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: The Right Revd John Alexander Ellison

My contact address, including postcode, is:

The Furrow,
Evingar Rd.
Whitchurch, Hants.
RG28 7EU

***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: jyjellison@btinternet.com

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.*

At times I have agreed with Stephen, at times not, but he has always helped me to think more clearly about complex issues, and I have never doubted his Christian integrity. And I shall always be grateful for the support we received from Stephen in South America days, as well as more recently as we have sought to adapt back to contemporary Britain.

I find it extraordinary therefore, that Stephen is being called to account yet again by the Board of Deputies. There is, to my mind, a huge difference between being critical of a particular government and its policies and a deep concern, even love of the nation over which that government exercises authority.

For many years, as you know, we lived under successive military dictatorships both in Argentina and Paraguay and were sometimes in conflict with those who ruled over us. It wasn't always comfortable, especially during the Falklands war and under Stroessner in Paraguay.

Yet I was never in any doubt that those whose policies we disagreed with, understood that our love and respect for the Argentine nation, and the Paraguayan nation was genuine and heartfelt.

You will see the parallels I am making and the implications; being critical of a government, (more so when it is seeking to be democratic), and loving the people it represents, are by no means incompatible.

So I am shocked that this is happening all over again, and particularly concerned about the huge stress levels being placed on Stephen and Joanna.

Our love and prayers are with you.
As always in Christ,
+John.

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: + John Ellison

Dated: 29 November 2018