

**Q GUILD****North West Region****Minutes of the regional meeting****held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12th January 2016****at The Hartwood Chorley****Present**

Greg Hull, Neil and Jan Corry, Charles Clewlow, Mark Turnbull, Jonathon Wallwork, James Whiteman, Martin Jones, Mark Pearson, John Mettrick, Martin Bennett, Stuart Higginson, Gordon Newland.

Corporate members

Dalesman, South Coast Systems.

Apologies

Philip Cranston. Howard Callaghan.

Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

Proposed NC. Seconded JW.

Election of Officers 2016

Chairman Greg Hull

Vice Chairman Jonathon Wallwork

Secretary Mark Bannister

Christmas 2015

MT. No change from 2014

CC. Turnover up 3%. An open evening run in conjunction with a local wine merchant introduced 30 new customers to the business who paid £20 per head proved to be very successful.

NC. No change from 2014 but a very smooth trading period with Venison and Beef sales strong.

MP. Trade 5% up.

JW. Dec trade well up with openings on 3 Sundays. Beef and hampers up with a great New Year trade.

JM. Good hamper trade, online and click and collect business was the best ever.

MB. Very poor trade

Walter Smith (Bridgemere Garden Centre) 2nd Christmas great trade. Only closed Xmas day.

Cranstons Xmas trade 8% up. Nov and Dec up 1.5% which was affected by the weather. Hampers sales excellent.

SH. Beef sales up 29%. More whole birds sold than 2014. Turnover up 9.5% with an excellent pie and cooked meat trade.

GH. Great trade in December. Hamper sales via Facebook were good. Sirloin joints sold well.

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**2016 Events**

February: Shop visits. Venues TBC

16th March: BBQ competition. Venue Greg Hull's garden.

9th May: Dalesman Bradford.

12th July: The Hartwood, Chorley

18th October: The Hartwood, Chorley

Keurslager Video presentation

GN ran through the features and benefits of the package highlighting the areas into which members could participate in. This is an ongoing process with it being rolled out to five members initially. GN will keep members informed of developments in the forthcoming months.

Any other business

A survey is to be carried out to establish if the Smithfield Awards should be moved to January from November so that the year of the award has greater current longevity.

On pack stickers are available for Smithfield Awards "Winners" and "Gold" through InkREADible Labels Ltd. 11 Chatto Way Industrial Estate, Torquay Devon TQ1 4UE sales@inkreadible.com Tel: +44(0)1803 326818.

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