

MINUTES FROM THE NZ ASPARAGUS COUNCIL INC AGM

WEDNESDAY 5 AUGUST 2015, DISTINCTION HOTEL, PALMERSTON NORTH

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Tony Warner, D and K Rickman, Mark Hyslop.

Confirmation previous Minutes

Resolved (T Rickman/ Alan Newton) that the minutes from the AGM held in 2014 were confirmed as a true and accurate record.

2. Matters Arising

No reimbursements for time were made to Council members.

It was noted the auditor's fee remain very high. Requested that an alternative auditor be explored.

3. Chairman's report

T Rickman gave his chairman's report.

The Council has met a couple of times over the past 12 months. Tony also attended the Horticulture NZ Industry Forum meetings. The Council has continued to build its reserves and now has a good bank balance.

The Council has supported the work on cultivar trials with P Falloon. The website has been developed and is now up and running. The Council investigated the situation pertaining to dichlorovos use for asparagus. Insecta gas is not registered for use on asparagus. DRAP will continue for this season.

Discussion

The cost of the cultivar trials is likely to be higher. Good methodology has been used which will provide good information for the industry.

It was suggested there should be a research target.

4. Finance

The Financial Statements for the Year Ending 31 March 2015 were distributed to attendees. M de Jong spoke to the report. Levy income was down. She noted expenditure was down largely due to decreased activity by the Council. Some of the website costs will fall into the 2015/2016 financial year.

5. 2015/2016 Budget

M de Jong presented the annual draft budget for consideration.

Resolved (Tony Rickman/ G Turney) that the financial accounts and the budget be accepted.

6. Nominations

Resolved (G Lewis/ G Turney) the following growers were elected unopposed to the NZAC for 2015.

Tony Rickman was re-elected Chairman

- ✓ Alan Newton SI
- ✓ Sam Rainey SWNI
- ✓ Lindsay Kay Hawkes Bay
- ✓ Tony Rickman Waikato

Post harvest members

- ✓ Taro from Delica and Ana Aloma from Fresh Direct were elected as the exporter and local market representatives.

7. Appointment of Auditor

Resolved (T Rickman/ G Lewis) that the Council investigate using an alternative auditor that is more cost effective. If none can be found then Grant Thorton is to be reappointed.

8. Remits

No remits were submitted.

9. Levy rate

Resolved (A Boyd/ D Turney) The levy rate is to remain unchanged for 2015/2016 at \$100 per hectare.

Meeting closed at 3.30pm