FORM 3 (Rules 6 and 17)

Clergy Discipline Measure 2003

Statement in support of a Complaint, or in support of an Answer to a Complaint

Box for use only by the Registrar of Tribunals	*Statement submitted by:* *Name of maker of statement:* *Date of statement:*

In the matter of the complaint

Enter the name of the complainant.
Enter the name of the member of the clergy about whom a complaint is made.

made by The Board of Deputies of British Jews

against: Rev Dr Stephen Sizer

My full name is: Revd Canon David MacInnes

My contact address, including postcode, is:

Pear Tree Cottage
Milcombe
Banbury
OX15 4RS

***Telephone & e-mail details are optional, but it could be helpful to the registrar and bishop to have them.*

**My telephone number is:

**My e-mail address is: davidmacinnes@talktalk.net

The matters in this statement to which I refer are all within my own knowledge, except where I indicate otherwise. If anything is not within my own knowledge then I set out the source of any matters of information and belief:

*You must explain in your statement how you know about each of the matters you describe, **unless** you know about them because you have **personally** seen or observed them.*

I am writing to support Stephen in the complaint under the Clergy Disciplinary measure that has been brought against him. I am astonished at the fact that this charge has been made when it has been so clear from former investigations that he has done nothing to warrant it.

I suppose that the disturbing thing is the way that the moment a person questions the policies or actions of Zionists, they are accused of being anti-semitic. My grandfather experienced that as Bishop of Jerusalem in the post first world war period when he supported some of the Rabbis who were questioning the philosophy of Zionism. He was immediately branded as anti-semitic. It has been my own experience, on the occasions when I have challenged the biblical interpretation of the Christian Zionists, that there has been an unreasoning and often almost violent reaction, so I have sympathy with the situation in which Stephen finds himself.

I have followed with interest his writings and blogs which are referred to, and have been struck by the graciousness of his debating style and the logic of his arguments – whether you agree with them or not. His consistent rejection of any form of anti-semitism has been abundantly plain, and where he has made mistakes, he has been the first to admit them. There really are no grounds for the accusations made against him.

I believe the facts in my statement to be true. I am aware that the contents of this statement may be made public

You must sign and date this statement.

Signed: David MacInnes

Dated: 28 November 2018