

**Minutes of the meeting of the  
Cambridgeshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)  
at Kreis Viersen Room, Shire Hall on  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018, 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm**

**Present:** Amanda Fitton (SACRE Adviser), Aga Cahn, Cllr Claire Richards, Tony Reynolds, Julia Ewans, Catherine Watts, Dr Shirley Hall, Raj Shah and Caroline Vinall.

**Apologies:** Cllr Samantha Hoy, Daniel Bennett, Dennis Johnson, Virginia Barnes Raymond Mitchell, Robert Mackley, Becky Smith, Becky Palmer and Ged McHale.

**In attendance**

Laura Corcoran, SACRE Clerk

**Absent:** Elizabeth Bassett, Cathy Mitchell, Jag Srail, Shahla Suleiman and Taradasa.

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

This meeting was quorate.

Julia Ewans (Chair) opened the meeting and welcomed new member Caroline Vinall from Committee B.

**2. Apologies**

The SACRE Clerk informed those present that apologies had been received from Cllr Samantha Hoy, Daniel Bennett, Dennis Johnson, Virginia Barnes Raymond Mitchell, Robert Mackley, Becky Smith, Becky Palmer and Ged McHale.

All apologies were read out and accepted by the committee.

**3. Minutes of 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and matters arising not elsewhere on agenda**

SACRE members checked the minutes of the last meeting for accuracy. The minutes were subsequently signed by Julia Ewans (Chair).

-Tony Reynolds asked whether Elizabeth Bassett (Committee C) was still a member of SACRE. The committee noted that she had not attended a meeting for some time. It was agreed that attendance of members would be reviewed and followed up by the Clerk and Amanda Fitton. The terms of reference will also be reviewed.

-RE The Development Plan for 2018-19 – this will be followed up by Amanda Fitton for the next meeting.

-Councillor Richards offered to collect contact details at the next Faith Partnership meeting and confirm back with the clerk so she can make contact.

#### **4. Correspondence**

The SACRE email address will be removed and all general enquiries will come through to the clerk to filter through.

No external correspondence had been received.

#### **5. Update on SACRE Clerk**

Laura Corcoran has been appointed as SACRE Clerk to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Amanda Fitton advised that the new arrangement will hopefully ensure more consistency and improved communication across both SACRE groups.

Members expressed their appreciation to Kerry for her hard work and congratulated her on her promotion within the County.

#### **6. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair**

Amanda Fitton took the chair for the appointment of Officers.

Julia Ewans was appointed as SACRE Chair for 2018-19. This was proposed by Claire Richards and seconded by Raj Shah.

**Action for Clerk - It was agreed that the vice chair election would be rescheduled to the next meeting when there is a larger representation from members.**

#### **7. Prevent Agenda**

Amanda Fitton explained that this item had been rescheduled to the next meeting in February as the Prevent officer Paul Harris was unable to attend. AF advised that the Prevent Strategy had changed and therefore the board will need to be updated on the new regulations. As a public body SACRE should also be up to date with safeguarding matters.

**Action - The clerk will send a link to enable members to access the online guidance relating to Prevent.**

#### **8. Final Report of the Commission on RE**

Commission on RE's final report – Julia Ewans confirmed that this had been circulated to members. Julia welcomed feedback from members. Amanda said upon first glance, the report seemed to be in line with what we had been requesting from schools as well as the wider curriculum and Ofsted expectations. AF advised that the work she is doing with primary schools we aim for this to flow into children's secondary education. Members discussed the fact that the paper has gone to parliament. Moira Middleton raised the subject of school engagement and said how difficult this has been in the past. Amanda F confirmed that the report had been sent out to all schools and had been included in the recent newsletter. Amanda advised that correspondence is starting to filter through to schools and that attendance at training events are

increasing. There is a higher demand for school training following the new syllabus. The clerk has obtained direct contact details for RE co-ordinators so correspondence will be emailed directly to the right person in school.

#### **9. Faith Direct Event**

This will take place on 14<sup>th</sup> November at 11am at Buckden Village Hall. The event is for primary schools only. There will be a morning and an afternoon session and the event will bring young people from schools across county borders together with expert faith representatives from the region.

We are hoping that there will be at least 10 RE-cordinators in attendance and for there to be a representation of different faiths. Amanda asked for a SACRE member to attend. Aga Cahn had attended the event previously and gave some feedback. It was agreed that Raj Shah and Aga Cahn will attend the event from SACRE. Members were asked to speak to representatives from other faiths to see if they are also available to attend.

Moira Middleton advised that she has a contact at the Buddhist centre in Peterborough and will share the details with Amanda Fitton and the Clerk.

**Action - Clerk to re-circulate flyer to members.**

#### **10. SACRE going paperless**

Amanda Fitton asked members to consider a paperless strategy bearing in mind the logistical arrangements of herself and the new clerk. The purpose is also to save costs. Members should seek assistance from the clerk in advance of the meeting if they are not able to make their own printing arrangements.

#### **11. Update from working party on funding**

Julia Ewans advised that she had attended an introduction morning run by the County Council on its Innovate and Cultivate Fund and was informed that SACRE do not fit into the correct category. The application for the West Hill awards is 31<sup>st</sup> March. Julia had seen online that the funding may be in line with what we are trying to obtain as long as we are proactive in finding out what the schools required. Amanda advised that the grant is up to £4000 quite small but this is able to be used for training events and resources, schools can also arrange for online tours to places of worship and commission a representative to come into school to talk to the children. Aga Cahn suggested that resources are interactive and colourful for children in order to engage them better, particularly if the presentations are delivered from actual faith officials and representatives. Members discussed ways in which training events can be innervational for children and will give this further consideration outside of the meeting.

#### **12. Any other Business**

-Julia Ewans asked if members received the NASACRE newsletter. The clerk will ensure this is sent to all members and that the new list is up to date. Julia advised that there is a section in the latest newsletter setting up a survey about how SACREs are financed as a result the board has been asked for details of its expenditure for the previous two financial years. It is expected that information of how SACREs are

financed will be published. Amanda advised that income is sought through training attendance from schools however as a board SACRE receives very little funding. It is thought that money is sent via the council for SACRE but we do not know the source of income and how this is filtered through.

**Action - It was agreed that Julia Ewans will approach Helen Manley for the figures**

-Raj Shah gave details of an interfaith event in Wisbech on 19<sup>th</sup> November and there are 15 spaces available.

**Action - It was agreed that Raj Shah would send details through to the clerk for circulation to all members.**

-Raj advised that the Hindu Shrine in Mill Road is open Every Sunday 6.30-7.15pm.

-Aga Cahn offered the Synagogue as a potential venue for future meetings. Members expressed their thanks and agreed to look into this further.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019, 13:30-15:30 in the Kreis Viersen room at Shire Hall.

The meeting closed at 14.35

Signed: ..... Date: .....

Approved