

**Q Guild Meeting-
Midlands Region
27 January 2014**

PRESENT:

Robert Jones	Joint Chair	Walter Smith
Stephen Robinson	Joint Chair	Robinsons
Nigel Rose	Vice Chair	Walter Smith
Hannah Longthorpe		Anna's Happy Trotters
Sandy Boyd		Q Guild Manager
Stephen Hewitt		Walter Smith, Albrighton
Matthew Fisher		Walter Smith, Lichfield
Frank Parker		Frank Parkers
Hannah Parker		Frank Parkers
Tony Yorath		Walter Smith
Rodger Lathbury		South Coast Systems
Nick McAndrew		Chase Farm Shop
Richard Taylor		Owen Taylor
Arthur Wright		C & N Wright
Paul Swain		Owen Taylor
Keith Burke		Bizerba

APOLOGIES:

Allan Bennett
Nigel Poxon
Scott Barlow
Mark Healey

NOTES OF MEETING

1. Robert Jones opened the meeting and welcomed members, corporate guests and gave apologies.
Office bearers were elected for 2014 as follows:
R Jones & S Robinson - Joint Chair
Nigel Rose - Vice Chair
2. Sandy Boyd introduced himself to the meeting and gave a very interesting talk of his history to date within the fine food industry. He then went on to talk through his vision as Q Guild Manager in specific.
 - a. Horsegate scandal and survey
 - b. Sharing of Diamond Award recipe
 - c. Benchmarking within the Guild
3. Christmas review was very positive with all present reporting strong sales, a 10% - 25% improvement on 2012.
Agreement was reached that we will promote our whole turkeys stronger in 2014 and try to arrest the move towards boneless breast.

4. Midlands planning for 2014.
 - a. Agreed we will arrange a trip to Ireland to view Elite Butchers - date to be confirmed.
 - b. Verstegen Workshop - date to be confirmed
 - c. Weber BBQ Academy, Oxford - cooking day - date to be confirmed (subsequently informed this will be Tuesday 29th April)
5. Keith Burke, Bizerba introduced himself to the meeting as contact for the Midlands Region.
6. Rodger Lathbury, South Coast Systems introduced himself to the meeting and gave a short talk on new products available to assist our businesses.
7. Date of Next Meeting
Monday 24 February at Chase Farm Shop
Midland Barbeque Competition
Best Steak
Best Sausage
Best Burger

Meeting closed at 5.45pm