

**Nottinghamshire County Council
SACRE Meeting
Holocaust Centre**

Wednesday 29 June 2016

Minutes

Present	Representing
Andy Fox	NCC
Anne Lumb	Church of England
Andrew Whitehouse	Salvation Army
Craig Moxham	Church of England
Cllr Liz Plant	Councillor
Cllr Muriel Weisz	Councillor
David Maddison	Church of England
Gemma Pettifor	AoG
Godfrey Nix	Ba ha'i
Graham Jennings	United Reformed Church
John Heard	Methodist
Kate Charlesworth	Church of England
Ken Johnson	Secretary, SACRE
Krys Pietryka	Roman Catholic
Louise Stafford	Holocaust Centre
Michael Groves	Roman Catholic
Mike Arnold	Baptist
Naomi Posner	Jewish
Pippa Ling	Society of Friends
Richard Linford	Primary teacher
Val Jones	NCC/minuter

1. Welcome

Councillor Liz Plant Chair of Committee welcomed members and opened the meeting by asking everyone to introduce themselves.

- 2. Presentation from Louise Stafford from the Holocaust Centre** with an update on the progress of the centre. Visitor numbers are up by 45% on last year and looking very positive. Since the last SACRE meeting here a year ago, 10 holocaust survivors have now been filmed, with up to 1300 questions uploaded for interaction with students. This is very important as the survivors are finding it more difficult to get to the Holocaust centre and are getting older. There is a new project 'The Forever Project' which Louise demonstrated to the group and hoping to be successful for National Lottery Funding. The website to vote for this is www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/awards

3. Apologies and membership

Apologies received from;
Tania Goldsmith
Ashley Mortimer
Muntazir Hafiz
Fiona Hunter
Mike Follen
Russell Davies
Gail Brockway

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

Craig Moxham down twice on the attendance list and Kate Charlesworth down as a primary teacher instead of Church of England, otherwise agreed to be a true record.

5. Action points from the minutes

Governor services

Cllr Liz Plant raised concerns over schools not buying back governor services from the authority as they don't receive updated information from NCC, so cheaper initially but not in the long term. Accepted school budgets are limited. A head of a county school governing body was keen to speak about RE in their governor meeting after the letter sent to schools. Question raised as to why we can't send information to all governing bodies? Andy replied that it is an NCC service which is now bought, so unfair on those who have paid. A reference can go to heads? Ken said can now be put on new facebook as a closed group. Godfrey said he has been to a number of schools who seem to be devoid of RE updates. Ken said we can give them link to RE today for information. Andy Fox said all NCC schools were sent the CPD training brochure with RE training section. Richard Linford said we have spoken before about the communication problem we have with schools.

Facebook

Report from Ken, this is now up and running, SACRE members have been given the link to join as it is a closed group, positive feedback so far

6. Any matters not arising not on the Agenda

7. Holocaust Event in May 2016. Richard spoke on the SACRE funded day for 64 pupils from 11 schools at the Holocaust centre, impressed again at what young people are capable of producing and expressing views and feelings, as important as ever to see what RE can do for young people. The day was powerful and moving, deep and meaningful; the children felt the same from the feedback received. Lat delivered a brilliant ice breaker which got everyone working together, also related the story of Hugo Gryn. There was a variety of activities which the children engaged well with, looked at British Values, using a commitment game to raise the importance of negotiating and listening to others. Simon Weston, a holocaust survivor who came to talk to the group and was very skilled at talking to the children was so impressed with the day he stayed till the end. Children shared their innermost thoughts and ideas on several, themes, hope was one, we can always hope for help. Also honour, pride. 'Can you be a superhero', was developed by a group of boys, RE can open doors to the boys who don't always engage. The children also created a union flag. Cllr Liz Plant attended in the morning and said it was a fantastic atmosphere, a sense you were in a special place, wonderful experience for children which they can relate to everyday life, a huge thanks to Ken and Lat for

an outstanding day, and thanks to the Holocaust Centre for excellent hosting and to NCC for funding the day. Cllr Muriel Weisz was sad she wasn't able to be there, wonders how the Holocaust centre can have more of these activities? The programme for children is normally 10 am to 2pm due to the constraint of the buses, so limits time available for these activities. Ken said the day maybe featured in RE Today next year, thus publicising SACRE in Notts. The Holocaust centre is on our doorstep, need to make more use of it. Louise said looking at progression all the time, and focussed on RE, more county schools than city schools attending the centre, have had some from Yorkshire and surrounding East Midlands area. Louise said given the value of the experience, perhaps we could share one unit of work from the syllabus free to our schools. Andy agreed that could happen and it may encourage more schools to buy the syllabus. Louise added they have lots of resources which they could hand over as pdf files, although first she would have to check this was okay with the Holocaust Centre. Also mentioned it's the 20th anniversary of the Holocaust Centre this year, a lot of survivors made the ceremony of rededication. Students were handed white roses, parents made their own video in Shirebrook. Andy Fox agreed in principle we can offer again next year or even annually, asked Ken what was the cost in the end? Ken said the cost was around 1400.00

Action: Andy Fox as NCC representative to agree sharing of resources

Action: Andy to see if the pupil day could be funded annually as Ken said the cost was around 1400.00 The cost was nearer 1800 but we did have an 11th school and some extra teachers.

8. Collective worship

The working party, ie Anne Lumb, John Heard, Kate Charlesworth and Andy Vickers met at Jubilee House to discuss the collective worship document which John had slimmed down already, latest draft produced to discuss. Church schools already have policies on collective worship but this is for all schools as some have requested a statement of collective worship. There is some statutory language but also includes assembly, collective worship and this is not about corporate worship in schools, so the working party have tried to achieve a number of items. Comment at the end for further support and guidance. Graham said maybe in addition to best practice on collective worship, it would be helpful to add briefing on collective worship. Ken said there is already a document another organisation has produced which he could look at. Anne said we need resources to support the document. John said we need to give attention to the title. Agreed to amend to include SACRE in title. Query over sentence *This document has the approval of SACRE and the County Council* not necessary as now in the title. Ken said we can put in sentence *for further support and guidance be produced*. When document goes out to heads add a note to be shared with governors. This also gives some validity to SACRE. Liz asked if happy for changes, agreed. Liz thanked the working party for their work on this.

Action: Collective worship document agreed to be finalised after the minor amendments made.

9. National and local developments

Ken referred to document E and the free Aim Higher day, good comments from students, revision day for teachers, not possible to repeat next year but could plan for the year after so looking at 2018. Nottingham University can get lecturers and do the admin work, this was put to SACRE. Anne said links with the university really important, not as many students signing up for RE, choosing philosophy and theology instead. Ken procured 30 leaflets free from TRS UK. Suggest to invite a representative from university to the next SACRE meeting, perhaps they will host?

Action: Ken to talk to university regarding schools and funding for March time, to invite them to next SACRE meeting

Ken informed the group that the NASACRE chair had stepped down recently due to taking up a role in Inter Faith.

Kate spoke about the RE conference in June, encouraging as well attended, conference addressed good RE and bad RE, teachers knowledge of different faiths tested, more hands on knowledge of different faiths and the need to keep up to date with RE.

10. Group sharing of news

Anne said resources produced from the diocese available to schools about developing better understanding of RE. Conference arranged from St Philip's Centre in Leicester, 'living well together' in London, bringing students together with representatives of different faiths. Opportunity for approximately 60 students to discuss and take part. Will share with SACRE and request to distribute to schools.

Action: Anne to send to Val to distribute to SACRE

Godfrey Nix raised an issue that more schools are requesting for multi faith sessions in schools. The Ba'hai faith have had 5 requests in 5 weeks, struggling to find speakers, plus funding is running low, may have to start charging. David Maddison stressed the need to be careful when offering for free. Godfrey said at the next AGM membership needs to be reviewed, currently £5 for the year. Cllr Weisz asked if they had considered asking councillors for financial support as they have an annual community pot to spend on projects in the authority.

11. Proposed date of next meetings and venues

November 23 2016 agreed for next SACRE meeting, venue to be confirmed offers from TTS in Kirkby in Ashfield, also a school in Carlton. Following meeting on February 22 2017, venue to be confirmed and June 21 2017 at the Holocaust Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm