



## **MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

### **THE GARDEN INDUSTRY MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION (1999) Ltd.**

Held at Dobbies Garden Centre, Belvedere Lane, Milton Keynes

GIMA Honorary Secretary. Richard Pyrah of Kelkay Ltd  
chaired the meeting

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- James Nash - AkzoNobel Ltd
- Nigel Thompson – Stewart
- Rebecca Fairbairn – Westland Horticulture
- Richard Bence – Treadstone Products Ltd

There were no other apologies received.

#### **2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record. (Proposed by David Carey, Mr. Fothergill's Seeds and seconded by Al Sheppard, Burgon & Ball) All were in favour.

#### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the AGM.

#### **4. COUNCIL NOMINATIONS**

There were five Council Members due to retire:

- Nigel Thompson, Stewarts
- Richard Pyrah, Kelkay Ltd
- Sarah Oates, Strata Products Ltd
- Vicky Nuttall, Forest Garden Ltd
- Chris Ramsden, Suttons Seeds

Of these, Nigel Thompson, Sarah Oates and Vicky Nuttall are not offering to re-stand and GIMA thank them all for their service and commitment to the Association. The remaining two are offering themselves for re-election.

In addition, during the course of the year the following member of Council has been required to resign:

- Andy Simmons, Pest Stop Ltd

GIMA give grateful thanks to Andy Simmons for serving on the Council.

Nomination papers have been circulated in accordance with the Articles of Association and nominations at the point of closure were received from:

- Kate Ebbens, Cadix UK Ltd
- Chris Ramsden, Suttons Seeds Ltd
- Richard Pyrah, Kelkay Ltd

It was confirmed that all three nominations received were valid and could therefore stand for election to Council. On this basis, he asked for a proposer and seconder. Proposed by Glynn Davis, Bosmere Products and seconded David Carey, Mr. Fothergill's Seeds & Al Sheppard, Burgon & Ball. Against None

Richard Pyrah confirmed that these nominees would join the existing Council Members who are:

- Matt Jackson, Briers Ltd
- Rainer Schubert, Scotts Miracle-Gro

- Richard Bence, Treadstone Products
- Alan Sheppard, Burgon & Ball Ltd
- Steve Millington, Bosmere Garden Products Ltd
- Tara Truman, William Sinclair Horticulture Ltd
- Colin Wetherley-Mein, Vitax Ltd
- Chris Holloway, Town & Country Ltd
- Rebecca Fairbairn, Westland Ltd
- David Carey, Mr. Fothergill's Seeds

This means that the Council is made up of 13 members.

**5. CONFIRMATION OF THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT**

The current GIMA Vice President Steve Millington is standing to take over the Presidency for the coming year from Vicky Nuttall. The election of Steve to this position was proposed by David Carey, Mr. Fothergill's Seeds and seconded by Rainer Schubert, Scotts Miracle-Gro. Co Ltd. Against Al Sheppard, Burgon & Ball Ltd.

**6. CONFIRMATION OF THE ELECTION OF THE VICE PRESIDENT**

It was reported to the meeting that Chris Ramsden of Suttons Consumer Products Ltd had stepped forward to offer his services as Vice President for the year 2014/2015. This was proposed by Glynn Davis, Bosmere Products Ltd and seconded by Matt Jackson, Briers Ltd. Against, none.

**7. THE NEW PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**

The new President addressed the meeting by welcoming people present. He outlined his own career in the industry and what he hoped to bring to his time in office as President. He stated that challenges ahead included:- Changing Sales Channels, Buying Groups getting bigger and Independent Operators getting smaller. He stated that GIMA membership continued to represent unprecedented value for money, no matter what size business.

The key objectives for 2014 included:-

- To develop more 'real business' opportunities by further developing 'Meet the Buyer' type events
- Plan Day Conferences in key locations around the UK
- Continue to offer 'value for money' for its members
- Ensure the suppliers 'voice is heard' where it matters
- Active council working for the members.

**8. ELECTION OF HONORARY TREASURER**

It was reported to the meeting that Colin Wetherley-Mein of Vitax Ltd had stepped forward to offer his services as Honorary Treasurer for 2014/2015. This was proposed by Chris Ramsden, Suttons Consumer Products Ltd and seconded by Rainer Schubert, Scotts Miracle-Gro Co Ltd. All were in favour.

**9. ELECTION OF HONORARY COMPANY SECRETARY**

As the current Honorary Secretary, Richard Pyrah of Kelkay Ltd had agreed to continue this role, subject to Member approval. Proposed by Al Sheppard, Burgon & Ball and seconded by Jason Pike, Bord Na Mono. All were in favour.

**10. THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2013**

Colin Wetherley-Mein, Honorary Treasurer, gave a headline summary by way of a financial report of which the key points include:

- Overall turnover increased by 4%
- Subscription revenue - Static
- Cost of sales – 10% reduction
- Administration costs up by 22%
- Results showed a loss on activities overall of £10,102

The result of this showed that despite recording the above loss, we have healthy reserves with a strong balance sheet and that in the opinion of its Directors GIMA was fit for the coming year.

There being no questions relating to the accounts Colin Wetherley-Mein closed the report.

**12. APPOINTMENT OF REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS**

It is a duty of the Council to appoint the Association's Auditors and to fix their remuneration. They agreed that Baker Tilly Chartered Accountants should be appointed as Reporting Accountants for GIMA for the coming year. This was proposed by Glynn Davis, Bosmere Products Ltd and seconded by Richard Pyrah, Kelkay Ltd. All were in favour.

**13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No other items had been notified to the President or were forthcoming from the floor and so the meeting was declared closed at 10.30am.

Signed by .....

Dated .....