

Rural Services APPG

All-Party Parliamentary Group on Rural Services
12th March 2024 at 5pm
Room T, Portcullis House, London

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Present:

Derek Thomas MP (West Cornwall & Isles of Scilly)
Rt Hon Philip Dunne MP (Ludlow)
Chris Loder MP (West Dorset)
Helen Morgan MP (North Shropshire)
Lord Ewen Cameron
Lord James Crathorne
Lord Rupert Carrington

In attendance

Kerry Booth (RSN -Secretariat)

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

MP Name	Constituency
Sir Bill Wiggin MP	North Herefordshire
Greg Smith MP	Buckingham
Sally-Ann Hart MP	Hastings & Rye
Ben Lake	Ceredigion
Lord John Taylor	APPG Member (HofL)
Lord John Grantchester	APPG Member (HofL)

Introduction

Derek Thomas (Chairman of the APPG) welcomed those in attendance and confirmed that the AGM was quorate.

2. Notes of Previous Meetings

The Minutes of the following meeting was agreed as a correct record:

[25th April 2023](#) - Discussion on off-grid gas heating in rural areas and rural bus services

3. Election of Officers

The Rt Hon Philip Dunne MP, proposed that the Officers set out below be elected to the following positions:

Chair	Derek Thomas MP (West Cornwall & Isles of Scilly)
Vice Chair	Rosie Duffield MP (Canterbury)
Treasurer	Lord Crathorne
Secretary	Lord Cameron

The proposal was seconded by Helen Morgan MP. There being no other nominations, this was agreed unanimously by all those present.

4. To appoint to the following “Lead Member” roles described:

This was agreed unanimously by all those present:

Lead Member

FAIR FUNDING	Derek Thomas MP
HOUSING	Helen Morgan MP
HEALTH	Rt Hon Philip Dunne MP
ECONOMY	Julian Sturdy MP
TRANSPORT	Selaine Saxby MP
NET ZERO	Rosie Duffield MP

5. To note the Report on the Changes to APPG Rules ([see link](#))

The Report on the Changes to APPG Rules were noted.

6. To agree the Briefing Note on Decarbonising off-grid gas heating in rural areas and Related Net Zero Policy issues ([see link](#))

The Briefing Note was noted and it was agreed that the APPG should hold a mini-inquiry into challenges of decarbonising off-grid gas heating in rural areas.

Action: Kerry Booth to organise 2 x online evidence-based seminars with speakers during May/June 2024 and to produce a report for the Group.

7. Discussion on work programme for 2024 (until the next General Election)

The following focus areas were agreed subject to when the next General Election is called:

- **Off-gas Grid heating of rural homes, and**
- **Fair Funding**

8. Date of Next Meeting

To be confirmed

The meeting closed at 5:25pm