

East Sussex SACRE
Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 21 November 2012
The Bishop Bell CE School, Eastbourne



Present Cllr Matthew Lock (Chair), Dr Brenda Vance, Dr Tariq Rajbee, Mr Peter White, Deacon Jon Miller, Mr John Ross, Rev Derek Bastide, Ms Becky Gough, Mr Martin Lloyd, Mr John Court, Mr Andrew Jervis, Cllr Pat Rodohan,

Also Attended Julie Stevens (Clerk), Lilian Weatherley (Advisor to SACRE), Laura Carter (LA Advisor)

1 Welcome and Introductions **ACTIONS**

1.1 Cllr Rodohan (CR) welcomed everyone to the meeting. (Cllr Lock was delayed in joining the meeting).

New members were welcomed:

- ◆ Julie Stevens – SACRE Clerk (Claire Page now on maternity leave)
- ◆ Ms Becky Gough – now replacing Bev Devaux
- ◆

1.2 **Apologies had been received from:** Cllr Trevor Webb, Cllr Richard Stogden, Father David Smith (resigning as moving overseas), Mrs Pat Lock, Ms Jenni Osborn, Mr Kevin Fossey, Dr Norman Williamson, Mr Graham Bailey, Ms Jill Bell, Mr Mike Rundle, Mrs Rebecca Stutters (now resigned), Ms Laura Carter due to arrive late to meeting.

1.3 **Reflection**

Reflection was led by Mr John Ross who gave some history on The Bishop Bell CE School. Mr Ross was deputy head of the school in 1992 and is still strongly linked to the school.

2 Minutes from previous meeting – 26 June 2012

2.1 **Matters arising**

Chair clarified with Dr Rajbee (TR) that no distribution of Islamic material had been distributed to schools. Dr Rajbee to liaise with Clerk for list of schools. **JS**

Mr Peter White (PW) asked for confirmation that the SACRE Information leaflet had been circulated to schools.

No other matters arising from previous minutes.

Mr Peter White confirmed minutes were accurate and was seconded by Mr Andrew Jervis.

3 Conference/National Update

3.1 **Conference Feedback**

Lilian Weatherley (LW) gave an overview on the evaluation of the conference with the help of the comments collated by Claire Page. The general feeling from the conference was very positive. It was agreed that the speaker Stephen Lloyd was very fitting and apt. LW asked the SACRE members present for comments on CP's report on the conference.

Cllr Pat Rodohan stated he had found it a very inspiring day and certainly felt it should happen again.

LW gave credit to CP and the events team and did stress that it was unfortunate that the conference had been held on a Friday but gave the reasons for this.

Ms Bev Gough (BG) said it would be useful to have Key Stage3 and 4 sessions

as well. LW explained that as Mr Kevin Fossey was absent from the conference it was all 'a bit last minute'.

Ms Laura Carter agreed the conference had been a very useful day.

Dr Rajbee requested no future conferences to be arranged for a Friday.

Cllr Matthew Lock and Mr Martin Lloyd joined the meeting.

3.2 RE view

LW gave an overview of the RE View.

JS

It was unclear if conference material had been circulated by CP. JS to re-send to SACRE members.

4 Changing Status of Schools – School to School Alliances

Laura Carter gave an overview of the Government supporting schools and the Alliance of Schools. Members looked at the paper supplied showing a list of the schools committed to work together and explained this was just a 'snapshot' as it was changing daily. LC alerted SACRE members that at the last count 50 schools in East Sussex were not yet involved in Alliance work. LC clarified who the lead schools were.

TR asked who he could help regarding Hastings School Alliances and was advised to contact LC.

Cllr Lock asked what the negatives were.

LC responded that there were some problems:

- Difficulties in getting schools to agree
- Primary/Secondary split
- Capacity to release staff to other schools
- Governors concerned regarding losing staff to other schools
- Local Authority wanting everyone to be involved

LC clarified that schools only receive money if part of the Alliance. Mr Peter White asked if the Alliances would improve communication, LC advised there was no established route as yet but hopefully this would happen in the future.

LC discussed Academies within the Alliance and suggested that the SACRE Group may accept an Academy representative in the future.

Mr John Court commented that there is also no representative on the SACRE Group for non-academies.

The Chair agreed to look at the Rules of SACRE and the legal requirements to see if this is allowed. The Chair would welcome a fifth member to the SACRE Group. The Chair asked JC to put together some wording for a proposal that could be put forward at either the next SACRE meeting or at the AGM. LW to check Rules.

LW

LW asked LC if SACRE should meet with Lead Schools to discuss statutory duty in RE. LC advised there is currently an Alliance Steering Group which meets every 2-3 months and has a very full agenda. However, this is something they may focus on in the future.

Dr Vance asked how the Alliance affected competitiveness within local schools. LC stated Alliances are to be led by good or outstanding OFSTED schools to help struggling schools.

It was agreed that investigation needed to take place regarding the representation from LA schools and Academies to join the existing schools group which is currently only made up of representatives of Teacher/Union Associations. **LW**

The Chair agreed that Officers should go away and look at the SACRE structure and decide if the current state is fit for purpose i.e. should Academies be represented at SACRE. JC to present a paper at the February meeting for further discussion on the matter.

5 SACRE Budget

LC discussed the Budget Paper.

The Chair raised the point that it appears that the Conference made a loss even though the numbers attending were good and the fees for the speakers were low. **LC**

LC will check the figures are correct and will email Chair and LW with a response.

Agenda item for February meeting – Update on SACRE Budget by LC

6 Protocol for SACRE Members visiting Schools

LW advised that this discussion should be delayed until February meeting until we know more about Academy Reps joining SACRE. **LW**

LW confirmed there needs to be guidance for SACRE members and LW/LC to discuss outside of meeting.

7 SACRE Development Plan

LW gave an overview of the SACRE Development Plan 2011-14.

SACRE members who attended the training workshops expressed how inspirational they found the sessions and were impressed with the depth of knowledge and teaching staff.

LW confirmed that SACRE members will continue to be invited and notified of any training events.

Booklet for new SACRE members to be sent out. **JS**

LW suggested that we used Inter-Faith week as a guide as to future dates of events. Mr Martin Lloyd to forward School Year Planner to LW. **ML**

LC to find out who should contact the Youth Council at ESCC. **LC**

Chair suggested pupils may be invited to come to SACRE meetings when held in their school, to give a small presentation on the RE syllabus. **LW**

LW suggested Working group to revise Development Plan in light of comments from schools. Chair suggested discussing this further after the June 2013 AGM.

8 Magnet Centre Resources

Report was presented by LW and asked for recommendation from the SACRE members.

LW/JS to meet when resources have arrived at County Hall to discuss way forward. **LW/JS**

It was suggested that photographs of resources be put onto the Internet.

SACRE members agreed that the word 'Maintained' to be removed from the Report.

LC will check the wording of the leaflet and email attendees. **LC**

9 A.O.B.

E-mail communications between SACRE members – the Chair decided that members be mindful of when replying to an email to make sure that 'reply all' is not pressed. The Chair will decide which members need to be notified on items.

Questionnaire from Stephen Lloyd – LW suggested that SACRE members send a collective response. Members agreed that LW put together a response on behalf of SACRE. LW will email to members for any comments.

LW

LW discussed the Collective Worship Document received at the Conference, and advised it would be added to the website on the RE View.

Next Meeting

Tuesday 26th February 2013, venue TBC