year 2002-03. The long lead time between deciding on the subscription rate and its application caused some difficulties, and the Committee would be discussing this further.
- SORP 2000 came into effect this year, and applied to all UK and Republic of Ireland charities – therefore, to 39 Branches as well as to the Society. Finance and General Purposes Committees were reviewing the requirements, which would affect the annual report and accounts ending June 2002.

43 A suggestion was made for consideration of increased use of the website and electronic mail to save distribution costs, possibly a pilot scheme. Mr Fenningworth responded that there would be a

subsequently higher cost for local copying and production of materials, currently borne by the Society. Confidentiality of papers would have to be considered, and material on the website would also be available to non-members, possibly affecting membership. The general view was that electronic distribution could be optional but not obligatory.

44 Brian Harry noted that a report "Charity Scotland" had just been produced, and one of its recommendations was that charities would have to disclose any information to anyone who wished it. Mr Harry was thanked for bringing this document to the Committee's attention, and it would be followed up.

45 Keith Oughton questioned the rise of subscription from £8 to £15. Mr Fenningworth responded that the figures were estimates based on supporting current levels of activity. In response to a suggestion that it was short notice for such a rise, Mr Fenningworth said that it was stated at the last Executive Council meeting that the subscription would be raised by a substantial amount.

46 In relation to the Management and Membership discussion later in the agenda, Mr Fenningworth explained that if Option B or Option C were chosen, the Executive Council would be asked to mandate General Purposes Committee to prepare any necessary changes, including to the subscription rate. There would have to be transitional arrangements.

47 Jerry Reinstein proposed that RSCDS investments should not include any tobacco company stocks. Alasdair Smart seconded the motion. Andrew Kellett spoke against the motion, as he believed other issues could become involved, and the situation become more political than the Society might wish. There was a majority vote against, and the proposal was therefore dropped. Mr Fenningworth confirmed that the Finance Committee would be reviewing the Society's investment policy later in the year.

48 Regarding insurance, it was confirmed that the "buy-in" option would be for UK Branches only. However, it may be possible for North American Branches to act together to take out their own group insurance.

49 With regard to Gift Aid and membership subscriptions, it was confirmed that if subscriptions were paid direct to HQ, Gift Aid could be claimed. It was confirmed that individual Branches would have to resolve issues regarding local membership subscriptions and Gift Aid directly with Inland Revenue. It was noted, however, that committee members who donated expenses would be asked to complete a Gift Aid form.

50 The minutes were ratified by a majority, as proposed by Di Rooney and seconded by Jerry Reinstein.

51 PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of 24 March 2001 were approved as proposed by Peter Hyssett and seconded by Anne Gordon.

52 Ms Gordon-Harvey reported that this year had been very busy for every member of the Committee, which was not unusual. The Subscription copy for 2001 would be the Pocket Edition of Books 39-41. Forthcoming re-issues included Pocket Edition of Books 1-3, Book 3 and a complete set of the Leaflet Dances with music. Books 22 and 23 were also being revised. This material tied in with CD transfers being sponsored by St Andrews, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Ayr Branches. Notices of intent had also been received from other Branches regarding the transfer or re-recording of material. The Society was extremely grateful to all the Branches who were supporting this work so generously.

53 The Committee had been involved in the production of the special edition Newsbrief distributed to all members. Ms Gordon-Harvey reminded representatives that the final wording was only made available after the April General Purposes meeting.

54 A number of requests had been received for assistance with warm-ups, and the Committee had approached a selection of possible contributors with a view to publishing an edited collection of different approaches.

55 There had been an excellent response to the request for dances for Book 42, aimed at celebrating the 70th anniversary of Summer School. To date, over 60 dances had been received, and the Committee would be tackling the selection process over the coming months.

56 A further volume of Muriel Johnstone's "Any Good Tune" was being planned, and the

Committee was hoping to be allowed access to Nan Main's work also.

57 Following an approach from a member, the Society had approached Roy Goldring to devise a suite of dances to be incorporated into the Scotia Centenary Programme celebrations being promoted by the Royal Scottish Geographical Society. The programme was in honour of William Spiers Bruce, "Scotland's forgotten polar hero".

58 Ms Gordon-Harvey thanked all the Committee members for their valuable time and input, and also the HQ staff for their support.

59 The minutes were unanimously ratified, as proposed by Keith Stacey and seconded by Mary Jane Wildgoose.

60 MANAGEMENT AND MEMBERSHIP

Mr Mair introduced this item by clarifying what was expected of the Executive Council. The Council had a choice of three Options for a Management and Membership system for the Society. The Council had no power to make a decision on matters that were binding to the Society, as that could only be done at an AGM. He invited Mrs Gaul to present to representatives what had been said to members at various meetings around the world.

61 Mrs Gaul began by saying that the first presentation of this kind had been at St Andrews in 1999, and she hoped the various discussions had allowed members to think about what the Society meant to them individually. The proposals here were particularly concerned with Objective 10 of the Strategic Plan but any decision would impact all areas of the Society, and it was essential to get the decision right.

62 There appeared to be general approval for a smaller Management Board. Many of the systems set down by Mrs Stewart were appropriate for the organisation then, including the Executive Council, which was intended to be a representative body, not a body of representatives. In 1942, there were 21 Scottish Branches, 3 in the rest of the UK, and none elsewhere, 24 in total; one member from each of these Branches formed the Executive Council. Comparative figures for subsequent years were given, as below:

	Scotland	*Rest UK*	*Overseas*	*Total*
1942	21	3	0	24
1962	44	26	11	81
1982	45	45	53	143
Now	44	51	73	168

There were a possible 168 representatives, plus 6 elected, making 174, and of these around 130 attended. Many were UK members representing overseas Branches, but this still incurred high travel costs and a considerable total expense. Meetings were long and it was difficult to make decisions, and there were only 2 meetings per year.

63 It was not easy to agree how and by whom a Management Board should be elected. There was an accepted principle that if a Board was small, the electoral college must be wide. Also, regarding Charity legislation, every member was a member of two separate bodies, with one subscription paid to the Branch and one to the parent body. A solution would be for services to be provided direct to every member, but the cost would probably not be acceptable to current members. The subscription was a source of significant income, but had not kept pace with expenditure. Development activities needed funds, and the Society needed money to fulfil its objects.

64 The proposed basic structure for the Management Board and Committees was the same for all 3 Options. Whichever Option was chosen would just be the start of the process of streamlining management: agreement of the principles was most important. It was appreciated that change was difficult; this was a time of transition – but also of opportunity. She urged representatives to work hard together to ensure the chosen Option was put into practice in the best interests of the Society and all its members.

65 Ms Gray gave representatives some feedback on responses that had been received since the issue of the Newsbrief. 61 responses had been received; many were from individuals, but a few Branches, particularly overseas, made great efforts to meet and discuss the Options in order to send in a response before this meeting. Of the 61 responses, 75% (46) were generally in favour of change, and 7% (4) were clearly against. 18% (11) were undecided or did not make their views clear. Approximately half (31) of the responses received stated a preference for a specific option:

Option A/1	8% (5)
Option B/2	30% (18)
Option C/3	13% (8)

She went on to quote from a number of the responses received and highlighted some of the main issues raised.

66 Mr Mair asked Wilson Nicol to speak to the paper presented to the meeting on behalf of the General Purposes Committee. Dr Nicol commended the mammoth task carried out by the Management & Membership Working Party in sifting through the wide range of comments received in order to condense the proposals into the three main Options presented. General Purposes Committee had made a recommendation that they believed was in the best interests of the Society. Representatives, as Trustees, were being asked to decide what they believed was best for the Society. Whichever Option was chosen, as the Council had already heard, the subscription was set to increase substantially.

67 Option A meant minimum change, with the Branches very much in charge and members isolated from decision-making. Option B came closest to the intention of the Strategic Plan. Option C offered a choice of level of involvement and, he believed, was most likely to retain the extensive international membership of the Society and foster younger members. No stigma would be attached to local membership – all would still be members of the Society and able to share its advantages. General Purposes Committee was confident that the Option was financially viable, and he urged representatives to choose Option C.

68 Mr Mair then invited views and comments. The main points raised, and in some cases responses made, were as follows:

- The total number of people involved in committees in the proposed management structure was confirmed as between 59 and 77, depending on the number and make-up of sub-committees.
- Option B would provide the many members outside the UK with a postal vote but they would be unable to participate at the AGM.
- Option A offered better representation of the membership at large, and was the least financial risk. Mrs Gaul responded that if approved at the AGM, the increase of subscription to £15 was also a considerable risk. A low-cost entry option could be offered, and people would still be members of the Society.
- The amount of the "contribution to the work of the Society" in Option C was estimated to be around £4 or £5.
- Some representatives worried that Option C implied "buying" a vote. Mrs Gaul stressed that many people were not interested in voting, and questioned why a higher level of subscription should be imposed to allow it.
- Several representatives would vote for Option A because it built on what they perceived as being the strength of the Society, its Branches.
- Option C was divisive, and if only 10% became full members, with approximately 2,000 members it would be implausible to find 50 supporters for a motion to the AGM. Mr Mair responded that he was concerned with the principles, not the details, and aspects like the numbers of supporters required for a motion could be changed. Offering cheaper membership was surely the best way of allowing Branches to increase their membership.
- Several representatives highlighted the position of the 2,500 current HQ members, who pay £15 for membership, with no voting rights and no say.
- One representative asked those who were considering voting for Option B to be more pragmatic and to choose Option C, so that members could get the package they want - a leap of faith was required. This Council had elected General Purposes Committee, who had given a recommendation that they should follow.
- Mr Mair was pleased that so many representatives had spoken to members to get their views, but stressed that it was for representatives themselves to make the decision.
- Regarding Option C, provided local members had access to Summer School, one representative anticipated that membership would grow strongly overall.
- It was clarified that in Option C, instead of paying £8 + the Branch subscription and getting the Bulletin and book as now, local members would pay £4 or £5 + the Branch subscription, and could buy the book. Mrs Gaul stressed that a local Branch could decide to include the book or Bulletin for the Branch subscription. All Branches were different, members had different needs – Option C offered flexibility.
- In Option C, all members of a Branch could be local members, there was no suggested minimum number of full members.
- It was suggested that the new Management Board could consider the membership issue further.

- Regarding identifying possible candidates for sub-committees, Mrs Gaul said that there was a huge resource of individuals within the membership at large, and those standing for committees would be expected to provide a CV and a manifesto outlining their views.
- Some representatives expressed a belief that there was a need for more communication and PR so that members at large knew more about what the Society did. Members might then be willing to pay more.

69 The first vote was taken. Representatives were asked to rank all three Options. The "1" rankings would be counted and if there was over 50% vote for one Option, that would be the one chosen. If this were not the case, the Option that received most rankings of "3" would be discarded, and a second vote taken between the two remaining Options.

70 The result of the first vote was announced. The "1" rankings for each Option were as follows:
Option A – 48
Option B – 21
Option C – 46
As there was no clear majority, Option B would be discarded, and representatives were asked to vote between Options A and C.

71 The result of the second vote was announced:
Option A 59 votes
Option C 55 votes
Option A would therefore be taken forward to the AGM.

72 Mr Mair invited suggestions for developing the details of this Option, and the following points were put forward:

- There was some concern about the number of delegates for the AGM, particularly for overseas Branches. It was suggested that they be given votes rather than delegates.
- It was suggested that the number of directly elected members on the Management Board should be raised.
- The Committee was asked to consider how HQ members could be included.
- It was suggested that postal voting at the AGM be considered, although there was some concern that it should not be compulsory. It may be possible to do both.
- It was suggested that the position should be reviewed in 3-5 years. Mr Mair confirmed that it would be reviewed frequently.
- It was clarified that at the AGM, there would be a vote between Option A and the status quo. However, Branches could still submit other options or amendments.

73 Having chosen Option A, it would be necessary to prepare amendments to the Constitution. Mr Mair suggested that General Purposes Committee be asked to take that forward on behalf of the Executive Council. That was formally proposed by John Fenningworth and seconded by Ron Taylor, and approved by a majority with 1 abstention.

74 NEW BRANCHES

There were two applications for Branch status, from Derbyshire North East Branch and from for Saitama Branch in Japan. The latter had been received a few days after the April meeting. The application and letter of support were circulated to Committee members, who were asked to make comments or raise objections prior to the Executive Council. No objections had been received. The application was approved on behalf of General Purposes as proposed by Wilson Nicol and seconded by Alistair Reid.

75 The formation of Derbyshire North East Branch was ratified as proposed by Alasdair Smart and seconded by Keith Stacey. Formation of Saitama Branch was ratified as proposed by Bill Clement and seconded by Atsuko Clement.

76 Mr Mair recorded the appreciation of this Council for the help and encouragement of the supporting Branches, Sheffield and Tokyo. It was encouraging to welcome two new Branches into the Society and he wished to thank everyone who had led, guided and encouraged them.

77 APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS

Applications for affiliation had been received from the following groups:

- West Michigan Scottish Ceilidh Dancers
- North Esk Scottish Country Dance Group
- Comhlan Scottish & Irish Dance Group
- Soka Scottish Country Dance Club

All were unanimously approved.

78 TIMETABLE FOR MEETINGS 2002

Mr Frazer had requested that the Examinations Committee meeting scheduled for 8 June 2002 be moved to 13 April 2002, and that was noted. There was a request to reconsider the timing of the Finance Committee meeting prior to the May Executive Council, as it would again be very

close. It was confirmed that it could not be changed because of the deadlines for quarterly accounts.

79 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Di Rooney updated representatives on the project being undertaken by one of her students to design a dress suitable for a demonstration team. She would be grateful for any help by way of supplies of suitable material or sponsorship.

80 Stock of lightweight Strathspey tartan material had now been received, and a number of sashes were being made up.

81 Alasdair Smart was attending his last Executive Council meeting. Mr Mair thanked him and anyone else who was attending for the last time for the contribution they had made to the Council and the Committees on which they had participated. He particularly thanked Mrs Gaul, for whom this would be the last Executive Council meeting as an Office Bearer.

82 Mr Mair had been at Budapest the previous weekend. He brought best wishes from Muriel Johnstone and encouraged everyone to contact her by email.

83 Margaret Brander informed representatives that sadly, Andrew Gillies was in hospital.

84 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Saturday 17 November 2001.

Keith Stacey thanked Mr Mair and congratulated him for being fair and impartial in his chairmanship of the meeting, particularly the discussions regarding Management and Membership.

The meeting closed at 5.00pm.

Minutes of Meeting of the Executive Council held on Saturday 17 November 2001 at 10.30am at the Jarvis Learmonth Hotel, Edinburgh

1 **PRESENT**

Miss L Martin (Aberdeen), Mrs B Gibbons (Adelaide), Mrs S Nicoll Annan), Mrs P Walker (Atlanta), Mrs H Frame (Ayr), Miss Taylor (Banffshire), Dr A Paterson (Bath), Mr K Rose (Bedfordshire), Mrs E Cameron (Belfast), Mr B Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border), Miss A Johnston (Berwick-Upon-Tweed), Mrs E Page (Birmingham), Mrs C Gray (Boston), Mrs M Watson (Bournemouth), Mr J Hill (Brighton), Ms F Grant (Bristol), Mr R McLachlan (Cambridge & District), Miss F Golding (Canberra & District), Ms R Scott-Huxley (Cape Town), Dr F Reid (Carlisle & Border), Mrs M Paterson (Carnoustie), Mrs H Wemyss (Castle Douglas), Mrs A Walker (Cheltenham), Ms D Rooney (Cheshire), Mrs C Fleming (Clackmannanshire), Miss R Gordon-Harvey (Cornwall), Miss L Ogilvie (Croydon & District), Mr P Knight (Delaware Valley), Mr A Boode (Delft), Mrs C Jones (Derbyshire North East), Mr K Stacey (Doncaster & District), Miss B Ferguson (Dumfries), Mr D Hollings (Dundee), Mrs E Gardiner (Dunfermline), Mrs C Smith (Duns & District), Mrs M Martin (East Lothian), Mrs C France (Edinburgh), Mr C McCausland (Florida North), Mr W Wildgoose (Forfar), Mrs D Scott (Forres), Mr J Hockenhull (Gatehouse of Fleet), Mrs A Gordon (Glasgow), Mr J Hutton (Hague District), Mrs L Gaul (Hamilton (Ontario), Mrs K Boode-Masaki (Hawaii), Mrs Bain (Helensburgh & District), Mrs M Rintoul (Herefordshire), Miss I Whyte (Inverness & District), Miss S McEwan (Isle of Islay), Mrs M Priestley (Johannesburg), Mr J Johnston (Kilmarnock & District), Mrs M J Wildgoose (Kingston (Ontario), Mr J Armstrong (Kirkcaldy), Mrs T Boertien (Lanark), Mr A Carr (Leeds), Mr K Oughton (Leicester), Ms A Preston (Liverpool), Mrs R Wilton (London), Mrs S Porter (Lorn, Argyll), Mrs B Burnell (Los Angeles), Dr I Hall (Manchester), Mr J Fyfe (Montreal), Mr Rushton (N W Craven), Mr A Dewdney (New Haven), Mr P Quince (Newcastle-Upon-Tyne & Dist.), Mrs R Dickson (North Ayrshire), Mr J Murphy (Northern Territory), Mr W Clement (Northern Virginia), Mr J Stott (Nova Scotia), Miss J Yeats (Ottawa), Mr D Tucker (Oxfordshire), Dr J Reinstein (Paris), Mrs C Munro (Perth & Perthshire), Miss M Brander (Phoenix), Mrs M Stacey (Retford & District), Mr R Wakeford (Ribble Valley), Mrs C Middleton (Richmond), Mr D France (Rochdale), Mrs J Sharp (Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles), Miss P Davoll (Royal Tunbridge Wells), Dr W Nicol (Sacramento), Mr R Mackay (San Francisco), Mr B Harry (San Gabriel Valley), Mrs F Turnbull (Seattle), Mrs E Burling (Sheffield), Mrs S Barnes (Somerset), Mrs J Harper (South Argyll), Mr A Gray (South Wales), Mrs J Dewdney (Southport), Mr D Taylor (St Andrews), Mr J Healy (St Johns (Newfoundland), Mrs A Mackenzie (Stirling), Mrs E McCausland (Sydney), Mrs S Carr (TAC), Mr G Hornby (Tokai), Mr S Adam (Tokyo), Mrs E A Harry (Twin Cities), Miss E Allan (Vancouver), Mr D Gray (Victoria), Miss S Mayr (Vienna), Mrs C Denholm (West Lothian), Mrs M Thomson (West Renfrewshire), Mrs A Murphy (Western Australia), Mr A McPherson (Windsor (Ontario), Mr G Donald (Winnipeg), Mr R Taylor (Wirral), Mrs P Clark (York & North Humberside).

2 **ELECTED MEMBERS**

Miss D Hamilton, Mr A Kellett, Mr A Reid, Miss M Ross, Mr D Watson.

3 **OFFICIALS**

Mr A Mair (Chairman), Mrs J Martin (Vice-Chairman), Mrs J MacLean (Director of Summer School), Mrs F Turnbull (Youth Director).

4 **IN ATTENDANCE**

Mrs M Jeffcoat (Treasurer), Ms E Gray (Secretary/Administrator).

5 **APOLOGIES**

Mrs A Marshall (Falkirk), Mrs A Sheach (Isle of Skye), Mrs E Hunter (New Zealand), Mr D Ross (Queensland), Mr G Lawson (Stonehaven), Lt Col J Smith (Stranraer), Mr R Cooper (Sutton Coldfield), Mr S Barbour (Washington), Miss P Stewart (Elected Member).

6 **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

Mr Mair welcomed representatives to the first meeting of the 2001-02 year, particularly those attending for the first time or returning after a break.

7 Following the decision of the AGM, the days of the Council were numbered, but not yet over. Its role during the period of change was very important, particularly the part representatives could play in

keeping Branches informed. The work of the Society would continue during the transition.

8 Mr Mair announced an addition to the Agenda, the election of the Honorary Archivist, which would be taken as item 10.7.

9 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Points of correction to the previous minutes:

- Easter School – age group should be 18-30, not 18-25
- School mentioned in Chairman's remarks should be spelled Berkeley
- Meeting held at Jarvis Learmonth Hotel

10 John Hutton proposed that the minutes of the last meeting of the Executive Council should include a reference to his objection to the voting procedure on the Management and Membership paper. His proposal was seconded by Bill Clement and put to a vote, but not carried.

11 Bill Clement referred to the paper on Management and Membership presented to the Executive Council in May. The April minutes of General Purposes Committee mentioned deleting a sentence. He requested that if this reference was to an earlier draft of the paper, this be minuted. Mr Mair confirmed that minute GP01/17.3 referred to an earlier draft of the paper that was being finalised for distribution to the Executive Council.

12 With the amendments noted at 9 above, the minutes of the meeting of 12 May 2001 were approved as an accurate record, as proposed by Wilson Nicol and seconded by Aad Boode.

13 MATTERS ARISING

Di Rooney had brought the alternative demonstration dance costumes designed by one of her students. They were displayed outside the meeting room, with a book for comments.

14 There were no other matters arising not dealt with elsewhere.

15 ELECTED MEMBERS

The six members elected to serve on the Executive Council were: Dorothy Hamilton, Andrew Kellett, Alistair Reid, Margaret Ross, Pauline Stewart and David Watson.

16 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

There was one amendment to the list circulated prior to the meeting:
Helensburgh & District – Lis Fugler, not John Fugler.

17 Nominations received since the list was issued were as follows:

Annan	Sheila Nicoll
Cheltenham	Anne Walker
Hamilton (Ont)	Linda Gaul
Hawaii	Kaoru Boode
Isle of Islay	Sheila McEwen
New Haven	Anthony Dewdney
Ottawa	Jean Yeats
Seattle	Fiona Turnbull
Stranraer	Jock Smith

18 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

19 Finance Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 27 October 2001 were approved as proposed by Ron Taylor and seconded by Robert Mackay, with the following amendments:

- F01/48.3 – amend Conveyor to Convenor
- F01/57 – amend date from 16 to 26 January

20 Before asking Mr Fenningworth to deal with the minutes, Mr Mair informed the Council of the situation regarding the accounts for 2000-01. He had no reason to suspect any monies or assets were not accounted for, or that any of the accounting procedures used flaunted legal requirements. The question was whether the accounts as submitted gave a true picture of the Society's finances to the members.

21 He had made enquiries of the Auditor, 3 days before the AGM, and discovered that the accounts had not been audited and, if there was doubt within the members on the question of how our accounts should be presented, the Auditor could not and would not sign them off. After consultation with the Treasurer and Finance Convenor, he and Mrs Martin spoke to Lord Mansfield who advised that the AGM be adjourned to allow the matter to be resolved.

22 Since a minimum of 14 days' notice was required to call an EGM, there was no possibility of having such a meeting this week-end, and the earliest practical opportunity would be around the time of the May Executive. This gave time to explore thoroughly the questions that had arisen.

23 He and Mrs Martin did not feel qualified to carry out such an investigation. He proposed therefore to ask three members with expertise in the area to do the work with a view to presenting the accounts to an EGM immediately after the Executive Council meeting on 11 May 2002. The three members who had indicated that they were prepared to undertake the task were Richard Turnbull, John Douglas and Jim Healy. The Chairman hoped the Council would support him and Mrs Martin in this course of action.

24 Robert Mackay endorsed the Chairman's statement, and seconded the proposed Working Party.

25 Mr Mair confirmed that he would expect the signed accounts to be available at least 14 days before the May meeting. He also confirmed that the money was all accounted for, but this investigation was about how information would be presented to members in a way that would be meaningful.

26 Mr Mair's proposal was approved.

27 As questions on the accounts were therefore "sub judice", Mr Mair asked that any queries be passed to the Secretary, who would pass them to the Working Party.

28 Mr Fenningworth highlighted the main issues from the minutes, and made the following additional points:

- Accounting and investment policies would need to be modified for the Executive Council to approve in May, in order to be included in the report that would apply to the figures for year ending June 2002
- Branches with charitable status were reminded that SORP 2000 would also apply to them, whether English or Scottish.

29 Wilson Nicol expressed surprise at the reference to the Committee checking back through minutes, as he believed there would be a set of standing orders clarifying previous decisions. It was confirmed that such did not exist, but it was accepted that this might be helpful. Keith Stacey confirmed that the investment policy was discussed in 1990/91, when specific guidelines were set out.

30 In response to a query from Pat Clark, it was confirmed that for VAT purposes, the Society had been re-classified as a Sports Club, and that there would no longer be VAT on any subscriptions. This would not affect Branch subscriptions.

31 It was confirmed that the reference in the September minutes regarding PPL and affiliated groups applied to the UK only.

32 With regard to the final accounts, Mr Fenningworth confirmed that at the October meeting, the Committee was not aware that the audit of the accounts had not been completed. Mrs Jeffcoat stated that completing the audit took a substantial time.

33 Jim Healy asked if a summary of the SORP would be provided for Branches. Mr Fenningworth replied that this would be for the new Convenor to deal with. The document itself was fairly clear, and it was for Branches to decide how to deal with it. It was also pointed out that those with a small turnover were not required to comply.

34 In response to queries about affiliated group fees, and why such groups were not encouraged to become branches, Mr Fenningworth responded that the fee had not been increased since the 1980s, and the Committee felt that it was reasonable to increase it now. Mr Mair added that historically, affiliated groups had been groups that existed for a purpose other than Scottish country dancing, but could affiliate for a small fee. However, it had become an alternative way to connect with the Society rather than forming a branch.

35 Tony Dewdney asked if increased use of email for communication, as mentioned in the minutes, was being considered. Mr Mair confirmed that it was being used more, and that one of the objectives of the Website Working Party was to increase electronic communication with members.

36 The minutes were ratified by a majority as proposed by Keith Stacey and seconded by Ron Taylor, with four abstentions.

37 Publications & Research Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 6 October 2001 were approved as proposed by Linda Gaul and seconded by Joe Murphy, with the following amendments:

- PR01/52.5 –amend name to Deeay Music.
- PR01/43.7 – the minute reflected the discussion, but Miss Gordon-Harvey noted that the name of the Centre in Dundee was incorrect, and was believed to be the Liz McColgan Centre.

38 Miss Gordon-Harvey gave highlights from the minutes, and also noted the following:

- In both 2002 and 2003, the Committee would need the additional meeting that had not been taken in 2001. As no January date was available, she proposed 2 March 2002.
- The Committee was grateful to all who had contributed towards the programme of transfers/re-recordings, and the Finance Committee had agreed that a further £18,000 should be allocated to the project.
- Calculations showed that, despite an advertised price of £10.00 per CD, the maximum amount received after discount/s was £8.51, and on average little more than £7.00 was received.
- Robert Mackay was thanked for his help and support while the post of Music Convenor had been vacant.
- Miss Gordon-Harvey thanked the Committee members for their hard work and dedication, and Headquarters staff for their support.

39 In response to a question from Pat Clark, Miss Gordon-Harvey confirmed that the Book 3 music referred to in PR01/32.2 was from a later version than 1958, and that version had been re-set by Muriel Johnstone.

40 Ms Gray apologised that distribution of the Bulletin was delayed. Material was submitted to the printers in time, but amongst other things there had been difficulties in getting copy from advertisers. It was hoped they would be distributed at end November.

41 In response to a query from Bruce Frazer, it was confirmed that no fees were negotiated in relation to the IVP video mentioned at PR01/41.6, as it was the felt that the Society would derive benefit from giving free access to archive material.

42 In response to a query from Wilson Nicol regarding the wording of PR01/34.3, it was confirmed that "sponsorship of the transfer to CD of books...." was the meaning intended.

43 Wilson Nicol queried why the revised management structure appeared to have the Music Sub-Committee under the Education & Training Committee, given the importance of the Music Convenor's role. Mr Mair suggested the issue be raised under Matters from the AGM on the agenda.

44 With regard to the Triumph article referred to in PR01/41.2, Keith Oughton suggested a summary would be preferable, as the original was long and erudite. Alan Macpherson confirmed that an easily digestible summary was planned.

45 Brian Harry questioned why, as noted in PR01/34.2, the 10 Branches involved were being given a total of 50 free CDs, as he believed the practice was to give 25 to a Branch that donated the full amount. Miss Gordon-Harvey responded that it was felt fairer in this instance, given the number of Branches involved; the Society could not afford to give 25 to each participating Branch. Mr Mair also pointed out that they had in fact given more than the full amount required for the CD transfer.

46 The minutes were ratified by a majority as proposed by Tony Dewdney and seconded by Dorothy Hamilton, with three abstentions.

47 **Summer School Committee**

The minutes of the meeting of 8 September 2001 were approved as proposed by Ian Hall and seconded by Rachel Wilton, with the following amendment:

- SS01/23.4 – amend 3rd sentence to "Dr Hall believed a good new piano would cost £4,000-5,000."

48 Mrs MacLean gave highlights of the minutes, and also mentioned the following:

- Executive Council representatives were asked to inform Branch members about Summer School and encourage them to attend. This would be particularly helpful in the current situation where many members, especially overseas, may be less inclined to travel.
- The Strategic Plan was seen as interesting and important for the development of Summer School and the Society itself, and included opportunities to integrate with other committees.
- Mrs MacLean thanked all the Committee members, and Headquarters staff, for their undying support – and fun.

49 It was confirmed that the correct spelling of the band referred to in both Summer School and P&R minutes was "Neil Copland", and that the spelling in SS01/28, para 8, was Sheena Sturrock.

50 Pat Clark asked for clarification of SS01/26.2 regarding local non-residents. Mr Mair responded that, over the years, the percentage of the fee relating to classes had become disproportionately large. The Society received a large discount on University Hall accommodation (not on New Hall), partly because the Society's own staff provided many of the services the University would otherwise provide. Putting some of the discount towards the cost of classes redressed an imbalance. The issue had been considered carefully by the Committee.

51 In response to a query regarding the piano, it was confirmed that it would be stored carefully at University Hall, where only music students would be allowed to play it. The University had undertaken to tune and maintain the piano. It was noted that the insurance position should be checked.

52 The minutes were ratified by a majority as proposed by Carol Smith and seconded by Moira Stacey, with two abstentions.

53 **Youth Committee**

The minutes of the meeting of 15 September 2001 were approved as proposed by Andrew Kellett and seconded by Marilyn Watson.

54 Mrs Turnbull went on to highlight the main issues from the minutes, and also made the following points:

- Sales to date of the "dance Scottish" pack totalled just under £4,000. Following consultation with the Publications Convenor and with the Chairman's agreement, the final price of the packs was raised to £35, which took into account members' discount. As the pack was designed primarily for use in schools, sales direct to schools would remain at £30. Opportunities and ideas for a media launch were welcomed.
- The Sub-Committee working on the Easter School in Stirling had had many lively ideas. Representatives were encouraged to look at the relevant page on the website and persuade

young people to apply, as there were still places available.

- Mrs Turnbull thanked all the Committee members for their hard work, and Headquarters staff, particularly Linda Bates, for their help and support.

55 Mrs Turnbull confirmed that the date for the possible "family week" at Summer School had not yet been confirmed. Branches would be informed whenever it was known.

56 Jim Healy suggested that members should stress that the Easter School was being run by and for young people.

57 Jerry Reinstein questioned whether the Committee had considered measurement of the results of its activities. Mrs Turnbull reported that much feedback had been received, but the information had not been quantified.

58 The minutes were ratified by a majority, as proposed by Alice Murphy and seconded by Jerry Reinstein, with one abstention.

59 **General Purposes Committee**

The minutes of the meeting of 29 September 2001 were approved as proposed by Wilson Nicol and seconded by Linda Gaul.

60 Mr Mair commented on the Committee's activities:

- Much of the last six months had been focussed on preparing the Executive Council motion to the AGM. He thanked all who had given their time and expertise, and Jimmie Hill and Alex Gray for their positive presentations to the AGM.
- Tom Notman had agreed to take over convenorship of the Marketing Sub-Committee, and had already stepped in to cover.
- Jerry Reinstein had indeed met with Tokyo Branch representatives. Mr Mair encouraged other Executive Council members to contact local groups when visiting other countries.
- An anonymous individual had paid the affiliation fee for Harare Caledonian Society. Several Branches had also offered ongoing financial and other support for the group.

61 In response to a query from Roz Scott-Huxley regarding GP01/34, Mr Mair confirmed that the sentence referred to was deleted before the minutes were copied for distribution to the Executive Council.

62 There was discussion regarding the fullness of committee minutes, as some representatives felt they did not understand all that they contained. Mr Mair responded that only those at the meetings would understand the minutes fully. At one time, separate reports were provided for the Executive Council, but representatives were not happy with those and had elected to return to receiving full minutes of meetings.

63 In relation to GP01/44.3, there was lengthy discussion regarding the dispute between Tokyo and Tokai Branches. Bill Clement moved that the Council support Mrs Gaul and Mr Mair's letter, written following the May 2000 Executive Council, stating that Branch classes and events must be held in their own geographical area, and that the minute from GP could not be accepted.

64 There was a view that the Tokai Branch classes held in Tokyo could be private, open to members only, and this would be permissible. If evidence were provided to the Chairman that Tokai Branch were openly advertising for members in Tokyo, he would respond tactfully to Tokai. Stewart Adam seconded Bill Clement's proposal, and suggested that the Branches talk to each other and perhaps run some classes together, but not impinge on each others' territories.

65 Christine Munro pointed out that courses, classes and dances were run at Crieff Hydro (located in Perthshire) by several Branches from outwith the Perth & Perthshire Branch area. The Branch did not complain; what was important was to be encouraging Scottish country dancing.

66 Bill Clement asked why the matter had been discussed at GP when a decision had been made not to do so. Mr Mair responded that letters from Tokyo Branch had been received, which he would not ignore.

67 Several representatives took the view that this was a human problem, not a Society or dancing problem, and that it was unfair to ask the Council to legislate in such a situation. Alex Gray stated that the Branches were autonomous, and that where members joined could not be controlled. It was an unfortunate position, but common sense had to prevail. He proposed that Bill Clement's proposal should not be moved, as it would put the Chairman in an untenable position. Roz Scott-Huxley seconded Alex Gray's proposal. Bill Clement accepted this view and agreed to withdraw his motion.

68 Moira Stacey suggested that a missionary tour to the group in Moscow that she had visited would be very beneficial.

69 John Hutton objected to the procedure at the previous Executive Council. He had written to the Chairman, to GP and to the Secretary. He believed the procedure did not permit Council to vote on the

paper, and that, in his view, Council were denied the opportunity to reject the proposal*. He had written to the President that he was in dispute and made his point at the AGM. He believed his original objection was disregarded on the basis of the GP minutes, which he believed were incorrect. The Chairman responded that the minutes were not incorrect, and that they had been approved and ratified. Mr Hutton wished his objection to be recorded in the minutes.

**Note: Such a vote was not provided on the agenda, but members could have exercised their right to reject the options from GP had they so wished.*

70 In response to a query from David Gray, Mr Mair confirmed that the website mentioned in GP01/50.4 was set up by Toronto Association. It was pointed out that the page referred to had now been removed from that website.

71 There was discussion regarding GP01/42.4, and the definition of a ball and a dance. Mr Mair felt it was not for the Society to make such a decision, although it was understood that some Branches would appreciate guidance, particularly in relation to the AGM.

72 The minutes were ratified by a majority, as proposed by Pat Clark and seconded by Robert Mackay, with one vote against and two abstentions.

73 Examinations Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 22 September were approved as proposed by Helen Frame and seconded by Alex Gray.

74 Mr Frazer reported the highlights of the Committee's activities, and made the following additional points:

- Thanks were given to all who had offered constructive criticism regarding the Dancing Proficiency Test. The Committee proposed a number of changes, most notably, the "pass/fail" criteria would be dropped and performance judged against the average.
- Mr Frazer thanked all the Committee, and staff at Headquarters, particularly Eileen Watt.

75 Ian Hall pointed out that the courses information on the website was out of date. This would be dealt with immediately.

76 There was considerable discussion regarding the Dancing Proficiency Test, and the proposal to dispense with a pass/fail result. Strong views were expressed both for and against. Mr Frazer clarified that the proposal was for individuals to get their own score, with the grading sheet, but not to be classified as pass or fail. Average scores would be published from time to time. He stressed that if the test went ahead as a "pre-Preliminary Test" qualification, an acceptable level would need to be defined. It was suggested that the term "assessment" could be used rather than "test". It was also suggested that a statement from the Committee regarding the purpose of the test and who it is aimed at should be included on information sent out and on the application form.

77 Elizabeth Harry suggested that having had only 26 people sit the Dancing Proficiency Test was insufficient information on which to judge appropriate change. She proposed that the pass/fail be maintained. Roz Scott-Huxley seconded. Voting was 32 for, 47 against, 15 abstentions.

78 Jerry Reinstein proposed that the Committee devise a grading system for the Dancing Proficiency Test. Mr Frazer responded that such a "grading system" would need to be defined. Wilson Nicol seconded the proposal. This was voted on, with 65 votes for, 20 against and 13 abstentions.

79 Leeds Branch were holding a test in December, and the Committee would not be able to prepare a grading system until January. Chris Jones proposed that no change be made until the January meeting. This was seconded by Keith Stacey, and passed by a majority with one abstention.

80 There was further discussion regarding the issue of verbal feedback. David Gray questioned how sensible feedback could be given without actually telling the candidate if they had passed or failed. Mr Frazer said that it was extremely difficult to see how feedback could be fitted in at another time, as the schedules were so compressed. Lesley Martin pointed out that the result made no difference to the feedback –it consisted of helpful hints for the future and constructive criticism.

81 Alice Murphy asked for clarification of EX01/51.1, continuous assessment of Teacher candidates. Mr Frazer replied the Committee had begun to consider some assessment by the Tutor during a candidate course, with the input going forward to the examiners. Anita Mackenzie strongly recommended some form of Tutor input to the examination process, following her experience of tutoring exam candidates at Summer School.

82 Aad Boode hoped that formation of regional teachers' associations would again be recommended in the Strategic Plan.

83 MATTERS ARISING FROM AGM

Mr Mair reported that 3 November had seen one of the longest Annual General Meetings ever. It was a long and complex agenda, with numerous amendments to motions, but fortunately Lord Mansfield was on hand to once again steer the meeting to a successful conclusion. Mr Mair thanked all those who had contributed to a successful meeting.

84 Mr Mair proposed not to go into a summary of the outcomes, but would go straight to General Purposes Committee business. There was now a need to schedule an extra Executive Council meeting; this was a formality, but had to be done in order to ratify minutes of meetings held after the May 2002 Executive Council meeting. The obvious time would be the morning of the AGM in November, in Aberdeen.

85 Wilson Nicol noted that the wording of the revised constitution was unclear on the number of delegates per Branch. Mr Mair responded that one per every 50 members, or part thereof, was certainly intended, but that this was a detail that General Purposes Committee would take time to consider.

86 Alice Murphy questioned the procedure at the AGM, particularly the resolution regarding subscription fees. She did not feel it was right that no opportunity was given to vote against the motion for £10, as the Chairman of the meeting had only taken votes for. She suggested that in future, it would be more diplomatic to allow those who wanted to vote against to do so. Mr Mair noted the point.

87 Andrew Paterson wished to highlight three issues for General Purposes to consider: (1) proxy voting at the AGM, (2) how to ensure the Management Board had input from overseas Branches, and (3) how HQ members could be represented. Mr Mair responded that the motion agreed by the AGM contained nothing regarding HQ membership, but the other issues were certainly understood and would be considered. He stressed that those standing for election to the Management Board would have to understand how much would be expected of them in communicating with Branches, as much of this had to be done on a one-to-one basis.

88 Andrew Kellett sought assurance that the Executive Council would be kept informed about the planned transition process. Mr Mair replied that the May Executive Council would be the last opportunity to propose any major changes, and there would certainly be a report to the May meeting.

89 Ian Hall suggested that others, outside this forum, should be invited to make suggestions in writing. Mr Mair agreed, but pointed out that contributions would have to be received by the end of January for GP to consider in February.

90 Tony Dewdney proposed that GP be asked to consider specifically how to get equitable representation for overseas Branches in the new structure, and Fiona Turnbull seconded the proposal.

91 Alex Gray's Branch had suggested that at a 6-monthly point, the Management Board should meet with Branch representatives to get their feedback. Mr Mair replied that the cost of such a meeting was one of the reasons why the Society was moving away from having them. Mr Gray's suggestion was not a proposal, but was recorded for GP consideration.

92 John Hutton made a plea for delegate comfort at the AGM; he felt the AGM Sub-Committee had erred, and should have suggested a separate meeting for the Management & Membership proposals, with the rest as normal.

93 Mr Mair formally proposed the additional Executive Council meeting, as discussed. Pia Walker seconded, and the proposal was passed by a majority, with four abstentions.

94 Mr Mair was pleased to have had so many ideas aired. He asked that the Council now mandate General Purposes Committee to begin the work of implementing the decision of the AGM regarding Management and Membership. This was proposed by Fiona Grant, seconded by Tony Dewdney, and passed by a majority, with one vote against and one abstention.

95 APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATED GROUP STATUS

The applications approved by General Purposes Committee were as follows:

- Brecon Scottish Country Dance Group, Wales
- Funabashi Central Scottish Dance Club, Japan
- Horsham Scottish Country Dance Club, England
- Koganei Scottish Country Dance Group, Japan
- 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
- Guernsey Scottish Association, Guernsey

These were ratified by a majority, as proposed by Keith Stacey and seconded by Wilson Nicol, with two abstentions.

96 COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Members were appointed to Standing Committees as follows:

97 Summer School Committee

Johan MacLean (Director), Alan Mair (ex officio), Jean Martin (ex officio), Ian Hall, Carol Smith, Moira Stacey, Rachel Wilton.

98 Youth Committee

Fiona Turnbull (Director), Alan Mair (ex officio) or Jean Martin (ex officio), Andrew Kellett, Lorna Ogilvie, Sue Porter.

99 Examinations Committee*

Bruce Frazer (Convenor), Alan Mair (ex officio), Jean Martin (ex officio), Helen Frame, Alex Gray, Lesley Martin, Elma McCausland.

100 Publications & Research Committee*

Rosemary Gordon-Harvey (Convenor), Alan Mair (ex officio), Jean Martin (ex officio), Stewart Adam, Anne Gordon, Peter Knight, Roz Scott-Huxley.

101 Finance Committee*

David Watson (Convenor), Alan Mair (ex officio), Jean Martin (ex officio), Dorothy Hamilton, Elizabeth Harry, Keith Oughton, Margaret Ross, Keith Stacey, Ron Taylor.

102 General Purposes Committee

Alan Mair (Convenor), Jean Martin (ex officio), David Watson (ex officio), Jessie Harper, Brian Harry, Jimmie Hill, Roderick McLachlan, Christine Munro, Wilson Nicol, Alistair Reid, Jerry Reinstein, Pauline Stewart.

** Convenor elected at the first meeting of the Committee held immediately following the Executive Council meeting.*

103 Honorary Archivist

A vote confirmed Jim Healy as Honorary Archivist, and he would attend Publications & Research Committee *ex officio*. Mr Mair took this opportunity to thank the outgoing Archivist, Alan MacPherson, for the contribution he had made during the time he had held office.

104 DATES OF MEETINGS 2002

There would be a meeting of Publications & Research Committee on 2 March, and the Council had agreed an additional Executive Council meeting on 2 November. The dates for the Executive Council in November and Publications & Research in December should be disregarded. The amended schedule was approved by a majority, with one abstention.

105 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

106 Mr Mair had received a suggestion that the Society Constitution be put on the website. Following discussion, Jim Healy proposed that nothing be done until the new Constitution was finalised. This was seconded by Linda Gaul, and agreed by a majority with one abstention.

107 Notification had been received of a Royal Garden Party to be held at the Palace of Holyroodhouse on 25 May 2002, as part of Her Majesty the Queen's Golden Jubilee celebrations. The Society had been allocated a quota of 16 people. Mr Mair and Mrs Martin proposed that Branches be invited to send nominations, and a ballot drawn. George Hornby proposed that single nominations only be permitted, to maximise the number of members attending. This was seconded by Alice Murphy and agreed by a majority with three votes against and ten abstentions. Letters would be sent to Branches in the December mailing, and nominations should be made by 14 January 2002.

108 A group had been formed in Fife to organise a collection to commission a statue of Sir Jimmy Shand. They hoped to raise around £25,000, and it was hoped that a well-known Fife sculptor would be given the commission. Branches would be informed, and they could do whatever they felt appropriate if they wished to help raise funds for the project.

109 John Hutton passed on the good wishes of Hans van Zon to the Council. Mr Hutton wished to inform the Council that he was resigning as the representative of The Hague Branch. He was doing so primarily because he felt at cross-purposes with the way the Standing Committees now worked, and he would no longer take responsibility for the decisions either of committees or of the Council. He wished the Society well, but feared for its future. Mr Mair thanked Mr Hutton for his long and significant contribution to the Society.

110 Jessie Harper thanked John Fenningworth, the outgoing Finance Convenor, who was also standing down as a representative, for the good work he had done in a difficult job.

111 Keith Stacey asked if any special events would be held to mark the Society's 80th anniversary in 2003. Mr Mair replied that there were no plans to mark this anniversary. Mr Stacey reported that Doncaster was reinstating its "Dome Ball". Mrs Turnbull reminded Council that the Youth Committee was hoping to hold a special event for children that year.

112 Jerry Reinstein was delighted that a report on the AGM proceedings was put on the website so quickly.

113 Aad Boode noted that Mr J Senior retired this year after many years of "serving" the Society, and suggested that he be presented with a Scroll of Honour. Mr Mair would take this recommendation to GP. It was noted that Mr Senior had been invited to a special dinner during Summer School and was presented with a gift.

114 In conclusion, Mr Mair thanked representatives, the Secretary and Headquarters team and closed the meeting. Linda Gaul thanked Mr Mair for conducting the meeting so well.

Minutes of Meeting of the Executive Council held on Saturday 11 May 2002 at 10.30am at the Jarvis Learmonth Hotel, Learmonth Terrace, Edinburgh

1 PRESENT

Mrs B Gibbons (Adelaide), Mrs S Nicoll (Annan), Mrs P Walker (Atlanta), Mrs H Frame (Ayr), Miss A McArthur (Banffshire), Dr A Paterson (Bath), Mr K Rose (Bedfordshire), Mrs E Cameron (Belfast), Mr B Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border), Miss A Johnston (Berwick-upon-Tweed), Mrs E Page (Birmingham), Mrs M Watson (Bournemouth), Mr J Hill (Brighton), Ms F Grant (Bristol), Mr R McLachlan (Cambridge & District), Miss F Golding (Canberra & District), Ms R Scott-Huxley (Cape Town), Dr F Reid (Carlisle & Border), Mrs M Paterson (Carnoustie), Mrs H Wemyss (Castle Douglas), Mrs A Walker (Cheltenham), Ms D Rooney (Cheshire), Mrs C Fleming (Clackmannanshire), Miss R Gordon-Harvey (Cornwall), Miss L Ogilvie (Croydon & District), Mr P Knight (Delaware Valley), Mr A Boode (Delft), Mrs C Jones (Derbyshire North East), Mr K Stacey (Doncaster & District), Miss B Ferguson (Dumfries), Mr D Hollings (Dundee), Mrs E Gardiner (Dunfermline), Mrs C Smith (Duns & District), Mrs M Martin (East Lothian), Mrs C France (Edinburgh), Mr C McCausland (Florida North), Mr W Wildgoose (Forfar), Mrs D Scott (Forres), Mr J Hockenhull (Gatehouse of Fleet), Mrs A Gordon (Glasgow), Mrs L Gaul (Hamilton (Ontario)), Mrs K Boode-Masaki (Hawaii), Mrs M Rintoul (Herefordshire), Miss S McEwan (Isle of Islay), Mr J Johnston (Kilmarnock & District), Mrs MJ Wildgoose (Kingston (Ontario)), Mr J Armstrong (Kirkcaldy), Mrs M Jones (Kirkcudbright), Mrs T Boertien (Lanark), Mrs C McDonald (Leeds), Mr K Oughton (Leicester), Ms A Preston (Liverpool), Mr W Gibbons (Lochaber), Mrs R Wilton (London), Mrs S Porter (Lorn (Argyll)), Mrs B Burnell (Los Angeles), Dr I Hall (Manchester), Mrs A Howes (Milton Keynes), Mrs J Gardner (Monklands), Mrs J Robinson (N W Craven), Mr A Dewdney (New Haven), Mrs P Houghton (New York), Mrs E Hunter (New Zealand), Mr P Quince (Newcastle-Upon-Tyne & Dist.), Mrs R Dickson (North Ayrshire), Mr J Murphy (Northern Territory), Mr W Clement (Northern Virginia), Mr J Stott (Nova Scotia), Miss J Yeats (Ottawa), Mr D Tucker (Oxfordshire), Dr J Reinstein (Paris), Mrs C Munro (Perth & Perthshire), Miss M Brander (Phoenix), Mr D Ross (Queensland), Mrs M Stacey (Retford & District), Mr R Wakeford (Ribble Valley), Mrs C Middleton (Richmond), Mr D France (Rochdale), Mrs J Sharp (Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles), Mrs M Wardle (Royal Leamington Spa), Miss P Davoll (Royal Tunbridge Wells), Dr W Nicol (Sacramento), Mr R Mackay (San Francisco), Mr B Harry (San Gabriel Valley), Mrs F Turnbull (Seattle), Mrs E Burling (Sheffield), Mrs S Barnes (Somerset), Mrs J Harper (South Argyll), Mr WA Gray (South Wales), Mrs J Dewdney (Southport), Mr D Taylor (St Andrews), Mr J Healy (St Johns (Newfoundland)), Mrs A Mackenzie (Stirling), Lt Col (Retd) J Smith (Stranraer), Mr R Cooper (Sutton Coldfield), Mrs E McCausland (Sydney), Mrs S Carr (TAC), Mr S Adam (Tokyo), Mrs E Harry (Twin Cities), Miss E Allan (Vancouver), Mr D Gray (Victoria), Miss S Mayr (Vienna), Mrs C Denholm (West Lothian), Mrs M Thomson (West Renfrewshire), Mrs A Murphy (Western Australia), Mr A MacPherson (Windsor (Ontario)), Mr G Donald (Winnipeg), Mr R Taylor (Wirral), Mrs P Clark (York & North Humberside).

2 ELECTED MEMBERS

Miss D Hamilton, Mr A Kellett, Mr A Reid, Miss M Ross, Miss P Stewart, Mr D Watson.

3 OFFICIALS

Mr A Mair (Chairman), Mrs J Martin (Vice-Chairman), Mrs J MacLean (Director of Summer School), Mrs F Turnbull (Youth Director).

4 IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs M Jeffcoat (Treasurer), Ms E Gray (Secretary/Administrator).

5 APOLOGIES

Dorothy Hamilton (Elected Member), Lesley Martin (Aberdeen), Kate Gray (Boston), Anna Marshall (Falkirk), Hans van Zon (The Hague), Lis Fugler (Helensburgh & District), Irene Whyte (Inverness), Anne Shiach (Isle of Skye), Margo Priestley (Johannesburg), Bet Nairn (Medicine Hat), John Fyfe (Montreal), George Lawson (Stonehaven), Sinclair Barbour (Washington).

6 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr Mair welcomed representatives to this meeting at a time of change within the Society. These changes had added greatly to the amount of work carried out on behalf of the Executive by the various committees and by HQ staff.

7 He thanked all those Branches who had invited him or the Vice Chairman to attend one of their functions and had provided hospitality; from celebratory Ball to children's event, all had been enjoyed. He had been able to travel widely in the last six months and was privileged to convey good wishes from two of the largest Branches, New Zealand and Toronto.

8 Mr Mair proposed to take all items on the agenda up to and including the Minutes of the

Finance Committee, and then item 6, the Accounts for 2000-01, to ensure sufficient time for discussion before the reconvened AGM began at 2.00pm.

9 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 17 November 2001 were approved as an accurate record by a majority, as proposed by Di Rooney and seconded by Aad Boode.

10 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising not dealt with elsewhere.

11 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

12 Finance Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 27 April 2002 were approved as proposed by Ron Taylor and seconded by Margaret Ross.

13 Mr Watson highlighted several issues from the minutes:

- The Committee proposed extended discount rates, which would benefit Branches buying large amounts. Feedback on these rates, which would come into effect if approved by the Executive, was awaited.
- Income for the last Summer School appeared high, but had been thoroughly investigated and he confirmed that the figures were correct. However, an improved system for recording income at Summer School would be set up.
- The Committee had proposed training regarding charities legislation, but this was not agreed by General Purposes Committee.
- Investment returns were down, but still provided a substantial amount. The JMMF had outperformed the General Fund in recent times.
- There was a need to re-define the Treasurer's role, as it appeared to have changed over the years. It was possible that an in-house accountant/treasurer may be considered when replacing Linda Bates.
- An all-inclusive figure of £100 had been proposed to affiliated groups to be included in the PPL licence currently covering Branches. No action would be taken until feedback was received from groups.
- Blanket insurance cover for Branches had been discontinued at end December 2001, and 70 Branches had now contracted directly with Edinburgh Risk Management. It may be possible to come to a similar arrangement for affiliated groups.
- It was clear that HQ staff had a large workload, which never diminished. He urged committees to give careful thought to staffing implications when planning activities.
- The accounts to nine months projected to the end of the year suggested a surplus of approximately £11,000. Costs were much as expected, but income was greater. The figures showed a higher income from subscriptions than projected, but in fact membership had fallen by approximately 5%; the increase was the effect of VAT not having been deducted.

14 VAT had not been paid on subscriptions since 1 July 2002, not 2001 as stated in F02/4.2. Following investigation by a consultant, the Society had been re-classified as a sports club for VAT purposes, which meant that subscriptions were exempt from VAT. Mrs Jeffcoat noted that there had been new legislation from the Inland Revenue relating to sports clubs, and suggested that investigation as to whether the Society could be similarly re-classified for tax purposes may be worthwhile.

15 Mrs Jeffcoat confirmed that the Porter Bequest had very specific limitations. It was previously in investment bonds but had now been put into a separate bank account.

16 Clarification was requested as to whether the proposed discount rates applied to total orders or individual items. A high level of discount could not be offered on non-RSCDS goods, and the discounts suggested would apply to the total order of RSCDS goods only. Keith Stacey offered to help investigate the Sage system and whether the discounts could be made easy for staff to operate.

17 Mrs Jeffcoat confirmed that the investment strategy was (i) for JMMF – medium risk, income funds, and (ii) for General Fund – medium risk, balanced funds.

18 It was pointed out that Edinburgh Risk Management had been slow in issuing insurance policies and documentation to Branches. Now that the new system was in place, it was hoped that the procedures would be more efficient in future.

19 With regard to F02/21.1, Aad Boode proposed that no out-of-pocket expenses should be paid for the extra Executive Council meeting coinciding with the AGM in November 2002. Brian Harry seconded, and the motion was carried by a majority.

20 The minutes were ratified by a majority as proposed by Stewart Adam and seconded by Wilson Nicol, with one abstention.

21 ACCOUNTS FOR 2000-01

Mr Mair asked Richard Turnbull, on behalf of the Accounts Working Party, to present their report.

22 Mr Turnbull outlined the background and credentials of the three Working Party members. He

also declared an interest in that his wife was Youth Director; expenses relating to her Committee had not made sense to her and were queried, as Mrs Turnbull thought that she might be required to justify these at the AGM. He also had concerns about depreciation and about the Publications figures. Following communications between Mrs Turnbull, the Treasurer and John Fenningworth (then Finance Convenor), it became clear that there were weaknesses in the accounts. Mr Turnbull had advised the Chairman that he would oppose the adoption of the Accounts at the AGM.

23 The Working Party was happy with the standard of book-keeping at Headquarters, and therefore limited their inquiries to items on the Balance Sheet. They accepted at face value Income and Expenditure figures which were not affected. Once they had agreed adjustments they felt necessary, they produced revised Accounts and these, with an interim report, were discussed with the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Copies were sent to John Fenningworth and to the Treasurer. Following a meeting with the Treasurer, she examined the figures in detail and produced the figures now before the Executive. These Accounts had been signed off by the Auditor, and were approved at the last meeting of the Finance Committee.

24 Mr Turnbull drew attention to the Notes to the Accounts, particularly the final sentence of Note 4, page 8. It had been in the Notes to the Society's Accounts for many years with the addition of the words "currently three years" at the end. These words had been lost from the document at some stage, which was unfortunate, as they formed an important part of the Note. The Notes spelled out not only the basis on which the Accounts were prepared but also provided detailed explanations of how many of the figures were arrived at. The Notes should be consistent with previous years; where the basis of preparation was not consistent, attention should be drawn to the changes. The original Accounts were not prepared on exactly the same basis as earlier years, but the Notes had not referred to this. The figures now presented were prepared in a manner consistent with previous years. A basis for dealing with redundant or surplus stock on a consistent basis had also been made clear.

25 In the view of the Working Party, the audited Accounts now before the Executive Council presented a true and fair view of the Society's financial position.

26 The Working Party Report had been kept as brief as possible. Mr Turnbull highlighted the positive aspect of the investigation: the Society's system of book-keeping did work, although on this occasion the system of checks and balances had broken down, partially because the hitherto well-understood roles of the Treasurer and Finance Convenor had become blurred following transfer of accounting in-house. One of the benefits of the new Management Board was that it would constitute a forum for discussion and review of Annual Accounts with all directly interested parties present. Also, the problems had been detected while they were still within the Society and before the figures were in the public domain. He urged the Council to put this incident behind them and to move forward.

27 Aad Boode noted that the margin on sales of publications had risen markedly, and asked what could be expected for future years. John Douglas responded that this was as a result of too much stock having been written off in earlier years, and there would not be such a big margin next year. He confirmed that following examination of the last few stock figures, a method of valuing stock had been arrived at which wrote off surplus stock and could be applied in future years.

28 It was confirmed that non-RSCDS stock was included in stock valuation. The difference between cost and value was stressed; cost was the historic cost of production, or purchase from an external producer.

29 There was discussion regarding accounting for the transferred CDs, which had been sponsored by Branches. Jim Healy reported that this had been viewed as the biggest technical accounting problem by the Working Party. It had been agreed that this money should be accounted for separately, and a "Digital Recordings Fund" had therefore been created, allowing both money received and money spent to be shown, and it also allowed the surplus to be clearly identified. At such time as all the CDs had been transferred, if there was a surplus left, it could then be taken back into the General Fund.

30 The valuation of Headquarters building at £1,411 was questioned. Richard Turnbull replied that in accounting terms, the choices regarding property valuation were either to show historical cost or to revalue the property every year. The latter would be very expensive, and could go up and down as property values fluctuated. The Working Party recommended leaving it as it was, and it would be a consistent figure in the accounts. He pointed out that the figure was not the same as valuation for insurance purposes. David Gray suggested that, as Headquarters was a major asset, an approximate valuation should be included in a Note. Mr Turnbull suggested this be discussed with the Auditor.

31 Wilson Nicol, on behalf of Sacramento Branch, noted that a motion increasing the subscription fee had been passed at the AGM although the accounts now showed a surplus

equivalent to £3 per member. Mr Mair explained that the question was whether or not the revised accounts gave a better view of the Society's finances than the original set. Part of the surplus now declared was due to the postponement of spending plans. What the Finance Convenor had said at the AGM with regard to the subscription fee was correct, and to some extent what had been done since had been repairing faults from previous years. There were a number of other items that would only occur once, and the surplus could not be interpreted as a trend. Jim Healy confirmed that was the case. Finance Committee had considered this matter and had decided not to propose any increase in subscription to the 2002 AGM.

32 Mary-Jane Wildgoose asked whether the Income & Expenditure page of the Summary Accounts was General Fund only. Mrs Jeffcoat responded that that was correct, to make it consistent with previous summaries, and because of the constraint on space. She noted that summaries may not be issued in future due to SORP requirements.

33 Alex Gray felt the most important issue was consistency from year to year, and asked Richard Turnbull to confirm that these Accounts were consistent with previous accounts, so that comparisons could be drawn. Mr Turnbull was happy to give that assurance.

34 Andrew Kellett asked how the Society could ensure that checks and balances did not fall down in future; Mr Mair responded that the new management structure should do exactly that, and that there was a continued need for good communication.

35 Mr Mair thanked Mr Turnbull, Mr Douglas and Mr Healy for dealing with the questions that had arisen, and on behalf of the Executive Council, thanked them for their time and efforts in investigating the issues.

36 A motion that the Executive Council endorsed the Accounts was proposed by Alice Murphy, seconded by Tony Dewdney, and approved by a majority, with no votes against and 4 abstentions.

37 **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

38 **Publications & Research Committee**

The minutes of the meeting of 23 March 2002 were approved as proposed by Stewart Adam and seconded by Anne Gordon.

39 Miss Gordon-Harvey reported some highlights from the minutes:

- She thanked Committee members, HQ staff, musicians, dancers and other volunteers who had contributed to the work of the Committee.
- The warm-up booklet was progressing, albeit slowly. Contributions were being drawn from a wide range of sources. She confirmed it included a section on cooling down.
- The subscription copy, Book 42, was on course, and Marion Anderson and her band would be recording the CD of accompanying music.
- Work on a suite of dances, devised by Roy Goldring with music by Muriel Johnstone, to mark the Scotia Centenary celebrations of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society was well advanced.
- John Drewry and Alan Macpherson had been invited to devise dances to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee. The Society had also been asked by the BBC to provide dancers for a live "Take the Floor" from Holyrood Palace on 1 June to celebrate the Jubilee, the music to be provided by Iain Macphail's band. Mixed teams from around Scotland had agreed to take part.
- CD transfers continued to be processed; it was hoped that two would be available for Summer School and another two for the AGM.
- Books were being revised as they came up for reprint. Consultation on and review of the Glossary and the Manual were currently taking place.
- Jim Healy was progressing his plans for rationalising the Archive, and no doubt more would be heard as it developed.

40 Di Rooney congratulated the Committee for all their work, and had been impressed to see that much was being done relating to publicity.

41 Andrew Paterson supported bringing The Lancers back for current use; Miss Gordon-Harvey noted his support for the idea, although it was still under discussion.

42 The minutes were unanimously ratified as proposed by Linda Gaul and seconded by Roz Scott-Huxley.

43 **Summer School Committee**

The minutes of the meeting of 9 March 2002 were approved as proposed by Moira Stacey and seconded by Carol Smith.

44 Mrs MacLean drew attention to a number of points from the minutes:

- A draft timetable had been sent to staff, in a new format which should be easier to read.
- Dancing Proficiency Assessments would take place in weeks 1 and 3. Examinations were responsible for their administration and conduct.

and Summer School provided a hall and musician.
- Staffing was almost complete.
- Summer School staff would not be asked to work in the shop – volunteer help would be happily accepted.
- Liaison with the University had been good. A seated meal would be held on Tuesday evenings, and guests were being invited.
- Two of the church halls normally used were not available this year, but alternatives had been found at St Leonard's and another school.
- Mrs MacLean thanked Robert Mackay for his efforts in acquiring a suitable piano, and thanked all those who had contributed to the fund.
- Feedback on the evaluation forms had been very positive, with the high levels of teachers' expertise being particularly valued. Efforts would be made to improve liaison with New Hall students. Mrs MacLean thanked Dr Hall for his assistance in analysing the forms.
- There would only be a Certificate class during Course 2 this year.
- The Musicians Course in week 2, directed by Maureen Rutherford, would have 14 participants. There would be some integration with classes, and special classes specifically for the musicians.
- Winter School had 139 attendees including staff, and was a great success. Mrs MacLean thanked Anita Mackenzie for directing the School, and noted that her motivation and energy were much appreciated.
- Mrs MacLean thanked all Headquarters staff, particularly June Dick, for their support throughout the year.

45 Robert Mackay confirmed the situation regarding the piano. The fund stood at £3,125 after Winter School; the supplier had offered a good, new piano and would also supply a duet stool, transport to St Andrews and the first tuning, all for that sum. Mr Mackay was thanked for his efforts in securing such a good deal.

46 The minutes were unanimously ratified as proposed by Keith Stacey and seconded by Linda Gaul.

47 **Youth Committee**

The minutes of the meeting of 20 April 2002 were approved as proposed by Sue Porter and seconded by Andrew Kellett.

48 Mrs Turnbull highlighted key issues:

- Around half of the 1,000 copies of "Dance Scottish" pack had been sold. Sheena Wellington had reviewed the pack very favourably in the TES (Times Educational Supplement) Scotland.
- Mrs Turnbull had addressed a Sport England conference in London on more dance in schools.
- A new children's badge was now available, price 20p each.
- Preparation of a syllabus and requirements for providing children's tests through the Society was ongoing, as shown in the brief distributed with the minutes of 20 April.
- The suggestion of a world-wide event for children, raising money for Save the Children Fund by sponsoring dances, had received enthusiastic support. Funding was being sought for the information packs required. It was hoped that Branches, individually or regionally, would consider providing a venue and perhaps a band.
- There would be discussion groups at Summer School and at the AGM on starting classes and teaching children in 'out of school' situations.
- Easter School had been most enjoyable and had attracted positive feedback.. There were only 37 dancers, so the original plan for 3 classes had been adapted to 1 general class. Mrs Turnbull thanked Anita Mackenzie for coping so competently with a wide range of ability and experience. Young dancers in Canada and USA were working on a similar event for North America for next May. It was hoped costs in future could be kept as low as possible to attract more of the 18-30s age group.
- The Committee was considering the establishment of an interactive website for children.
- Mrs Turnbull thanked all the Committee members and HQ staff, and particularly Linda Bates for her enthusiasm and efficiency.

49 Mrs Turnbull believed the cost for setting up an interactive website would be in the region of £1,500-2,000.

50 There was lengthy discussion regarding the payment of fees to teachers and musicians at Easter School. A number of people felt it was inappropriate, as this was not done at Summer School. Mrs Turnbull noted that there was a problem of terminology, as highlighted in the Finance Committee minutes. At Easter School, young people, with fewer financial reserves, were asked to give up their time, to share a room with others in a Youth Hostel, and only receive breakfast. Summer School staff received accommodation and full board, with those who were non-resident receiving an honorarium. The amounts were similar in both cases, but were described differently. Also, the fee paid to musicians at Easter School had included playing for the Ball as well as for classes, so in effect the cost of a band was included.

51 Anita Mackenzie recommended that in future, people attending the School with no knowledge of

steps or formations should be taken separately, and the one general class should not be repeated.

52 Several of those who attended commented on the cost of the course, and believed more would attend if the cost were lower. Mrs Turnbull encouraged Branches to support young people to attend. Sponsorship was being sought for next year.

53 Mrs Turnbull confirmed that it had been agreed that the Easter School should be held in Stirling next year, then elsewhere, and a venue in England could certainly be considered.

54 The Preliminary Test and the Teacher's Certificate used to be part of the PE syllabus for teachers. Because many other things had come in to the teaching qualification, that had been dropped. However, Moray House was now going to offer SCD in the third year of its B.Ed. course, which it was hoped would bring more involvement with the Society. Under McCrone proposals, teachers' development would work towards "chartered teacher" status, and there was a possibility of people working towards the Teacher's Certificate getting credits. Any further developments would be reported. Mrs Martin confirmed that these proposals were Scotland-specific.

55 Mrs Turnbull confirmed that the paper on graded tests for children was a draft document. Once Youth Committee had done more work on it, it would go to the Examinations Committee, then to the Management Board for approval. It was recognised that there was a need to consider staffing implications.

56 Mrs Martin confirmed that Telford College was one of three FE colleges in Scotland offering dance courses, with a Higher in Dance Practice. The Society had had input into the SCD units – the Manual was recommended, and RSCDS contact information was given several times. There was a set of units at HQ and anyone interested in receiving a copy should contact the Secretary.

57 The minutes were unanimously ratified as proposed by Marilyn Watson and seconded by Pia Walker.

58 General Purposes Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 6 April 2002 were approved as proposed by Jerry Reinstein and seconded by Christine Munro.

59 Mr Mair limited his report and any questions to issues not related to the Management structure, which was a separate item on the agenda. He highlighted some points:

- The honour board had been delivered, and was magnificent. HQ would be open for a short time following the meeting for anyone who wished to see it.
- He had promised a statement to the Executive regarding the position of the Society with the Inland Revenue. The point at issue was whether a minimum number of trustees were required to be resident in Scotland. Contact was made with the IR through the Society's solicitor, reminding them of their point of contact with the Society and providing details of the current Constitution. A response was received showing general approval for the changes that had been made, but not making reference to the residence requirements of members of a management body. The letter only made proposals and at no point suggested that the Society was in contravention of any laws. It was also important to understand that this matter was not a consequence of any other changes that were being made. Mr Mair proposed further negotiations with the Inland Revenue.

60 A proposal to endorse the decision of the GP Committee to negotiate further, through the Society's lawyer, before any change to the Constitution was considered, was proposed by Jim Healy and seconded by Keith Stacey, and approved by a majority with two abstentions.

61 David Gray was concerned that, as a trustee, he was reading minutes that did not clarify the situation, and he did not believe the reference to confidentiality should include the Executive Council. Mr Mair responded that until matters were put to an Executive Council meeting, they were confidential. There were matters that should not be discussed with non-Executive members or even non-committee members. Mrs Martin pointed out that the figure brought to the meeting of 2 February was two-thirds of trustees; since then, a letter had been received saying 11 out of 23 would be acceptable.

62 Fiona Grant expressed disappointment that a grant had not been made to Ilona Gumenyuk (GP02/16.4). The suggestion that Bristol Branch donate goods or equipment was not possible, as the Branch constitution prevented donations outwith their own area. Most funding bodies gave clear eligibility criteria and submission dates. She proposed that a proforma application form for JMMF grants should be provided as a matter of urgency, with eligibility clearly stated. This was seconded by Alice Murphy, and was defeated by a majority, with 9 votes for and 25 abstentions. Mr Mair assured representatives that the Committee was trying to do this quickly and always tried to be fair in allocating JMMF funds.

63 It was clarified that the JMMF was not, legally, a restricted fund, but was treated as though it was restricted.

64 Margaret Brander was disappointed that the Committee had not agreed to her proposal of a gift of a golden quaich to Her Majesty the Queen. She proposed that, by donation, members raise money for a quaich to be presented next year in honour of the Golden Jubilee of the Coronation. This was seconded by Roz Scott-Huxley, but defeated by a majority.

65 Aad Boode asked why a revised Licence Agreement would be for new Branches only (GP02.8.5). Mr Mair responded that the purpose was to have the Licence Agreement reflect changes agreed at the AGM only. At that stage in the meeting, there had been a different suggestion, for more complex changes, which would have referred only to new Branches.

66 The following nominations to receive a Scroll were approved, as proposed by Wilson Nicol and seconded by Kaoru Boode (nominating Branch in brackets):

- Renée Campbell (Delft)
- George Cooper (Melbourne & District)
- Susanna Hegel (Vienna)
- Muriel Johnstone (San Diego)
- Patricia Kent (Nova Scotia)
- Jim South (Queensland)
- Phyllis South (Queensland)

67 The minutes were ratified as proposed by Keith Stacey and seconded by Pauline Stewart, with 2 votes against and 3 abstentions.

68 Examinations Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 13 April 2002 were approved as proposed by Helen Frame and seconded by Alex Gray.

69 Mr Frazer highlighted the main issues:

- Responses to establishing the teachers' database had been very prompt, over 850 names had been received.
- Mina Corson and Bill Little had retired as examiners, and Mr Frazer recorded the Society's thanks for their services.
- The Tutors' Course attracted 11 participants; thanks were expressed to Lesley Martin and Robert Mackay for making it very successful.
- A Teaching Skills Course was planned for October, to be held in Glasgow. Johan MacLean would be the teacher and Dorothy Hamilton the pianist.
- There had been 3 Scottish exam centres this year, and NW Craven was continuing its 2-year cycle. South Africa had not been able to attract sufficient interest for a tour this year, but it was hoped there may be sufficient support next year. There would be exam tours to Japan and Australia in 2003. Melbourne Branch was proceeding with its plans to hold exams in June this year, and examiners had been appointed. The number of candidates last year fell by 17%, although pass rates were maintained.
- The outcome of meetings with the SQA and Moray House had already been reported, and Mr Frazer was pleased at the inter-committee communication and co-operation that had taken place.
- The Committee had been liaising with Publications Committee regarding the warm-up booklet. All publications for which the Committee had responsibility were currently being reviewed, including the Manual. Mr Frazer invited anyone who wished to make specific comments on publications to make their submission via HQ.
- Much time had been spent refining the Dancing Proficiency Assessment (DPA). The third dance on the syllabus had been replaced with demonstration of two formations. Five grades, from A to E, had been defined; grade A would comprise the top 10%, grade E the bottom 10%, and grade C would account for approximately one third of candidates. There would be two Assessments at Summer School this year; two assessors would be used, one examiner and one experienced tutor. Previous participants were having certificates re-issued and grades defined.
- The Committee were considering another Examiners' Seminar in 2004, and ideas for discussion had been invited.

70 Jean Yeats reported various misconceptions in Ottawa regarding the DPA, and also noted that they now had uncertificated people teaching classes, because of the cost of training teachers. Mr Frazer confirmed that the DPA had been launched on the basis that it might eventually be a pre-requisite, but that idea had been put on hold. It was not suggested that it would replace the Preliminary Test. He noted the point about the cost of becoming certificated.

71 It was confirmed that notification regarding the teachers database went to all Branches with forms to be completed. Anyone who wished to receive a list of examiners could request one from HQ.

72 The minutes were unanimously ratified as proposed by Robert Mackay and seconded by Fiona Grant.

MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

73 Remits for Management Board and
74 Management Committees

This paper outlined, in more detail than the Constitution, the proposed responsibilities and remits for the Management Board and for the Management Committees.

75 With regard to trustee liability, Jim Healy clarified that there was a "3-year rule", and the question concerned the burden of proof. Trustees were responsible only for what happened while they were trustees. For three years afterwards, it rested with the individual to disprove responsibility. After three years, the assumption was that individuals were not involved.

76 Andrew Kellett asked for clarification of the relationship between the Board and the Committees, and what degree of control or influence there would be. Mr Mair responded that this was important, but very difficult to foresee. The working of the Committees was dependent on who was involved and how they chose to take matters forward. Mrs Martin stressed that the important link was that the Committee Convenors would be on the Management Board.

77 Alice Murphy asked if it was proposed to put these remits in the Constitution; Mr Mair pointed out that a certain amount was already in the agreed Constitution. However, he believed they would have to be put forward as amendments to the Constitution, to the AGM.

78 The proposal that this paper be put to the AGM as an amendment to the Constitution was proposed by Andrew Paterson, seconded by Wilson Nicol and approved by a majority, with one abstention.

79 Nomination Procedure

Mr Mair asked Wilson Nicol to speak, on behalf of the General Purposes Committee, on the proposed amendment distributed to representatives at registration.

80 Wilson Nicol proposed that the Constitution be changed as contained in the amendment. General Purposes Committee felt it was more clear-cut, democratic, and an easier procedure to adopt at the AGM. Keith Oughton was happy to support this proposal; the amendment that his Branch proposed at the AGM had been to rectify what they saw as an inconsistency. It was clarified that the proposal meant that the six who received the highest number of votes would serve for 3 years, the next six would serve for 2 years, and the next six for one year.

81 The amendment as circulated was agreed by a majority, with one abstention.

82 It was clarified that the proposed extension referred to at (B), clause 2, was one year.

83 Keith Oughton suggested that 6 and 7 under Nomination Procedure should be under Voting Procedure instead. He also queried the wording of 7, if "proxies" were to be allowed.

84 It was agreed to delete "and election" from the heading of section (B), as these posts were appointed by the Board.

85 It was confirmed that, under the new structure, the Chairman Elect would automatically become Chairman; this year, however, there would still be an election for Chairman.

86 Approval of the paper, amended as agreed, was proposed by Keith Stacey, seconded by Jim Healy and approved by a majority, with 4 abstentions.

87 Voting Procedure

It was confirmed that item 2 should read Chairman Elect, not Vice Chairman. It was also confirmed that, according to the Constitution, a member could not be a delegate for more than one Branch, and this would be clarified in the paper. The Constitution currently required one delegate to hand in one vote per person. To arrange voting on another basis – such as postal voting – would not be constitutional.

88 With regard to voting on the day, Keith Stacey was disturbed that it was proposed that the count start before voting closed. Mr Mair responded that there were a number of counts to be made, and it was believed this was a way of speeding up the process.

89 Keith Stacey proposed that at times to be determined, at AGM 02, counting would not start until voting was closed. Alan Macpherson seconded.

90 Linda Gaul stated that this would not be possible. To close the voting at 12.00 noon was unrealistic for those coming only for the AGM. In principle, it would be preferable to close the vote first, but she felt that an accommodation could be reached so that the count took place well away from registration. This would allow counting to start earlier and the results to be available before the end of the AGM. Mrs Martin stated that there were a number of small rooms at Aberdeen available for counting.

91 Jerry Reinstein proposed the direct opposite to Keith Stacey's proposal, and was seconded by Linda Gaul.

92 Stewart Adam proposed a counter-motion, that the end of registration be changed to 2.15pm, and was seconded by Aad Boode.

93 There was a vote on Stewart Adam's proposal, and this was approved by a majority with 1 against and 2 abstentions.

94 There was then a vote on Jerry Reinstein's proposal, that counting should start at 11.00am.

There were 66 votes for, 18 against, and 5 abstentions. The proposal was therefore approved.

95 It was agreed that voting papers could be handed in up to 2.15pm, and it was also agreed that the end of registration would be brought forward to 2.15pm.

96 It was pointed out that the word "proxy" was not in the Constitution, and it was therefore agreed that the word "proxy" would be removed.

97 There was a vote on the paper as amended, as proposed by Jim Healy and seconded by Tony Dewdney, and it was approved by a majority.

98 It was clarified that the number of additional delegates per Branch should have been noted in the minutes, but was overlooked; GP agreed that it should be 1 per complete 50, not 1 per 50 or part thereof. This was formally proposed by Stewart Adam, seconded by Elizabeth Harry, and approved by a majority with 1 vote against and 2 abstentions.

99 Candidate Profiles

Fiona Turnbull asked if more detail could be given for sub-committee volunteers, eg when they will be sought. Mr Mair said this was not as urgent as the Management Board, and the MB itself would call for these.

100 Elizabeth Harry suggested that the profile requirements should also apply to nominations for Chairman, Chairman Elect and Convenors.

101 Christina France proposed that sub-committee volunteers also submit photos; this was seconded by Sue Porter, and approved by a majority with 1 vote against and five abstentions.

102 The paper was accepted by a majority, as proposed by Alan Carr and seconded by Jo Robinson, with one abstention.

103 Schedule of Meetings

Roz Scott-Huxley noted that the Music Sub-Committee was previously under Education & Training, and asked if it had moved to Membership Services. Mr Mair responded that the sub-committee structure was flexible, and it would be for the Management Board to decide. Mrs Martin noted that the Music Sub-Committee had met only on an ad hoc basis. It was also noted that these were proposed dates only.

104 Approval of the schedule was proposed by Pat Clark, seconded by Stewart Adam, and agreed unanimously.

105 Mr Mair reminded representatives that it was planned to issue a special edition Newsbrief as soon as possible following this meeting, outlining all that had been agreed, and that it would also appear on the website. Representatives were asked to play their part in ensuring that members were aware of the detailed procedures.

106

107 AGM MOTIONS

Proposal on voting procedures in General Meeting

Mr Mair asked Jimmie Hill to speak to this proposal, arising out of deliberations at General Purposes Committee, on voting in future.

108 Jimmie Hill clarified that it was proposed to take this amendment to the forthcoming AGM for change to the Constitution. Last year, the proposal for postal voting had been rejected. However, there was a desire to be democratic and to keep distant Branches on board. It was proposed to offer the possibility of "proxy" voting. In the current Constitution, voting was referred to twice. The proposal was as follows:

> 'Amend VI – MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE, (iv) Nominations and Elections, clause 10 to read "Voting will be by Local Association/Branch delegates by ballot in General Meeting", ie delete the word "only".
>
> To the same section, add a clause 11 to read "Any Local Association/Branch, unable to send its full quota of delegates to a General Meeting, may submit the remainder of its votes as proxy votes to arrive with the Secretary at least 7 days in advance of any such meeting."
>
> Amend VII – GENERAL MEETING, (ii) Motions by adding a new clause 8 to read "Any Local Association/Branch, unable to send its full quota of delegates to a General Meeting, may submit the remainder of its votes as proxy votes to arrive with the Secretary at least 7 days in advance of any such meeting." Re-number current clause 8 as clause 9.'

This would mean that some Branches only voted through their delegates, while some, particularly those overseas, could vote by proxy. Alastair Reid seconded the proposal.

109 Pat Houghton noted that the proposal did not say that some Branches may send no delegates; the wording implied a minimum of one delegate.

110 Stewart Adam asked if a delegate could bring proxy votes; Mr Mair responded that it would be better and more transparent if the votes came directly from the Branch.

111 Fiona Grant proposed to amend Jimmie Hill's proposal by deleting "the remainder of" and simply

say "any LA/Branch may submit its votes..". Jerry Reinstein seconded her proposal.

112 Alice Murphy proposed an amendment to Jimmie Hill's proposal, to replace the word "proxy" with "postal". Liz Hunter seconded.

113 Wilson Nicol noted that a quota of voting papers would be issued by the secretariat, and it would be necessary to check that, if some were returned by post and some handed in by delegates, the total number received was correct. A mix of postal and personal voting would be beneficial to the Branches.

114 Roderick McLachlan asked if "postal" was used, whether all would have to vote postally. It was clarified that there could be signed papers giving the chairman of the meeting the right to vote.

115 Mr Mair confirmed that Branch votes would have to be signed by Branch Chairman and/or Secretary.

116 Jimmie Hill amended his proposal, to delete "as proxy votes". Alice Murphy seconded.

117 Jim Healy suggested changing the wording of Fiona Grant's amendment to delete "full", and substitute "all or some of its votes".

118 A vote was taken on Fiona Grant's amendment, wording as suggested by Jim Healy at 118 above. There were 65 votes for, 25 against, and 8 abstentions.

119 The proposal, as amended by Fiona Grant, would therefore go to the AGM.

120 Given what had been decided, Linda Gaul felt strongly that Branches must be urged to have at least one delegate attend the AGM.

121 STRATEGIC PLAN

Mrs Martin reported that anyone on a committee over the last year knew the work that had gone into preparing this paper, and she thanked all who had given their input. It was not perfect, and there were gaps, but its strength was that it had been produced by the committees and reflected their plans. She commended it to the meeting.

122 In the original Strategic Plan, Section 10 was Management, and the primary objective was to put a new management structure in place. As a result of the vote at the last AGM, that had now been achieved. The Working Party would be meeting the following day to begin updating the objectives.

123 Mr Mair noted that the goals had not changed. The meeting was not being asked to ratify the paper, simply to accept it for information.

124 Aad Boode was disappointed that there was no mention of the formation of regional teaching associations.

125 Fiona Grant proposed inserting a requirement to consider HQ members in Section 10. Roz Scott-Huxley seconded. This was defeated by a majority, with 8 votes for and numerous abstentions.

126 Tony Dewdney congratulated all involved in producing a superb document. If only half of what was listed was done, the Society would go from strength to strength.

127 The proposal to accept the Strategic Plan – Further Development was proposed by Tony Dewdney, seconded by Roz Scott-Huxley, and approved by a majority with 1 abstention.

128 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

129 Anita Mackenzie had been involved in both Winter School and Easter School this year, and wished to thank all HQ staff and Linda Gaul for their help.

130 Margaret Brander asked if representatives could be informed of the 16 names balloted to attend the Special Garden Party.
(Note: appended to minutes)

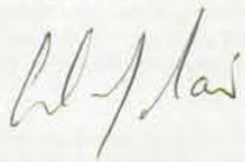
131 Roz Scott-Huxley expressed thanks on behalf of representatives to Linda Bates for her hard work and efficiency, and wished her well in her new post.

132 Aad Boode noted that this was almost the last meeting of the Executive Council. He had served on it for 25 years, and had enjoyed it and hoped he had served the Society well. He thanked representatives for their comradeship and wished all well.

133 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next and final meeting of the Executive Council will be held on Saturday 2 November at 9.30am in Aberdeen.

With thanks to the Chairman, the meeting closed at 4.45pm.



Golden Jubilee Garden Party, 25 May 2002

Names drawn by ballot (nominating Branch in brackets) were:

Mrs Sheila Barnes (Somerset)
Mrs Dulcie Bond (Sheffield)
Mrs Anne Brown (Roxburgh, Selkirk & Peebles)
Mrs Katherine Burke (Belfast)
Dr Lucinda Coventry (Oxfordshire)
Mr Nigel Gibson (Inverness)
Miss June Gray (Berwick-upon-Tweed)
Dr Ian Hall (Manchester)
Miss Sheila Mannall (Newcastle-upon-Tyne)
Mrs Irene Mathieson (Hamilton & Clydesdale)
Mrs Clarice Middleton (Richmond)
Mrs Muriel More (Glasgow)
Mrs Elizabeth Page (Birmingham)
Mrs Mary Stoker (London)
Mr John S Sturrock (St Andrews)
Mrs Sheila Trafford (Atlanta)

Minutes of Meeting of the Executive Council held on Saturday 2 November 2002 at 9.30am at the Beach Ballroom Complex, Aberdeen

1 PRESENT

Lesley Martin (Aberdeen), Barbara Gibbons (Adelaide), Sheila Nicoll (Annan), Pia Walker (Atlanta), Helen Frame (Ayr), Anne McArthur (Banffshire), Andrew Paterson (Bath), Bruce Frazer (Berks/Hants/Surrey Border), Elizabeth Page (Birmingham), Catherine Gray (Boston), Marilyn Watson (Bournemouth), Jimmie Hill (Brighton), Fiona Grant (Bristol), Roderick McLachlan (Cambridge & District), Roz Scott-Huxley (Cape Town), Francis Reid (Carlisle & Border), Helen Wemyss (Castle Douglas), Anne Walker (Cheltenham), Diane Rooney (Cheshire), Catriona Fleming (Clackmannanshire), Rosemary Gordon-Harvey (Cornwall), Lorna Ogilvie (Croydon & District), Peter Knight (Delaware Valley), Aad Boode (Delft), Christine Jones (Derbyshire North East), Keith Stacey (Doncaster & District), Betty Ferguson (Dumfries), John Whyte (Dundee), Elisabeth Gardiner (Dunfermline), Carol Smith (Duns & District), Margaret Martin (East Lothian), Christina France (Edinburgh), Anne Browning (Falkirk), Cecil McCausland (Florida North), William Wildgoose (Forfar), Dorothy Scott (Forres), John Hockenhull (Gatehouse of Fleet), Anne Gordon (Glasgow), Linda Gaul (Hamilton (Ontario)), Kaoru Boode-Masaki (Hawaii), Elisabeth Fugler (Helensburgh & District), Morna Rintoul (Herefordshire), James Walker (Hunter Valley/Newcastle), Irene Whyte (Inverness & District), Sheila McEwan (Isle of Islay), Ann Sheach (Isle of Skye), Margo Priestley (Johannesburg), John Johnston (Kilmarnock & District), Mary Jane Wildgoose (Kingston (Ontario)), James Armstrong (Kirkcaldy), Alan Carr (Leeds), Keith Oughton (Leicester), Rachel Wilton (London), Sue Porter (Lorn (Argyll)), Brenda Burnell (Los Angeles), Ian Hall (Manchester), Beatrice Nairn (Medicine Hat), Jo Robinson (N W Craven), Anthony Dewdney (New Haven), Patricia Houghton (New York), Elisabeth Hunter (New Zealand), Peter Quince (Newcastle-Upon-Tyne & District), Rhona Dickson (North Ayrshire), Joe Murphy (Northern Territory), Bill Clement (Northern Virginia), Dennis Tucker (Oxfordshire), Jerome Reinstein (Paris), Christine Munro (Perth & Perthshire), Margaret Brander (Phoenix), David Ross (Queensland), Moira Stacey (Retford & District), Lynn Brown (Richmond), David France (Rochdale), Julia Sharp (Roxburgh Selkirk & Peebles), Patricia Davoll (Royal Tunbridge Wells), Wilson Nicol (Sacramento), Brian Harry (San Gabriel Valley), Eva Burling (Sheffield), Sheila Barnes (Somerset), Jessie Harper (South Argyll), Alex Gray (South Wales), Judith Dewdney (Southport), David Taylor (St Andrews), Jim Healy (St Johns (Newfoundland)), Anita Mackenzie (Stirling), Keith Shearer (Stonehaven), Roger Cooper (Sutton Coldfield), Elma McCausland (Sydney), Susan Carr (TAC), James Rae (Tokai), Stewart Adam (Tokyo), Elizabeth Harry (Twin Cities), Elizabeth Allan (Vancouver), Susi Mayr (Vienna), Christine Denholm (West Lothian), Margaret Thomson (West Renfrewshire), Alice Murphy (Western Australia), Graham Donald (Winnipeg), Ronald Taylor (Wirral), Patricia Clark (York & North Humberside).

Elected Members: Dorothy Hamilton, Alistair Reid, Margaret Ross, Pauline Stewart, David Watson.

2 OFFICIALS

Mr A Mair (Chairman), Mrs J Martin (Vice-Chairman), Mrs F Turnbull (Youth Director & representative for Seattle).

3 IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs M Jeffcoat (Treasurer), Ms E Gray (Secretary/Administrator).

4 APOLOGIES

Johan MacLean (Director of Summer School), James Stott (Nova Scotia), Jock Smith (Stranraer), Andrew Kellett (Elected Member), and Berwick-upon-Tweed Branch.

5 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr Mair welcomed representatives to this final meeting of the Executive Council. He was sad to report that in the previous week, the Society had lost two long-serving members, Jean Yeats and Bill Ireland. Both had given many years of service to the Society and would be sadly missed. However, it was our responsibility to carry on where they left off, and he was sure this would be their wish.

6 Mr Mair thanked Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch, Duns Branch, members of Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto Branches, TAC, Winchester Branch and, in anticipation, Leicester Branch for hospitality kindly provided in the last six months to him and, in some cases, his wife. He had not visited as many branches as he would have liked, but he had tried – and would have more time after today.

7 He reminded members that this was a special meeting called in order that the Executive Council could ratify the business of its committees since May. Much business was, of course, incomplete and must be passed over to the Management Board in two weeks' time for further consideration.

8 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 11 May 2002 were unanimously approved as an accurate record, as proposed by Pia Walker and seconded by Fiona Grant.

9 MATTERS ARISING

Mr Mair noted that despite the agreement of this Council in May that expenses would not be paid for the November meeting, Minute point 19, expenses claim forms were unfortunately included by mistake with the papers sent out for the meeting. He reiterated the decision of the last meeting by confirming that expenses would not be paid.

There were no further matters arising.

10 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

11 Examinations Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 21 September 2002 were approved as proposed by Lesley Martin and seconded by Alex Gray.

12 Bruce Frazer gave a brief report:

- He paid tribute to Jean Yeats and Bill Ireland, and noted that Madge Laing had indicated her wish to retire as an examiner; all had made a major contribution to the Society as examiners.
- The need to "fill the gaps" was recognised, and moves were afoot to accelerate the process.
- Ten people attended the Teaching Skills course in Glasgow the previous week, and it had been very successful.
- It was noted that the number of examination candidates was continuing to fall.
- More non-English speakers were being examined at Summer School, and the committee recommended that organisational guidelines for Summer School should be considered.
- A Dancing Proficiency Assessment was held in week 3, and the refinements made to the assessment had worked well, with positive feedback being received. He noted that potential candidates for the Preliminary Test may find the assessment helpful, but it was not a requirement.
- The examination syllabus had been revised, and would come into effect as of June 2003.
- The committee had almost completed its input into the revision of the Manual, and it had been agreed that a sub-committee would be formed, with representatives also from Publications, to take the project forward.
- Good progress had been made with regard to the Strategic Plan, and an update had been passed to the Vice Chairman.
- Mr Frazer thanked all the committee for their support and hard work

13 Roz Scott-Huxley asked the position regarding South African tour dates. There was only one candidate, and it was possible that he may apply for funding from JMMF to attend Summer School. It was noted that the tour could be changed from an examinations tour to a teaching tour, but Mr Mair confirmed that consultation was ongoing to find the best and most cost-effective answer.

14 The minutes were ratified unanimously as proposed by Chris Jones and seconded by Pat Clark.

15 Finance Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 26 October 2002 were approved as proposed by Ron Taylor and seconded by Keith Oughton.

16 David Watson gave a brief report:

- Since the last meeting of the Executive Council, the committee had been largely focussed on the preparation of the financial report and statements for the June 2002 accounts.
- He had little to add to the minutes or the report, other than to say that the current financial position was good. The Society suffers, as others do, from "real world" problems, but there was nothing of great concern.

17 Having noted the reference to stock sales software, Keith Stacey reiterated his offer to help with stock control. It was pointed out that the problem was with the number of transactions being recorded in Sage, and it was felt that "front-end" sales software, working in conjunction with Sage, would be helpful.

18 The minutes were ratified unanimously, as proposed by Keith Stacey and seconded by Stewart Adam.

19 Publications & Research Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 5 October 2002 were approved as proposed by Roz Scott-Huxley and seconded by Peter Knight.

20 Rosemary Gordon-Harvey gave a brief report:

- Preparations for The Queen's Golden Jubilee began with a live recording of "Take the Floor" from the Palace of Holyroodhouse on 1 June 2002, which ended with John Drewry's specially composed jig *50 Years On*. A suite of three dances for presentation to Her Majesty was compiled, with two dances from John Drewry and one from Alan Macpherson.
- It is intended that these 3 dances would form the core of Book 43, the 2003 subscription copy, and a final decision on all the dances for the book will be made towards the end of this year.
- Jim Healy and volunteers have begun the task of sorting through the Archive to clarify the contents and expand on their descriptions in a database.
- Sponsorship for transfers and re-records continues, for which many thanks are due to members and Branches. Books 36 and 37 have been re-recorded and will be available for the AGM, and a further two recordings and one transfer are scheduled between now and spring.
- Work on updating the Manual is being progressed jointly with the Examinations Committee, as is the Warm-Up Booklet.
- This week has seen the culmination of the collaboration with the Royal Scottish Geographical Society on the Scotia Centenary, where HRH The Princess Royal was presented with copies of the Scotia Suite book and CD.
- Ms Gordon-Harvey thanked the HQ staff and all members of the committee for their co-operation and support in achieving so much during the year.

21 The minutes were ratified by a majority as proposed by Roz Scott-Huxley and seconded by Rachel Wilton.

22 Summer School Committee

It was noted that in minute SS02/20(SS02/7), second last line, Robinson should be amended to Robertson.

With this amendment, the minutes of the meeting of 7 September 2002 were approved as proposed by Carol Smith and seconded by Moira Stacey.

23 In Mrs MacLean's absence, Mr Mair offered to deal with any queries, however none were forthcoming.

24 The minutes were unanimously ratified as proposed by Alex Gray and seconded by Francis Reid.

25 Youth Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 12 October 2002 were approved as proposed by Sue Porter and seconded by Fiona Turnbull.

26 Mrs Turnbull gave a brief report:

- Andrew Kellett was leading the discussion group on teaching children while the Executive Council was meeting. Similar discussions had taken place during Summer School.
- She hoped that members were aware that another edition of the Youth newsletter had been published and circulated. It contained details of all the actions the committee had been taking and suggestions for future projects.
- The young sub-committee had been working hard on plans for Easter School 2003. Fees had been kept low, and she asked all UK branches to help by providing funding for at least one young person to attend – even if they had no young people in their own branches.
- Two generous sponsorship offers had been made with respect to a Youth school in 2004. One was from Ron Nedderman in memory of Susan Nedderman, to be held in Cambridge, and this would need to be carefully considered.
- Preparation of the syllabus for tests for children had continued, and proposals were almost ready to be presented to the Education & Training Committee. They would be optional, but the hope was that they might encourage young people to continue dancing.

- Investigations regarding a world-wide Save the Children Fund dance event were ongoing, but it could not go ahead unless it was known that branches worldwide would support it.
- She concluded that much had been achieved in the first 3 years of the committee, and she thanked all those who had contributed towards those achievements.

27 In response to a query, Mrs Turnbull confirmed that the recent Youth Newsletter was the third edition, and it was planned to issue it annually. It was circulated to branches, Executive Council representatives, Youth Co-ordinators and anyone else who had requested copies. It would hopefully be on the website soon, along with Easter School information and application form.

28 The minutes were unanimously ratified as proposed by Tony Dewdney and seconded by Susan Carr.

29 General Purposes Committee

The minutes of the meeting of 28 September 2002 were approved as proposed by Alastair Reid and seconded by Jerry Reinstein.

30 Mr Mair gave a brief report:

- With regard to negotiations with the Inland Revenue, he confirmed that a reply had been received through the Society's lawyer on Thursday 31 October 2002 which said, "I am pleased to say that the IR are quite content for the Constitution to be silent on the Scottish residency requirement for the majority of the members of the Management Board. They do not need any further amendment of the document to be made before they will issue a formal charity recognition letter."
- As mentioned previously, discussions with South Africa regarding examinations was ongoing.

31 The minutes were ratified by a majority, as proposed by Linda Gaul and seconded by Di Rooney.

32 APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATION

Wilson Nicol proposed and Roz Scott-Huxley seconded the approval of the following applications:

- Thistle & Shamrock Dancing Club (Wupptertal, Germany)
- Scéalta-Sí Scottish Dance (Turin, Italy)
- Nottingham Scottish Association (England)
- Cumbrae Scottish Country Dancing Association (Scotland)

The applications were unanimously approved.

33 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

34 It was confirmed that the Constitution now in operation would be updated and circulated after the AGM. As had been previously discussed, it would then also be put on the website.

35 Tony Dewdney proposed a vote of thanks for Alan Mair. He had been Chairman through a momentous period in the Society's history, and had done a wonderful job of steering the Society through various minefields. This was endorsed by the meeting.

36 MINUTES OF FINAL MEETING

As this was the end of the final Executive Council, the Chairman asked for a show of hands to approve the close of the final meeting. This was unanimously approved.

The meeting closed at 10.15am.