

## CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

#### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, TREDOMEN ON 8TH DECEMBER 1999 AT 2.00 P.M.

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PRESENT:

Councillors:

Mrs. K.R. Baker, D.M. Gray and J. Taylor

#### **Representing Teachers Associations:**

Mrs. C. Anthony - (NAHT)  
Miss P. Brown - (ATL)  
Miss N. Thomas - (NUT)  
Ms. E. Hawthorn - Valley's RE Teachers Association

#### **Representing Religious Bodies:**

Rev. A.D. Ireland - Baptist Church

Together with:

Head of Professional Services, ESIS Religious Education Adviser (VT), Associate Religious Education Adviser and Committee Services Officer (KW).

#### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R.W. Gough, Mrs. A. Parsons and K.R. Snell and Mrs. S. John (UCAC). The Chairman reported that Councillor Gough had recently been admitted to hospital and it was agreed that a letter be sent wishing him a speedy recovery.

#### **CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME**

The Chairman introduced Ms Enfys Hawthorne, the newly appointed representative from the Valley's RE Teachers Association and welcomed her to the meeting.

#### **RESIGNATION - MR PAUL SASS**

The Chairman reported that a letter had been received from Mr. P. Sass, the SHA representative indicating that because of teaching commitments he would be unable to attend further meetings of SACRE and that he therefore felt it appropriate that he tendered his resignation. It was agreed that he be sent a letter on behalf of Caerphilly SACRE thanking him for the work and commitment he had shown during his time as a member of SACRE.

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th September 1999 were received and noted.

## **MATTERS ARISING**

### **SA18 Membership of Caerphilly SACRE (Min. No SA 12)**

As a point of clarification it was noted that for voting purposes, the Valley's RE Teachers Association representative would be included in the teaching union group's vote and would not have an individual vote as indicated in the minutes of the last meeting.

### **SA19 British Humanist Association Presentation**

The Chairman reported that a letter had been received from Mr Paterson, the British Humanist Association representative indicating that due to work commitments he was unable to attend the meeting to give his presentation and asking if he could attend the meeting due to be held in January.

This request was acceded to and copies of the notes prepared by Mr Paterson were circulated to those present.

### **SA20 Analysis of Examination Results 1999**

Consideration was given to the Officer's report which outlined the analysis of GCSE full Course Religious Studies, GCSE Short Course and GCSE A Level Religious Studies results for 1999. An analysis of A Level Religious Studies at Cross Keys Tertiary College for 1999 was also provided at the meeting.

It was noted that at both G.C.S.E. and A Level, students had outperformed the 1998 figures and compared well with the all Wales figures.

It was agreed that the report and a letter expressing SACRE's congratulations to staff, in achieving such good results would be sent to schools within the Borough and also to Crosskeys Tertiary College.

### **SA21 ACCAC Review of SACRE Reports 1997 - 98**

SACRE members had been circulated with ACCAC's report which provided a review of SACRE reports covering the period September 1997 - August 1998. The Officer's report outlined the main issues in the document and included references from Caerphilly's Annual Report.

During discussion, the issue of training for SACRE members was considered and it was agreed that some form of basic training would be provided at the end of the meeting in January. Specific training needs could then be identified and appropriate training sessions arranged.

The reference in ACCAC's report to communications with school governors was also discussed and it was noted that Caerphilly's Governors Association had recently been re-established and that this body might provide an appropriate avenue for consultation.

It was agreed that Officers in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of SACRE would be authorised to investigate this matter.

SA22 **WASACRE Meeting - 12th November 1999**

SACRE members considered an executive summary of the discussions and deliberations of WASACRE at its meeting held in Haverfordwest in November.

It was noted that NAPfRE had considered the terms used for corporate worship and collective worship in Welsh and had strongly recommended that the term Addoli ar y Cyd be used for collective worship and the term Cyd Addoli be used for corporate worship. WASACRE unanimously agreed with this recommendation and agreed to inform all SACREs and ACCAC and ask SACREs to note this in any future translations.

Councillor Gray reported that he had attended this meeting and thanked Vicky Thomas for her presentation on the review of agreed syllabuses.

The dates of future meetings were noted and Councillor D.M. Gray was nominated as the Local Education Authority's representative to attend the next WASACRE meeting in March 2000. The other groups were asked to notify the Clerk if they wished to make a nomination.

Meeting closed at 2.40 p.m.