

## **APPG on Social Integration Minutes for Formal Meeting on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> June**

DATE: Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021  
TIME: 10.00am – 10.30am  
VENUE: Zoom, hosted by rachael.booth@parliament.uk  
CHAIR: Peter Gibson MP

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**Minutes taken by:** Michelle Midzi, Lucy Buckerfield

### **Present (Parliamentarians):**

- Peter Gibson MP
- Sir Peter Bottomley MP
- Jill Mortimer MP
- Ben Everitt MP
- Flick Drummond MP
- Jane Hunt MP
- Anne McLaughlin MP (joined 10mins in)

### **Present (Others):**

- Ceyda Ismail, on behalf of Lord Taylor
- Sunder Katwala, Director of British Future
- Rachel Booth, Peter Gibson's office (Administer of Votes)
- Lucy Buckerfield, British Future
- Michelle Midzi, British Future
- Jake Puddle, British Future
- Heather Rolfe, British Future

### **Apologies of absence:**

- Fleur Anderson MP, Robbie Moore MP, Naz Shah MP, Debbie Abrahams MP, Virendra Sharma MP, Stuart McDonald MP, Wera Hobhouse MP, Gavin Robinson MP

#### **1. Start of session - AGM**

- 1.1. Peter Gibson signalled the start of the AGM, confirming the formal meeting at quorate and welcomed everybody and outlined the purpose of the meeting.
- 1.2. Peter outlined all previous Officers had indicated that they would like to be re-elected for their positions, as did majority of the Vice Chairs of the group, and summarized the work of the group this year.

#### **2. Election of officers to the group**

- 2.1. Peter asked all parliamentarians present to vote to elect officers. Did they agree to elect the following Officers, Vice Chairs and Chair (Please say aye).

- i. Re-election of Peter Gibson MP as Chair
- ii. Re-election of Sir Peter Bottomley MP and Dr Rupa Huq MP as Vice-Chairs
- iii. Election of Jill Mortimer MP as Vice Chair
- iv. Re-election of Virendra Sharma MP and Stuart McDonald MP as Vice-Chairs (in absence)
- v. Re-election of Robbie Moore MP and Anne McLaughlin MP as Officers (in absence)

2.2. The vote was counted by administrators in attendance.

2.3. It was moved unanimously that all Officers, Chair and Vice Chairs would be elected to the APPG.

### **3. AGM – Approval of the Income and Expenditure Statement for 2020/2021**

3.1. Peter told the group that he had reviewed the Income and Expenditure Statement and that it was available to all the other members to view upon request now. He summarised its content of British Future's in-kind support.

3.2. Vote - Peter asked parliamentarians to approve the statement.

3.3. The vote was counted. It was moved unanimously that the statement was approved.

3.4 Peter signaled the closure of the AGM. He thanked those in attendance for joining for the vote.

### **4. Discussion of the APPG's upcoming report recommendations**

4.1. Peter Gibson introduced British Future's Director of Research and Relationships, Heather Rolfe to share the findings and summary of key recommendations of the APPG's latest report on 'Building strong, socially connected communities: lessons and learning from the COVID-19 crisis.'

4.2. Heather noted that there had been an increase in volunteering in the UK and recommended that an online volunteer platform and a volunteer passport be introduced to streamline the process. Further, incentives for businesses to continue to engage in volunteering are recommended, such as national campaigns. Local authorities can hold a volunteer summit and high streets could benefit from funds designed to help them improve. Finally, more emphasis could be placed on the workplace in order to encourage volunteering and integration between migrants and non-migrants.

4.3. Peter asked when the report would be published. Heather and Sunder outlined that the report would be published in September, so as to reflect on COVID's impact on the volunteering and integration sector. MPs were invited to give further feedback on email.

**End of meeting.**