

MINUTES

APPG for the Timber Industries – Annual General Meeting

Date: 08/11/2022

Attended (parliamentarians): Baroness Sue Hayman of Ullock, Alex Norris MP, Ben Lake MP, Deidre Brock MP, Baroness Maggie Jones of Whitchurch, Lord Rupert Carington

Attended (industry): David Hopkins, Jack Clappen

Welcome and Introduction

Baroness Hayman welcomed attendees to the meeting, thanking them for their attendance. She noted that this was going to be a quick meeting with the sole intention of electing new Chairs and Vice-Chairs to the APPG.

The Timber Industry

CTI Director and Timber Development UK CEO, **David Hopkins**, gave attendees a brief overview of the UK timber industry and the aims of the APPG. He outlined the benefits of timber in construction, which include low embodied carbon emissions, carbon storage and quieter assembly on site.

He also noted that there had been progress in increasing the use of timber in construction, with the UK Government launching the Timber in Construction Working Group last year. The Climate Change Committee and Environmental Audit Committee have also recognised the environmental benefits of timber in their latest committee reports.

Lord Carington asked David about the EPC grades of timber buildings. **David Hopkins** responded stating that timber buildings have excellent thermal efficiency.

Alex Norris asked about capital expenditure limitations (CAPEX), and whether this was holding back growth in timber construction. **David Hopkins** responded, stating that CAPEX and supply were strong in the timber sector, but additional demand was needed to level up the industry.

There was a brief discussion on the timber industry's view on biomass. **David Hopkins** noted that timber was better used for construction products but can be used effectively as biomass in small to medium-sized buildings/projects.

Declaration of Interest

Baroness Hayman of Ullock declared her interest, stating she would be providing political advice to the APPG in the coming calendar year.

Finances

There were no APPG finances to report.

Formal Business

Election of Chairs

Tonia Antoniazzi MP was elected Chair and registered contact for the APPG. Tonia was not present at the meeting however agreed prior that she wished to undertake this role.

Baroness Hayman of Ullock was elected Co-Chair of the APPG.

Election of Vice-Chairs

Everyone present at the meeting was elected vice-chair of the APPG.

Karin Smyth MP, Martyn Day MP and the Earl of Caithness also agreed to be Vice-Chairs despite not being in physical attendance.

AOB

The APPG secretariat, the CTI, will plan a full events calendar for 2023 including a luncheon and drinks reception.

Baroness Hayman closed the meeting by thanking everyone for their participation in the meeting.