



The Almshouse Association
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Patron: HRH The Prince of Wales KG KT GCB

**All-Party Parliamentary Group on Almshouses
AGM Minutes
Monday 15th May 2023
Portcullis House, Westminster
11.30 – 12.00**

Present – Sally-Ann Hart MP, Office of Siobhain McDonagh MP, Office of Alex Davies-Jones MP, Office of Sharon Hodgson MP, Office of Paul Howell MP, Nick Phillips CEO The Almshouse Association

Apologies – Siobhain McDonagh MP

1. Welcome, introductions & apologies
 - a. Sally-Ann Hart welcomed members to the AGM.
2. Election of Officers
 - a. Siobhain McDonagh MP and Sally-Ann Hart MP elected to continue as Chair and Vice Chair respectively further vice chairs included:
Sir John Hayes, Tom Randall
3. Confirmation of The Almshouse Association to act as the Secretariat for the APPG
 - a. The Almshouse Association was elected to continue supplying Secretariat functions to the APPG
4. Discussion of work programme for 2022/23
 - a. Nick Phillips outlined the work that The Almshouse Association had undertaken over the last year. Nick outlined the recent independent research that points to the significant added value of the almshouse model on reduced loneliness and improved wellbeing of residents in a warm community atmosphere.
 - b. Sally-Ann led a discussion about the significant issues facing the almshouse movement today. These include seeking an amendment to the definition of “affordable housing” as referred to in the NPPF guidance affecting Section 106, the inappropriateness of “Regulations Social Housing” for small almshouses preventing access to Government funding to expand and the unintended impact of parts of the Social Housing Bill.
 - c. Sally-Ann Hart MP noted that the group and Almshouse Association might seek amendments to the NPPF and Social Housing Bill by drafting a joint letter to The Secretary of State. It was also recognised that almshouses are not widely understood.
5. Laurie Sutcliffe (Representative of Alex Davies-Jones) suggested Nick draft a letter to the Welsh Government about specific challenges for almshouses in Wales.
6. Meeting closed at 12.05