

The Tidy Britain All-Party Parliamentary Group

 Annual General Meeting & Policy Round Up

**26th April 2022, 17:00-17:30**

**Zoom**

**Minutes**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PresentKevin Hollinrake MP (Chair)Mark Logan MP (Vice Chair)Simon Fell MP (Vice Chair) Baroness ThorntonAlex Sobel MPRichard Holden MPOffice of Simon Baynes MP (representative) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 17:00 | Welcome and introduction Kevin Hollinrake MP, Chair  |
|  | * Mr Hollinrake MP welcomed members to the AGM and emphasised that litter and waste continue to be important national and global issues.
* He confirmed that the purpose of the AGM was to elect officers and update members on the current policy landscape around litter and waste.
 |
| 17:05 | Election of officersKevin Hollinrake MP, Chair |
|  | * The following officers were re-elected:
* Kevin Hollinrake MP – Chair
* Sharon Hodgson MP (Vice Chair)
* Mark Pawsey MP (Vice Chair)
* Mark Logan MP (Vice Chair)
* Simon Fell MP (Vice Chair)
* Peter Kyle MP (Vice Chair)
* Baroness Pinnock (Vice Chair)
* Steve Reed MP (Vice Chair)
* James Davies MP (Vice Chair)
 |
| 17.10 | Policy Round UpAllison Ogden-Newton OBE, Chief Executive, Keep Britain Tidy |
|  | * Allison Ogden-Newton noted that 2021 was an exciting and momentous year for litter and waste policy, with many new policies in the pipeline that will go a long way in helping us solve the waste crisis, along with the passing of the Environment Act which has at its heart the polluter pays principle.
* There have been some significant steps forward including the development of policies for the UK’s deposit return scheme and extended producer responsibility regimes, which have huge potential to address the litter crisis and create a more circular economy. However there have also been some significant steps backwards, notably the exclusion of glass from England’s DRS and the exclusion of littered packaging from packaging EPR, meaning the environment will continue to pay the price.
* Weight & volume constraints and health & safety issues were cited as reasons for excluding glass from England’s DRS, despite the health & safety issues that glass poses in the environment. Allison made reference to the Keep Britain Tidy #PainInTheGlass campaign and said that Keep Britain Tidy feel the exclusion of glass from DRS is a missed opportunity and one that we hope Government will reconsider once the system is up and running. In the meantime the retrieval of plastic and aluminium containers will drastically reduce the amount of waste on the streets.
* The Government has also proposed to ban single-use plastic cutlery, plates, balloon sticks, and extended polystyrene food and drinks containers, which is very welcome.
* Moving forward, we are keen to see more policies that promote and incentivise reuse and refill. The introduction of the single-use charging power in the Environment Act is welcome in this regard.
* An exciting possibility under EPR is a system for bulky waste, such as mattresses and whitegoods. We encourage members to urge Government to develop a strategy for bulky items to ensure we are retrieving and recycling them.
* Fly-tipping continues to be an urgent environmental issue. We need to remove the ability of rogue waste carriers to litter the countryside. We were pleased to welcome Government’s recent proposals to reform the waste carrier licencing system and remove charges for DIY waste.
* Litter and waste issues will continue to demand attention in 2022 and we look forward to supporting the Tidy Britain APPG and holding a series of meetings on important topics.
 |
| 17:25 | Summary and closeKevin Hollinrake MP, Chair |
|  | * Mr Hollinrake MP thanked all for attending.
 |

****

Keep Britain Tidy provides the secretariat for the Tidy Britain APPG