

## **Minutes from British-Japan Parliamentary Group AGM**

Date: Thursday 29th April 2021

Attendees: Lord Bates, Baroness Hooper, Viscount Trenchard, Heather Wheeler MP, Sir Mark Hendrick MP, Lord Moynihan, Dr Ben Spencer MP, Deidre Brock MP, John Spellar MP, Lord Waverley, Chris Elmore MP, Jeremy Hunt MP.

Apologies were received from: Dr Lisa Cameron MP, Gary Sambrook MP, David Morris MP, Ian Paisley MP, Craig Williams MP, Sir Graham Brady MP.

The meeting was called to order at 1700.

- 1) Approval of 2020/21 Accounts: The Accounts for the last financial year were unanimously approved. There were no questions regarding clarifications. It was noted that the group did not reach the income threshold requiring submission of the accounts.
- 2) Election of Chair: Heather Wheeler MP proposed the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP continue as Chair. Mr Hunt was elected unanimously.
- 3) Election of Secretary: Sir Mark Hendrick MP was nominated to continue as Secretary. Sir Mark was elected unanimously.
- 4) Election of Vice-Chairs: The following were elected unanimously: Dr Lisa Cameron MP, Gary Sambrook MP, Viscount Waverley, John Spellar MP, Baroness Hooper, Heather Wheeler MP, Deidre Brock MP, Lord Holmes of Richmond, Ian Paisley MP, Lord Moynihan, Viscount Trenchard, Lord Bates, Chris Elmore MP, Craig Williams MP, Dr Ben Spencer MP.
- 5) Japanese Ambassador: The Chair then welcomed Ambassador Hayashi Hajime to the meeting and to the UK and invited him to make some introductory remarks. He spoke generously about the economic, security and cultural ties between the two countries, thanked the group for their work over the years, and explained how we were looking forward to continuing to work closely together. The Ambassador then took questions from the Chair, Viscount Trenchard and Heather Wheeler MP.
- 6) Forthcoming group activities: The Chair explained that his intention was to start the programme of meetings, lunches and receptions once these are allowed back on the Parliamentary estate but that he would welcome suggestions from members regarding the type of event or speakers they would be interested in.
- 7) Meeting closed: With all business conducted the meeting ended at 1730.