



CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGION VALUES AND ETHICS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN PENALLTA HOUSE AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2023 AT 3.00 P.M

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Taylor - Chair

Councillors: Mrs E.M. Aldworth, M. Chacon-Dawson, B. Miles, and A. Whitcombe.

Representatives of Faith and Belief: Mrs. J. Jones (Church in Wales and Caerphilly SAC on RVE Vice Chair).

Teacher Union Representatives: Miss J. Davenport (NEU), Miss H. Bartley (NEU), and Mrs T. Lloyd (NAHT).

Together with:

Ms H. Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE), V. Bodenham (Lead School Improvement Officer), A. Jones (Committee Services Officer), and J. Lloyd (Committee Services Officer).

RECORDING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

Caerphilly SAC on RVE was advised that the meeting was not being live-streamed and only recorded for the purposes of the minutes. It was noted that voting on decisions would take place by way of Hands Up and roll call.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor T. Parry, Mrs M. Jones (UCAC), Mrs K. McCullough (NASUWT), Mr. M. Gray (The Methodist Church), and Mr K. Chamberlain (Wales Humanists).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF CAERPHILLY SACRE – 29TH JUNE 2023.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 29th June 2023 be approved as a correct record, and by way of a show of hands this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Caerphilly SACRE meeting held on 29th June 2023 (minute nos. 1-13) be approved as a correct record.

4. TO CONSIDER ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

It was noted that there were no matters arising on this occasion.

5. UPDATE FROM THE RVE ADVISOR (VERBAL UPDATE).

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) updated Members on recent developments across Religious Education matters since the last meeting of SACRE. Members were given information on the recent Professional Learning training day for RVE, held at Llancaiach Fawr, and were advised that 41 schools attended the training, 19 of which were Caerphilly schools.

Members were advised of an 'interview and Q and A session' with the son of a Holocaust survivor. This was aimed at Secondary schools, and Lewis Girls school had attended. The session was recorded and can be used as a resource for schools, going forward.

Members were also advised that EAS were holding a series of live webinars for non-specialist teachers, and these were available for teachers and teaching assistants to book on the EAS website. Information was also provided on 'upskilling' for teaching assistants with proposed interactive sessions being held in the medium of Welsh and English, and the following session details were confirmed to Members:

- Wednesday 21st February 2024 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm – Christianity.
- Wednesday 28th February 2024 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm – Judaism.
- Thursday 7th March 2024 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm Humanism.
- Wednesday 10th April 2024 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm – Hinduism.
- Tuesday 16th April 2024 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm – Buddhism.
- Wednesday 1st May 2024 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm – Sikhism.

A Member queried whether the webinar presenters could also attend schools in person. Members were advised that a list of contacts of those presenting could be provided following the meeting.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the RVE Advisor update.

6. DRAFT SAC ANNUAL REPORT.

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) introduced the report to Members and noted that some changes had been made since the last meeting. Members were invited to propose any further changes, and no further changes were made at the meeting.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved, and by way of a roll call this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the Draft Annual Report 2022-2023 be approved, subject to the agreement of any final amendments for inclusion in the document. The finalised version of the Annual Report will then be translated and sent to Welsh Government by the end of December 2023.

7. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2024 (VERBAL UPDATE).

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) advised Members that information on Holocaust Memorial Day 2024 had been circulated to all schools, and Caerphilly SAC on RVE Members. A request was made to the Teacher Representatives to provide any update on any resources they could share or any assemblies taking place in their schools, that Members could attend.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the update.

8. MEMBERS TRAINING (VERBAL UPDATE).

The Chair noted the disappointing attendance level at the recent Members Training Session on 10th October, where Members were requested to attend in person. All efforts were made to facilitate this session to a time and date suitable to the majority.

Ms H. Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) noted that future training for members and training requirements would need to be reviewed going forward.

Mrs. V. Bodenham (Lead School Improvement Officer) noted that a significant amount of work and planning had gone into the training session, including some practical elements which, unfortunately did not benefit those attending online. Members were invited to give their views on training and their own requirements for any future training to be provided. Members were advised that training was proposed on an annual basis and were reminded that their attendance in person was preferable, as they would gain more out of the training session, and it was an opportunity to meet other members of the Caerphilly SAC on RVE. Members would again, be able to indicate a preference on proposed dates and times.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the update.

9. SACRE MEMBERSHIP UPDATE.

Ms H. Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) introduced the report which proposed an increase in the co-opted positions in the Council, in light of expressions of interest from two Parent Governors. Members were advised that the current co-opted member vacancies were being retained for two youth representatives.

Members were advised that work was ongoing to fill all the vacancies currently on Caerphilly SAC on RVE. A Member queried the age of the Youth Representatives and Members were advised that they would be of Secondary School age, year 9 and above.

Following consideration of the report, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations be approved. By way of a roll call, this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the recommendations in section D of the report be approved:

1. That SAC RVE note the details of the current membership.
2. That SAC RVE note the details regarding co-opted positions and advise how they wish to proceed on this matter.
3. That should SAC on RVE approve the increase in the number of co-opted places, that the EAS RE Advisor write to those individuals who have expressed an interest on behalf of the Council and request that a pen-picture of their interests/experience be submitted for Members consideration and if appropriate they be invited to attend the next meeting.

Following the vote, the Lead School Improvement Officer noted the current Membership vacancies and queried whether the Teacher Representatives were aware of any interest from staff colleagues or religious representatives. A Member requested that an email be sent to the Members outlining the responsibilities and commitment of being a Caerphilly SAC on RVE Member, which they could then forward to colleagues who may be interested.

10. CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE.

Members were referred to the report which provided an update on the correspondence received by Caerphilly SAC on RVE and/or circulated on behalf of Caerphilly SAC on RVE since the last meeting.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the correspondence update.

11. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2023/24.

Members were advised that the Spring Term meeting was scheduled for 5th March 2024 and the Summer Term meeting for 5th June 2024. Meeting invites had already been circulated to Members.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the schedule of meetings update.

12-13. FEEDBACK FROM THE VIRTUAL WASACRE SUMMER TERM MEETING HOSTED BY DENBIGHSHIRE ON 19TH JUNE 2023 AND FEEDBACK FROM THE VIRTUAL WASACRE AUTUMN TERM MEETING HOSTED BY RHONDDA CYNON TAFF ON 25TH OCTOBER 2023 (VERBAL UPDATE).

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) referred Members to the minutes from the 19th of June meeting, which were included in the agenda pack. Members were advised that WASACRE are hosting a Summer 'get together' in Wrexham, details of which will follow in due course.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the updates.

The Chair thanked all attendees for their participation.

The meeting closed at 3.34 pm.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 5th March 2024.

CHAIR