

APPG for International Freedom of Religion or Belief

Tuesday 24th May 2016

Call to order

AGM of the All Party Parliamentary Group for International Freedom of Religion or Belief was called at 15:30 on 24/05/2016 and held in Room R, Portcullis House.

Attendees

Baroness Berridge	Jim Shannon MP
Baroness Brinton	Katharine Thane
Chris Matheson MP	Lord Oates
David Rutley MP	Lord Suri
Edward Argar MP	Mark Durkan MP
Fiona Bruce MP	Mark Pritchard MP
George Howarth MP	Nick Dakin MP
Gurinder Jhans	Rob Marris MP
Jeremy Lefroy MP	Tom Tugendhat MP

Apologies:

Baroness Cox, Gavin Shuker MP, Mike Gapes MP

(Proposed by George Howarth MP, seconded Fiona Bruce MP)

Election of Officers:

Election of Gavin Shuker MP as Co-Chair and re-election of: Jim Shannon MP (Chair), Baroness Berridge (Co-Chair), Baroness Cox (Vice-Chair), Lord Singh of Wimbledon (Vice-Chair), Jeremy Lefroy MP (Treasurer), George Howarth MP (Secretary), Dr Eilidh Whiteford MP (Secretary).

(Proposed by Chris Matheson MP, seconded by Tom Tugendhat MP)

Vote: Unanimous approval.

Approval of minutes

Motion: To approve minutes of previous AGM on 8th June 2015 (Proposed by Baroness Berridge, seconded by Baroness Brinton).

Vote: Unanimous approval.

Business

1) Summary of APPG activity since June 2015

- Outline of all past events (summary provided and available on request)
- Update on Foreign Affairs Select Committee meeting and future co-operation around freedom of religion or belief
- Highlighting the outcome of the APPG's Pakistan Report and current status of the asylum report (launched in June 2016)

2) Motion: Officers function to be delegated to Jim Shannon MP and Baroness Berridge on a weekly basis including any necessary APPG press releases and public statements (to be put on the website and distributed to networks) that will represent the APPG officers' views.

(Proposed by George Howarth, seconded by Baroness Brinton)

Vote: Unanimous Approval.

3) Motion: Instruct Jim Shannon MP & Baroness Berridge to complete incorporation of charitable vehicle.

(Proposed by Fiona Bruce MP, seconded by Chris Matheson MP)

Vote: Unanimous Approval.

4) Motion: Operations Director's spending authority to be up to £500 within budget.

(Proposed by George Howarth MP, seconded by Chris Matheson MP)

Vote: Unanimous Approval

5) Motion: Votes of Thank You to:

- Lord Alton for serving as Vice-Chair

- Jeffrey Donaldson MP for Penelope Hanton's work with the APPG
- Stephen Rand as the APPG's Web Editor

(Proposed by Baroness Berridge, seconded by Fiona Bruce MP)

Vote: Unanimous Approval

6) Motion: Creation of 'Friends of APPG' for individual donations.

(Proposed by Baroness Berridge, seconded by George Howarth MP)

Vote: Unanimous Approval

Chair

Date of approval