

**Bath and North East Somerset
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education
Minutes for the meeting held at The Newton Annex
Bath Spa University
Tuesday, 20 March 2007
7.00 – 9.00 pm**

Present:

Christian Denominations and other Religions Committee

Anne Banks	URC
Anne Bancroft	Buddhist
Jane O'Hara	Baha'i

Church of England Committee

Mike Brownbill
Kevin Tingay
Sue Rodford

Teachers' Committee

Dave Campbell	Somervale School (Chair)
Mary Dadley	NUT
Linda Hall	Wellsway School
Ann Hatton	Moorlands Junior School

Local Authority Committee

Co-opted members

Denise Cush	Bath Spa University
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In attendance

Fred Ward	Clerk
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1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies were received from: Mike Wilkinson, Ruth Haines, Neil Baker, Jackie Williams, Tony Bradley, Chris Hammersley, Sarah Melling and Jonathon Gay

Anne Bancroft was welcomed to her first meeting.

2. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 16 January 2007 were approved with minor alterations.

3. Matters arising

a) Membership

Further names were suggested as representatives of Sikh and Jewish religions.

ACTION

The clerk to write and ask if they would be prepared to serve as members of SACRE.

b) V1th Form Conference

A very positive and appreciative post-conference evaluation was received from Hayesfield School – 210 Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 students attended.

- c) Steering group
As the committee was meeting more frequently, members felt that urgent matters could be dealt with by email and decision deferred to the next meeting.

4. SACRE Developments

- a) Resource Centre
The centre will be operational from the start of Term 5, after the Easter holiday.
ACTION
The service will be advertised on the SACRE website.
- b) Website
Changes are underway to make the site more accessible and easier to use. The A3 folded to A4 leaflet to wrap-around the SACRE annual report will be ready for distribution at the start of Term 5.
Members discussed ways of keeping schools informed of SACRE activities.
ACTION
The names of SACRE members and the name and office address of the clerk will be included on the website.
- c) Training and development
There was a 28.75% return of questionnaires on teachers' views on training and development in religious education. The chair circulated a summary of the responses and a document "30+ things a good SACRE can do".
Members agreed that both findings should be taken into account in drawing up the SACRE development plan.
ACTION
The Chair to produce a list of development priorities to be discussed at the next SACRE meeting.

5. Locally Agreed Syllabus

Following a meeting with the Interim Head of School Improvement, a revised programme and financial implications briefing paper was circulated. Members recognised the reasons for the reduction in funding.

ACTION

The SACRE working party will meet on 2 May 2007 to draw up a brief for the Locally Agreed Syllabus Conference. This will be presented to the next SACRE meeting.

6. SACRE Annual report 2006 and preview for 2007

The report was circulated and accepted. SACRE will need to consider how to implement the new process for completion of the report for 2007.

ACTION

This will be considered at the next SACRE meeting.

7. Finance

A revised financial report was circulated showing that the original figures supplied by the local authority omitted the retained £4,000 costs for professional and administration. Members approved the committed expenditure. The allocation for members to use in 2007/08 is £8,632. Members agreed to continue funding the SACRE developments at the current level of spending.

ACTION

The clerk to draw up a contract for the distribution of these funds and present to the local authority for approval.

8. FCCBF Small Grant Award

Jane O'Hara was pleased to announce that Bath Inter-faith's joint bid with SACRE had been successful and £2390 had been awarded. A summary paper showing how funds will be spent to promote better understanding of different faiths using the expertise of religious education teachers to produce educational resource material was circulated.

ACTION

Jane O'Hara to seek an appropriate venue, book dates and circulate information to SACRE teacher members, seeking representatives for the Inter-faith workshop.

9. National developments

Religious Education Teaching and Training in England: developing a national strategy

The report has been submitted and it is hoped that funding will be available to develop a National RE Strategy, probably Regionally implemented, in the next financial year.

10. Any other business

Sufficient CD-ROMs of "What's it like to be a Christian" were made available to be circulated to all primary schools.

ACTION

The clerk agreed to arrange for these to be sent to schools via the local authority.

11. Next meeting

The next meeting is from 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm on 14 June 2007 at St Julian's CE Primary School, Wellow.

ACTION

The clerk will provide directions with the agenda.

NB This is a change of time and venue.