

Olives New Zealand
Minutes Synopsis of Executive Meeting
Thursday 15th February 2018
Teleconference
7pm – 8.45pm

1. Present

Andrew Taylor (President), Craig Leaf-Wright (Vice President/Treasurer), Tricia Noble-Beasley, Niall Holland, John Dunlop, Gayle Sheridan

2. Apologies

Bob Marshal

3. Minutes of the November Meeting

There were no matters arising.

4. Financial Report

No financial report has only one month into the new financial year.

5. Executive Officer Report

Gayle spoke to her report which had been circulated.

Membership

Noted that as per previous years, some 70 members had yet to pay their 2018 membership fees.

Focus Grove Project

It was noted that the funding extension application had been approved to enable the project to continue until October 2019. Hopefully then a second stage project will have been approved.

Kakariki Olive Grove would continue to be a Focus Grove under the new ownership.

There was discussion around a product being used by several members rather than following the Manzate recommendations. It was agreed that more information needed to be obtained so this could be discussed with Stuart Tustin.

It was agreed it would be good if possible to visit Waipara Groves/Bel Hamed on the day of the Canterbury Field Day to see their grove for comparative purposes.

AGM and Weekend

If there were no other nominations received for President and Vice President, than the two already received, this created an opportunity for Wairarapa and Kapiti to nominate new Branch Chairs and increase the representation on the Executive. However it seemed that members in both regions were happy with the status quo.

The remit about changes to membership categories and fees had been circulated. This matter had been raised previously at the 2016 AGM and the Executive had reviewed but decided that no change was required. It was noted that this was a recommendation only and it was up to the Executive to determine the membership structure and to set fees.

Food Safety Act

MPI had advised that the result of the exemption application should be communicated by the end of the month. On receipt Gayle will advise all members accordingly.

There had been requests from two processors for the NP3 template and there should be more forthcoming. Gayle will look at making the required changes to the draft document so that this can be available to members by the end of the month.

OliveMark

The issue with the similar sticker to the OliveMark being used on Waiheke Island appears to have been resolved.

An enquiry has been received from a pet food manufacturer wanting to use NZ EVOO and as an aside he has asked whether the OliveMark could be used on the labelling in the context of ingredients include certified NZ EVOO. There was consensus agreement that the OliveMark must only be used on certified EVOO.

Export Enquiries

Nothing has come back on the two EVOOs and flavoured oil sent to the importer in Japan.

Proposed Research Project

The proposed research project on cooking with EVOO would be funded \$1500 from Olives NZ and \$1000 from the Oil and Fats Group. Project oversight would be provided by Laurence Eyres and Marie Wong. The olive oils used would be supplied by Olives NZ.

It was resolved that subject to the project proposal being approved by the Treasurer and Executive Officer and the olive oil used to be supplied by Olives NZ, approval be given to contribute \$1500 towards the cooking with EVOO project.

2018 Awards and Conference

The proposed judging panel had all confirmed their availability and the Head Judge would stay on for the period leading up to the Awards Dinner. This meant that he would be able to do the tasting sessions in the regions and deliver a paper at Conference on olive growing in Argentina. Given that the main emphasis of Conference will be on the Focus Grove Project with Stuart Tustin supported by the Focus Grove participants, there was probably a pretty full programme.

Minister Meeting with IOC

It was great that Olives NZ was consulted ahead of the Minister's meeting with IOC and that MPI reacted so quickly to the first release by IOC on that visit. The IOC executive will be visiting New Zealand sometime in 2018 and have indicated they wish to meet with Olives NZ.

6. 2017 Executive Priorities

Covered off previously.

7. General Business

Historic Records

Andrew and Niall both had a large volume of historic records. It was agreed that records over 7 years could be destroyed.

Branch Updates

Wairarapa

Craig said talking with growers in Wairarapa whilst there had been a huge flowering there has only been an average fruit set. He said that some groves were not irrigated and there had been a reasonable amount of small fruit dropped off trees. Craig said that it was not turning out to be the wonderful crop that people had anticipated.

Andrew said he had discussed further with Stuart Tustin about Anthracnose around flowering and the need for Difference to be added to the sprays. It appeared that DMI had been effective with Peacock Spot and Cercospora but not Anthracnose. John said that Manzate had a noticeable difference on his grove in the lead up to harvest.

Craig added that despite attending the Field Days many were still not spraying according to the recommendations.

Kapiti

Tricia said there had been huge flowering in Kapiti, good fruit set and looking to being great crop loads. The Kapiti AGM was coming up with grove walks at the Kapiti/Walshaw and the Upshon groves. Tricia noted there had been an issue with leaf drop.

Craig asked if it was the excessive rain over July/August that might have contributed to yellow leaves and their dropping off. Andrew said trees would certainly have been stressed with excessive rain and then almost drought like conditions.

Nelson

John said the Nelson AGM was coming up and would be interesting to see if any new people came on board the Branch Executive. He pointed out that some leaf loss should be expected as normal. He said his grove had 400ml of rain since Christmas which posed challenges to being able to spray safely. John said that Kakariki olive grove has been sold and the new owners are going to be a real asset to the industry. He asked if anyone else was having issues with bottle suppliers. It was noted that Arthur Holmes were out of 500ml bottles. Complete Packaging was a Gold sponsor and have been asked for a list of the bottle types and capacity they can supply.

Canterbury

Niall said crops were looking pretty good in Akaroa and Amberley, with manageable rain and the hot summer.

In closing the meeting, Andrew noted that it would be his last as President. He thanked all of the Executive and the Executive Officer for their support and involvement during his time in the role. Tricia proposed three cheers for Andrew for his outstanding contribution to the organisation and the industry as a whole.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8.45pm

NEXT MEETING – 19 April 2018

2018 Meeting Dates

March 24th (AGM)

April 19th

June 21st

August 16th

October 12th (Conference weekend)

November 15th

Action Points from February Meeting

Who	What	Status
Gayle	Monitor the research being done by Australian Olives in relation to plastic packaging and plastic storage. Approach Boundary Bend about their research into using plastic for storage.	In progress
Executive	Be active in membership drive. Particularly at regional level. Regional Chairs to discuss with their committees if they wish to co-ordinate attendance at forthcoming food shows. Regional Chairs to discuss with their committees regional marketing initiatives. Advise Gayle of email addresses for potential new members so that she can send membership invitations.	Ongoing