CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, TREDOMEN ON 22ND JUNE 1998 AT 1.30 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillors:

W.H. Coleman, Mrs. M.J. Ellis, Mrs. J. Summers and M.W. Thomas.

Representing Teaching Associations:

Mrs. S. John - UCAC Mrs. C. Anthony - NAHT

Representing Religious Bodies:

Mrs. B. Donovan - RC Church Rev. A.D. Ireland - Baptist Church Rev. D.J. Carpenter - Church in Wales

Together with:

ESIS Religious Education Advisers (PM) and (VT) and Committee Services Officer (KW).

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D.M. Gray and R.W. Gough and Mr. D. Hopkins (Head of Professional Services).

S1 CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

The Acting Chairman introduced Mrs. Vicky Thomas from ESIS who would be replacing Mr. Paul Morgan as Clerk to Caerphilly SACRE for the autumn term.

S2 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6th April 1998 were received and noted.

Matters Arising

S3 Wales Symposium on Collective Worship

Councillor W.H. Coleman gave a very informative account of the discussions held at the Wales Symposium on Collective Worship which he had attended in Llandrindod on 2nd May.

S4 Annual Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools in Wales (OHMCI) 1996/97

The Advisory Council considered a report which outlined the findings of the Annual Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools in Wales and particular attention was paid to the sections relating to 'Standards in the subjects of the NC, religious education and vocational education' and 'Ethos, Behaviour and Attendance'.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

S5 Dates and Times of Meetings

The Advisory Council was informed that Caerphilly SACRE's practice of holding meetings on the same day and time each quarter had made it difficult for some teaching union representatives to attend and a member of the ATL had recently tendered her resignation citing this as her reason for resigning.

The matter was discussed and it was acknowledged that there was merit in varying the days on which the meetings were held and in determining an advanced timetable of meetings.

RESOLVED that a timetable of forthcoming Caerphilly SACRE meetings be drawn up with meetings being held on different days of the week and this be submitted to the next meeting for consideration and approval.

S6 Primary Religious Education, Secondary Religious Education and Collective Worship Surveys

The Advisory Council considered examples of the above survey forms and it was noted that the section headed 'Assessment' in the surveys for religious education at primary and secondary levels would be amended to read 'Do you assess pupils on the basis of the end of level descriptions? Circle as appropriate'.

The Chairman formally thanked Paul Morgan for devising the survey forms and invited comments and any questions.

RESOLVED that subject to the inclusion of a column relating to INSET under the section on staffing in the secondary school survey and a section asking teachers to append any comments in respect of identified needs at the school, the surveys be approved.

S7 Review of the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education

The Advisory Council was circulated with a report which outlined the progress made by the working party of teachers and SACRE members in respect of the review of the agreed syllabus for religious education.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

S8 OHMCI Reports - Synopsis of Issues to Date

RESOLVED that consideration of this matter be deferred to the next meeting.

S9 National Religious Education Centre, Bangor

It was reported that a letter had been received from the National Religious Education Centre in Bangor asking for a representative from Caerphilly SACRE's teachers to attend its annual meetings.

RESOLVED that Mrs. S. John (UCAC) be authorised to attend future meetings.

S10 Date of Next Meeting

RESOLVED that the next meeting be held on 21st September 1998.