

All-Party Parliamentary Group on Independent Education

Tuesday 27th April 2021

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

The APPG met at 3:30 pm virtually by Zoom.

The following Members of both Houses were present:

- Andrew Lewer MBE MP (Chairman)
- Lord Jim Knight (Vice Chair)
- Baroness Sue Garden (Vice Chair)
- Lord Ralph Lucas
- Giles Watling MP
- Sally-Ann Hart MP
- John Howell MP
- Philip Davies MP

Julie Robinson, Simon Nathan, and Matthew Dent *from* the Independent Schools Council (ISC), the Secretariat, also attended the meeting.

1. Call to order

Quorum having been reached Chairman called the meeting to order at 15.32 pm.

2. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed attendees and gave an overview of the work of the Group. He said that the group had taken on a new role during the COVID pandemic, and had facilitated important conversations between ISC, the Boarding Schools Association, and the Minister responsible for independent schools, Baroness Berridge. The Group had also had a recent briefing on SEND education and independent schools, as well as providing a basis for exploring other issues affecting the sector, for example, involvement in China and its education system.

3. Election of Chairman

The Chairman recused himself. On behalf of the Secretariat, Julie Robinson confirmed that Andrew Lewer was happy to seek re-election as Chairman. Giles Watling proposed him, and Lords Lucas and Knight seconded. There being no other candidates, Andrew Lewer was duly re-elected as Chairman.

4. Election of Officers

The Chairman listed those Members who had expressed a desire to be elected as Vice Chairs of the Group. The following were duly proposed, seconded, and elected:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| • Lord Knight | • Sally-Ann Hart |
| • Baroness Garden | • Chris Green |
| • Lord Naseby | • Sir John Hayes |
| • Lord Lucas | • John Howell |
| • Giles Watling | • Sir Graham Brady |
| • Brendan Clarke-Smith | • Greg Smith |
| • William Wragg | • Philip Davies |
| • Jane Hunt | • Lia Nici |

Julie Robinson welcomed and thanked the Group's new Vice-Chairs on behalf of the ISC

5. Statement of Purpose

The Chairman reiterated the Group's Statement of Purpose: *To provide a forum to discuss developments in the independent education sector, to discuss issues facing the sector, to highlight best practice, explore the wider contribution of the sector, share knowledge, and to raise matters affecting the sector with government and sector leaders.*

The Chairman proposed that, for the purpose of the Register of APPGs, this continue to be the Group's purpose. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. Reappointment of Secretariat

The Chairman proposed that the ISC continue to serve as the Group's secretariat. The motion was approved unanimously. The Chairman thanked those present from ISC for their work with the Group.

7. Financial Statement

The Chairman confirmed that the income and expenditure of the Group over the past reporting year had not met the threshold as to require an Income and Expenditure Statement under the rules.

8. Any Other Business

No other business was forthcoming.

The Group then heard from Julie Robinson, ISC CEO, on the state of the independent sector, followed by questions and answers.

9. Adjournment

All business on the agenda having been dispensed with, the Chairman thanked Members, and adjourned the meeting.

Adjourned accordingly at 16:00 pm.

M. Dent

Matthew Dent

Secretary to the Group,

ISC Public Affairs and Policy Officer