Olives New Zealand Executive Minutes synopsis Wednesday 7 March 2012 Telephone conference 7pm –8.30pm

1. Present:

Andrew Taylor (President), John Arthur (Vice President), Bob Marshall, Roger Armstrong, Chris Moore, Allan Frazer, David Walshaw, John Dunlop, Craig Leaf-Wright, Gayle Sheridan (Executive Officer).

In Andrew's absence John Arthur took the chair for this meeting.

2. Apologies

Andrew Taylor for lateness

3. Matters Arising from February Minutes

Olive Mild Mosaic Virus – John A reported that he, Andrew and Gayle had met with Bryan Rose and Stephen Butcher from MAF. MAF advised that although OMMV had only been recently detected in NZ, it had probably been around for 20 years. However, if the current shipment had been initially detected at the border, it would not have been allowed entry. They indicated that MAF saw little justification in doing anything about containing the virus now. MAF has no real information on potential impact of the virus but consider it to be minimal. Gayle has written to MAF requesting that they investigate OMMV further with international experts and stating that Olives NZ does not support their intention to classify the virus as non-regulated.

Andrew joined the meeting at this point.

Sensory Panel – Gayle had asked Department of Primary Industries if members of the NZ Sensory Panel could be involved in their activities. The initial response was this would not be feasible but will be considered further.

4. Financial Report

Craig spoke to the P & L and Balance Sheet circulated.

5. Executive Officer Report

Gayle updated on her report circulated.

Conference now at 73 paid registrations, 10 presenters and 8 exhibitors (from 6 companies). Grove Census – 74 completed forms received and loaded. Some preliminary graphs have been produced.

6. Business Plan

6.1 Sponsorship – Chris Moore and Allan Frazer

Chris advised that Gayle has signed up three Silver and two General Sponsors, all who will be exhibiting at Conference. Executive members to now work on approaching other potential sponsors.

6.2 Constitution – David Walshaw

David would introduce the new Constitution at the Special Meeting. The current year would finish on 31 July 2012 and then the next financial year be until 31 December 2013. In terms of subscriptions, a 5 month fee would be invoiced in July and then the 12 month fee invoiced in December.

6.3 Awards – Allan Frazer and Executive Officer

The updated Conditions and Rules and a draft Budget had been circulated. It was noted that:

- the entry fee would need to be increased to break even
- eligibility for the OliveMark would be a requirement for entry and no other certification would be accepted
- entries would open earlier in mid August
- no judge would be permitted to enter their own oils in the Awards.

Gayle and Allan would have a list of proposed judges for May meeting latest and an international judge had already been identified. It would be desirable if this judge could stay on to present the Awards at the Dinner.

Allan spoke to the draft budget reiterating that the 2011 Awards had run at a loss and, whilst costs had been reviewed for 2012, the entry fee still needed to be increased. The Facilitator costs were now shown as a separate item and an allowance made for judge's honoraria, given that people would need to take at least 2 days off work.

6.4 Conference 2012 – Executive Officer and John Dunlop

Gayle reported that the After Dinner Speaker had advised they were now no longer available. Conference was on track to break even provided all exhibitor spots were taken.

6.5 Grove Census – Allan Frazer

Allan reported work needed to be done to get the response rate up to 80%.

General Business

Pioneer Awards

The potential for this type of award to be looked at by the Executive in due course.

MOU with Jaen University

Andrew said the OMMV issue has highlighted the need for Olives NZ to have a relationship with a tertiary institute. He had met with Juan Villar of GEA Westfalia while in Spain and Juan is also Professor of Olive Studies at Jaen University. Juan had introduced Andrew to the Head of the Horticulture Faculty who had suggested the MOU as this has been done already with Australian Olives. The intent with the MOU is for the university to make itself available for international advice. It was agreed that an MOU be signed with Jaen University.

New Members

The following new members were approved:

Ron & Josephine Whitehead, Wairarapa Kay McKelvie, Northland (previous member) Colin & Lynette Wilson, Hihi Olives, Northland (previous members) Shane Cummins, Long Paddock Olive Rustlers, Australia

Next meeting – Wednesday 18 April (telephone conference)