

## **All-Party Parliamentary Group on Myalgic Encephalomyelitis**

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 20 February 2024 at 2:30pm in Room U, Portcullis House**

Parliamentarians present: Carol Monaghan (Chair)  
Fleur Anderson  
Jason McCartney  
John McNally  
Angus Brendan MacNeil

In attendance: Sonya Chowdhury (APPG Secretariat and Chief Executive of Action for M.E.)  
Charles Shepherd (Honorary Medical Adviser to the M.E. Association)  
Josh Vince (Head of Communications and Marketing at Action for M.E.)

#### **1. Welcome and Election of Officers**

Carol Monaghan MP welcomed parliamentarians and guests to the APPG's Annual General Meeting in Westminster.

##### 1.1 Election of Chair

All parliamentarians present re-elected Carol Monaghan MP as Chair.

##### 1.2 Election of Officers

All parliamentarians present elected Stephen Metcalfe MP, Debbie Abrahams MP, and Jason McCartney MP as Officers.

#### **2. Discussion of the APPG's Income and Expenditure**

The APPG's income and expenditure statement (which was a 'nil return') was approved by the Group.

### **3. Update from Carol Monaghan MP**

Carol Monaghan MP updated the group on the recent actions she had taken in her capacity as Chair.

### **4. Science 4 ME's Open Letter to Cochrane**

The Group discussed Science4ME's request that the APPG endorse its open letter to medical research charity Cochrane.

### **5. Reflection on 'Rethinking ME' Report and progress since**

Sonya Chowdhury revisited the APPG's recommendations outlined in its 'Rethinking ME' report and updated the group on the progress of the Department of Health and Social Care's Delivery Plan on M.E./CFS.

### **6. Parliamentary Champions Scheme**

The launch of Action for M.E.'s 'Parliamentary Champions' Scheme was discussed and its role in sustaining the profile of M.E.

### **7. Future Business**

- The next APPG meeting will likely be held in May 2024.
- Over the course of the next year, the APPG hopes to hold meetings focussing on severe ME, the DHSC's Implementation Plan, and progress on the Decode ME Study

The meeting ended at 3:15pm.