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(SACRE) STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2011

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Present:

Members of the Council

Councillors Daunt (Chair) and Parnell

Independent Members

Anne Steele-Arnett, Rev Andy Mills, Mr D Parrott, Ellen Humphries, Priti Dave, Gail Ratcliffe, David Vane (Vice Chair), Julian Bryant, Chris Robinson, Jeff Lynn, Sian Roberts

Apologies

Margaret Blake, Peter Howard, Kate Martin, Tony Blackshaw, Jackie Meering, Ruth Evans

Also in attendance:

Chris Pritchard – Winchester Diocese – Group B – new member  
Chris Davis – City Mission  
Sue Langdon – Secondary Phase Inspector

1. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and thanked them for coming.

Apologies were received from:-

Group A

Margaret Blake	The Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches
Peter Howard	The Assemblies of God

Group B

Tony Blackshaw	Church of England
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Group C

Jackie Meering	National Union of Teachers (NUT)
Ruth Evans	Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL)

Group D

Kate Martiin	Substitute
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2. **STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chair welcomed the Group and introduced Chris Pritchard and Chris Davis to the SACRE meeting.

### **3. MEMBERSHIP**

#### New Member

There had been two vacancies under Group B membership and Chris Prichard representing the Winchester Anglican Diocese was welcomed as a new member to fill one of the vacancies.

#### Co-Opted Member

Chris Davis from the Southampton City Mission was welcomed to the meeting and provided attendees with a brief overview of the Mission's work and specific projects. The City Mission was involved with food and clothes banks providing many needy people with food and clothes. However, the main focus was now on schools, working with assemblies, all day programmes and week-long programmes, for a class, a year group or a whole school, working alongside staff in over 35 primary schools to help them deliver the Christian education parts of their curriculum in relation to the social and emotional aspects of learning (SEAL).

The Chair proposed Chris Davies' nomination to Co-Opted Member which was seconded by Mr Parrott and upon being put to the vote was unanimously carried.

### **4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Parnell and Anne Steele-Arnett declared a prejudicial interest in relation to Southampton City Mission and did not vote. Councillor Parnell was involved as a Trustee of the Mission and Anne Steele-Arnett as Headteacher of St Mark's Primary School, had a close school-working relationship with the Mission.

### **5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meetings held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2010 and 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2010 be approved and signed as a correct record. (Copy of the minutes circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

### **6. FEEDBACK AND UPDATES ON EVENTS**

SACRE members received and noted verbal updates from members on the following :-

The Chairman made reference to correspondence he had received regarding the NASACRE/Westhill Awards 2011/12.

The awards are in the form of grants of money to support young inter-faith projects that involve schools. The Chairman made reference to previous winners and advised that he had all the paperwork explaining the bidding process. The deadline for submission of project bids is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011, which is very tight for this year. The matter is under review to see if any project(s) might be appropriate for a submission to be made and if time permits a bid to be placed.

## **Buddhists**

- Southampton Council of Faiths (SCOF) have an Interfaith Youth Peace Walk scheduled for Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March; and
- SCOF had a youth co-ordinator who was providing extremely good work, particularly with young Muslims at Tauntons and Totton Colleges.

The Chair thanked members for their comments and reminded them that, in future, items under this heading should be given to the clerk or himself prior to meetings.

## **7. FEEDBACK ON LAUNCH OF AGEED SYLLABUS**

The meeting received and noted a presentation from the Secondary Phase Inspector on the launch of the Agreed Syllabus which had been held at Eastpoint on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2011.

The launch covered the following:-

- the process and changes to the revised Agreed Syllabus;
- outstanding religious education;
- the Cycle – a methodology for enquiry into concepts;
- practical experience to help deliver the schemes of learning and to network;
- feedback from workshop sessions; and
- future support arrangements.

The following was noted:-

- there had been an extremely good attendance with a good mix of headteachers from both Primary and Secondary Schools;
- the launch had been a practical networking opportunity for RE teachers to get together and swap experiences and ideas;
- the launch had also provided the opportunity for SACRE members to offer their support to headteachers in relation to their particular religion.
- Priti Dave, the Hindu representative, provided members with her experiences in this regard;
- that a central directory of practitioners should be created as a future resource for schools; and
- that SCOF had a number of resources/practitioners who regularly visited schools.

## **8. OUTSTANDING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)**

This item was divided into a DVD presentation and a workshop/brainstorming session.

Julian Bryant who was the Subject Leader for Religious Education at Cantell School, provided the meeting with a DVD presentation of a project undertaken by a group of students at Cantell School who had designed, funded and built a garden for Springwell School. It was agreed that this was a very novel way of

teaching children to do something for the community, which would give them faith in their actions to do the right thing and which they could link back to their own lives.

The workshop/brainstorming section was introduced by Sue Langdon, Secondary Phase Inspector and covered in detail by Sian Roberts, Representative of Teachers' Subject Network/Advanced Skills Teacher for religious education in Southampton and it was split into two sections, by way of brainstorming outstanding examples of religious education and explaining the cycle of learning which emanated from the Living Difference : Religious Education Agreed Syllabus Launch on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2011 held at Eastpoint.

## **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- The Chair informed attendees that Sue Langdon, Secondary Phase Inspector would be leaving at the end of the month. He stated that her enthusiasm and co-operation would be sorely missed and thanked her for her dedication and involvement with SACRE and members wished her every success for the future.
- It was noted that the Coalition Government was investigating the possibility of decommissioning religious education as a statutory school subject; however nothing had been agreed and there was a lot of uncertainty in this regard.