

Nottinghamshire County Council SACRE Meeting

Wednesday February 25 2015

Minutes

Present	Representing
Naomi Posner	Jewish community
Anne Lumb	Church of England
Craig Moxham	Church of England
Bethan Inglis	Secondary teachers
Richard Linford	Primary teacher
Mike Follen	NAHT
Cllr Liz Plant	Cllr Liz Plant
Godfrey Nix	Baha'i
Tania Goldsmith	Church of England
Pippa Ling	Quakers
Gemma Pettifor	Assemblies of God
John Heard	Methodist
Ken Johnson	Secretary, SACRE
Val Jones	NCC/minuter
Ashley Mortimer	Pagan Society
David Maddison	Church of England
Aiden Sharp	Headteacher Pierrepont Gamston
Becky Asquith	RE coordinator Pierrepont Gamston

1. Welcome

Councillor Liz Plant Chair of Committee welcomed members and opened the meeting. Introductions around the group were made.

2. Presentation by Aiden Sharp and Becky Asquith from Pierrepont

Gamston giving examples of lesson plans, RE worship and work done at the school. Willing to share their lesson plans with other schools

3. Apologies & Membership

Apologies: Andrew Widdowson NUT
Gail Brockway Secondary teachers
Krys Pietryka Roman Catholic
Cllr Jon Wilmott
Graham Jennings United Reformed Church

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

Agreed to be a true record

5. Any Matters Arising not on the Agenda

There were no matters raised which were not on the agenda.

Andy Fox sent a breakdown for NCC contribution to SACRE and comparisons with other county council contributions to SACRE. Andy wasn't present at the meeting, Ken will ask him to expand on this to explore further the opportunity of self funding.

Richard asked regarding the progress about the number of syllabuses being purchased, a number of copies have been bought; we are still waiting for the City Council to adopt and buy into the syllabus which initially has been agreed.

David said the cost of £50.00 per copy of the syllabus too high for their school, but in response, explained that the content and the fact it is for 5 years said to be very good value.

Concern was raised over how to target academies because only 4 academies attended the conference and bought into the syllabus and we only have 4 maintained secondary schools. Questions asked as to who monitors RE in academies – just Ofsted? Ken was asked if NASACRE could advise, Ken explained they are a voluntary organisation without power in that sense but would write to ask if they can advise.

Gemma raised we need to have better marketing, we need to be more like a business and market our new syllabus. Marion Clay could be asked to raise the issue with governor services; the academies that buy into NCC services could have discussions about the duty by governors to have adequate RE provision in schools.

ACTION Ken to write to NASACRE to ask for advice on how to get academies on board with syllabus

ACTION Andy to ask Marion Clay to talk to governor services about highlighting RE provision in schools

ACTION Andy Fox to be asked to expand further on SACRE costings and the progress of Nottingham City council's intention to adopt the new syllabus.

6. Agreed syllabus Launch Evaluation summary

Ken highlighted comments from the evaluation summary; the conference was a very successful day with praise about Lat's presentations and Gervase Phinn's guest presentation. It was noted that Ken did really well organising the conference, Ken said the admin team and the venue especially coped really well with the unexpected extra delegates.

Radio Nottingham covered the event and Ken was interviewed Sunday morning as the station wanted a higher profile of the conference due to current media issues.

The evaluations also raised training needs to give ongoing support to teachers. Courses could be offered next year to provide the training needed.

7. Presentation from Pagan Network

Ashley Mortimer from the Pagan network introduced himself and explained some of the Pagan faith group, paganism now part of the British culture the 6th largest in Nottinghamshire and 7th in the country.

After the presentation Ken said SACRE could vote to co opt the Pagan Network though Ashley onto the Council or could just ask him to be an advisor when the need arose,

After discussion on the various groups the Pagan Network was unanimously Co-opted for 2 years.

8. Constitution agreed in 2013 by SACRE

The proposed amendments were agreed, it was noted that consistently there are some faith representatives who do not attend the meetings, it was a two way meeting where the representatives should be feeding back to their organisation. With this revised constitution it would help the secretary to contact the various groups about their representation at meetings and ask for new nominations if a person did not attend not send their apologies.

9. Developments locally/nationally on RE

Point 12 on the local/national news document was highlighted, this was from NASACRE - perhaps we could use Facebook and Twitter on social media perhaps to create a facebook page for all local teachers and SACRE members
Point 13 – to look next year for funding for a Yr 6 RE day. from NASACRE
Point 14 – 2020 marks the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrim Fathers journey on the Mayflower. Working with a consultancy who were writing a bid for lottery funding to develop resources and a possible visitors centre to celebrate this landmark.

Point 17 – Aim Higher day will be on Friday July 3 this year.

Our Annual report had been acknowledged by the Secretary of State for Education Office along with our proposed New Agreed Syllabus – the first time we had received such an acknowledgment.

SACRE members appreciated the letter from Lord Nash, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Schools, acknowledging the work of SACREs. Members asked that a reply be sent to him thanking him for the letter and raising issues concerning academies and RE

Regarding Ofsted there has been no new lead inspector for RE since the departure of the last inspector.

ACTION Ken to reply to Lord David Nash to thank him and ask for advice regarding RE in academies

10. Group interchange of news

a) Gemma highlighted the event at Nottingham Concert Hall on 24 March regarding citizens, MPs, social care. gosl@58i.org if you want to find out more.

b) John said it is 20 years since the massacre in Bosnia, one of the Methodist members has gone back 50 times to work with the people there. There were plans to bring 10 people to the UK for a period but 5 were granted visas, 5 were not granted visas so none are coming now. Could we put pressure on the visa authority to ask why 5 were not granted visas

c) Anne said she has the details of a public lecture at the University of Nottingham regarding RE quality mark and being an assessor. This is free but you need a ticket.

d) Short notice but Friday at Rose and Crown Derby Road at 7pm there is a showing of film about the Bahai faith and the denying of fair treatment. Nottingham interfaith website useful for opportunities to visit temples, mosques.

The Meeting closed at 9pm. The next meeting is at the National Holocaust Centre on 24th June 6 – 8.30 pm