

THE CLIPPENS OIL COMPANY LTD

BT2 – 808

- Incorporation Date: 9th February 1878
- Registered Office: 16 Bothwell Street, Glasgow.
27 Royal Exchange Square, Glasgow, 21st May 1887.
- First Directors: James Scott, Merchant, Glasgow.
Thomas Inglis Scott, Merchant, Glasgow.
William McKinnon, Accountant, Glasgow.
- Objects: The leasing and acquiring of shale, coal, fireclay, and other minerals and limestone, clay and raw or unpurified oil and other materials and working, raising and manufacturing the same into oil, paraffin, and other products.
- The selling and disposing of the said shale and other minerals and of the products thereof, and the purchasing and dealing therein, and in other minerals, materials and products and carrying on the business of oil manufacturers and merchants.
- The acquiring and taking over for the purposes of the Company, of the whole trade, business, and undertakings property, funds and assets and effects of the firm of "The Clippens Shale Oil Company" including goodwill of business and works, property, machinery, fittings, plant and appurtenances connected therewith, and situated in Renfrewshire or elsewhere, and their whole rights as lessees, proprietors or otherwise in shale and mineral fields, lands houses, and others including the stock on hand at the works and depots, of the said Company as specified in an Agreement for the transfer of those subjects, entered into between James Scott, Merchant, Glasgow, sole partner of the said Company of the one part and Thomas Inglis Scott, Merchant, in Glasgow on behalf of himself, and the other promoters of the said Company on the other part, dated the 25th day of January 1878, and adopting and giving effect to that Agreement and the whole clauses and provisos thereof, incumbent on or undertaken by the said Thomas Inglis Scott, and the continuing to carry on the said trade and business.
- Agreement between James Scott and the Clippens Oil Company Limited. 25th January 1878. "Whereas a Company is proposed to be formed with limited liability under the provisions of the Companies Acts of 1862, 1867, 1877 to be called the Clippens Oil Company Limited.....
- (Agreement between James Scott, sole proprietor of the Clippens Shale Oil Company and Thomas Inglis Scott on behalf of the Clippens Oil Co. Ltd. The sale consists of the Clippens Shale Oil Works at Clippens in the Parish of Kilbarchan, County of Renfrew, and all the trade, business etc. of the Old Company. The price of the Old Company was £150,000. Also included was list of leases held by the Old Company.
1. Lease between John Charles Cunninghame Esq., of Craigends, and James Scott for the seams of shale and coal, ironstone, and fireclay being worked in the lands of Clippens and Ryewraes in the Parish of Kilbarchan, County of Renfrewshire, with power to take and occupy the lands etc. for 31 years from Whitsunday 1876.
 2. Lease between Sir Robert John Milliken Napier, of Napier and Milliken, Baronet, and Merry and Cunningham, (Limited) for the seam of bituminous shale and coal below the seam of ironstone in the lands of Barbush, Mains, Windyhill, Merchiston, and North Forecourt Park for 18years from Martinmas 1875. To which Lease, James Scott now has, by right of assignation.

3. Lease between the now deceased Robert Speir of Blackston and the also now deceased James Anderson, Coalmaster, Glasgow, of the Common or Free Coal and Oil Shale or other strata capable of yielding oil, lying above the Hurler or Darluth Coal within the lands of Green in the said Parish, for 21 years from Martinmas 1866, to which James Scott has right by assignation from William Campbell Ure, Coalmaster, Glasgow.

4. Lease between the Trustees of the late Thomas Speir and the said James Scott of (1) The seam of shale oil lying below the principal seam of clayband ironstone, in the lands of Green and Mill of Cart, the small seam of Clayband Ironstone, in moderate connection with said seam of oil shale, and other minerals there mentioned in the lands of Middleton and Moss Loan, adjoining, situated in the said Parish (2) The oil shale, the coal and ironstone seams in connection therewith, the seam of coal known as the Hurler Coal, and other minerals lying within the lands of Mill or Cart in the said Parish for 28 years from Martinmas 1872.

5. Lease between John Charles Cunninghame and others and the Clippens Shale Oil Company for the lands and farms of Ryewraes and others, lying in the said Parish for 19 years from 1872.

.....Robert Berry, Advocate, Professor of Law, there, whose award shall be final and binding on the parties or their representative.

23rd February 1892.

Petition of Clippens Oil Company for reduction of Capital. Reasons for the reduction of capital were:-

1. Part of the reconstruction scheme proposed by the Company involved abandoning the Refinery works at Clippens near Johnstone, Renfrewshire, and there- after the concentration of the whole of the mining, and working at Pentland and Straiton, Midlothian, there will be considerable losses in the realisation of the Clippens Works as Compared with the figure quoted for it on the balance sheet.

(2) A serious breakdown of the pumping engine and machinery in the end of 1890 and the difficulties mining at Pentland and Straiton, causing a loss in capital.

Winding Up:

Special Resolution passed 24th December 1892.

1. That it has been proved to the satisfaction of Clippens Oil company Ltd. that the Company cannot by reasons of its liabilities, continue in business, and that it is advisable to wind up the same.

2. That the Clippens Oil Company Limited be wound up voluntarily.

Notice of consent to take the name of subsisting Company - 19th June 1893.

Return of the final winding up meeting 10th December 1894.

FOOTNOTES

The Company was incorporated on the 9th February 1878, and then took over the works, pits, railway, houses, leases etc., together with the stock-in-trade of the unincorporated Company called Clippens Shale Oil company of which, Mr Scott was the sole partner, at the price of £150,000 as per agreement hereinafter referred to.

The Company has since its incorporation expended upwards of £25,000 in additions and improvements at the works at Clippens and the result is that it has already refined and now can refine upwards of 450,000 gallons of Crude Oil per month into Scale, Wax, Burning Oil, Lubricating Oil etc.

In 1879, the Company acquired under lease, and on favourable terms, the extensive field of minerals at Pentland about 6 miles from Edinburgh. In this property are fine seams of shale, the thickest being 7', the thinnest 18". It is estimated by Mr William Robertson, M.E. to contain 5,900,000 tons of shale after reduction of an ample allowance for loss in working etc. or sufficient to yield an output of 2000,000 tons per annum for about 30 years. There is also in this property "The Burdiehouse" seam of limestone, upwards of 20' thick. The Company is spread up the 7' shale, and erected 192 retorts at Pentland (with 'recovery for Sport and Ammonia House) capable of distilling 6,000 tons of shale per month* These works are connected with the North British Railway by a Wayleave and siding.

The Company has secured as Consulting Chemist and Engineer, the services of Mr William Young, who has been in the Company's service for eight years, and is the co-patentee with Mr Bailey of the important patents referred to. Source: The Scotsman, 1st February 1865.