



All Party Parliamentary Group on Fatherhood

Annual General Meeting

Minutes

3pm Wednesday 18 May 2022
Room Q, Portcullis House

Attendees

Andrew Gwynne MP

Tim Loughton MP

Sir Peter Bottomley MP

Wes Streeting MP

Steve McCabe MP

Griffin Mosson

Future Men (Secretariat)

Owen Thomas

Charlotte Grievson

1. Welcome

The Chair, Andrew Gwynne, welcomed those present and the meeting was declared quorate.

2. Overview of current APPG status (including COVID impacts)

The Chair gave a brief outline of the purpose of the Group: The APPG for Fatherhood promotes the wellbeing of children by ensuring that legal and policy frameworks keep up with the changing nature of families, and that they encourage fair treatment for fathers with a view to facilitating positive and responsible parenting.

3. Election of officers

Voting was unanimously in favour of the following:

Chair – Andrew Gwynne MP

Vice Chair – Tim Loughton MP

Vice Chair – Lord Khan of Burnley (approved though not here in person)

Secretary – Sir Peter Bottomley

Additional officer – Steve McCabe MP

4. Discussion about aims and direction for the coming year

The APPG recognised that, for marginalised men, the personal, social and cultural obstacles that hinder positive involvement of fathers in children's lives may be complex.

It was agreed that during the forthcoming year, the APPG for Fatherhood will explore how these challenges can be navigated, as well as considering the various different roles men can play in family life. Enabling the role of fathers not only impacts child development and wellbeing, but also improves gender equality and social mobility. The APPG for Fatherhood will seek relationships with and complement the work of other APPGs to achieve wider change and create a fairer society.

5. A.O.B.

5.1 How do we decide how what we can circulate on behalf of other organisations?

The Chair agreed that the Secretariat may use discretion on this, with sensitive or potentially controversial materials being sent to his office for review as required.

5.2 Father's Day

It was agreed that a small event should be held in the week leading up to Father's Day (19th June) to help promote the APPG. This might take the form of a book promo for Elliott Rae from Music Football Fatherhood. Owen Thomas will confirm arrangements in due course.

6. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that a meeting should take place before the start of the Summer Recess if possible. Secretariat to follow up with Chair's office post-meeting.

The Chair thanked those present for their attendance.

ADDENDUM: Future Men were confirmed as Secretariat for the coming year in writing following this meeting.