Haringey Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Minutes of the meeting of 30th November 2021
At 5:00pm

This was a virtual meeting due to the Covid-19 situation

MEMBERSHIP

Group A: Christian denominations other than the Church of England and principal religions represented in Great Britain	Robert Allaway (RA) (Chair)	Baptist Churches
	*Tonye Philemon (TP)	The Peace Alliance and Pentecostal Churches
	*Louise Fleming (LF)	Roman Catholic
	*Sandra Kviat (SK)	Crouch End Chavurah Jewish Community
	*Breda Parsons (BP)	Baha'i Community
	Norman Bacrac (NB)	Humanist
	Ali Arslan (AA)	Alevi Community
	*Bibi Khan (BK)	Islamic Community
	*Maitripushpa Bois (MB)	Buddhist
	*Mark Grosskopf (MGr)	Tottenham Jewish Community Association
Group B: Church of England	*Rev. Tom Smith	Anglican
	*Sally Moore (SM)	Primary RE Advisor London Diocesan Board of Schools
	Eddie Griffiths (EG)	Lay CoE Member
Group C: Teachers Associations, including representation from Academy Schools	Glenford Johnson (GJ) Vice-Chair	Teacher, Hornsey School for Girls
	*Bernie Sheridan (BS)	Teacher, Greig City Academy
Group D: Local Authority, including elected Councillors	Fay Jackson (FJ)	HEP Advisor
	*Sheila Peacock (SP)	Cllr & Mayor
	*Chenot Sakina (CS)	Cllr
	Alessandra Rossetti (AR)	Cllr
	James Chiriyankandath (JC)	Cllr
	Ian Blaney (IB)	Governor representative
Co-opted non-voting members	Jan McGuire (JMcG)	Independent RE Advisor to Haringey SACRE
	Jean Brown (JB)	LB Haringey
Also, in attendance	Maria Gabrielczyk	Clerk

* Asterisk denotes absence

Moment of contemplation
The Chair called everyone present to join in a moment of quiet contemplation before the meeting.

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

1.1 The Chair welcomed all present to the meeting. The Chair checked that the meeting was quorate.

1.2 Apologies were received from: Cllr Sheila Peacock, Mark Grosskopf, Maitripushpa Bois, Rev. Tom Smith and Theresa Kemp.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

2.1 The Minutes of the last meeting held on 19th October 2021 were **APPROVED** as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

2.2 Agenda actions:
Bob asked that Bernie Sheridan be removed from the membership, as she has missed sufficient meetings and is no longer a member. Fay has written to Bernie informing her that she has missed 6 meetings and cannot therefore continue as a member. **ACTION: MG.**

Cllr Peacock is no longer the Mayor.

There was no interest shown by SACRE members to shadow Bob. Bob confirmed that he would be stepping down as Chair at the end of the academic year. SACRE members were asked to consider taking on the role and to contact Fay or Bob if they wanted to discuss what the role involved.

The Hinduism Report - The report was deferred from the previous meeting and reviewed by Cllr Chiriyankandath.

The Insight UK report does not give details of the sample size, geographic distribution etc. of the survey its findings are based on. The faith group respondents consulted belong largely to bodies associated with a cluster of organisations in India associated with the sangh parivar, the parent body of which is the Hindu nationalist RSS close to the BJP, the ruling party in India.

The survey therefore does not seem to adequately reflect the breadth and plurality of Hinduism and Indic tradition, including the varieties of Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Christianity, Judaism and Islam also found across South Asia. Neither does it properly take account of the continuing and changing importance of the institution of caste, based on ritual, occupation and social hierarchy, that affect people of virtually all faith communities to varying degrees and often seen as important to hold on to in order to maintain tradition.

The main purport of the report is to show that Hinduism has been neglected compared to Abrahamic religions. While this is true, Cllr Chiriyankandath felt that there was a danger of intecommunal misunderstanding and tension if the report as it stands was used to shape RE teaching on Hinduism. He suggested liaising with religious studies and theology departments in universities with well-established scholarship in the field such as Oxford, Edinburgh, Manchester, Birmingham and London (SOAS).

After a brief discussion SACRE members suggested liaising with both learned institutions and a broader cross section of local and national community groups in putting together useful material for RE lessons. The produced list would be recommended resources for Headteachers, as recommended by SACRE.

It was suggested that SACRE may wish to apply for a Westhill Award as a future project. Cllr James informed that the Hibbert Trust is also considering funding research and projects on religion for producing materials for schools.

Sections 3 & 4 were combined for the purposes of this meeting.

3. RE Statutory Responsibilities

4. Collective Worship and Statutory Requirements

- Jan updated SACRE on the progress of the AMV ASC, that The Awareness Mystery Value (AMV) homepage has been added to the Haringey website.
- The page link is http://awarenessmysteryvalue.org/
- The ASC has been responding to the Haringey teacher survey results that requested that the website was reviewed and simplified for easy access.
- To date the website has been revised to include: tabs linked into useful resources and guidance for Teachers, Headteachers, Governors, Parents and the whole community, with contacts and links for additional support. Ofsted style golden thread grids were requested for progression and sequencing.
- The Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) has established a working party and Dave Francis is steering the group.
- There will be launch training sessions repeated on the following dates, SACRE members are warmly invited to attend. Everything will be virtual.
  9th March 1.30pm-3pm
  15th March 5.30-7pm
  21st March 10-11.30am
  9th June 4-5.30pm

4.1 Monitoring of RE in schools: It was proposed that SACRE should resume monitoring School websites. SACRE members graded their performance on the Development Plan linked to the Annual Report process: CW as 1 and RE as 2, this was due to the pandemic and being unable to go into schools.

Monitoring will recommence. Fay will provide a list of schools for SACRE members to choose a school each and go through the website of that school. This work would be completed by the 28th February 2022. There would be a brief form to complete to capture the information linked to RE presented on the schools website. Feedback forms can be discussed at the next SACRE meeting in March 2022. A positive letter will also be sent to each school monitored.

Fay suggested that schools are informed prior to websites being monitored, so it is a very transparent exercise. Fay will share the list of schools (20) and allocate the schools. **ACTION: FJ**
Jan and Fay will put the letter together. **ACTION: JMcG/FJ**
Jan will ensure that SACRE members also receive the website form for recording information **ACTION: JMcG**

Curriculum map/grid – guidance document was commissioned Fay in response to teacher requests. Jan created a detailed grid for AMV, which covered all 6 key enquiry areas of the syllabus and sequenced the learning showing progress in themes for the pupils.

Bob thought the grid was difficult to understand. Jan offered to review it. **ACTION: JMcG**

There was a brief discussion about the grids which were seen as useful. Jan offered to put together a simple "How To" sheet. **ACTION: JMcG**

5. Links with other bodies

Annual Report and Development Plan: SACRE members graded national links with SACRE as excellent: Grade 5:

Links with other bodies this term: Diocesan update/ Interfaith/ SACRE members' updates/ NASACRE/ REC/AREIAC/NATRE remain excellent.

6. SACRE involvement locally

- SACRE members are involved locally in aspects of religious and community life.
- Ian is involved with his local church and is also a Governor at a church school.
- Both Bob and Cllr Peacock are involved with the Holocaust Memorial Community.
- Cllr Rossetti is involved in the community.
- Sally supports church schools and is a LDBS church rep in Haringey and Enfield.
- Bob is part of the InterFaith Group committee.
- Ali is part of the local Unitarian community and its interfaith aspect across London and in Haringey as an Elder. He is also part of the Council's Welcome Advisory Board, which includes some faith group's reps. Ali also runs activities in the Alevi Cultural Centre in Turnpike Lane.
- Glenford helps out with the Tottenham food hub.

SACRE members graded local links with a score of 4. It was suggested that SACRE should ensure that everything members do locally is captured regularly in SACRE meetings. **ACTION: All Members**

7. Borough of Haringey/ HEP: SACRE's own arrangements (statutory responsibilities) including: (update from FJ: HEP)

7.1 Fay reported the following:

- The Borough is responsible for giving HEP finances to support SACRE.
- It was acknowledged that an Adviser and Clerk are needed, as the SACRE is unable to function without these posts.
- The amount of SACRE funding varies immensely nationally. It was confirmed that it should be 2% of the borough's allocation from the central fund.
- Membership is managed by Bob and Fay, it is then communicated to the Clerk.
- Retention is difficult and currently recruitment is needed in Group B and Group C.
- Training is provided by NASACRE for SACRE Members and teachers. Jan offers induction training for new SACRE Members at the end of each meeting.
- SACRE Members know what AMV is providing for schools and the impact it is having.
- Fay is in conversation with Jan with regards to offering additional training. **ACTION: JMcG**
- The Annual Report has been completed. The national data is still missing, but it has not been released yet and it does not change the annual review.
- SACRE Members **agreed** that the Annual Report can be sent to NASACRE and the DfE.

8. Development Plan: reflecting and grading past year: SACRE going forward.
SACRE members looked at the Development Plan and graded themselves based on a score of 1-5 where 1 is low and 5 is high.

Annual Report Reflection and Development Plan Process October 2021			
Grade 1 (needs improvement) to Grade 5 (Excellent)		**Grade**	**SMART Action: Cycle of review**
1	**Haringey SACRE Meetings 2020 - 2021**		
2	**Religious Education Statutory Responsibilities**		
a	The AMV Local Agreed Syllabus and RE in schools	**3**	A working group had been set up.
b	Awareness Mystery and Value (AMV) Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC)	**3**	This has been discussed in SACRE meetings.
c	Standards and monitoring of RE	**2**	The website will be looked at and there will be a follow up letter of evaluation and support.
d	Teacher training and materials and advice for schools	**3**	Training has taken off well, including Twilight sessions. A RE network needs to be set up.
e	Other information: withdrawals/ complaints	**4**	This information can be added to the website.
f	Advice to the LA	**4**	The LA are kept informed via Fay.
3	**Collective Worship Statutory Responsibilities**		
a	Standards and monitoring of Collective Worship	**1**	Due to Covid-19 and the restrictions not much time was spent monitoring CW. CW will be added to the website and the monitoring process will begin. CW will also be on the SACRE agenda.
b	Determinations: advice to LA	**4**	No determinations were brought to the SACRE's attention. Fay has updated the website. Information is given out and responded to when needed.
c	Teacher/ school training provided	**2**	Online training is provided. More people are attending as there is no travel involved. There is good support for CW, but less so for community schools. Collaborative working needs to be done.
4	**Links with other bodies**		
	National bodies	**5**	There are good links with national bodies. Eg. NASACRE Conference was attended and training sessions. AREIAC, NATRE, REC are well supported. Interfaith Network.
5	**SACRE involvement locally**		
	Local SACRE Links and SACRE involvement locally	**4**	SACRE Members shared their local involvement.

6	**Haringey SACRE's own arrangements (statutory responsibilities) including:**		
	Professional and administrative support and how the LA supports the SACRE (clerking, adviser, links to council initiatives)	**4**	The LA fund the SACRE and without an Adviser and Clerk the SACRE is unable to function.
	Membership, representation & recruitment - quoracy, issues and successes with recruitment	**4**	Retention is an issue and there are vacancies in Group B and Group C.
	Training for SACRE (and ASC) members	**4**	Training is run by NASACRE and locally.
	Finance given to SACRE for its work	**3**	SACRE is funded by the LA.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 There was no AOB.

10. Dates of next meetings

10.1 The following dates were **agreed**:

- Tuesday - 22nd March 2022 (5pm-7pm)
- Tuesday - 28th June 2022 (5pm-7pm) Celebration

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 6.30pm.

ACTION LIST: 30 November 2021

ITEM	ACTION	ACTION BY
2.2	Bernie Sheridan to be removed from the membership, due to non-attendance.	**MG**
4.1	Fay to share a list of schools with SACRE Members. Jan and Fay to draft a letter to schools regarding website monitoring. Jan to review the grid and simplify it and to check on the websites. Jan to put together a simple "How To" sheet.	**FJ** **JMcG/FJ** **JMcG** **JMcG**
6.	SACRE Members to report how they are involved locally.	**All SACRE Members**
7.1	Jan to arrange SACRE training outside of meetings.	**JMcG**

SIGNED: **DATE:**