

APPG for Wetlands – AGM 2023-24

Tuesday, 06 February 2024 at 4pm

Attendees

MPs and Peers

Siobhan Baillie MP (Chair)
Sally-Ann Hart
Lord Tom Leicester
Lord Taylor of Holbeach
Peter Gibson
Julian Smith
Matt Vickers

WWT (secretariat)

Tom Fewins
Kate Chandler

Opening remarks from the Chair

- Siobhan welcomed everyone, provided the context of the meeting and introduced the focus area.
- Siobhan ensured the meeting was quorate.

Election of officers

- Vote took place, with no objections to any suggested officers (vote was confirmed again via email).
 - Siobhan Baillie MP (Chair)
 - Sally-Ann Hart
 - Lord Tom Leicester
 - Baroness Young of Old Scone

Finances and expenditure statement

- The APPG confirmed that the group did not receive over £12,5000 from outside of parliament in money or in kind, however, the group did receive secretariat services from WWT.

Reflection on the 2023/2024 group activity

- Discussion focused on areas that the group could expand into, given what has been highlighted throughout the year.
- Siobhan raised the idea of working with local businesses and discussing opportunities for wetland restoration and protection.
- Sally-Ann highlighted the need to work with other APPGs, such as the Coastal Communities APPG, so share knowledge and experiences.
 - ACTION: Kate to follow up regarding potential topics of cross over, with examples from the Ouse Washes.
- Lord Tom Leicester suggested we should be working closer on issues relating to farmers going forward, especially when it comes to payments for ecosystem services.

Concluding remarks from the Chair

- Siobhan thanked attendees for their contributions, and reiterated how important it is that we continue to support this work.