



All Party Parliamentary Group for the Waterways

Annual General Meeting

**Held on Tuesday 26th April 2022 by Zoom video link
starting at 10.30am.**

Present: Michael Fabricant MP, Simon Baynes MP, Lord Bradshaw, Lord German and Baroness Golding

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Felicity Buchan MP, Jo Gideon MP, Fay Jones MP and Baroness Bakewell of Hardington Mandeville.

2. Appointment of Chair

The re-appointment of Michael Fabricant MP as Chair of the Group was proposed by Lord German, seconded by Lord Bradshaw, and agreed by all present.

3. Appointment of Group Officers

The following were appointed en bloc as Vice Chairs of the Group (proposed by Lord German, seconded by Lord Bradshaw):

- Simon Baynes MP
- John Cryer MP
- Bill Esterson MP
- Mark Garnier MP
- Jo Gideon MP
- Jason McCartney MP
- Karl McCartney MP
- Gagan Mohindra MP
- Craig Williams MP
- Baroness Randerson



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- Lord Bradshaw
- Lord German

4. Discussion on topics for future meetings

A discussion took place on the format and topics for future meetings.

The zoom meetings held over the last two years had been well attended by waterway organisations and it was agreed that they had enabled the Group's meetings to be more inclusive.

The House of Commons Registrar had announced recently that although formal APPG meetings taking place after 2nd May would have to be in person on the parliamentary estate, wider meetings including presentations from external speakers, where no vote is to be taken, could continue to take place virtually.

It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Group, which has the speakers already arranged, will still take place by Zoom on Wednesday 11th May on the subject of "History and Architecture of the Waterways". It will have presentations from: Liz McIvor – historian, author and TV presenter, Jo Bell – poet, author and industrial archaeologist and Hugh Pearman MBE – architecture critic and author, followed by discussion.

It was agreed that subsequent meetings would revert to taking place at Westminster with a hybrid option available if the technology allowed, to allow some people to take part remotely (but with the majority of attendees physically present). Lord German advised that meeting rooms in the House of Lords may have better equipment in place for hybrid meetings.

Topics for subsequent meetings were confirmed:

- end June/early July - Navigation authority funding (including Canal & River Trust grant review)
- autumn - The benefits of waterway restoration, with an emphasis on economic, development and planning benefits

The AGM closed at 10.55 am.



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