



Christianity in The Holy Land APPG

AGM

5 March 2024

14:00-15:00

Minutes

Attendees:

Members

- Caroline Ansell MP
- Andrew Selous MP
- Stephen Timms MP
- Bishop Christopher Chessun
- Jim Shannon MP

Support

- David Small, Caroline Ansell's Office
- Andrew Cusack, Sir Edward Leigh's Office
- Austin Tiffany, Secretariat
- Nicole Pearson, Secretariat

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Update on Compliance with Incoming APPG Rules

- o Overview of new rules:
 - o APPG secretariat must not be provided or funded by a foreign government (applicable from 16 October 2023)
 - o APPGs must have no more than four officers (from 31 March 2024)
 - o MPs may be an officer of a maximum of six Groups (from the start of the next parliament)
 - o All APPGs will need to approve an income and expenditure statement at their AGM (from 31 March 2024)
 - o APPGs receiving over £1,500 in the calendar year will be subject to additional requirements at their next AGM (from 31 March 2024), including:
 - An external chair, appointed by the Speaker to preside over AGMs and EGMs
 - A quorum of 8 parliamentarians
 - The publication and approval of an Annual Report setting out the work of the APPG
 - The publication and approval of a due diligence statement

3. Election of Officers for 2023/4 (via show of hands)

- o Thanks extended to Caroline Ansell MP for her service as chair and Brendan O'Hara MP, Patrick Grady MP and Jim Shannon MP for their service as vice-chairs in the past year
- o Chair
 - i. Steve Double MP
 - ii. Elected in absentia, unanimously
- o Vice-Chairs
 - i. Bishop Christopher Chessun, re-elected unanimously

- ii. Andrew Selous MP, re-elected unanimously
- iii. Stephen Timms MP, elected unanimously

4. Upcoming Meetings & Rhythms

- o Meetings:

- i. Tuesday 30 April 10.00-11.00
- ii. Wednesday 10 July 10.00-11.00
- iii. Tuesday 15 October 10.00-11.00 – subject to conference recess dates being confirmed

- o All dates agreed, Caroline Ansell warned she will not be available on Tuesdays but is happy to join where possible

- o Proposed Topics:

- i. Quarter
 - o Topic agreed unanimously
- ii. Hashemite Custodianship
 - o Topic agreed unanimously
- iii. Meeting with UK Consulate based in Jerusalem
 - o Topic agreed unanimously
- iv. Secretariat to engage with Steve Double MP and relevant parties to arrange meetings on the topics above

5. AOB

- o CA encouraged continuation of newsletter providing updates on issues in Jerusalem