

**Minutes**

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| **Title:** | **SACRE** |
| **Date:** | **5th October 2016** |
| **Location:** | **Grimsby Mosque, 79a Weelsby Road, Grimsby, DN32 0PY** |
| **Attendees:** | **Ros Smith (Acting Chair), Roz Danks, Natalie Houlden, Leo Solomon, Margaret Solomon, Shereen Alankar, Julie Childs, Simon Cross** |
| **Apologies** | **Gillian Georgiou, Marcus Czarnecki, Deb Newton - resigned, Cllr. Tim Mickleburgh, Katherine Bruning, Andrew Dodd** |

**Summary of actions**

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| **ITEM** | **ACTIONS** | **WHO BY** |
| 1 | RS to send sympathy card to Marcus. | RS |
| 2 | RS to send a letter of thanks to Mary Berry on behalf of SACRE. | RS |
| 3 | MS to give consideration to any possible replacements. | MS |
| 4 | JC to contact schools to obtain RE Co-ordinator details to try and encourage engagement. | JC |
| 5 | SC to speak to a couple of senior councillors and ask the Local Authority to send a representative in place of Cllr Mickleburgh. | SC |
| 6 | RS to contact Patricia Barlow and Roy Jarvis and invite them to join SACRE. | RS |
| 7 | NH to update the membership list following recent resignations/appointments and circulate. | NH |
| 8 | NH to email those individuals who haven’t attended the meetings and draw their attention to the SACRE Constitution document, specifically with regards to their obligations as a member. | NH |
| 9 | NH to update the Code of Conduct document with the amended wording as agreed and re-circulate to all members. | NH |
| 10 | RS and JC to develop an action plan to address the developing key areas. | RS /JC |
| 11 | SC to contact local church/faith leaders asking them to join the SACRE and to contact governors asking them to report regarding their engagement with the community. | SC |
| 12 | RD to speak to Denise Faulconbridge regarding funding/budgets. | RD |
| 13 | JC to send figures of the profit made from the training through to RD. RD will then complete an audit and report back. | JC |
| 14 | JC to email Catriona Card to seek clarification regarding submission of the report. | JC |
| 15 | RD to circulate the draft report ahead of the next meeting subject to completion. | RD |
| 16 | RS and JC to write the Chairs Report. | RS/JC |

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|  | **AGENDA ITEM** | **ACTION BY WHO** |
| **1.** | **Introductions and Welcome**  Following Katherine Bruning’s recent resignation from Chair of SACRE, RS volunteered to open the meeting as a stand in chair until nominations had been sought at item 4 for a new chair.  RS welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting, although it was noted that attendance was diminishing with the same people sending their apologies.  MS notified the group of a recent obituary notice that she had seen in the paper concerning Marcus’s mum. MS wondered whether a card or similar could be sent to Marcus to express everyone’s sympathy. RS agreed that she would action this.  **Action 1: RS to send sympathy card to Marcus Czarnecki.** | **RS** |
| **2.** | **Apologies**  As noted above. |  |
| **3.** | **Minutes and any matters arising from previous meeting (25.05.16)**  Outstanding actions:   * KB to review the notes of the working group and provide feedback on creating a development plan. Update: - RS confirmed that she had produced a development plan and this would be discussed in further detail at item 7. * KB to draft a letter to all schools advising that SACRE will be monitoring the syllabus delivered in schools in the new academic year. The letter will be promoting the event in July and also a reminder of the RE Co-ordinator meetings held. A copy of the constitution will also be included. Update: - RS advised that a letter was still yet to be drafted and this action would be carried forward with RS to complete. * RS to go to the Focus Schools Group regarding the Great RE event with Lat Blaycock and clarify if a provisional date had been set. Update: - RS advised that the Focus Schools Group has ceased and therefore this would no longer be a viable option. * KB will write a letter of thanks to Mary Berry ad Jill Hetherington on behalf of SACRE. Update: - RS confirmed that a card had been sent to Gill along with a present prior to her departure to Vietnam. In terms of Mary, RS confirmed that SACRE still needed to do something for her. SA queried whether there were any funds to cover this. RD confirmed there were no funds available and therefore if so desired people could make a voluntary contribution.   The minutes were agreed as a true record.  **Action 2: RS to send a letter of thanks to Mary Berry on behalf of SACRE.** | **RS** |
| **4.** | **SACRE AGM (Election of Chair, Election of Vice Chair, Membership Review, Constitution Review)**  **Election of Chair** - RD sought nominations for a new Chair. LS proposed RS and this was seconded by SA. RS agreed that she would be happy to stand a Chair and would do what is necessary to ensure that SACRE meet their statutory requirements, however she could not commit anything further than this. Nomination accepted.  **Election of Vice Chair** – MS proposed JC to stand as Vice Chair which was seconded by SA. Whilst JC indicated that she was more than happy to stand as Vice Chair, before she would be able to do so she would need to be elected as a full member as currently she was a co-opted member. JC elected as a full member and nomination for Vice Chair accepted.  JC commented that she could be in two categories, either as a primary representative or governor representative. JC confirmed that she would be more than happy to fit into either one.  All those present were in favour of the nominations.  **Membership Review** – MS indicated that she had intended on resigning however as she was the only representative from a Catholic denomination she would be happy to continue with her membership until a replacement could be found.  JC expressed concerns regarding attendance at meetings as since becoming a member approximately one year ago she had still yet to meet some members. Furthermore it was highlighted that there was no representation from any secondary schools, although it was noted that Christina Hook from Toll Bar had attended previously. JC emphasised the importance of members being able to commit their time to attend the meetings and to also be able to contribute and work proactively.  NH highlighted that in accordance with the point 9 of the Membership ‘members who fail to attend three consecutive meetings will have their membership reviewed by SACRE.’ Discussion took place surrounding the meaning of the term ‘review’ and concerns were also raised regarding the amount of meetings that could be missed before a review would take place. The consensus was that this should be changed to two meetings.  JC suggested for an email to be sent to schools seeking suitable representatives. SC recommended that Patricia Barlow from the Nunsthorpe Academy should be considered as another primary representative as she was extremely enthusiastic about RE. In terms of secondary representatives, JC proposed Roy Jarvis.  JC indicated that she would be happy to ring around schools to obtain details of RE Co-ordinators and create a contact list.  SC commented that he could arrange to speak to some senior councillors and also ask that a local authority representative attend in place of Cllr. Mickleburgh, as it was noted that he hadn’t attended the last three consecutive meetings.  RS confirmed that she had already approached Margaret Deller from the Baptist church although she would need to follow this up.  **Constitution Review** - RS agreed to accept the SACRE Constitution with the amendment of point 9 on the membership section as above.  **Action 3: MS to give consideration to any possible replacements.**  **Action 4: JC to contact schools to obtain RE Co-ordinator details to try and encourage engagement.**  **Action 5: SC to speak to a couple of senior councillors and ask the Local Authority to send a representative in place of Cllr Mickleburgh.**  **Action 6: RS to contact Patricia Barlow and Roy Jarvis and invite them to join SACRE.**  **Action 7: NH to update the membership list following recent resignations/appointments and circulate.**  **Action 8:** **NH to email those individuals who haven’t attended the meetings and draw their attention to the SACRE Constitution document, specifically with regards to their obligations as a member.** | **MS**  **JC**  **SC**  **RS**  **NH**  **NH** |
| **5.** | **SACRE Code of Conduct**  SC raised concern regarding some of the wording of the document, specifically in terms of the third bullet point under the ‘Visiting schools’ section which states:  ‘Members should ensure that they do not say or do anything, which would be viewed as denigrating any religion or belief system or those of no faith.’  Discussions were had surrounding alternative wording and it was proposed by SC to insert the word ‘intentionally’ after ‘do not’. RS also proposed ‘could’ instead of ‘would’ due to this being subject to different perceptions. LS seconded this.  **Action 9: NH to update the Code of Conduct document with the amended wording as agreed and re-circulate to all members.** | **NH** |
| **6.** | **Statutory Responsibilities of SACRE**  RS confirmed and re-iterated the primary role of SACRE as set out in both the constitution and the SACRE RETool of supporting the Local Authority and schools in meeting the entitlement of pupils across the local authority to engage in high quality Religious Education and Collective Worship. |  |
| **7.** | **SACRE Development Plan**  RS gave an overview of each section of the report and explained that having taken into account feedback she had made a judgment in terms of successes and key priorities/ areas for development. Overall it was noted that a considerable amount of work still needed to be done, although this was achievable.  **Section 1. Standards and quality of provision of Religious Education** – in terms of public examination records RS explained that this was something that Jill used to provide. This information would need to be shared by the LA.  **Section 2. The effectiveness of the locally agreed syllabus** - RS confirmed that overall this was something that SACRE were good at. RS commented that members needed to take initiative and suggested sending an interim report to keep everyone informed.  **Section 3. Collective worship** – It was noted that no information was currently available regarding the provision of collective worship in schools.  RD confirmed that termly meetings were currently taking place and there was the opportunity to raise any concerns at these.  In order to try and promote collective worship RS suggested that focus should first be given to those schools who were already actively engaged before approaching other schools.  **Section 4. Management of the SACRE and partnership with the LA and other key stakeholders**  RS advised that there needed to be an item on the agenda for RD to advise what the Local Authority were doing. RD confirmed that there was an Education Strategy and a Draft Skills Strategy. Furthermore RS explained that there needed to be a clear action plan to address developing key areas.  **Section 5. Contribution of SACRE to promoting cohesion across the community**  SC suggested that co-ordinators did not necessarily always have the knowledge about what was happening. SC commented that focus should be concentrated on how schools interact individually.  RS advised that all head teachers had to report to Governors and therefore ideally they should be knowledgeable about the religious, cultural and ethnic diversity within the school/local community. It was however noted by JC that being a Governor is more of a strategic role and therefore this was not strictly true. Nevertheless SC suggested contacting local church/faith leaders asking them to join SACRE, in addition to contacting governors asking them to report to the SACRE regarding their engagement with the community.  JC highlighted that there was a vibrant Muslim community and that we were fortunate enough to have some really proactive people. JC confirmed that she would be willing to promote community cohesion through her attendance at RE Co-ordinator meetings to try and encourage increased participation/membership at SCARE.  SA informed the group that she had received lots of positive feedback from the multi-cultural fun day that was organised by Communities Together. Hopefully future events of this nature could be promoted.  In readiness for the next meeting RS suggested for everyone to look at the specific action points and to make notes/update the document as essentially this would be a ‘living’ document.  **Action 10: RS and JC to develop an action plan to address the developing key areas.**  **Action 11: SC to contact local church/faith leaders asking them to join the SACRE and to contact governors asking them to report regarding their engagement with the community.** | **RS/JC**  **SC** |
| **8.** | **New RE Syllabus and Training update**  JC commented that 15 of out the schools within the area had no engagement and this was definitely a concern especially as some schools were unaware and had no knowledge of the new RE syllabus. Consequently many schools are believed to be falling short of their statutory requirements.  JC indicated the need for engagement and awareness to be increased and a discussion took place surrounding how best this could be achieved. JC commented that the best way to achieve this would be through establishing direct contact with RE Co-ordinators.  JC indicated that there were a lot of issues surrounding withdrawal and this was something that needed to be addressed.  JC enquired whether any funding would be available to release people to the training. Initial thoughts suggested there was no budget for this. RD sought clarification whether this previously came under SERCO’s budget, although this was somewhat unclear. RD confirmed that she would need to speak to Denise Faulconbridge in this regard to seek further clarification and noted that there was no budget allocation for the annual membership that had recently been paid.  JC confirmed the training provided in June/July had been extremely successful and a lot of useful feedback had been provided from this. JC indicated that jointly with RS they would look at organising further training in January next year.  JC calculated that the training delivered a £1000 profit and enquired where this money had gone, as ideally any profit should be fed back into SACRE. MS proposed that any money made by SACRE through activities such as training should be put back into the service. Everyone was in agreement with this.  RS advised that the Local Authority were still funding the website and commented that if SACRE were required to report to the Local Authority then there needed to be supply money to cover this.  JC commented that although currently there was no advisor, people were nevertheless desperate for support. In terms of any plans for a RE Advisor it was noted that the school improvement model was quite small and a more self-sustaining model should be encouraged. Originally it was envisaged that the Director of Education would head this as a sustainable lead.  **Action 12: RD to speak to Denise Faulconbridge regarding funding/budgets.**  **Action 13: JC to send figures of the profit made from the training through to RD. RD will then complete an audit and report back.** | **RD**  **JC** |
| **9.** | **2014-2015 Annual Report**  RD confirmed that the proposed annual report had been circulated with the agenda and previous minutes for approval at the meeting.  No comments were raised regarding the report and therefore RS proposed for this to be accepted. All were in agreement. |  |
| **10.** | **2015-2016 Annual Report**  RD confirmed that she had tasked Steve to start preparing the 15-16 report, although she was unsure where this needed to be submitted to.  JC indicated that she had contacts in North Lincolnshire and East Riding who she could approach to seek clarification.  RD agreed that once the draft report had been completed she would circulate this to everyone ahead of the next meeting subject to completion.  **Action 14. JC to email Catriona Card to seek clarification regarding submission of the report.**  **Action 15. RD to circulate the draft report ahead of the next meeting subject to completion.**  **Action 16: RS and JC to write the Chair’s Report.** | **JC**  **RD**  **RS** |
| **11.** | **AOB**   1. NASACRE membership renewal   RD confirmed that she had paid the membership renewal and had received confirmation of the same last week, although not budget had been allocated for this.   1. Inter local authority hosting of SACRE website information   RD confirmed that she had made some enquiries into who hadn’t paid and that to the best of her knowledge to date no invoice had been received.  As far as JC understood, SERCO had agreed to pay £300 before the training was delivered and therefore she expressed concerns about this amount being deducted from the £1000 profit that she had generated from the training. |  |
|  | **Next meeting:**  Wednesday 25th January, 1.30pm, Macaulay Primary School, Macaulay Street, Grimsby, DN31 2ES |  |