# Stan Gain

Party and Election Finance The Electoral Commission 3 Bunhill Row London EC1Y 8YZ 11<sup>th</sup> April 2012

Dear Sirs,

**Christian Peoples Alliance** 

Please find enclosed the report to the CPA Council in respect of the above.

This incorporates the Statement of Accounts for the Christian Peoples Alliance for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011.

I trust you will find all in order.

Yours sincerely, Stan Gain

Party Treasurer

# The Christian Peoples Alliance

## Report to CPA Council and Financial Accounts

2011 - 2012

March 2012

#### **Registered Party Officers**

Leader	Alan Craig
Treasurer	Stan Gain
Nominating Officer	Stephen Hammond

#### Party Office

St Lukes Community Centre, 85 Tarling Road, London, E16 4HN.

#### Bank



#### **Federal Executive**

Day to day decisions about the party are taken by the Federal Executive, which is elected bi-annually. Next elections are due in autumn 2012. The members of the Executive as 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011 were the same as the previous year.

Leader	Alan Craig
President	David Campanale
General Secretary	Peter Vickers
Nominating Officer	Stephen Hammond
Treasurer	Stan Gain
National Development	Malcolm Martin
Under 26 Rep	Vacant
National members	Rev Robert Hampson Malcolm Martin Evangeline Pillai Dr Tom Rogers Kayode Shedowo Rob Smith (Scotland)

Peter Vickers continues to combine his role of General Secretary with responsibility for membership records and accounts as paid part-time officer administrator. David Campanale is International Secretary and responsible with Malcolm Martin for Communications and web content.

#### **Federal Committees**

The Federal Executive was appointed by the CPA Council, which were both elected in autumn 2010. During the course of the year, there were resignations from the Executive from Rob Smith and from Malcolm Martin. In addition, Sid Cordle MBE was co-opted as Campaigns Manager.

Under the CPA Constitution, there are several other committees with important responsibilities.

CPA Federal Council	In addition to Executive members, these are other National members:
	Grace Agbogun-Toko Alex Price-Alexander (Resigned) David Booth (Resigned) Colin Bricher David Clark Sid Cordle MBE Ashley Dickinson Stan Gain Rev Robert Hampson David Hussell (Resigned) Christabel McLean-Bacchus Malcolm Martin (Resigned) Kathy Mills Rev Dr Suzanne Nti Evangeline Pillai Melangell Roe-Stevens Dr Tom Rogers Kayode Shedowo Rob Smith (Scotland) (Resigned)
Policy Committee	David Campanale (Chairman) Alan Craig Malcolm Martin Stan Gain Dr Tom Rogers
Candidate Selection	Stephen Hammond Tony May Susan May
Appeals Committee	Stuart MacPherson
Elected Representatives	None

#### Membership

As of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012 there were 2732 members and supporters registered with the party

#### Accounting Units

As of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012 the CPA had just one Accounting Unit registered with the Electoral Commission (Newham) with all other local parties administered through the Federal Office.

#### Christian Peoples Alliance Report of Officers March 2012

#### Alan Craig, CPA Federal Leader

The year under review has been a quiet one for the party - we have been ticking over rather than starting new initiatives.

However the political scene has been changing for the better as there has been a turn in the secularisation tide in public life, and it is becoming politically acceptable to own Christian beliefs again.

CPA welcomes this change and looks forward to benefitting from it electorally in the future.

#### **Report of David Campanale, CPA Federal President**

As we approach nearly two years from the formation of the Coalition government, it is possible to make some assessment of how far the promises made to the churches by the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats have been reflected in actual policy. During 2011 and into 2012, the Christian Peoples Alliance has highlighted continuing attacks on Church moral and social teaching by the government. In many ways, the Coalition has merely continued and made worse the anti-family policies of its Labour predecessor.

Our campaigns have also stepped up against the targeting of the poorest in society, who have been expected to bear the brunt of the government's deficit reduction strategy. Many of the warnings we made in 2010 against the impossibility of driving growth by forcing down demand in a recession have come true, with rising unemployment, falling tax revenues, more poverty and deepening inequality.

Although the CPA is the only party in Britain campaigning for a Christian Democratic vision that embraces the breadth of church social teaching, we have found the challenge of appealing to church leaders very difficult. At the best of times, politics is seen as a sphere that lies outside Christian influence. Few expectations are placed on Christian politicians to act according to the mandates of church teaching. In consequence, Christians continue to vote for and join the big secular parties, even though their policies may see fellow Christians in the dock for choosing their faith and conscience first.

At a time when the secular parties seem more committed than ever to change the moral and spiritual fabric of Britain for the worse, many Christians must wonder if politics is a worthwhile use of their time or gifts. All parties are finding it hard to recruit activists and potential candidates and the CPA is no different in this respect. We are tarred by the same brushes of disappointment and disillusionment.

With present levels of resource and activists, it has not been possible to develop new branches or fight effective campaigns, except in a few areas. In consequence, a number of members of CPA Council have chosen to resign, adding to the challenge of growing the party and moving forwards.

Despite these challenges, the Christian Peoples Alliance continues to play an important part in the debate about effective Christian political witness in Britain. The President's idea of convening a conference of the European Christian Political Movement in London was realised in November 2011. Organised by Christian Concern, the conference attracted a range of highlevel speakers, media coverage and a good attendance. The challenges we raised of the futility of evangelical and Catholic single-issue campaigns, compared to the potential rewards of electoral Christian witness, were registered at an intellectual level. We pray that the wider church in Britain will soon recognise the validity and urgency of Christian Democracy.

Our focus in 2012 is fighting the London Assembly elections and preparing for the use of PR in elections to the House of Lords in 2015.

#### Elections

Where the CPA has set out a Christian perspective on government policy, our local candidates have polled well and seen a swing in their favour. But FPTP voting is a hurdle too big to overcome at present. The CPA has not made any progress in raising our profile and our impression is that we will only grow once we have won electoral success.

In Scotland and Wales, both the churches and individual Christians have failed to register the possibilities offered to them by proportional systems of voting to back Christian Democracy. So the CPA in both nations has not moved forward. A minimal campaign was run in two Scottish regions on the list for Holyrood, but without the word going out from church leadership circles that Christians must use informed consciences before they vote, the party made no progress in the ballot box.

Our Scottish Co-ordinator reached an agreement with the Christian Party that they should have a free run in 6 of the 8 Scottish regional lists, in return for

the CPA standing in the remaining 2. The CP later chose to break this understanding by running candidates in ALL 8 regions. This breach of trust under-mined goodwill and both split and confused the potential Christian vote

Effective campaigns first require committed and gifted candidates and party activists. Despite the success of UKIP, the Greens and even the BNP in mobilising particular constituencies of opinion, the CPA continues to wait on God and His timing for Christian Democracy to emerge in Britain, as it has across continental Europe.

#### International Contacts

We are grateful to the European Christian Political Movement in sponsoring the Beyond Individualism conference in November 2011. It was a great success. The CPA would like to see the ECPM emerge as a trans-European wide political option for Christians who believe that the Bible and church encyclicals continue to speak to society today.

Our contact with supporters of Chinese Christian Democracy has been an exciting one and we pray that God will deepen these relationships.

#### Communications

A newsletter was produced for members in 2011. Work continues to be carried out on our database but we have not been able to improve our email contacts with our supporters. The website remains the primary means of informing members and supporters of our activities. Work has been done to generate regional websites for the party, but these will only grow and be effective when parties emerge in the big connurbations.

National coverage has again been won for the CPA in newspapers, local and national radio as well as television. Alan Craig remains an effective media communicator, despite not having an elected position.

#### Candidates Report of Nominating Officer, Stephen Hammond

The party procedures for the selection, interview and approval of candidates again did not meet our stated standards and objectives.

We ran a handful of Scottish parliamentary candidates, none of which were formally interviewed according to procedure and who had to be ratified under delegated powers by the party national officers.

It remains our objective to ensure that every prospective candidate completes application forms in full to seek admission to the National List of Approved Candidates – the panel from which candidates for election are selected. They are judged on their political abilities, including understanding the principles of Christian Democracy and also face a pastoral interview which asks questions about their Christian discipleship and standing with their church.

#### Financial Summary Report of Federal Treasurer, Peter Vickers

As of March 1<sup>st</sup> 2012, the Christian Peoples Alliance had £10,414.14 in the bank. Whilst this is a substantial improvement over the last 12 months we need to continue to strengthen our finances. Our monthly standing orders cover our continuing expenditure, but a solid effort is needed to enable the party to grow. We can do nothing without a solid financial base and a growing membership. Our financial position is dependent upon membership subscriptions and donations.

The Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 places a range of responsibilities on the registered Treasurer, including preparation of the financial statements of the party. Under Section 43 of the Act, I am also responsible for submitting a statement of accounts to the Electoral Commission within a deadline.

The latest statement of accounts follows. These were prepared on a cash basis.

#### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

### YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DEVEMBER 2011

INCOME	2011 £	2010 £
SUBSCRIPTIONS & DONATIONS		
Cheque or Standing Order Collected by Credit Card	17734.50 215.00	7810.39 0.00
EXPENDITURE	<u>17949.50</u>	<u>7810.39</u>
Administration Fees Advertising & Publicity Bank Charges Computer Costs Conferences & Room Hire Credit Card Processing Data Protection Donations Electoral Commission Kingston By Elections President's Expenses	1900.00 430.00 42.64 0.00 26.40 313.87 35.00 0.00 25.00 758.02 0.00	479.93 230.00 260.46

Printing Postage & Stationary Rent Scottish Elections Telephones Web Site Design	1496.63 800.00 986.00 504.30 <u>1150.00</u> <u>8467.86</u>	1200.00 0.00 209.89 <u>535.00</u>	
Excess of Income over Expenditure	9481.64	27.86	
BALANCE SHEET	2011	2010	
Fixed Assets	0.00	0.00	
	0.00	0.00	
Current Assets			
Balance at Bank Debtors	10792.52	1310.88 147.00	
Current Liabilities	0.00	0.00	
Creditors	0.00	-200.00	
Net Current Assets	10792.52	1257,88	
Financed by:			
Reserves brought forward from			
2009 Creditors Receipts	1257.88 53,00	1230.02	
Excess of Income over expenditure 2010	9481.64	27.86	
Reserves as at 31st December 2010	10792.52	1257.88	
Christian Peoples Alliance Income and Expenditure Accounts Prepared for the CPA 1st MarchI 2012			