

The Tidy Britain All-Party Parliamentary Group

Annual General Meeting

24th February 2021, 10:00-10:30 Zoom

Minutes

Present

Kevin Hollinrake MP (Chair)

Lord Judd (Vice Chair)

Steve Reed MP (Vice Chair)

James Davies MP (Vice Chair)

Peter Dowd MP (APPG Member)

Viscount Colville (APPG Member)

Mark Logan MP (APPG member)

Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP (APPG member)

Jonathan Hoile (Office of Jane Hunt MP)

Francesca Best (Office of Liz Twist MP)

Alex Samuels (Office of Sharon Hodgson MP)

10:00	Welcome and introduction Kevin Hollinrake MP, Chair
	 Mr Hollinrake MP welcomed members to the AGM. Mr Hollinrake MP made reference to the successful meetings held in 2020: the APPG on smoking related litter attended by Minister Pow, and the APPG held jointly with the Ocean Conservancy APPG attended by the Secretary of State George Eustice.
10:02	Election of officers Kevin Hollinrake MP, Chair

The following officers were re-elected:

- Kevin Hollinrake MP Chair
- Sharon Hodgson MP (Vice Chair)
- Mark Pawsey MP (Vice Chair)
- Lord Judd (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)
- Mark Pritchard MP (Vice Chair)

The following officer was newly elected:

• James Davies MP (Vice Chair)

10.05 Overview of the Year Ahead

Allison Ogden-Newton, Keep Britain Tidy

- Allison Ogden-Newton gave an overview of the main issues relating to the Tidy Britain APPG that emerged during 2020, which will continue to demand attention in 2021.
- Allison highlighted the rise of anti-social behaviour and littering on the nation's parks and beaches following the end of lockdown in 2020, which was never far from the media spotlight and public consciousness. Keep Britain Tidy is currently surveying local authorities to determine how this behaviour impacted on their budgets. We are expecting similar issues to continue in 2021.
- Allison noted DEFRA had just published its fly-tipping statistics for England for 2020 which show yet another increase in reported incidents. She also noted that reform of the current systems that regulate the collection and transport of waste management and disposal is urgently required.

- Allison noted that the use and littering of single-use PPE equipment was another damaging trend that has emerged from the pandemic.
- Allison emphasised the need to keep holding the tobacco industry to account for littering of cigarette butts – If the industry isn't serious about developing a substantial non-regulatory approach, then government needs to introduce mandated extended producer responsibility for tobacco filters.
- Allison highlighted that the Great British Spring Clean is taking place in May and June, supported by the Daily Mail.
- Allison concluded by emphasising that a lot of Tidy Britain APPG related issues are going to be in the headlines and in the forefront of the public's thinking in 2021 and we hope we can make great strides addressing them.

Opportunities for members to raise areas of interest and propose ideas for future meetings

- Chair Kevin Hollinrake opened the floor for questions.
- Steve Reed MP queried whether any data had been collected in relation to the increase in litter on streets as a result of the big shift to online shopping and the increase in use of packaging.
 Allison confirmed that there is currently no data reported, however data is being collected and will feature in a future report.
 She also noted that more money/investment in local authorities is needed to give them the means to deal with this issue.
- Viscount Colville queried Minister Pow's recent statement in parliament in which she said the government is consulting about 'all in' versus 'on the go' DRS. Allison confirmed KBT's position is that an all-in system is the preferred approach. Allison touched on why an all-in system is preferred and empathised the need to keep the pressure on the government throughout the consultation process as an all-in system would present an opportunity to get huge amounts of drinks containers off the streets and recycled.
- James Davies MP suggested that it would be interesting to understand how a deposit return scheme would interact with

- effective recycling/kerbside services currently offered by local authorities.
- Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP queried the types of actions local areas
 have successfully put in place to handle anti-social behaviour such
 as fly-tipping. Allison touched on some effective solutions to flytipping, including encouraging stiffer sentencing of those who are
 found to dump waste illegally, and measures to make it easier for
 households to do the right thing. There also needs to be a change
 of perception of fly-tipping as a victimless crime.
- Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP asked whether it is individuals or companies mainly dumping waste. Allison responded that while there is definitely a problem with individuals, the biggest problem is commercial fly-tippers who charge people and then dump large volumes of waste illegally. The licencing system for waste carriers needs to be reformed – to introduce stiffer 'fit and proper' person checks. There needs to be both stiffer punishment for illegal operators and a systemic change to see rubbish as a resource.
- Allison thanked members for their continued participation in the APPG and emphasising that 2021 is going to be a big year for Tidy Britain AG issues. We may again see a lot of headlines of devastation caused by anti-social behaviour however there will also be opportunities to fix things and make a big difference.
- Mr Hollinrake MP suggested he and Mr Davies MP arrange a conversation with Minister Pow to understand the government's current thinking on DRS.
- Allison confirmed Keep Britain Tidy will continue working with WRAP on a plan regarding smoking related litter.
- Richard McIlwain of Keep Britain Tidy confirmed we are having a launch event for parliamentarians for the Great British Spring Clean – on 23rd March most likely.

10:25 Summary and close

Kevin Hollinrake MP, Vice Chair

 Mr Hollinrake MP thanked everyone for attending and confirmed the next meeting will likely be on 23 March for the Great British Spring Clean launch.



Keep Britain Tidy provides the secretariat for the Tidy Britain APPG