



Q GUILD North West / North East Region

Minutes of the joint regional meeting held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at Higginsons and Cranstons

## Present

David Lishman x3, Honeywell Meats x4, Brindon Addy x3, Higginsons x2, Blackwells x4, Blacker Hall Farm, C and G Starkey, Simpson Butchers, Elite Meats, Ellisons Butchers x2, Frasers, Callaghans x2, Cranstons x3, Mark Turnbull.

**Apologies** 

Charles Clewlow,

**Corporate Members** 

Dalziel, W. R. Wright and Sons.

The meeting commenced with a visit to Higginsons of Grange of Over Sands. Stuart and Mark of Higginsons conducted the tour of the shop, prep room and the takeway. All present were impressed with the range of products both cooked and raw. The revolving mirrored round display stand in the front window drew a lot of admiring attention.

The meeting reconvened at Cranstons at Penrith. The visit commenced with a tour of the factory and the foodhall conducted by Philip and Roger Cranston and members of their staff. The factory produces all the products for the shops and their other customers. The foodhall offers a wide range of cooked and raw products. The takeway does a roaring trade with the local businesses and schools.

Following the tour the business meeting commenced chaired by David Lishman.

Minutes of the last meetings and matters arising

There were no matters arising

Dalziel presentation

Danny Upson gave a review of the product range offered by A.W. Smiths which includes the following: Knifes and utensils, Zoeteliff range of clothing, Dupont and Dalebrook range of trays, Label printers, Storage racking, Machinery including sausage fillers, vacuum packers. mincers, slicers and ovens. Danny also gave a review of the retail market including retail trends, and meal occasions.

Executive report

Back office system now operational on the website. Diamond and gold Smithfield awards recipes are to be circulated. Q Guild forum running on Facebook

Product of the month

Pork belly plait selling well in shops promoting it

a Masterclass in Meat...

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## One minute forum

Topics covered included Shoppers anonymous, Quick meal solutions, Leaflet distribution and redemption rates, Voucher schemes, National Butchers week promotion, Farmshop refurb at Honeywell Meats, Staff issues including retention and pay rates, Sous vide production.

## Any other business

Nothing was put forward for discussion.

The meeting closed with David Lishman thanking Stuart for the shop visit and Philip and Roger for the foodhall and factory tour and the delicious buffet they provided which was enjoyed by all.

## Date of next meeting

North East: BBQ Heats, Tuesday 25th April at Blacker Hall

North West: BBQ Heats, Wednesday 26th April at 15 Healds Green, Chadderton, Oldham OL1 2SP