



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday 24th March 2018
9.30am – 10.20am
County Hotel, 12 Browning Street, Napier

1) Present

Geoff	Crawford	Stephen	Price	Janine	Mayson
Chris	Smith	Chris	Price	Rob	Noble-Beasley
Linda	Smith	David	Walshaw	Tricia	Noble-Beasley
Andrew	Taylor	Helen	Walshaw	David	Bate
Delyth	Taylor	Craig	Leaf-Wright	Gillian	Bate
Brent	Meldrum	Ruth	Leaf-Wright	John	Dunlop
Sally	Murrey	Tony	Casey	Chris	Piper
John	Arthur	Charles	Chinnaiyah	John	Summerhays
Mark	Bunny	Kay	Chinnaiyah	Bill	Hey
Kate	Bunny	Jocelyn	Robinson	Denise	Cusack
Alec	Webster	Sandy	Black	Gayle	Sheridan
Anne	Webster	John	Valentine	Mark	Webber

Andrew welcomed all present and asked for permission to chair the meeting in its entirety although the new Chair would be confirmed later in the meeting.

Moved: Andrew Taylor

Seconded: Craig Leaf-Wright

Carried

2) Apologies

Ross & Margaret Legh, John & Helen Meehan, Allan & Heather Frazer, Sonia & Bruce Speedy, Anne Summerhays, Mike & Margaret Hanson, Colin & Di Hadley, Anne Marshall, John Pool, Julie Mays, Werner Seitner, Bryan Upshon, Helen Dunlop, Niall Holland, Jan Whyte, Bob Marshall, Shona Thompson, Chris, Hilary, Stephen & Charlotte Penman, Peter & Ruth Graham, Barry Wade, Chris & Annette Moore, Richard & Julie Winder, Ross Vintiner & Andrea Stewart, Sue & Malcolm Nowill, Hamilton & Gaylene McConachy, Paul & Jan Sorenson, Anita Roddick, Averil Coxhead, Sue & Trevor Lowe, Beth & Denis Raines, John & Margaret Edwards, Karen & In Juno, Peter & Frances Baylis, Laurie & Peter Rothenberg, Paul Stephens, Neil Smith, Nathan Casey, Dan Tosswell, Andrew & Jo Priddle

The apologies were accepted.

3) Minutes of 2017 AGM

Motion:

The minutes of the 2017 AGM be accepted as accurate and complete.

Moved: Andrew Taylor

Seconded: Rob Noble-Beasley

Carried

Matters arising – nil.

4) **President's Report**

Andrew said that 2017 was a year best in the past in relation to crops and harvest. However there had still been 120 oils certified amounting to 200,000 litres. This pleasingly translated into 102 entries for the NZ EVOO Awards, including 17 flavoured oils. He commented that the two Italian judges had done a great job and also added value in the regional visits. He noted the use of international judges assisted in raising the international profile of the excellence of NZ EVOO.

Andrew said there had been an issue with cleanliness of oils entered in the awards with a number being cloudy or with sediment. He said that if the oil had not been cleaned or racked properly this posed a risk to the certification period of two years.

Andrew noted that the organisation runs very lean with most activities, including certification and the awards being user-pays. There had been no Processors course and no conference. The latter had been intentional as it was noted that the Focus Grove Field Days were more effective in sharing knowledge because they were more accessible to members. However there would be a conference in 2018 to share the summary of the project.

Andrew noted that the Focus Groves had been early adopters of the recommendations and across their groves rather than just limited to their pilot blocks because of the apparent success of these.

Andrew noted that marketing materials continued to be well used by members and welcomed suggestions on other resources.

Membership has been fairly consistent over the past 7 years sitting just under 200. He noted that the revised Constitution saw a focus on growers and regions, with appropriate representation on the Executive.

Andrew said that the annual grove census enabled Olives New Zealand to provide industry data nationally and internationally as well as being an important bench mark for growers. Andrew asked all members to submit their data to make a credible database.

Andrew acknowledged the sponsors that supported Olives New Zealand and the contribution they made also to the industry. He encouraged members to support them accordingly.

Andrew said that in 2009 when he was elected, this was with some trepidation on his part. However, with support from Ross Legh, Graham Keen, John Arthur, Steve Clark, Chris Moore and David Walshaw there was a commitment to turn the organisation around from the precarious state it was in. In particular that conference had run at a \$19,000 loss, there was an outstanding invoice to Plant and Food for \$70,000 for a previous project and the Treasurer advised there were no funds available to meet these commitments. The Executive agreed to ask members to contribute a one-off sum of \$150 each to help address the situation and the vast majority did so. This funding coupled with sponsorship from GEA Westfalia enabled the organisation to continue operating.

Andrew noted that at the time, the Executive Officer resigned and Lesley Wilson came on board and made a good contribution. When she resigned in 2011 it was fortunate that Gayle Sheridan was available to come into the role. He noted that Gayle provided excellent service and support to members and was readily available outside of standard business hours to suit members who had other work commitments.

Andrew concluded in saying that he much appreciated the support of the Executive and members over his period as Chair.

Motion:

The President's Report be accepted.

Moved: Andrew Taylor Seconded: Craig Leaf-Wright Carried

5) Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report is attached to this document.

Motion:

The Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Craig Leaf-Wright Seconded: Sandy Black Carried

6) Appointment of Auditor

Motion:

That Parkers Business Solutions be re-appointed as auditor for 2018.

Moved: Andrew Taylor Seconded: Bill Hey Carried

7) Election of Officers

The following nominations were confirmed.

Position	Nominee	Nominated by	Seconded by
President	Craig Leaf-Wright	David Walshaw	Tricia Noble-Beasley
Vice President	Tricia Noble-Beasley	David Walshaw	Bryan Upshon
Treasurer	Charles Chinnaiyah	Craig Leaf-Wright	Andrew Taylor

8) Remit – Proposal to alter membership categories and dues

Submitted by:

Laraine & Peter Rotenberg, Nini & Wayne Wooff, Susan & Jonathan Pine

John Dunlop, Nelson Chair spoke about the remit as the submitters were from Nelson and none could attend the AGM. John said the intention had been for the Executive to review the membership categories and fees, however there had been a misunderstanding about Associate Members. John said he supported looking at membership structure but did not support the proposal to increase fees for Associate Members to the same fee payable by the highest Full Member category.

John Arthur said that Matapiro Olives had two Associate Memberships as well as their Full Membership. These were for two employees, however these would not be continued if the fee rose.

Janine Mayson asked for clarification on Associate Members.

Gayle said this was for suppliers, contractors or other parties with an interest in the olive industry. However there were now Associate Members such as employees, like John has mentioned, and growers who do not require full member services of certification, etc. because their groves were only in the process of being established or they had contracted their groves out.

David Walshaw said the original intention in setting the membership categories was inclusiveness of growers and other people affiliated to the industry.

Alec Webster said the remit had been discussed at the Kapiti Branch AGM and questioned what benefits there would be in adding more membership categories.

In response to a question about whether the remit should have been allowed, Gayle advised that a legal opinion had been obtained confirming members could raise any matter at an AGM provided that any motion on membership categories and fees was a recommendation only and not a directive.

Andrew said it was the responsibility of the Executive to determine membership categories and associated fees, as per the Constitution.

David Bate suggested putting the motion to the vote and then having another motion for the Executive to consider the intent of the remit.

The motion was put to the meeting and there was unanimous Against vote.
Proxy votes received did not change the outcome of the motion being defeated.

Motion:

The Executive consider the intent of the remit received in relation to membership categories and fees and report back to the 2019 AGM.

Moved: Andrew Taylor

Seconded: David Bate

Carried

9) **Notified Business**

Life Membership Recommendation

Craig Leaf-Wright spoke to the Life Membership recommendation for Andrew Taylor from the Executive. Craig said that Andrew had taken over as President in 2009 and has led the organisation to providing an excellent range of activities for its members and to good financial health. He brought into the role not only his expertise as an olive grower but also his wider horticultural expertise.

In addition to centralised activities Andrew has also been available for regional activities. Indeed the time Andrew has put into the organisation and its activities is probably not seen by many. For example the two weeks he spends hosting the Head Judge for the NZ EVOO Awards on regional visits, other regional activities and informal activities such as grove visits and hosting members on international trips to olive producing countries.

Craig also acknowledged the support of Andrew's wife, Delyth. Delyth has supported Andrew in his role and has also helped with administration of other activities such as Conference, the awards dinner, etc.

Craig said Andrew has provided wise counsel to the Executive Officer, Executive and growers and hopes that Andrew will still be available to continue to provide this.

In summary Craig said Andrew has left Olives New Zealand in very good health and put the motion that Andrew be accorded with Life Membership.

This motion was carried unanimously and with acclaim.

Andrew accepted his plaque with appreciation of this accolade.

10) **General Business**

No General Business had been notified and Andrew declared the AGM closed at 10.20am.

OLIVES NEW ZEALAND Inc.

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2017

Our financial position compared to last year has remained fairly static. This is largely as a result of the poor harvest and flow on effects of that in reduced certification and Awards entries.

Membership numbers have remained constant as has total subscription revenue. Total income for the year reduced 31% but total expenses only reduced 19%. This resulted in a small loss for the year of \$162. Most of the difference between this year and 2016 is attributed to a lower contribution from the certification process (\$11k).

Largely as a result of the poor season, the Awards broke even in 2017 and we did not hold a conference during the year.

As a result of the trading almost breaking even, our accumulated funds remained much the same as well. We must continue to work hard at building more reserves in the coming years and one hopes that the improved fortunes of growers will support this as the industry develops. Certainly, early indications are that the new season will be much better than 2017.

We do have an annual audit and it is reassuring to note that we have received a clean audit report, as we always do.

Once again, reflecting the voluntary nature of the Executive, no Honoraria were paid to the Executive.

Craig Leaf-Wright

Treasurer

24 March 2018