

Nottinghamshire County Council SARE Meeting

Wednesday 24 June 2015 7pm

Minutes

Present	Representing
Michael Groves	Roman Catholic
Krys Pietryka	Roman Catholic
Anne Lumb	Church of England
Craig Moxham	Church of England
Bethan Inglis	Secondary teachers
Richard Linford	Primary teacher
Mike Follen	NAHT
Cllr Liz Plant	councillors
Mel Gotheridge	Buddhist
Mike Arnold	Baptist
Pippa Ling	Quakers
Gail Brockway	Secondary teacher
Santokh Singh	Sikh
Ken Johnson	Secretary, SACRE
Kate Charlesworth	Church of England
Ashley Mortimer	Pagan Society
Andy Vickers	NASUWT
Graham Jennings	United Reformed Church
Andy Fox	NCC EIS
Val Jones	NCC/minuter

1. **Welcome**

Councillor Liz Plant Chair of Committee welcomed members and opened the meeting.

2. **Presentation by James Griffiths director of the Holocaust Centre**

James explained that approx. 3 in 20 schools in Notts have attended the centre which is good and they are encouraging more to attend. As part of their partnership schools project the centre works with 10 schools per year, feedback suggests there is an improvement in behaviour and attainment with pupils who have been to the centre. The University of Nottingham are evaluating the impact the centre is having on pupils. The youngest holocaust survivors are in their 70s and the oldest in their 90s, they are having testimonies recorded in a filming studio as part of a new project, having screens with holograms of survivors of the holocaust which would be able to answer pupil' questions, hopefully it will be ready around this October and the first of its kind anywhere in the world. Louise Stafford said she has been happy to have been part of the working party for the new syllabus particularly working on the year 6 scheme of work. The Journey at the centre is included in the agreed syllabus and some schools are already using the syllabus. The universities of Birmingham, Nottingham, Leicester and London were involved with a 3 year study on the impact of The Journey and have seen a positive impact on primary children. Now looking to more secondary involvement . The survivor pictures now on the walls in the station

building will be changed to scenes giving information. There is going to be a National Holocaust Centre in London and they are looking at this centre for examples.

3. Presentation from Adam at TTS

Adam gave an explanation of the company's educational resources including RE resources, they sell nationally and internationally but are a local company based in Kirkby in Ashfield and are very willing to source any RE materials which schools would like to use. They have a catalogue and website for accessing their resources. Adam is also happy to attend any future networks and conferences to offer support and advice on resources available.

4. Presentation from Fiona Hunter from Nottingham Trent University

Fiona explained about ITT in RE at NTU. Fiona teaches humanities and explained there 4 teacher programmes, the PGCE 1 year course which has 5 hours of RE, School direct course which includes 2 hours of RE, Lead school which is a secondary school responsible for a number of primary schools, and PGCE in collaboration with Inspiring Leaders, SCITT. There are 200 who graduate each year and most go into teaching posts, around half stay in Nottinghamshire and many are offered jobs in their placement school. Part of Fiona's role is to raise the profile of RE which is difficult when as in schools RE is one subject which can easily be reduced when trying to fit the curriculum in time allocated. Fiona brings students to the Holocaust centre every year. Ofsted are looking for the inclusion of the British Values agenda and looking at the moral spiritual and cultural development. Fiona was asked what proportion of the 12 humanities graduates stayed in Nottinghamshire, 3 have gone home, 5 have definitely stayed in Nottinghamshire. Richard said it would be interesting to see how RE is developed, how can SACRE strengthen its link between NTU and other training centres?

5. Apologies & Membership

Cllr Liz Plant commented this has been a good SACRE attendance apart from the councillors, Ken has chased up absent members.
Apologies from;

Andrew Whitehouse
Tania Goldsmith
Cllr Jon Wilmott
Cllr Kate Foale
Gemma Pettifor

Godfrey Nix
Naomi Posner
Andrew Widdowson
David Maddison
John Heard

6. Minutes of the previous meeting

Amendment needed from Anne's comments, item 10 c was two points not one, and John Heard was in attendance, otherwise a true record of the meeting.

7. Any matters arising not on the agenda

Ken asked any more thoughts on creating a Facebook account for SACRE? Unanimously voted Yes. Andy Fox said NCC has a Facebook account so should be okay for SACRE to have an account but will check. Adam from TTS say they have 200 followers on twitter, he can ask their IT department for advice on SACRE's behalf in setting up an account with twitter. Louise will talk to Emily as she can advise on social media.

ACTION: Andy to check with NCC about accessing Facebook and twitter
Louise to talk to Emily.
Adam to ask advice from IT department and feedback.

Ken has been approached regarding the NASACRE awards, the date has been extended and Ken has been encouraged to apply so has spoken to Lat to have his support, perhaps working here at the Holocaust centre with years 5 and 6. Liz asked for any comments, it was agreed that Ken should apply.

ACTION: Ken to apply to NASACRE for the award funding.

Ken spoke about the aim higher day, which was being organised by Nottingham University, as there have been no takers for July, decided to offer Monday 21st March 2016, this was envisaged as being a free event for schools.

Previous minutes – June 2014 mentioned a leaflet to be available to schools on the New Agreed Syllabus for the information of parents. A draft of the content of the letter had been circulated to SACRE members. It was agreed by SACRE to advise the Authority this was available for schools to use perhaps in an electronic format.

ACTION: Ken to finalise a format

8. Matters Arising

- a) Andy was to talk to Marion regarding governor services and how the provision of RE in schools can be improved. Andy is now the link advisor for governor services so he can communicate directly with Leonie Meikle who is the governor services manager.
Does SACRE want a questionnaire to go to the governors of schools? This only applies to NCC maintained schools and academies who choose to buy our governor services.
- b) Andy gave an update on Nottingham city adopting the RE syllabus. Jo Darley is the contact in the city, the cost offered was £7000.00 or £8000.00 if they want the accompanying materials and Jo accepted the £8000 package. The licence went to the legal department for verification and the 15 page document is now approved and has been sent to city for approval. When city have approved we can then invoice them.
- c) Andy also gave an update of SACRE costs with the view to being self funding, and discussed the spreadsheet distributed. There was an error on admin's part where the £8000 income from the city should have been added but wasn't. The question was asked how much the syllabus cost to buy - £100.0 for primary academies, £250.00 for secondaries, £500.00 for universities (10 copies) and for trust schools £100.00 per school. Richard asked if there was any way of reducing the cost to encourage more academies to buy in. Andy gave the breakdown of copies bought, 10 primary academies and 4 secondary academies have bought the syllabus already. Anne asked if the courses, conferences and syllabus information had been sent to all academies in the county as one primary academy had no knowledge of the syllabus. It was confirmed the information had gone to all primary and secondary academies via email, sometimes the school office miss emails due to the volume of emails received. The point was raised that the

breakdown of costings shouldn't just be over the academic year but over a longer period. Cllr Liz Plant asked if the surplus was carried over to the next financial year and Andy confirmed this was the case. There was appreciation of the breakdown spreadsheet noted.

- d) Constitution update. Andy updated this by saying Marion Clay will put forward the constitution and hopefully this will be agreed before SACRE's next meeting
- e) Regarding the reply from Lord Nash's office to SACRE letter being a bit bland and should we send another letter, thoughts were it was more of an exercise, when Ken sent the annual report through he would add a more positive reply.

9. NASACRE documents.

Charles Clark's 67 page document on the place of RE and Worship in schools had now been published and was referred to in the notes from NASACRE AGM. Asking questions such as -should we be withdrawing children from RE as RE has changed a lot since 1944. The document gave some interesting viewpoints.

ACTION:

Ken would circulate members on where the report could be downloaded from, also, regarding the guidelines on NASACRE annual report – what a good report should look like, Ken explained what the current report has in and what it hasn't compared to the guidelines. Agreed not a good use of Ken's time to work at changing report to match with template, so carry on as before.

10. Course Feedback.

Ken directed everyone to the positive summary of evaluations from recent networks and conference in April. Anne gave oral feedback on 2 training days on the syllabus by the Anglican Diocese– 45 delegates from 33 schools with another day planned in September. An assessment group set up with 15 attended twilight session which was very well received. The diocese has decided to adopt the syllabus. There was a difficulty however, as some of their schools are in the city and 3 are seek to adopt but waiting for city to be on board with it.

Andy proposed a copy can be sent but not charged until city has bought the licence. Ann says she will let Val know which schools to send a copy to. Louise gave out the evaluation summary from latest network, positive feedback, the network ran a little over time as everyone really involved.

Ken thanked Richard, Gemma and Louise for their work in the twilight meetings.

Ken has procured 3 days from Lat for next year.

November 12th 2015: Monday February 1st Day Courses led by Lat

June 15th RE Conference working with Lat

Two half days for RE Coordinators - late November and in April

One day would be on Assessment – Ken & Lat to look at the content of the other days based on teacher requests.

Ken wondered whether Ashley would be able to offer advice on some materials from a Pagan other world view perspective to supplement the material on the Agreed Syllabus

ACTION: Ken & Ashley to meet to talk about the possibilities.

Proposed CPD developments.

Andy informed the group the CPD booklet for next year is going out to schools in the next few days. When SACRE have the next set of training dates ready to be distributed we can send to all schools. Ken would like to invite TTS to future networks.

11. Group interchange of news

Bassetlaw Council are to decide on how best to proceed with the funding bids for work around the Pilgrim Father's anniversary. The consultants have told Ken that they are finishing their report which recommends that there should be a substantial education element to any project. They also suggest that there would be an advisory panel to have input to future education work for the project and anticipate that SACRE should have a role to play in this. Ken has been put in touch with someone in the Council who is the point of contact.

The Lincs RE Hub has been set up at Lincoln at Bishop Grosseteste University and Ken is receiving regular news from them – there is a meeting on July 7th. Again the University does send students into Nottinghamshire Schools on teacher training and this would be a good link to have.

Anne said her colleague Jane, from the Diocese was intending to establish a NATRE group with RE teachers which would be open to all schools, not just Church Schools.

12. Proposed dates of next meetings

November 2015 – Ken to liaise with Fiona for hosting meeting at Clifton Campus

Feb 2015 – Ken to check possibility of hosting at Beeston Hindu temple

June 2016 – Holocaust Centre would be happy to host SACRE meeting again

The meeting closed at 8.45pm