



**Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education**

**MINUTES**

**20.06.19**

**County Hall**

- 1 Reflection** DH reminded SACRE of the actions of Greta Thunberg, the 16 year old who raised the awareness of climate change. He talked of the impact that one person can have on the world. He finished by raising two questions; 1. Are we prepared to learn from children? 2. Are we prepared to accept our responsibility towards them? BF thanked David for his reflection.

**Attendance**

**Committee A**

**Members representing the “Free Churches”**

Mrs Sue Cox

**Two members representing the Roman Catholic Church**

Sister Stella Kelly

**Members representing non-Christian faiths**

Dr. Lionel Alexander (Jewish faith)

Mr. David Downer (Buddhist)

Mrs Anne Sechiari (Buddhist)

Mrs Norma Corney (Baha'i)

Mr. Abdul Basith (Muslim)

Mr David Harrison (Quaker)

**Committee B (4 members in total)**

**Representing The Church of England**

Rev.Sue Paterson

**Committee C (4 members in total)**

**Representing the teachers of the Isle of Wight. Nominated by appropriate groups.**

Secondary Miss Beth Feltham The Bay School

**Committee D (4 members in total)**

**Representing the Local Authority. Two elected Members. Two nominated by the Director of Education**

**In attendance**

Harry Kirby Clerk/Coordinator

Dr. Patricia Hannam RE Inspector (Secondary)

BF, Chairman, welcomed all and invited all present to introduce themselves.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

Debbie Andre (CC), Ebrahim Jeewa (Moslem), Alison Burt (RC), Praful Thacker (Hindu), Beryl Miller (CE), Vicki Bridle (CE), Kirstie Thomas, Hannah Bowkis (teachers), Nicki Moble (Headteacher), Stuart Brenchley (LA), Justine Ball (Inspector)

3. **Declaration of Members' Interest and Chair's correspondence**
  - None
4. **Minutes of the Previous meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019**
  - Accepted as true record. Proposed DD, seconded DH
5. **Matters Arising from the minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

No matters arising
6. **Development Plan**
  - HK reported that the Plan was on track, apart from monitoring of CAW. PH Pointed out that OFSTED monitors "British Values", often through CAW. Therefor SACRE's monitoring group might use their reports to monitor CAWs
  - PH suggested that SACRE might send a questionnaire to schools to ascertain training needs. Both she and HK were of the opinion that Justine had such training in mind.
7. **Membership update**
  - PH reminded colleagues that annual training of new SACRE members has been taking place in Winchester. Southampton and Portsmouth were organising their own training. She suggested that the Island might do the same. It was agreed that this would take place in September on the day that PH was visiting The Bay School.

**Action PH**
8. **Monitoring Report**
  - PH reported that the Monitoring Group had met recently. She reminded members of the dual role of SACRE, 1. To advise the LA concerning the establishment of the Agreed Syllabus, and 2. To monitor the effectiveness of the teaching of RE in LA schools. PH referred to a letter from Paul Smalley (Chair of NASACRE) and the response from the DfE concerning schools where a concern had been identified. In considering the websites of the LA's Secondary schools, concern over the implementation of LD111 was raised by the group.
  - A letter from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman has been sent to the schools requesting more information and offering SACRE/LA support if required. A response indicating that a senior leader with responsibility for curriculum would be in contact, had been received. Any outcome will be reported to SACRE at its next meeting in November.
9. **NASACRE**
  - PH reported on the last NASACRE Annual Meeting. Copy attached.
  - PH reminded colleagues that HK forwards NASACRE newsletters to members. Members are strongly encouraged to read the content of these e-newsletters carefully and to bring interesting issues to SACRE meetings. Log-in details are :-  
**Username: member1819 Password:REi5fAb89!**
  - The next NASACRE AGM is in London in May 2010 and, as normal, it is hoped to send representatives to this London-based event from the IoW SACRE.
10. **Final report of the Commission on RE**
  - The Clerk had informed members of the opportunity to discuss a response to this. The meeting was called at short notice and as a result PH had met with BF and NC.

- An outline of that discussion was reported (see attached) , also shared by other IW SACRE members, will included in a letter to be sent to the Chair of NASACRE with cc to the Religious Education Council. Members were invited to send additional comment to HK for inclusion ASAP.

**Action BF/PH**

**11. South Central SACRE Hub**

- The planned meeting this term was cancelled. **Future dates are 27.11.19, 05.03.20, and 10.06.20.** HK reminded members that he travels by car from Fishbourne and invited colleagues to join him. He also reminded members that rail travel can be arranged and paid for by SACRE

**12. Framework and handbook for Ofsted Inspection of Schools from September 2019**

- The final version is published. Members expressed concern that RE was not considered equal in value to other humanity subjects such as History and Geography in light of the impact emphasis on the EBACC. For example on reducing students' curriculum choices, including RE. Inspectors will assess schools on four areas;- Quality of education including teaching and learning, Behaviour, Personal development (RE included here) and Leadership and management.

**13. Any Other Business**

- PH informed SACRE that plans were being made for the forthcoming review of LD111 during 2020/2021 with launch in December 2021. As per the last review process, SACRE members would be involved.

**14. Date and venue of the next meetings**

- 14.11.2019. Indian Restaurant in Shide if possible.
- 17.03.2020 Medina or Carisbrooke High School (TBC)
- 18.06.2020 A Newport Primary school (TBC)

## **Report from NASACRE Conference: May 2019.**

### **Patricia Hannam. Professional Adviser to Isle of Wight SACRE**

The National Association of Standing Advisory Councils for Religious Education (NASACRE) is the body that both advises individual SACRES on their legal responsibilities as well as representing SACREs on national RE bodies, ensuring concerns SACREs have in relation to religious education at a local level are heard by National Government and others. The Annual General Meeting of NASACRE is held during a full-day conference once each year, alternately in the north and in London. Around 100 people representing around 80 SACREs attended the 2019 NASACRE AGM and conference, held in Manchester.

The conference opened with two key speakers. The first was head of RE and representative on Liverpool SACRE, from a north Liverpool comprehensive, 11-18, non-denominational LA secondary school. He spoke about the support SACRE was able to offer to his school enabling RE to be a key driver of the school's values and ethos. Thus, RE was critical to the recognition the school gave to the value of each young person for who they were, in one of the poorest areas of Liverpool. This was in addition to making new opportunities for outreach in the community and welcoming high-profile of visitors, such as Archbishop Sentamu and the Chair of the Bank of England Mark Carney, into school. The second speaker was Professor Julian Stern from York St John University, one of the 'Churches group' of universities, traditionally strong in the training of RE teachers. Julian Stern is also chair of the International Seminar on Religious Education and Values (ISREV) and editor of the British Journal of Religious Education (BJRE). This talk was inspirational in enabling NASACRE representatives attending to think deeply about the role schools should play in the life of the child and in wider society, and the unique contribution RE brings to that.

There were many afternoon workshops to choose from. SACRE's representative attended a workshop considering the relationship between SACREs and NASACRE in which the NASACRE's three-year action plan was discussed. This included improving the website as well as the regular communication between NASACRE and individual SACREs. SACRE members are encouraged to read the regular briefing email from NASACRE, to share their own good practice, and be more proactive in their own SACREs in the consideration of this.

The AGM revealed NASACRE to be in a healthy position and that it is valued and receives respect from other RE bodies for its unique contribution to the well-being of RE in England and Wales.

Thanks to the Chair, and other officers, were given for their hard work during this interesting time for Religious Education following the publishing of the Commission on RE (CoRE) report.

The Chair of NASACRE sits on the Religious Education Council (REC) as well as a joint group of Chairs of the various other RE bodies such as the Association of Religious Education Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants (AREIAC), the Association of University Lecturers of Religious Education (AULRE) and the National Association of Teachers of Religious Education (NATRE). In his report to NASACRE, the chair spoke of the various ways he has undertaken this. The letter received by the Chair of NASACRE from the DfE was discussed. SACRE members attending found this encouraging and thanked the Chair of NASACRE for his representation of SACREs' concern to many national bodies in recent times. This was ensuring the voice of SACREs from around the country was continuing to be heard in this time of potential change for RE.