

OLIVES NEW ZEALAND

Executive Meeting Minutes

Teleconference

15 August 2011

Attendees:

Chris Moore, Graham Keen, Steve Clarke, Andrew Taylor, John Arthur, Lesley Wilson, Roger Armstrong, David Walshaw

Apologies: Ian Juno, Ross Legh

David introduced changes proposed that have previously been sent to Executive.

Point 1: Confusion from original draft came from the definition of 'member'. Need to distinguish between ordinary, associate or honorary members. All of those categories are members. When the constitution states 'member' it means all members.

Point 2: Defined membership categories. Ordinary is a person who grows olives for fruit or oil; therefore have groves.

Point 3: Subscriptions - When subs are assessed next year it might be able to set a smaller sub for those who have less than 100 trees e.g. This does not have to be in the constitution as the executive have full powers to set the subs for all members.

Point 4: Weighted Voting - There is confusion as to what this means. It allows for those that may pay a lesser sub to have a lesser vote – e.g. half sub = half vote. Andrew noted that we need accurate tree stats at branch level fed to ONZ.

Point 5: Executive Committee - have reintroduced the concept of VP.

Point 6: Branches – David believes that we get rid of the concept of branches and build in regional groups. Andrew asked that David right a small descriptor of what is intended by this.

Discussion around changes.

Andrew noted that it was important to have notes as to what the intent of the changes to the constitution are so that executives going forward will understand what was changed and why.

Graham: Associate Members – e.g. Olive product group has many shareholders, none are members of ONZ. Do Associate members get access to all the IP of ONZ and then have the ability to pass it on to their members if they wish?

The intent is the Associate membership is for commercial entities that are providing services or products to industry. E.g. the AOA has got class of membership and have the ability to prescribe the qualities of members of the class.

Steve: Ordinary members re the growers, nurseries, and managers. Associate members are service providers.

It is not restrictive but it does ensure that ordinary members are the focus of time and energy.

Graham queried what sort access they had to the members part of the website. Executive answered that they will have full access. We don't have corporate membership; discussion around changes to the draft to remove wording that implies groups joining. Needs to be an actual person. (David to change 6.3.1)

Discussion around wording in further sections.

Need a legal view on whether we need as members the individual or the entity? Concern that if entities are members then the administrator of that entity can pass on information/IP to its members. Noted that they still only have one vote

David to look at wording and have a note explaining the intent – lawyer can then change the wording as required.

Steve noted that we need a definition of Olive Growers.

Chris noted that the weighted voting clause causes confusion. Andrew noted that this was to future-proof the constitution and is hesitant to get rid of it. David noted that we should keep it and explain it. (the current 12.9.2 does not need to be there)

An honorary member is the equivalent to a standard subscription – this needs to be added using words 'paid and entitlement' or similar.

General Business:

Sunday magazine have contacted EO re a celebratory article of EVOO. Gave them a background on ONZ.

EO needs guidance: Has a cluster of oil failure and EO can't talk to anybody on the Exec about it, I can't offer any help or mediate. Notes that we are here to help Olive Growers and it is important that growers feel they are being heard.

Growers and have been referred to team leader and they don't want to talk to TL.

Last year a grower got abusive towards EO. EO questions what we are doing here if not help out in difficult situations.

Executive agree that this part of the protocol does not work in this situation and needs to be reviewed.

Exec recognise that EO is 'between a rock and a hard place' and think that there should be someone Lesley to go to but only with the growers' permission.

Andrew will not be commenting on sensory issues or quality of oil, but will be working through the process, or be an ear to which to talk through the issues if they are not keen to talk to TL.

No details of oil, growers, faults etc given to Executive.

Exec unanimously supports EO having the ability to, with the permission of the grower, ask Andrew (non-grower) to help grower and only after the grower has said they do not want to talk to TL.

Next Meeting Date:

Thursday 8th of September – Christchurch – Sudima