

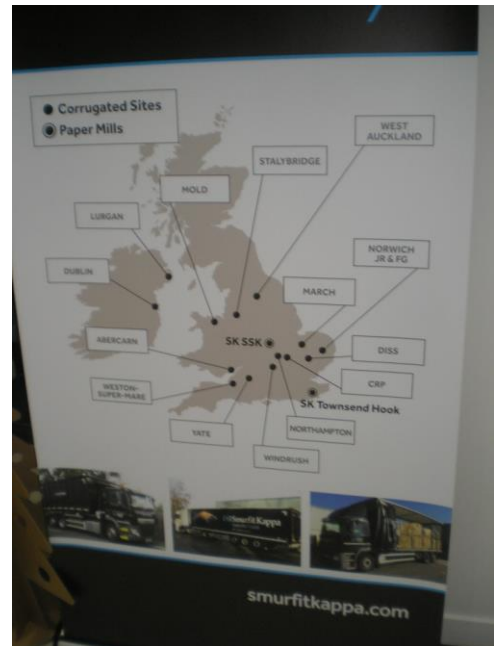
PITA Christmas Meet 2018 Report

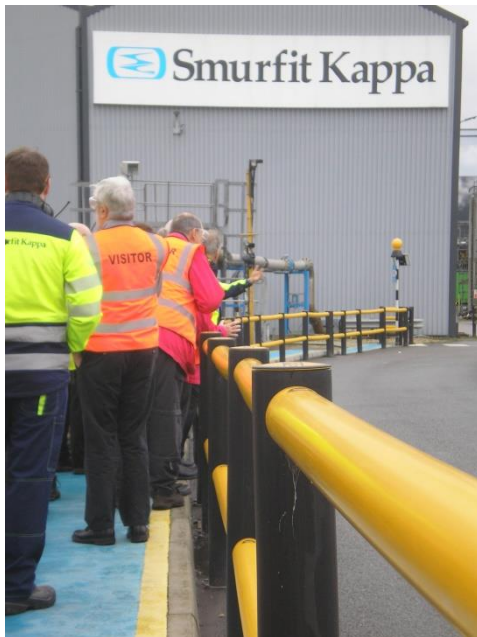


The PITA Christmas Meet and PITA AGM for 2018 were held jointly at the premises of **Smurfit Kappa Townsend Hook**. Last year's meeting took place as Storm Caroline hit; this year's event coincided with the great Data Outage of O2, which affected a great many of us and was the lead story on the BBC News. Fortunately, we didn't need access to mobile data, emails etc, to enjoy the hospitality of Smurfit Kappa, who opened their doors to us on a mild but overcast day.

As with all good meetings, we started with refreshments and a chance to catch up with colleagues old and new. This initial part of the meeting was held in the new Experience Centre, which houses examples of the firm's product along with various bits of company information, past and present. (Smurfit Kappa is one of the largest multinationals in the paper sector, with manufacturing capacity of around 7Mt worldwide, so has a lot about which to be proud.)

After completing the formalities of the AGM (minutes appended below) the assembled group listened to a short presentation about the site, in particular its very recent history. If like me, you haven't visited Snodland for a large number of years, it has changed out of all recognition. When I last visited in around 2006 it had two old brown machines (nominal width 4m), a fine paper machine producing two-sided single coated high bulk paper, and converting plant. A year later the converting plant had gone, as had the coated operation (which never really sat well with Smurfit's core business). That left two small brown machines, producing together around 250,000tpy.





Move forward to 2013, and the company announced that the mill was to be reorganised yet again. The two old paper machines were to be closed and removed, and a single more modern and larger machine, obtained in 2010 from the assets of insolvent Italian company Cartiera di Cadidavid, would replace them. This machine was faster than those it replaced, more modern, and allowed lightweight grades to be produced, thanks in part to the addition of a size press. Output tonnage remained similar, but quality improved.

After this presentation, given by Kevin Bussey (General Manager) we toured the machine house. Although the new machine is undoubtedly

the main change that has occurred recently, it is worth noting that Smurfit have been investing in other areas, notably in power production - a new CHP came online only in September.

Before we left there was a short Q&A session, then we departed. Thanks go to Smurfit Kappa (particularly Kevin Bussey) and the Smurfit Kappa crew who guided us around. Also, it is worth noting that visits are a two-way affair, and require the visitors as well as a host: in particular this event drew parties from as far afield as the South West (Somerset) and North West (Lancashire / Cumbria). An equal vote of thanks go to all who made such long journeys to be present. See you again next year!





2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at Smurfit Kappa Townsend Hook Mill, Snodland / Kent
Thursday, 6th December 2018, 12:30 hrs

MINUTES

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Stephen Hutt and Tim Klemz.

2. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (7th December 2017 at Romiley Board Mill, Romiley / Cheshire) were distributed to Members. Voting for approval:

Proposed by Graham Moore Seconded by Martin Wroe carried nem con

3. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda of this Annual General Meeting was distributed to Members. Voting for approval:

Proposed by Barry Read Seconded by Graham Moore carried nem con

4. Adoption of Chairman's Report

Mr John Kirby, the National Chairman, read his report to the meeting, a copy of which is to be reproduced in the 2018/2019 PITA Annual Review. Voting for adoption of the report:

Proposed by Anders Aström Seconded by Steve Johnson carried nem con.

5. Adoption of Accounts

A copy of the 2017 PITA Accounts were distributed to Members at the meeting and Mr Barry Read gave a summary of the financial situation, then read the report prepared by Mr Stephen Hutt. Voting for adoption of the accounts:

Proposed by Mark Hobday Seconded by Jim Paterson carried nem con.

6. Election of Directors

Mr John Kirby as National Chairman:

Proposed by Daven Chamberlain Seconded by Anders Aström carried nem con.

Dr Graham Moore as Immediate Past Chairman:

Proposed by John Kirby Seconded by Aimee Hutton carried nem con.

Mr Stephen Hutt as Financial Director:

Proposed by Mark Hobday Seconded by Martin Wroe carried nem con.

The Trustees due for re-election were Mr Tim Klemz and Mr Martin Wroe.

Mr Tim Klemz:

Proposed by Daven Chamberlain Seconded by John Kirby carried nem con.

Mr Martin Wroe:

Proposed by John Kirby Seconded by Steve Johnson carried nem con.

7. Re-Appointment of Auditors

Mr Barry Read recommended Horsfield and Smith continue as Auditors for the Association.

Proposed by Martin Wroe Seconded by Anders Aström carried nem con.

8. Any Other Business

There being no other business to report or discuss, the meeting closed at 12:48hrs.

Daven Chamberlain

7 December 2018