

Time Commenced	19:15
Time Adjourned	19:30
Time Reconvened	19:35
Time Finished	20:30

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - TUESDAY 22 JUNE 2010

Present: **Committee A - Christianity and Other World Faiths**

Maryam Djavid	Bahai Faith
Joan Price	Pentecostal Church
Rev. Roy Ninkovic	Serbian Orthodox Church
Rev. Mrs Mair Bradley	United Reformed Church
Ruth Dolby	Jewish Faith
Arshid Rafiq	Islamic Faith

Committee B - Church of England

Rosemary Wibberly
Viv Lawrence
Alison Brown
Maxine Bull

Committee C - Teachers' Associations

Jane Oldershaw	ATL
Kathy Mayer	NAHT (Substitute)
David Nichols	SHA

Committee D - Local Authority

Councillors Atwal, Higginbottom, F Khan and Wood

Co-opted Members

Laura Connolly	The Open Centre
Ian Shaw	Derbyshire Pagans

1/10 Appointment of Chair

Councillor Higginbottom was appointed Chair for the 2010/11 municipal year.

2/10 Appointment of Vice-Chair

Ruth Dolby was appointed Vice-Chair for the 2010/11 municipal year.

3/10 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Turner, Mike Lake, Raj Bali, Phil Royal and Wendy Jordan.

4/10 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

5/10 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of Interest.

6/10 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meetings on 16 March 2009, 2 July 2009, 10 November 2009 and 10 March 2010 were confirmed as an accurate record, subject to:

The first line of paragraph five in minute number 28/08 (16 March 2009) reading “in finding short-term”.

7/10 Quorum Arrangements for Derby City SACRE

SACRE considered amending its constitution to change its quorum arrangements.

The Chair adjourned the meeting so that each group could consider their preferred quorum arrangements and report back to SACRE.

It was agreed that each group should determine its own quorum arrangement and consequently that the presence of the following numbers from each group would constitute a quorum:

Group A = 5

Group B = 1

Group C = 1

Group D = 1

Resolved to amend Article 34 of Derby City SACRE’s constitution, so that the presence of the following numbers from each group of SACRE constituted a quorum:

Group A = 5

Group B = 1

Group C = 1

Group D = 1

8/10 Application for Determinations Regarding Collective Worship in Derby Schools

SACRE considered applications for determinations from Pear Tree Community Junior School, Dale Community Primary School and Arboretum Primary School.

Resolved:

- 1. to approve renewal applications for Determinations from Pear Tree Community Junior School, Dale Community Primary School and Arboretum Primary School**
- 2. to request that schools provide information on faith percentages rather than ethnic background in future applications.**

9/10 Feedback from SACRE Members Attending National Conferences

Ruth Dolby gave feedback to SACRE following her attendance at a National SACRE conference. She reported that one of the speakers of the conference, Bruce Gill, was willing to attend the Derby City SACRE and provide help and advice to the committee.

It was reported that Warwick University was conducting research into internet resources on community cohesion and inter-faith issues, the results of which could prove useful to SACRE.

Attention was also drawn to the RE-silience project, which aimed to provide mentoring to secondary schools on how to handle contentious RE issues. Members agreed that at least two Derby Schools should take up places on the scheme.

It was requested that schools be made more aware of the Jewish religious calendar, as pupils were being marked as absent from schools when unable to attend due to holy days. Ruth Dolby suggested that she could make available poster guides on the Jewish life cycle for this purpose.

SACRE noted the feedback.

10/10 To note OFSTED's 'Transforming Religious Education' Report

Graham Falgate reported that OFSTED conducts subject inspections over a two year cycle and then publishes a report highlighting key findings. One Derby school, Lees Brook Sports College was featured in this report. He added that West Park School had recently had an RE subject inspection and they would feature in the next published report in two years. It was reported that both Derby City schools were judged by OFSTED to be either "satisfactory" or "good" and both had good features. Members were encouraged that in spite of difficult financial circumstances, Derby City Council still had an RE advisor and thought this to be useful in helping teachers at ground level.

SACRE noted the report.

11/10 Parental Withdrawal from Children's Visits to Inner City Places of Worship

Laura Connolly outlined her concerns regarding parents withdrawing their children from visits to inner city places of worship, suggesting that this may be due to parents worrying about the reasons for or contents of visits. It was suggested that it may be useful to produce a guide for parents regarding the purpose of planned visits so that they could take informed decisions before the trip was arranged. It was added that schools should be open and honest with parents and make clear that visits were for educational purposes. The Open Centre asked for SACRE's support in three matters to actively promote opportunities for pupils to meet people from different backgrounds:

1. The drawing up of material to be provided to parents before visits;
2. To provide guidelines to head teachers in relation to withdrawal;
3. Determine the best way to find out why parents withdraw their children from school.

Resolved:

1. **to defer the decision to consider the proposals until the next meeting of SACRE.**
2. **to bring suggestions of best practice back for discussion at the next SACRE meeting.**

- 12/10 The Role of SACRE in Monitoring RE Lessons
in Derby City schools
- This item was deferred.
- 13/10 Visits to Derby Schools for SACRE Members
- This item was dealt with under item 14 on the agenda.
- 14/10 SACRE Development Day
- Graham Falgate suggested that this time should be used to draw up an Action Plan for SACRE.
- Agreed that the SACRE Development Day would take place on Wednesday 13 October from 17.30 – 21.00 hours.**
- 15/10 SACRE Action Plan 2010-2013
- This item was dealt with under item 14 on the agenda.
- 16/10 Availability of SACRE Members to Represent
Derby SACRE at National Conferences
- This item will be dealt with via email correspondence before the next meeting of SACRE.
- 17/10 Presentations at future meetings
- Autumn Term Meeting – Alison Brown (Church of England)
Spring Term Meeting – Ian Shaw (Derbyshire Pagans)
- 18/10 Dates of Future Meetings
- Wednesday 24 November 2010
Thursday 10 March 2011

MINUTES END