



CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT DYFFRYN HOUSE, DYFFRYN BUSINESS PARK,
YSTRAD MYNACH ON WEDNESDAY 6TH JUNE 2007 AT 2.00 PM**

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Taylor – Vice-Chairman

Councillors:

D.G. Carter, R.T. Davies,

Together with:

Mrs V. Thomas (ESIS Religious Education Advisor), G George (Committee Services Manager)

Also present:

Miss H. Bartley (ATL), Mrs N.L. Boardman (NUT), Mr D Brooks (Independent), Mrs E. Hawthorn (VALRETA) and Captain B. Womersley (Salvation Army)

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from and Mr P. Sass (NASUWT). S John, Councillors D.M. Gray, G.G. Hibbert and Mrs D. Price.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 5th March 2007 be approved as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

It was reported that responses had been sent on behalf of the committee to WASACRE on their document "Looking Beyond 2008" and to Welsh Assembly Government on the "National

Exemplar Framework for Religious Education”.

4. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2007/2008

Members are asked to consider and agree appropriate dates and venues for meetings of Caerphilly SACRE for 2007/2008.

It was agreed that meetings be arranged on the following dates:-

- 25th September 2007 at 1.30 pm in St Gwladys Bargoed Primary School;
- 28th November 2007 at 2.00 pm in Dyffryn House, Dyffryn Business Park;
- 28th February 2008 at 2.00 pm (Venue to be arranged);
- 2nd June 2008 at 2.00 pm in Penallta House Tredomen.

5. INSPECTION REPORTS (SPRING 2006-SPRING 2007)

Members considered the outcomes of the analysis of inspection reports for the period Spring 2006-Spring 2007. In doing so it was noted that some schools were inspected during the Spring Term 2007 but their reports are not yet available on the ESTYN website. SACRE will therefore be informed of their outcomes in the Autumn meeting of the 2007/08 academic year.

It was agreed to:-

- (i) Note the inspection reports;
- (ii) Congratulate schools whose standards were good or better (Grades 1 or 2);
- (iii) Write to Fochriw Primary and Panside Primary to ask how they intended to address shortcomings and raise standards in RE identified in their inspection report;
- (iv) Write to St Cenydd Comprehensive expressing SACREs satisfaction that the key issues of the previous inspection report – namely KS5 RE issue and provision of a daily act of collective worship - have been addressed and to congratulate them on their very good inspection report on standards in RE;
- (v) Write to Trinity Fields expressing SACREs satisfaction on the outcomes of their inspection report and congratulating them on their good inspection report on standards in RE;
- (vi) Write to ask Pontllanfraith Comprehensive for their action plan for the delivery of collective worship in order to fully address the requirements for Collective Worship.

6. UPDATE ON REVIEW OF THE AGREED SYLLABUS

It was a legal requirement for a SACRE to review its agreed syllabus every five years. The current syllabus came into force in the autumn term 2005. However, because of the National Curriculum Review, the current piloting of the Foundation Phase curriculum and the revision of the DELLS Framework for RE it was necessary to have a RE curriculum that is in line with NC subjects and the Skills Framework agenda but also that can work to the Framework for RE.

Therefore, all LEAs in Wales have deferred the review of agreed syllabuses to have an implementation date of September 2008. All SACREs have been involved in the DELLS consultation exercise and awaited its outcomes.

It was agreed:-

- (i) To adapt the DELLS revised Framework for RE as a basis for the new agreed syllabus to be introduced September 2008;
- (ii) To set up a working party of teachers to match the current syllabus to the Framework. This working party to meet in Summer and Autumn 2007;
- (iii) To keep SACRE informed by termly updates;
- (iv) To support the principle of a training programme for teachers to provide guidance on implementation - Summer 2008.

7. DISCUSSIONS AND DELIBERATIONS OF WASACRE FOLLOWING MEETING HELD ON 23RD MARCH 2007 AT HAVERFORDWEST

Members received and noted the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd March 2007.

8. WASACRE - REPRESENTATION AT MEETING TO BE HELD AT LLANDRINDOD WELLS

The next meeting would be held on 28th June 2007 in Llandrindod Wells and Caerphilly SACRE's representatives were agreed as Mrs V Thomas, Cllr D M Gray and Mr D Brooks.

9. VOTING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

In a letter from WASCRE, they enclosed a copy of their Constitution with two areas highlighted as suggested amendments to the Constitution that will be voted upon at the AGM on 28th June 2007.

Members' views were sought on the proposed amendments that were shown at 4(iii) and 4(vii) in the constitution. They related to co option of members to facilitate the work of the executive and a code of practice for the conduct of elections.

It was agreed to accept the both amendments.

10. EXECUTIVE VOTING FOR THE PERIOD 2007-2010

In a letter received on 30th March 2007, WASCRE gave details of nominees for election to Executive for consideration by SACRE. Two positions are available. The vote will take place at the WASACRE's AGM on 28th June 2007.

Nominees were :

- Reverend Patrick Coleman of Blaenau Gwent
- Councillor Michael Gray of Caerphilly
- Mrs Mary Parry of Carmarthenshire
- Councillor Morfudd Jones of Denbighshire
- Reverend Tegid Roberts of Gwynedd
- Mrs Tania Ap Sion of Wrexham

Cllr Gray had indicated his willingness to stand for the executive

It was agreed to ask Caerphilly SACRE's delegates to cast their votes for Councillor Michael

Gray of Caerphilly and Mrs Mary Parry of Carmarthenshire

11. CORRESPONDENCE

- The Valleys Pregnancy Support : a Christian Perspective – This item had been deferred from the last meeting of the Committee. It was agreed that as the aims of this group, laudable as they were, did not fall strictly within the remit and constitution of SACRE they be advised to contact individual secondary schools to offer their services that could be linked with accredited courses in KS4. The matter would also be raised at the forthcoming Heads of Department seminar;
- Communications from the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance (AQA). These were noted;
- Annual Report : Welsh National Centre for Religious Education 2005/2006 (Copy available in the Members' Library);
- RE News - Spring 2007 (Copies distributed during the meeting);
- DELLS, Curriculum and Assessment Update – Issue 1, Spring 2007 (Copies distributed during the meeting);
- Changes in membership - Mrs E Hawthorn had tendered her resignation as the VALRETTA representative and they would be asked to nominate a replacement. Mrs M Wade was likely to tender her resignation as representative of the United Reform Church and if so would be replaced by Mrs E Hawthorn. It was agreed to accept these changes and to extend the committees thanks to both of them for their services to Caerphilly SACRE.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held at St Gwladys Bargoed Primary School Bargoed on 25th September 2007 at 1.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 3.00 pm.

CHAIRMAN