# Minutes

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Tuesday 15th May 2018 at 7.15pm**

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| Present:  (Groups in brackets) |  | Rev M Williams (B) (Chair)  Mrs R Johnson (A  Mrs C Smyth (B)) | |  | Mrs M Cockram (C)  Mr L Bracken (A)  Miss V M Stone (C) *from 7.52pm* | |
| Apologies:  Absent without apologies: |  | Rabbi Shmuli Sagal  Revd. D Smith  Cllr N Patel | |  | Cllr S Gordon | | |
| In attendance: |  | Ms P Smith-Orr - Consultant/Observer  Mrs P Garry – Clerk |  |  | |
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|  | **ITEM** | **ACTION BY** |
| **1.** | **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**  The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that, following the local council elections, Cllr Broadbent and Cllr Burstow would not be continuing on SACRE. The new appointments to committees had not yet been confirmed. |  |
| **2.** | **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  Apologies had been received from Rabbi Sagal and were consented. In the absence of any members from Group D, the meeting was not quorate. It was continued for information and discussion only. |  |
| **3**. | **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 26TH FEBRUARY 2018**  Minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.  Some actions had been completed, and those not already elsewhere on the agenda are further discussed under Matters Arising below. |  |
| **4.** | **MATTERS ARISING NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THE AGENDA**  **SACRE Budget**  Cllr Broadbent was looking into this. The Clerk agreed to email Cognus to try and establish the latest situation.  **Action: PG to email to attempt to clarify the SACRE budget** | **PG** |
| **5.** | **APPOINTMENT OF SACRE MEMBERS**  As mentioned Cllrs Broadbent and Burstow were not re-elected. The Chair had written to both and wanted to record his thanks for their contributions to SACRE and particularly to Cllr Broadbent for his role as Vice-Chair and the support he offered the Chair. There were no nominations to take up the role of Vice-Chair so this will be deferred to the Autumn.  Mary Horlock had been put forward by the Diocese as a member of Group B.  **Action: The Clerk will invite her to the next meeting.**  There were still some outstanding actions in terms of confirming memberships. It was noted that Cat Hubbard was leaving Sutton Schools Work.  MW will remind Rabbi Sagal about the request for a letter from his association recommending him for the role.  There was still a question as to whether Mr Siddiqi is to remain as a SACRE member.  **Actions: MW will liaise with Mr Siddiqi about his membership.**  **PS-O will email the RE Co-ordinators at Secondary Schools to try and recruit members for Group C.**  **MW to liaise with RS re. a letter of appointment to SACRE** | **PG**  **MW**  **MW**  **RS** |
| **6.** | **NATIONAL NEWS**    **REC commission on Religious Education (and online consultation)**  PS-O advised that there has been no update and that the final report is due at the beginning of the Autumn.  **SACRE membership of NASACRE and NASACRE Annual Meeting**  Sutton SACRE has membership paid up to July 2018 (at a cost of £95). The annual meeting is on 24th May 2018 and costs £100 per delegate to attend.  MC has agreed to attend and confirmation re. the cost obtained from Cognus. PG had registered her for a place.  **Diversity of Religion and Beliefs**  A guidance and resource document had been issued following a university project.  **Action: The Clerk will email the documents to all SACRE members.** | **PG** |
| **7.** | **RE COLLECTIVE WORSHIP DOCUMENT**  PS-O had made amendments to the document as discussed at the last meeting. Members gave some further suggestions with respect to formatting/spelling etc.  A further discussion took place about the wording in respect of ‘celebrating diversity’ and the tolerance value under British Values and the overall agreement was to leave this in.  **Action: PS-O will circulate the final version to SACRE members with a short deadline for response. It will then be sent to schools and uploaded to the SACRE website.** | **PS-O/PG** |
| **8.** | **MONITORING RE AND CW IN SUTTON**  Members had each been given some school websites to look at and a table to be completed.  A variety of comments were fed back including the following:  PS-O noted that out of the secondary schools she had looked at no-one mentioned what syllabus they were using. RJ noted this might be because they are academies. It was also noted that the Carshalton Boys website was out of date and still showed Paul Henry as RE Co-ordinator although he has left the school.  MC had looked at some schools within the Leo Trust. Cheam Fields had some information about RE, Cheam Common Junior had none. Cheam Common Infants information was within year group curriculum plans and there was a similar amount on the year 2 plan. There was a lot of inconsistency between schools within the same trust. Culvers House had some information in their year group brochure and an RE and Collective Worship Policy.  Members commented that in some cases what they had found had been hidden within other areas of the website. It was suggested that areas such as curriculum, planning and policies were explored.  MW observed that only two of the six schools he looked at mentioned Collective Worship (CW) [*later correction – 4/6 schools mention CW*] and/or the Sutton SACRE syllabus High View claimed to have oversight by Sutton SACRE. Foresters had no reference to RE, the syllabus or CW but mentioned a link with a local church.  CS had found that Barrow Hedges listed a Co-ordinator for RE and CW and that the Sutton agreed syllabus could be downloaded. One school had no mention anywhere about spirituality.  In summary members agreed that there was a very different feeling from schools and that it was possible to see which schools considered RE important.  **Action: PS-O will email all RE Heads of Departments and invite them to join SACRE and at the same time she will ask what syllabus they are using.**  **Action: CS, MC and RJ will all look at some further school websites and send their tables to PS-O by mid-October. The summary will be brought to the November meeting.** | **PS-O**  **CS/MC/**  **RJ** |
| **9.** | **SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018**  The development plan was discussed and progress noted.  **Action: PG will update the progress against each item.** | **PG** |
| **10.** | **RE CO-ORDINATORS MEETINGS AND SCHOOL VISITS**  The RE Co-coordinators meeting this term took place at the Sutton Synagogue. Rabbi Sagal gave a short presentation which was excellent. Feedback from RE Co-ordinators was extremely positive and they had welcomed the opportunity to visit a place of worship. SACRE were very grateful to Rabbi Sagal for the invitation to the Co-ordinators.    PS-O had not visited any schools yet this term. |  |
| **11.** | **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**  There was no other business to discuss. |  |
| **12.** | **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**    **Tuesday 6th November 2018 at 7.15pm**  **POSSIBLY - TBC**  **Tuesday 26th February 2019 or 5th March 2019 at 7.15pm**  **Tuesday 4th June 2019 at 7.15pm**  **Venue: Room G2, Ground Floor, at Sutton Civic Centre** |  |

Closing Time of Meeting: 8.50pm

Chair’s Signature .............................................................. Date.........................