

SACRE Meeting Tuesday 23 February 2010
Guru Nanak Sat Sang Gurdwara

Present:

Cllr Allen Clarke
Cllr Rev Tom Irvine
Rev Ken Johnson
Santokh Singh Nijran
Helen Wyton
Julie Kirchin
Arthur Somerfield
Graham Jennings
Hilary Craik
Naomi Posner
John Heard
David Maddison
Hafiz Mohammed Muntazir

Representing:

Nottinghamshire County Council
Nottinghamshire County Council
Secretary to SACRE
Sikh
Baptist Church
Nottingham Buddhist Centre
British Humanist Association
United Reform Church
LA representative
Jewish Community
Church of England
Church of England
Muslim Community

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Lynn Sykes, Anne Lumb, Catherine O'Connell, Mike Wilson, Stephanie Smart

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 17th November 2009 were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising not on the agenda

None were raised

Chair thanked the Sikh Community for their hospitality and showing SACRE around the Gurdwara which had been most enjoyable and informative. Welcome to Hafiz as the Muslim Community member.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

a) Membership NUT membership vacancy has been referred to the JUC (Joint Union Committee) which is the appropriate body from which to seek nominations for the House of Teachers on SACRE.

b) Review of Co-option

Group D thought there were benefits in renewing but also voiced some concerns and their group was not unanimous in their decision. They proposed an extension of one more year to the Co-option.

Group B found they agreed with the proposal from Group D

Group A saw no objections as the nature of SACRE was to a forum looking at what should be offered to young people to help them make decisions and there was a need to respect all people's beliefs.

Arthur said that Humanism offered an awareness that education is a much wider concept than offered by religious groups. There was a variety of beliefs and lifestyles and discussion should be open to these as well.

The Proposal that the Co-option of the British Humanist Association be extended for a further year and then reviewed again was accepted by three votes.

c) SACRE RE Conference

The Date of this event had been changed to Tuesday 15th June due to a clash with another conference in the Authority. This was being advertised to schools and details would be circulated later.

The additional Primary Course scheduled for April 27th was booking up fairly quickly and some 80 schools had attended the Autumn sessions. The twilight sessions were gaining some interest.

5 **Draft Effectiveness Plan**

- a) Develop overview of RE in the Authority – Cllr. Allen Clarke had sent a letter out to all schools in the Authority asking for the name of the RE coordinator. To date we had received 137 primary replies out of 295 and only 19 Secondary Schools. Schools who had not replied were going to be contacted again. Once we have names of people to contact we can then send a questionnaire so to see if we can gain some of the information which SACRE needs to undertake some of its tasks.

One of the interesting facts which was appearing was that there were a number of coordinators who were part time teachers in school, some only there one day a week.

- b) Awareness of examination courses – this can be partly derived from the examination statics but would need contact to be made to the individual schools to find out exactly areas which were taught.
- c) Ways of assisting to promote Examination courses – there were leaflets produced which might be of use to schools.
- d) Develop active membership of SACRE - we were contacting bodies to try get nominations to fill the few gaps. Members can send nominated deputies if they cannot make a meeting.
- e) Marketing Strategy – SACRE decided that this was not really relevant and asked for it to be removed.
- f) Support materials and courses – SACRE thought we should be offering such events to help support teachers in the classroom.
- g) Partnership with City SACRE - this was thought to be a sound development and Hilary & Ken were the team to work on this.
- h) Collective Worship - this was not really looked at in depth but is a role which needs developing offering some advice, possibly using materials which were already available.
- i) Social Cohesion needs to be looked at and the Bid to NASACRE might be worth looking at for 2011 when there was to be a national celebration of RE

Members of SACRE were asked to consider whether they would be willing to serve on small working parties as indicated by the Plan which was the response of SACRE to the SEF document on SACREs.

6 **DRAFT SACRE Annual Report**

Several comments were received about improving the Annual Report with additions and deletions. These were noted on a draft copy and the Secretary will action and then the report will be produced.

7 **National Developments in RE**

- a) Religious Education in English Schools: Non-statutory guidance 2010. This document had only recently been published and members were given a copy. This obviously needed to be looked at a future meeting. Publication available from www.teachernet.gov.uk/publication search using ref DCSF-00114-2010. This guidance replaces elements of Circular 1/94 that relate to RE (*this 1/94 document still covers worship*)
- b) NASACRE
Conference on RE and the New Primary Curriculum March 24th
AGM London 12th May
Report on SACRE & INTERFAITH had not yet been published

8. **Group interchange of news**

There is to be a Conference on March 16th Shared Moral & Spiritual Values in Islam and Christianity at the University.

The Diocesan Director of Education was leaving to go to London and the post was currently being advertised.

There would be celebrations for Vaisakhi in the Sikh Community around April 13th

A Passion Play was being planned for in the City of Nottingham in 2011

Members were given an invitation of an Open Evening at the Bluecoat RSresource centre to see the films which have been made concerning places of worship and the Faith Experiences Tuesday April 13th

Mr Hafiz Mohammed Muntazir offered the mosque as being willing to host a future SACRE meeting – this offer was accepted for the next year's round of meeting.

11 **Meeting dates, times and venues for 2009-2010**

Summer term – June
Venue: St Peter's School, East Bridgford

The meeting closed at 8.20pm