

**SHROPSHIRE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
10 November 2022, 18.15
The Lantern, Shrewsbury**

Present

Adrian Black (Chair)	Steph Shirra
Mark Harrington	Denise Samari
Mike Isherwood	Sue Michaels
Simon Nightingale	

In Attendance

Jon Rawson (Observer) Fiona Moss, Sue Round, John Rowe, Helen Woodbridge (Clerk)

1. Welcome from chair

The chair welcomed all to the meeting. He especially welcomed Mike Isherwood as this was his first in person meeting. Jon Rawson was also welcomed as an observer. Jon explained his interest in attending this meeting to support his professional development as he is enrolled in the RE Leadership Programme Stage 1 run by Culham St Gabriel's Trust and is looking at the function and organisation of local SACRE committees.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from:

Name	Reason
David Bowgett	Other commitment
Fi Iddon	Other commitment
Mark Michaels	Work commitment
Amanda Skidmore	Work commitment
Garry Ward	Work commitment
Soyhayb Peerbai	Work commitment

3. Declaration of interest

Fiona Moss advised that she works for RE Today and is CEO of the National Association of RE Teachers. She is also a member of the steering group for the RE Leadership Programme Stage 1 run by Culham St Gabriel's Trust.

4. Minutes of meeting held on 29 June 2022

The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true record.

5. Matters arising from the minutes above (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

The matters arising had either been completed or were covered by the agenda.

6. Membership

New members continue to be sought.

Fi Iddon (although absent) had advised that she had approached the Salvation Army contact and will be discussing membership with her. She had also suggested a representative from an independent church, Emma Elliot, RE teacher from Thomas Adams in Wem, who attends Barnabas. SACRE colleagues agreed that the clerk should ask Fi Iddon to make an approach noting that Emma could slot into either of two committees. A Buddhist representative is still being sought by the chair.

Jane Crouch had resigned and is to be replaced by diocese who have been contacted by the clerk. The chair will be writing to Jane with SACRE's thanks and asked members to contact him if they had anything to contribute to the letter.

The clerk advised that she had emailed the Orthodox church but so far there had been no response regarding contact details for Bill Morris. Various members undertook to pursue this.

Fiona Moss advised that the census results will be out on 29 November so after consideration of these, it may be a good time to consider membership at the next meeting.

The clerk agreed to chase up a representative from Catholicism.

Denise Samari agreed to follow up a possible Hindu contact.

Simon Nightingale will be liaising with a Sikh when he delivers a talk on Sikhism next week.

7. Visits and Visitor Booklet

The booklet including a new front cover using the pictures from schools and the exhibition was displayed. Some details had been changed and members are sending further updates.

This has been sent to schools and will be available to download via the SLG. It was agreed that SACRE should gather information about what has been done in schools via an online (Google) feedback form. The chair agreed to progress this and will share the link. It was also agreed that feedback at SACRE meetings should also be done so this is to return as a regular short agenda item.

It was agreed that if there were any negative issues raised by schools, the chair would talk directly to those concerned.

The clerk agreed to send the new Shropshire Council logo to the chair.

Fiona Moss advised of the creation of a website which will only contain contacts who have attended free training (Chris Giles – Regional Hub will be in touch with Fiona Moss regarding this).

8. Shropshire Learning Gateway

John Rowe provided an update and provided the URL for the beta version which is set up and accessible. He added that the new SLG is far more user friendly. It will be shared with schools and views sought. The old SLG will be shut down at the end of January.

The default position is that the SLG will be open to the public but there will be password protected areas. John Rowe confirmed that he is happy to continue to add items for SACRE.

Fiona Moss suggested that her national update could be uploaded.

Colleagues agreed that an interactive message board would be advantageous but this is not part of the SLG at this stage. John Rowe advised that he will be discussing the possibilities (including menti board) with IT.

9. Draft Religion and World Views booklet

Fiona Moss provided an update and displayed the draft 48 page document which is a resource for curriculum developers talking through reasons why change is required and what religion/world views means. It provides a suggested draft national statement of entitlement and practical guidance for those putting the curriculum together.

Three groups have successfully bid to trial this. Inspiration Trust (East of England), two SACREs - Coventry/Warwickshire and a group of disparate members – each will produce a curriculum/agreed syllabus which will be shared and be reported back in around a year's time.

This fits with the call for a National Plan and last week there was a back bench business debate on RE. There are links to this on the NATRE news pages.

On Wednesday there is a visit to the new schools minister – Nick Gibb – for further discussion around statement of entitlement and the problems of making complaints re non-compliance and the lack of bursaries.

Mark Harrington wondered about the fit with the Schools Bill.

Fiona Moss suggested that the assumption is that the Schools Bill is not going ahead although the aim for schools to academise by 2030 remains.

Oak Academy are still in place. They are trying to recruit people to write materials for the first tranche – RE is in the second tranche. They know that there will be issues in writing these.

Link to document [Draft Resource - The Religious Education Council of England and Wales](#)

Link on NATRE [Cross-party calls for RE National Plan after Westminster debate \(natre.org.uk\)](#)

The future of SACREs was highlighted as Sue Round had concerns re governance.

10. Annual report

Fiona Moss advised of the NASACRE report which included a summary of the Annual Reports.

The draft Annual Report was shared as it needs to be completed by December 2022. The previous year's GCSE data will have to be used.

Additions were identified:

- Foreword - chair
- Appendices - clerk
- New Cover/logo - chair
- Collective Worship URL - clerk
- Improved additions re local community/interfaith groups etc. Simon Nightingale/Sue Michaels
- LA meetings with diocesan directors – Sue Round
- RE Hub Group - Steph Shirra.
- SIA conversations regarding RE – John Rowe
- Visits and visitors/collective worship videos

Colleagues agreed to forward information to the clerk so that a master copy can be created.

The annual report was unanimously agreed.

11. Advisor's Update

Ofsted reports

Bomere Heath – RE Deep dive – found syllabus was being used. It was agreed that the clerk would ask if the RE lead would be willing to attend the next SACRE meeting to share her experience.

Burford – positive evidence of collective worship

St Edwards and Tilstock – noted visits to different places of worship.

Wilfred Owen – positive on assemblies.

Mark Harrington advised that SIAMs has been updated in the last week with a new framework from September 2023. The main change is that there will no longer be grade descriptors – schools will be fulfilling or not fulfilling.

Workforce data

Fiona Moss provided an update including her concerns around the RE provision in some Shropshire secondary schools

She agreed to send in her findings and concerns to David Shaw, Steve Compton, John Rowe and Sue Round.

National update

The national update was shared.

12. To confirm dates, times and venues of the meetings for 2022/23

Wednesday 15 March 2023 – The Lantern

Wednesday 5 July 2023 - tba

13. Any other business

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm

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Summary of Actions from the meeting

6	<p>Ask Fi Iddon to make contact with Emma Elliott</p> <p>Contact the chair with any contributions for Jane's thank you letter,</p> <p>Try to find out a contact method for Bill Morris.</p> <p>Add consideration of the census results to the agenda for the next meeting.</p> <p>Chase up a representative from Catholicism.</p> <p>Follow up a possible Hindu contact.</p> <p>Liaise regarding a Sikh representative.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>All</p> <p>Various colleagues</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Denise Samari</p> <p>Simon Nightingale</p>
7	<p>Create a Google feedback form and share the link</p> <p>Add feedback from visits as a standing item to SACRE meetings.</p> <p>Send the new Shropshire Council logo to the chair.</p>	<p>Chair</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
10	<p>Forward additions for the Annual Report to the clerk.</p>	<p>Various colleagues</p>
11	<p>Ask the RE lead from Bomere Heath if she would be willing to attend the next SACRE meeting to share her experience.</p> <p>Send findings from workforce data to David Shaw, Steve Compton, John Rowe and Sue Round.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Fiona Moss</p>

Date Chair