



## **CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, TREDOMEN  
ON WEDNESDAY, 20TH OCTOBER 2004 AT 2.00 P.M.**

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PRESENT:

Councillors:

D.M. Gray, J. Taylor and G.G. Hibbert

Together with:

Mrs. V. Thomas (ESIS Religious Education Advisor), Captain J. Jepson (Salvation Army), P. Sass (NASUWT), Mrs M. Wade (Van Road Church), J. Jones (Church in Wales), Mrs. E. Hawthorn (VALRETTA), Mrs. S. John (Y.G. Caerffili), Ms K. Cole (Education) and G. George (Committee Services Manager).

### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E.K. Griffiths, Miss N. Boardman, Miss H. Bartley, D. Brooks and B. Howells.

### **1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN**

It was agreed that Councillor D.M. Gray be appointed Chairman and Councillor J. Taylor Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

### **3. MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman -

Meeting of Caerphilly SACRE held on 7th June 2004

**4. MATTERS ARISING**

**Minute 5 Analysis of Inspection Reports for Spring 2003 – Spring 2004**

Following the decision to write to the schools mentioned, responses had now been received.

**5. INTRODUCTION TO THE ROLE OF SACRE**

Mrs. V. Thomas gave an introductory talk on SACRE and its role in the work of the local authority. The talk covered:-

- The composition of a SACRE
- The role of a SACRE
- The responsibilities of the LEA in respect of SACRE

Members were also advised that a handbook for SACRE members was available which gave more details and information about the work of SACREs. Copies were available from the Clerk to SACRE in Committee Services.

**6. TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2004/2005**

Dates of meetings for 2004/05 were agreed as follows:-

7th December 2004 – Council Offices, Tredomen at 2.00 p.m. followed by a Standing Conference

9th February 2005 – Risca Primary School at 2.00 pm with a short act of Collective Worship at the start of the meeting.

8th June 2005 – Council Offices, Tredomen.

**7. CAERPHILLY SACRE ANNUAL REPORT FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2003/2004**

Members considered the Annual Report for 2003/2004 which outlined the activities of SACRE during the academic year 2003 – 2004. It followed the guidelines laid down by the Qualifications Curriculum Assessment Authority for Wales (ACCAC). Members were asked to check the membership for accuracy (Appendix 1) and inform the Clerk. A foreword from Councillor J. Taylor would be added before publication subject to these matters. The Annual Report was approved and would be sent to ACCAC by 30th December 2004.

Members wished to place on record their appreciation for the work carried out by SACRE during 2003/04 under the chairmanship of Councillor J. Taylor.

**8. CAERPHILLY SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2003 – 2005 – PROGRESS REPORT**

Members considered the SACRE Development Plan for 2003 – 2005, which outlined the work of SACRE for this period and which also identified progress made over the academic year 2003/04.

It was agreed that the SACRE Development Plan 2003 – 2005 be received and adopted together with any recommendations contained therein.

**9. REVIEW OF AGREED SYLLABUS FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

SACRE noted the legal requirement for a SACRE to review its agreed syllabus every five years. The current syllabus came into force in the Autumn term 2000 and therefore a process of review needed to be undertaken. SACRE undertook a review in 2003/04 with all infant, junior, primary, special and secondary schools being sent a questionnaire to complete during the Autumn Term 2003. A working party was established to review the syllabus and schools were sent a draft agreed syllabus for consultation in the Summer 2004.

These findings were presented to SACRE and amendments made were highlighted.

It was agreed to note the outcome of the review and the suggested amendments and the LEA be asked to convene an Agreed Syllabus Conference (following the next SACRE meeting) on 7th December to approve an agreed syllabus for Religious Education in order for LEAs to deliver the statutory requirements to that group.

**10. INSET NEEDS AND PLANS FOR 2004 - 2005**

Members considered the in service training provided for Caerphilly Schools during the academic year 2004 – 2005. The aims and objectives were to promote and support raising standards of pupil's attainment in religious education and high quality religious education.

The in service training programme provided by ESIS from Autumn 2004 – Summer 2005 was noted.

**11. ATTENDANCE LEVELS FOR INSET 2003 - 2004**

Members noted the level of attendance at Primary and Secondary inset courses 2003 - 2004

**12. WASACRE – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Members noted details of discussions and deliberations of the meeting held on 23rd June 2004 in Anglesey. The next meeting will be held on 19th November 2004 at the Caerphilly County Borough Offices in Tredomen and an invitation was extended to all members to attend. Names to be given to the Clerk to SACRE as soon as possible.

**13. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2005**

Consideration was given to drawing schools' attention to resource material that was available to mark this event.

It was agreed that the Clerk to SACRE be asked to send a letter out to schools:-

- Reminding them of Holocaust Day 2005
- Referring them to the website and the resources that could be downloaded from the internet
- That poems and other literature in the possession of ESIS be made available if required
- That NASUWT material be made available if required.

**14. VISIT TO SWANSEA SYNAGOGUE AND MOSQUE**

Members who were interested in this visit should contact the Clerk to SACRE who would

inform the ESIS RE Adviser. It was also noted that teacher members would be able to apply to attend the course in the normal way

**15. CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter had been received from ACCAC inviting up to three representatives to a launch of optional assessment materials KS 1 on 1st December 2004 at the Hotel Metropole, Llandrindod Wells.

It was suggested that if a teacher representative was attending, supply cover would be funded by ACCAC.

It was noted that Mrs Thomas would be attending the event and members were asked to contact the Clerk to SACRE if they were able to attend.

The meeting closed at 3.40 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN